

Foreign Missions.

Contributions

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An Appeal.

To the Christian women of the British Empire, the United States, Germany, and all other Protestant countries, greeting:

We, the women of the Missionary Conference now assembled in Shanghai, come to you, our sisters in Christ, with an urgent appeal in behalf of the one hundred millions of women and children of China who "sit in darkness and in the shadow of death."

Beloved sisters, if you could see their sordid misery, their hopeless, loveless lives, their ignorance and sinfulness, as we see them, more human pity would move you to do something for their uplifting.

Four kinds of work are open to us: 1. There is school work in connection with our various missions, which, in many cases, the men have handed over to the women, in order that they themselves may be free to engage more directly in evangelistic work.

2. There is a work to be done for the sick and suffering women of China, in hospitals, dispensaries and homes, for which skillful physicians are needed. Most of this work can be better done by women than by men, and much of it can be done only by women.

3. There is work for us in the families of the church. There are converted mothers and daughters who need to be taught the way of the Lord more perfectly, and to be trained in whatever is necessary for their full development into lively members of the great household of faith.

4. There is a work of evangelization among women, similar to that being done by men among the people at large. It is not claimed that the evangelization of women can not be done, at all, by men; but that there is more of it than men can do, there is much of it that will never be done unless women do it, and much that men can not do as well as women can.

But, you will ask, who are needed for this work? Knowing the conditions of life and work in China, we would answer that:—

1. They should be women of sound health, of good ability, and good

common sense, also well-educated—though not necessarily of the highest education—apt to teach, kind and forbearing in disposition, so that they may live and work harmoniously with their associates and win the hearts of the Chinese.

2. It is desirable that they should pursue a systematic course of Bible study before coming to China, and have some experience in Christian work at home.

Further, we would suggest that upon reaching the field they should labor in connection with established missions in order that the good results of their work may be preserved, and that they may have, when needed, the assistance and protection of their brother missionaries.

Open doors are all around us, and though idolatry lifts a hoary head, and ancestral worship binds the people as with chains of adamant, yet with God "all things are possible," and mountains of difficulty melt like snow-flakes before the rising of the "Sun of Righteousness."

God is on the side of His own glorious life-giving Word. We ask you to come in the power of consecration and faith, with sober expectations and readiness to endure hardness as good soldiers of Jesus Christ, and take your share in the most glorious war that was ever waged upon earth—the war against the powers of darkness and sin, assured that God will accomplish His own purposes of love and grace to China, and will permit you, if you "listen to His call, to be His fellow-workers in "binding up the broken-hearted, proclaiming liberty to the captives and the opening of the prison to them that are bound."

That the holy and loving Spirit of God may incline your hearts to respond to His call is our earnest prayer.

Yours in our Lord, Signed on behalf of the two hundred and four ladies assembled in the Missionary Conference at Shanghai, May 1, 1890.

Official News from the Foreign Society.

The Executive Committee met in regular monthly session, July 19, 1890, in Room 55, Johnston Building, Cincinnati, Ohio. Devotional exercises were conducted by W. S. Dickinson.

FINANCES.—The receipts for the month amounted to \$7,063.70; the disbursements to \$4,721.20. Appropriations were made as follows: \$19.50 to purchase an interest in a cemetery in Wuhu, China; \$900 for school work in Akita, Japan; \$600 for a hospital cottage and a dispensary; \$500 for rent, repairs and travelling expenses in China; \$100 to Dr. W. E. Macklin to complete his home.

NOTES FROM THE FIELD.—China.—W. E. Macklin writes: "My student, whom I have been teaching medicine for more than two years, and trying on occasion offered to implant a knowledge of the Gospel, and who has heard all of us preach many times, has asked for baptism. Providence seemed to have sent this young man to us. I have contracted for one hospital cottage, forty five by twenty-seven feet, which will cost rather less than \$300. I have built a dispensary costing about the same. We had a conference in Shanghai, and a great many important steps were taken. One version of the Scriptures is to be made. The Government is to be memorialized to inform it of the principles of Christianity. Appeals are to be made for one thousand workers in five years. Our meeting of medical missionaries

was a great success, and much work was laid out for the coming year."

India.—A new bungalow is needed in Hurda to accommodate the ladies there. An orphanage for boys is also needed in Hurda, and a school and chapel in Bilaspur. Miss Lovemore expects to be married soon, and another lady ought to be sent to take her place and work. The families of M. D. Adams and Dr. C. S. Durand are each rejoicing over the birth of a daughter.

Japan.—C. E. Garst says: "Just at present our preaching services are not well attended, but the meetings for women and children are good. The election of members of the Diet comes off July 1. There is much excitement on the subject. It is also the busy season with silkworms. Rice is so high it has produced a famine in the land; the distress is co-extensive with the Empire! Poor Japanese, starving soul and body! When will the happy day come when they will rejoice in the joy of knowing the care of a Heavenly Father?"

England.—F. W. Troy has opened a work in Gloucester under favorable auspices. J. J. Haley is preaching to immense audiences in Birkenhead. The outlook is full of promise. Mrs. Haley and children sail this week. W. R. Hodgkinson has taken the work in Southport.

REINFORCEMENTS.—Several missionaries expect to sail for China in September. Dr. James Butchart may go then, or he may wait six months longer. He is now in New York taking some special courses to qualify himself for work in the field. From every mission the cry comes for more men. The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few.

LARGER REVENUE NEEDED.—The growth of the work calls for a corresponding growth in the receipts. It should be borne in mind that the Foreign Society asks for only one offering from the churches this year. It will be seen that this one offering ought to be very generous. Thus far not more than one church in five has responded to the call. The whole amount received from the churches since October 20, 1889, is \$11,050.92. It goes with the saying that we are able to give ten times this amount without reaching the limit of our ability. Every church and every Christian should give to this work, and give liberally. A. McLEAN, Cor. Sec.

Obituaries.

COMFORT.—On the 17th July, we were called to mourn the loss of one of our sisters from the Gainsboro congregation, Sister Nellie Comfort, aged 28 years. She had been a sufferer for about a year, and that dread disease, consumption, baffled every effort to restore health. But we do not sorrow as those who have no hope. It was a great pleasure, and a blessing to visit her. She loved her Lord, and gloried in His praises.

Bro. Koffer, of Beamsville, preached the sermon in connection with the funeral. She was buried in the cemetery near "Lane's Church," about midway between Rosodeno and Beamsville.

A field and acre of our God, A place where human harvest grow.

OVERHOLT.—It is sad to record the death of Sarah Overholt, a young sister of only 21 years. She was beloved by all; ever kind, gentle and faithful. She had suffered ill-health for a long time. Her constitution was broken down, and low fever setting in made the struggle for life hopeless and brief. She died on the 17th July, and was buried on the 20th in the North Pollam cemetery.

Not prudence can defend, nor virtue save. Disease invades the chaotic temperance. Rosodeno, July 31, 1890. J. B. L.

SUNDAY SCHOOL MUSIC BOOKS.

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