

THE CANADIAN Missionary Link.

CANADA

In the interest of the Baptist Foreign Mission Societies of Canada.

INDIA

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"The Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising."—Is. lx. 3.

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The Canadian Missionary Link.

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LIVING AND DYING.

BY MRS. J. C. VULE.

FOR THE LINK.

Living for Christ, I die!—how strange, that I
Thus dying, live,—and yet, thus living, die!
Living for Christ, I die!—yet, wondrous thought,
In that same death a deathless life is wrought!
Living, I die to Earth, to self, to sin:—
O blessed death in which such life I win!

Dying for Christ, I live! Death cannot be
A terror, then, to one from death set free!
Living for Christ, rich blessings I attain;
Yet, dying for Him, mine is greater gain;
Life for my Lord is death to care and strife:
Yet death for Him is everlasting life!

Dying for Christ, I live!—and yet, not I,
But He lives in me who did for me die.
I die, to live—He lives to die no more,
Who, in His death, My own death-sentence bore.
"To live is Christ," if Christ within me reign;
To die, more blessed, since "to die is gain!"

Our Foreign Mission.

Friends ask how it is that we are now in debt so that we have to make a special appeal for funds. I shall here state the reason, so that the many readers of the LINK may be stirred up to do their part in sending the needed aid.

The estimates for the current year are \$9000. See *Canadian Baptist*, November 6th, 1879. This requires a monthly remittance of \$750, which should be sent in advance, as it takes two months for a draft to reach India. The amount required has not come into our Treasury, so we are in debt. Friends of the Mission can relieve the Society by sending special contributions and annual donations to the address of our Treasurer, T. Dixon Craig Esq., 51 Front Street, Toronto. Several have done this in response to our appeal, but \$1500 are still required to meet our monthly obligations. Let us pray the Lord that He may so incline the hearts of His people to give this money. As servants of the Master we are pledged to support this department of Christian labor. Let us pay our vows and God will bless us.

JAMES COUTTS, *Secretary*.

Guelph, Ont., Jan., 20th, 1880.

THE METHODIST CHURCH of Canada has 44 missions among the Indians of the North-west Territory, with 30 missionaries and 10 assistants, and 3,175 members. There are also six Methodist missionaries between Puget Sound and Alaska, and a number of teachers among the Indians.

How to Make the Monthly Meetings Interesting.

We do not propose to speak of the general Missionary meeting held by some churches every month, but of the Women's meetings. Complaints are frequently made that the attendance at these is small, also, that there is a great want of interest, and indeed the disproportion between the number of subscribers, and of those who attend the meetings is generally very great. Some few sisters there are, who are always to be found in their places, and always to be depended on; but after a time, even in large churches, the average attendance, in many places, rises no higher than a dozen, or perhaps two dozen members. There must be some cause for this; we have already alluded to what we think is one hindrance, and that is, that in spite of all that is being said and written to-day about Foreign Mission work, there are many who are still utterly indifferent to its claims: to these a very small obstacle is quite enough to prevent attendance. Indifference on any subject is a sufficiently formidable obstacle to real progress, but when this proceeds from ignorance, as it frequently does, there is always hope that the ignorance may be dispelled, that the shadows may flee away before the dawning of the light of knowledge. But how shall we bring about this desirable consummation? One great step towards it would certainly be to make the regular monthly meetings interesting, profitable and instructive. We fear that they are sometimes almost the reverse of this. We would like then to give some general directions, which, if carried out, would tend to make them what we have said. Much of success or of failure will depend on the President or person in charge. We do not wish to be understood as saying that she should monopolize all the time of the meeting, but she should see to it that a suitable programme—we shall call it for want of a better word—is prepared for each meeting; this need not always be carried out, but it will be ready for use if required. She should also see that the meetings are held regularly and punctually, and not postponed or omitted altogether from trifling causes.

Anything like display should be avoided, but it is also absolutely necessary that some forethought should be manifested, some system carried out. If a number of persons were to assemble at any meeting, and nothing had been planned or arranged beforehand, we should expect a failure.

The President will soon learn what material she has to depend on; to whom she can look for a reading, an address, a paper on some missionary subject, the recital of a missionary poem, or the singing of an occasional solo, or duet, instead of the hymn in which all unite. Members should be encouraged to write papers frequently, these need not be very elaborate; their chief value is that much useful information may be given in very small compass. Take, for instance, a paper on China, Burmah, or any country in which all are interested, but about which the majority are unfamiliar, to say the least; the writer may, or may not, refer to its physical features, its political or social condition, but viewed only in its missionary

aspect, she may, by the exercise of a little labour and study, give a clear idea, even in a short paper, of the beginning of Christianity in such a country, of its progress and present condition, so that those who are present will really learn something, which is not always the case when a variety of topics are introduced. It will be found an excellent plan to choose some country, or some particular mission for the subject of one meeting; announce it beforehand, and ask each member, during the month, to be on the watch for any information about it;—this will not fail to interest. It is much to be regretted that good missionary maps are not easily obtained; every Circle should have one, if possible, so that the places mentioned might be pointed out. The geography of many persons is very hazy and indistinct, and if the exact locality of the rather unpronounceable names we occasionally hear, were impressed on the memory, it would be a great help. In conclusion, we must not be discouraged if our efforts are not always crowned with success, nor must we be too sensitive if we sometimes meet with opposition. Let us remember that it is Christ's work and we are His; and we must not turn our back on Him because some turn away from us, but in faith and much prayer, let us labour on, leaving the result with Him.

Upper Room Meeting in London.

IN A SMALL UPPER ROOM, near the centre of the City of London, within a stone's throw of the Bank of England, a few Christians met weekly for special prayer. Various portions of the heathen world, and various propositions affecting the interests of the Saviour's cause, were pressing upon their hearts, and these matters were laid before the God of Missions in earnest prayer. A conscious sense of the Divine presence was realized as they pleaded:—

I. For the hundreds of millions of heathen in the interior provinces of China, not yet reached by Missionaries, that some means might be adopted by which the Gospel might be carried to them.

II. That the heathen natives in Assam and Cachar, especially those at work on the tea plantations, might ere long have Missionaries of the Cross sent to them.

III. That Evangelists for Foreign Nations might be speedily raised up to proclaim the Messages of Salvation from place to place, where no Missionaries are at work.

IV. That some new means might be devised for the spiritual good of the French, whose rampant infidelity was becoming more and more manifest.

V. That a vile and neglected portion of London might ere long have the Gospel conveyed to it.

VI. That as Missionaries were required to be sent into the heathen world with much greater rapidity than heretofore, a Training Institute might be formed to assist in completing the education of young men full of Missionary spirit, but who were not likely to gain admission to existing colleges, in which the standard of intellectual fitness was placed on a needlessly high level.

VII. That in order to deepen interest in Christian Missions in all parts of the world, the Lord would