

Sister Belle's Corner.

(For the Little Folks who read this Paper)

DEAR BOYS AND GIRLS.—Three children, Roy, Ruth and Arthur, sat on the back steps shelling peas. Pearl, one of their neighbor's girls, was leaning over the fence, and all four were talking of the Mission Band. The Superintendent had said at the last meeting that he wanted the children to earn the money they brought each month. He also said that if they did not do this their parents gave the money, and it was not their own gift. Would you like to hear what these children said about it? "I cannot earn any money," said Arthur. "Our servant Kate does all the house-work, and Carl, our hired man, works in the garden and takes care of the horse, so there is nothing left for me to do. If I want ten cents for the Band, or five cents for a pencil I ask papa and always get it, but not a cent unless he knows what it is for." We do not keep a servant," said Roy, "for my mamma and Aunt Rose do the work, so Ruth and I get a few cents for doing extra work, such as shelling these peas." "And it is only a few cents at a time, chimed in Ruth," so it takes a good while to save up ten cents. We always want to spend our money as soon as we earn it. We need slate-pencils and lead-pencils and such things, then we get candies and caps for Roy's toy pistol, and ribbons for my dolls. Oh, I know we can't take our own money to the Band."

"Papa gives me a quarter every month, said little Pearl," but I do not like to take ten cents of it for the Mission Band, that leaves such a little bit to last me all the month. It suits me better to ask papa for the missionary ten cents when the right time comes."

"If I must earn my money I shall stay at home," decided Arthur.

"Well," Ruth answered, thoughtfully, "God sends us blessings in return for all we do for Him. The gift ought to be our own, Roy. Let us try next month."

"I'll try," Roy answered, "and get a little blank book to put down how every cent was earned." Pearl resolved to put away ten cents of her quarter as soon as received that month, and Arthur said if all the rest gave their own money he should try and earn his, too."

Three weeks later the children met again on the back steps to talk things over.

"I was so sorry not to go to the Band yesterday" said Pearl, "but I was real sick. My ten cents went all right, though, and I wrote on the envelope that it was my own money. Did you have a nice time?"

"Splendid!" cried the three children all in one breath, while Arthur added, "Roy had eighteen cents; Ruth, fifteen; and I gave thirty-five. Mr. Donn went all around and asked how each had earned the money. Some had forgotten and just asked their parents for it. Others had earned it in different ways. When it came to Roy's turn he got up and read out of his little book: "Two cents for splitting wood; one cent for shelling peas; five cents for putting away coal-oil and so on. So did Ruth, and Mr. Donn thought theirs such a good plan that he asked us all to try it next time."

"How did you get your money Arthur, asked Pearl? "I earned it all myself, and never had so much to give before. Judge Barker gave me fifteen cents for holding his horse one day. Mother did not like it at first, but when I told her what I wanted the money for she did not mind. I made a toy ship, a real beauty, and sold it to Dan Freeman for the rest. I am making some winders

for Dan's mother now. I told her what I was earning money for, and she was glad to help me to do it."

"I think it a great deal nicer to give our own money," said Ruth, "We feel so much more interest. When papa or mamma gave it to us, we forgot all about it as soon as given. But I whispered a little prayer about it last night, and asked that Jesus would let my money do a great deal of good, and I think He will. It is so much better to give our own money to the Mission Band."

And the other children said they thought so, too; dont you think they were right? I do.

Our Corner last month was too long, so I must say good-bye now.

SISTER BELLE.

480 Lewis Street, Ottawa.

ONITSHA, which six years ago was the scene of the barbarous cruelty for which two native ex-agents of the Church mission have lately been brought to justice, has been a field for very signal manifestations of the power of the Divine Word. Not only were forty-three adult converts baptized there in the year; not only are many hundreds attending the church services; not only has the king, hitherto hostile, suddenly commanded the observance of Sunday and arranged for public service at his own court; not only has a leading chief been buried without the offering of human sacrifices at his grave; but the Onitsha Christians have spontaneously visited neighbouring towns to tell the story of the gospel, and Arch-deacon Johnston, being invited to one of them, found 1500 people waiting to hear him.

THE very soul of the Church is missionary, progressive, world-embracing; it would cease to exist, if it ceased to be missionary.—Max Muller.

"Christ did not send, but came Himself, to save;
The ransom price He did not lend, but gave."

WOMAN'S BAPTIST FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF ONTARIO.

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