

purpose and prospect of their fullest realization. While his offering is his duty, it is equally his delight. S. M. JEFFERSON.
Berkeley, California.

A SELF-DENIAL WEEK FOR HOME MISSIONS.

"Self to the rear" will greatly aid in pushing "Home Missions to the front." The magnificent ability of the Disciples of Christ to support our missionary enterprises, contrasted with the yet meagre sum given for this divine purpose, is conclusive evidence that there is "something lacking." What is it? I answer, the need of self-denial. The week of self-denial for Home Missions will have two beneficial results. First, it will materially increase the collections. I gladly risk my reputation as a prophet on the following statement: If, during the last week of April, each Disciple of Christ in the United States and Canada will deny himself of one-half the things whose having is not essential either to his existence or his happiness, and will, on the first Sunday in May, give the amount thus saved in addition to what he had previously intended to give, we will raise \$100,000 for Home Missions this year. Let us try it. Second, like the mercy that "droppeth as the gentle dew from heaven upon the place beneath," it will bless "him that gives and him that takes." In *Lux Mundi* is the thought-provoking sentence: "The root of sacrifice is self-sacrifice, however crudely it may be expressed." It is a contradiction in terms to speak of having made a sacrifice for a cause until our gifts to that cause are such as to have necessitated some self-denial. He who will deny himself for the good of the Master's work will learn somewhat of the meaning of that oft-quoted, seldom-understood saying of Christ, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

"Self to the rear" — "Home Missions to the front." ROBT. G. FRANK.

Nicholasville, Ky.

Foreign Missions.

Maritime C. W. B. M.

Expect great things from God.
Attempt great things for God.

35 HAKANO CHO,
ICHIGAYA, TOKIO, JAPAN,
January 31st, 1798.

To the Ontario and Maritime Province C. W. B. M.:

DEAR SISTERS—Last Monday night, after a day's heavy rain, was our first snow-storm this winter. Everything looked so pretty in the morning when we opened the shutters and looked out. Our hymn that morning was "Whiter than snow, Lord Jesus, I long to be."

The sun came out soon, however, and by noon everything had changed, and the streets were simply beyond description. We have no sidewalks; everybody walks in the middle of the road, so you can imagine how pleasant it was. Soon a cold, fierce wind sprang up, and that night and next day we had the heaviest rain and sleet storm I have seen in Tokio. The next morning papers told of three persons who had been overcome by the cold and found frozen to death on the streets.

The next day the sun came out clear and bright, and the breeze was as balmy and soft as a May day. That same day I went to see Bro. and Sister Azbill, who live not very far away, and in their garden were two large plum trees with the buds bursting into bloom. I came away laden with some large branches to put in my study as a reminder that spring is nearly here, and with it the pain of part-

ing with the dear friends here and the joy of meeting the old ones in the home-land.

The suffering this year, not only in Tokio, but all over Japan, is heart-rending. Food, fuel and clothing are more than double in price what they were in the summer, and the wages of the laboring classes have risen very slightly.

Last week I heard of another case of murder and suicide; a father kills his two little ones and then himself because he cannot provide for them.

The work seems to be taking on new life. Meetings are better attended, the prejudices against Christianity not quite so marked, and one meets with a little less rudeness in the streets. Little incidents show how the wind blows. For instance: Not long ago an evangelist, while preaching to a fairly large audience in one of the many preaching points of the city, made the remark that all men are sinners. A student in the audience rose and asked him if he meant by that to include the Emperor. The preacher replied that as the Emperor was a man he would of course come under that head. Immediately the student, with one of his friends, accused the speaker of disrespect to the Emperor, called him a traitor and signified their intention of defending the Emperor's name to the last. They marched to the platform and proceeded to thrash the evangelist. The disturbance was quieted by the police taking all three to the lockup, where they remained for nearly a week before their case was brought up. At the trial, however, the preacher was dismissed with many apologies, and the students severely reprimanded and told to let religious meetings alone in the future, that the statement was not used in a political sense but in a spiritual one, and meant no disrespect to the Emperor.

Whether or not this has anything to do with the affairs of the far East, that we hear so much about nowadays, with the hope that England may become an ally, I cannot tell.

Sincerely yours,

MARY M. RIOCH.

RECEIPTS.

Previously acknowledged,	\$120 98
Summerside—	
Few ladies of church,	2 00
Belvin Grove, P. E. I.—	
Mrs. W. Hogg,	1 00
Tiverton—	
Ladies' Auxiliary,	2 00
Milton—	
Ladies' Auxiliary,	7 00
St. John—	
Coburg Street S. S.,	7 11
" " Ladies' Auxiliary,	3 30
" " Non-resident member,	20 00
Main Street—	
Ladies' Auxiliary, per Mrs. Robertson, ..	8 10
Smithtown, N. B.—	
Y. P. S. C. E., per Leonard Hill,	2 50
Interest,	27
Total,	\$169 26

SUSIE FORD STEVENS, Treasurer,
Pictou, N. S.

Children's Work.

Address all communications to Mrs. D. A. Morrison, 291 Gormain Street, St. John, N. B.]

DEAR GIRLS AND BOYS,—

I hope a great many of you are busy preparing for the Easter exercise, but if you find that it will be impossible to give the concert, they can still observe the two weeks of self-denial, and send their offering just the same. I have not received items of news from many Bands this month, and would ask the Band leaders to mail their communications so as to

reach St. John by the 20th of the month. You will all be glad to read something from our dear missionary, Miss Graybiel, in regard to our boy in India. We have been supporting him since last fall, but this is the first direct word we have had concerning him. Below you will read what Miss Graybiel and Miss Frost write about him. I am sure you will all be pleased, as I am, that the account is so encouraging. May little "Gerould" be the means of bringing the light of the gospel into many a dark life.

Your loving friend,

MRS. D. A. MORRISON.

Supt. of Children's Work.

NEWS FROM OUR WORKERS

HALIFAX, JUNIOR C. E.—Our society is in splendid working order now, and is quite large. The members are all interested in the work, and we hope very soon to be able to send some money for the mission cause.

SUMMERSIDE, SUNBEAM BAND.—Our Band held a concert on March 6th, which was quite a success. We realized \$4 30.

LORD'S COVE, MISSION BAND.—We are sorry that we will not be able to give the Easter exercise, on account of bad roads and scattered membership; but we will remember the season of self-denial, and trust we will not be behind. We can report four new members since last month.

GEROULD (OR JARALD).—A fine-featured, shy-looking boy came to the Mission Home with his mother, little brother and sister sometime during last hot season. They were homeless and without food. This was "God's Home," and kind friends had sent us money to feed just such needy ones. What could we do but bid them welcome in the Master's name. The boy began going to school, and soon it became apparent that he was very bright. He now reads in the third reader. He is also learning English. He has been baptized, and yesterday I heard him give his testimony as to what Jesus had done for him. I could but thank God that this dear boy had so early learned to know Christ and His saving power. MARY GRAYBIEL.

A recent letter from Miss Frost says: "Gerould is a very bright boy and handsome, too, and is between twelve and thirteen years of age. He can already speak the message of Jesus' love in a pleasing manner."

RECEIPTS.

Previously acknowledged,	\$51 09
Summerside—	
Sunbeam Band,	1 15
Milton—	
Daily Workers,	5 00
Total,	\$60 24

SUSIE FORD STEVENS, Treasurer,
Pictou, N. S.

Great Advances

Have recently been made in methods of teaching commercial subjects—Book-keeping and Correspondence especially. Our methods are not those of five or even two years ago, but the very latest, embracing the latest features at the close of 1897. Our Shorthand is also the best—the Isaac Pitman.

Catalogues to any Address.

S. KERR & SON.