

Our greatest need, is the Spirit of the Lord to stir us up; first, to see the great need of the perishing world, then our duty with reference to it. We are told "the Lord stirred up the spirit of Cyrus," a heathen king, that he should make a proclamation that God's chosen people should return to Jerusalem and build again the house of the Lord. He also assisted them with silver and gold and insisted that all those who remained should contribute towards their support. Will he not do all this and more for us, His redeemed ones who have so long left the building of His temple in heathen lands and dwelt ourselves in "ceiled houses" and lived on the fat of the land, while the foundations of this glorious temple has scarcely been laid? Oh, hear the voice of the Lord ye discouraged and indifferent ones when He says "yet now be strong and work all ye people of the land for I am with you saith the Lord of Hosts." According to the word that I covenanted with you, so My Spirit remaineth among you; Fear ye not." May it not be that our lack of interest and funds to carry on this work is due to the fact that we have done and given so little? "Now therefore saith the Lord of Hosts consider your ways." This is an appropriate time to meditate and having taken in the situation let us, "To the work with redoubled energy, relying upon the promise "I will be with thee."

Though we have wasted much time, and spent the Lord's money upon ourselves, let us now repent and turn to Him to know and do His will. One of the most discouraging features of our mission work is the lack of funds. Let us be encouraged by the thought of the unlimited resources of God. He has declared, "The silver and gold are mine." When we as Christians have placed ourselves in the proper relations to God, then He will interpose on our behalf and bring for the support of this great work of evangelizing the world from his unlimited supply. Only let us use what He has given us to the utmost of our ability; of time, strength, intellect and money. One more encouraging thought that should inspire us in our work. The glad day is hastening on, when God will turn, and overturn, and finally out of confusion bring perfect order and harmony. "A nation shall be born in a day." "Every knee shall bow, and tongue confess that Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." This day is coming, my sisters; but do we not want to hasten its approach and have a share in the rich blessings it will bring? God can accomplish His purposes without your help or mine; but do we not long to be "workers together with Him" in building, day by day, this spiritual temple that shall fill the earth with His glory? The new year is upon us and while we are rejoicing over its birth and quietly speculating upon its future, the days are flying and before we are aware, the tiny infant so pure and bright will come marching along with bluster and storm, ushering in the gay spring time.

1893 begins and ends on the Lord's day. May this be a token of a year of the Lord. Fringed with His blessing and these hallowed associations, may God keep all its days and hours for Himself and make us the happy doers of His will. S. I. M.

FROM THE AID SOCIETIES.

New Glasgow was reorganized in November, and has on its roll twenty two members, five of whom are subscribers to the LINK. The Secy. is Mrs. Will H. Reppie.

The society at Foster settlement, Lunenburg Co., holds a public meeting the second Sunday evening of every month. The M. Band is increasing in numbers and interest.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEPARTMENT

OUR MISSION BAND.

For fourteen voices (with lotters) all joining to sing the last verse.

O stands for *Order* which Christ gave
To all his faithful servants here,
That they the Sons of Earth to save
Should preach the Gospel far and near.

U is for *Unity*—the thing
Which keeps us one in heart and mind—
While in the service of our King
We seek His wandering ones to find.

R the fair *Robe* of righteousness
Doth to the thoughtful mind suggest.
No tongue can tell the blessedness
Of those who in that Robe are dressed.

And M stands for *Messiah's* name—
The ancient prophets glorious theme—
To Earth from Heaven He gladly came
And lived a life of love supreme.

And I for distant *India* stands
Where William Carey's life was spent,
His name world-wide respect commands
As one who was divinely sent.

S stands for *Sin*, that awful thing
Beneath whose burden mortals groan.
Its poisoned breath and pointed sting
In every clime on earth are known.

S stands for *Saviour*: only He
Can take the curse of Sin away.
When he was nailed to Calvary's tree
God did on Him the burden lay.

I stands for *Isolation* cold
Which missionaries often fear.
We would their fainting hands up hold
And pledge to them our love sincere.

O stands for *Open-hearts-and-hands*
In all who for the Saviour live.
His blessed cause to-day demands
The very best that we can give.

N stands for *Nations-still-unfed*,
For those whose needs are unsupplied:
They hunger for the living bread—
The precious Christ the Crucified

B stands for *Bible*—book Divine—
Which we must to the heathen give;
That all its light on them may shine
And teach them righteous lives to live.

A for *Atonement* plainly stands
Which Christ our great High Priest hath made.
This truth we tell to distant lands
That Christ the sinner's debt hath paid.

N stands for *Never*. Let that word
In this connection simply mean,
Had we the Gospel never heard
What would our lives to-day have been?