

W. B. M. U.

MR. JOHN HARDY.

MOTTO FOR THE YEAR: "We are laborers together with God."

PRAYER TOPICS FOR DECEMBER.—For the work and workers at Bubbili. For the new Missionaries, that they may be steadfast, and bring many more to a knowledge of the true God.

"God measures out our life not in one long length,
But in a tenderer way;
Have faith, and take thy bread, thy cross, thy strength,
Day by day."

Our Treasurer says, "We have received about \$90.00 more this quarter than the same quarter last year. About \$24.00 of the increase is for Home Missions.

Let us begin this month to work. How many uninterested ones can we persuade to join us? What extra gift shall we offer the Christ-child this Christmas season.

"Largely Thou givest, gracious Lord,
Largely Thy gifts should be restored:
freely Thou givest, and Thy Word
is, 'freely give'.
He only who forgets to hoard,
Has learned to live."

Last evening, November 11th, an intensely interesting Missionary meeting was held in the First Church, Halifax, to say good-bye to our out-going missionaries, Rev. M. V. Higgins, Miss Archibald, and Mr. Hardy. Addresses were given by each of the missionaries, and farewell words spoken by Rev. A. Shaw, of Windsor, and Miss Johnston (on behalf of the Aid Societies).

The quarterly meeting of the Aid Societies had been held in the afternoon, and a social hour enjoyed, during which tea was served.

REV. W. V. HIGGINS (one of the sketches) returned home year ago on account of the continued illness of Mrs. Higgins. He now returns to the field, leaving Mrs. Higgins, probably for three years. Surely such self-sacrifice as this on the part of one of our missionaries, should stimulate us to greater sacrifice than we are making in giving.

NEEDLESS NEEDS.

Unwrap thy life of many and fine;

He who with Christ will dine

Shall see no table curiously spread,

But fish and barley bread.

Where reddenest thou that Jesus bade us pray,

"Give us our sumptuous bread from day to day?"

Why wilt thou take a castle on thy back,

When God gave but a pack?

With gown of honest wear, why wilt thou tease

For braid and fripperies?

Learn thou with flowers to dress, with birds to feed,

And pinch thy large want to thy little need.



JOHN HARDY.

Mr. John Hardy's appointment to the Mission staff in India is a new departure so far as the Missionary Society is concerned. It has been their policy to send only College graduates and Theologically trained men to the field. Mr. Hardy has taken neither a University nor a Theological course. Some Societies are sending out quite a large number of men with as meagre training, and have aimed to set more value upon the Holy Spirit's equipment. Perhaps this is a reaction from an unscriptural dependence upon the training of the schools which has undoubtedly been too prevalent in recent years. The policy of the Baptist Board is likely to be a safer and happier mean between these two extremes. The preparation which the Holy Spirit gives is certainly of first importance, and yet full mental training and wise culture is also a very important feature in a good equipment for the Foreign Field. Such culture is surely as much needed on the Foreign Field as at home. Yet men of meagre training can be used to great advantage there as here if they are men of ripe Christian experience and full of the Spirit. Mr. Hardy goes out as a single man and is to be associated with some one of the present staff now on the field. He was born in the Province of Quebec in 1866, and lost his mother when he was but five years old. Two years later he lost his father. His grandfather took care of him until he was eighteen years old, when he started out into the world to make a way for himself. In 1884 Mr. Hardy went to Dakota and shortly after to the lumber woods of Minnesota. Meeting with a very serious accident he was carried to a hospital in Minneapolis, and while lying there the light of God's reconciled countenance shined upon him. He says "From the death of my mother I often had seasons of serious thought when the unspoken language of my soul was 'Where shall I find peace? There would come the days and sometimes weeks of sin in which these thoughts would not have much place. This life was mine until I was taken to the hospital. It was a Nova Scotian by the name of Grant who led me to Christ. I was stricken more than ever



W. V. HIGGINS.

with a consciousness of my guilt by reading what the Scriptures said about me in the first three chapters of Romans. But I found peace by reading what was said about my Saviour in Isa. 53: 6. On my return home about two years later I joined the Presbyterian Church—the Church of my fathers. Three years later I was led to examine the Bible authority for infant sprinkling