

THE returning missionaries have arrived safely in England.

MESSEURS. DAVIS AND LAFLAMME.—We hear excellent reports of the mission services that are being held among the churches east and west. We understand that they are endeavoring to interest the young men of our churches in a special effort to raise funds for the support of an additional missionary. We sincerely hope that the effort may prove successful, alike for the sake of the mission and for the sake of our young men, who will be greatly benefitted by having a special missionary object to interest them.

ASSOCIATIONAL MEETINGS. We publish this month such announcements of Associational Meetings as have come to hand. Those that are not here announced have doubtless received full local notice. We hope to hear that a thoroughly successful meeting has been held in each association, that those who have been asked to take part in these meetings, have, almost without exception, responded to the very best of their ability, that the meetings have been largely attended even at personal sacrifice on the part of many sisters, and that the cause of missions, both at home and abroad, has received a great forward impulse.

CO-OPERATION OF WOMEN'S SOCIETIES. We publish in another column an appeal issued by the American Baptist Missionary Union to the Women's Societies, calling upon them for still further and more systematic co-operation in the general work of collecting for missionary purposes. We are sure that a basis of co-operation might be arrived at that would greatly facilitate the work of collecting, and largely increase the missionary funds. We do not of course mean to suggest that the special women's work, which has proved so successful in the past, be in any way interfered with, but that besides doing their own work, the sisters should assist in making a thorough canvas of the entire membership of the churches to which they may belong.

OUR CONTRIBUTORS.—We esteem the readers of the LINK fortunate this month in having so large an amount of interesting matter brought before them. The continuation of Mrs. Yule's admirable series of missionary sketches is, we are sure, looked forward to month by month with much interest by many readers. Mr. Craig's letter from Ceylon cannot fail to be highly interesting to our young readers, as well as to those of maturer years. Miss Hatch's letter was not intended for publication, and we had some misgivings about laying certain portions of it before our readers; but after all a familiar letter of this sort often conveys a more correct impression of missionary life than do more labored accounts. We trust, therefore, that she will excuse us for the liberty we have taken. A letter from the same writer, designed especially for the LINK, came to hand after this was in type, and will appear next month. Mr. Stillwell's letter from Samulcotta was written after the departure of the homeward bound party, and gives some account of the work at the Seminary. We trust that the hint about letters from Canada will be heeded. Personal acquaintance is by no means necessary to profitable correspondence of the kind suggested. It may be well to direct attention to the fact that during Mr. McLaurin's absence all correspondence relating to the Seminary should be addressed to Mr. Stillwell.

THE TIMPANY MEMORIAL SCHOOL.—We wish to direct special attention to Mrs. Timpany's account of Miss Folsom's work at Cocanada. This important and highly-successful enterprise, though it has been inaugurated and carried on without expense to our Societies, is yet closely connected with our missions, and directly auxiliary to our work. The school is now self-sustaining (with the Government help it receives), but there is an opportunity offered to those who would like to show their practical sympathy with the faithful missionary and her excellent work, to assist in paying for the building recently purchased. We are sure that any of the Treasurers of our Societies would be glad to receive and to forward special donations for this object. With reference to this and to all other special matters that may from time to time appeal to the benevolence of our readers, we would urge that the donation in every case be strictly special that is to say, that there be no diversion of funds intended for the regular work of the Societies, and which the Boards of the Societies are depending upon for meeting obligations incurred; but that all special donations be over and above what the Boards may reasonably expect us to contribute towards regular work. This is a principle that cannot be too deeply impressed.

For Love's Sake.

You have read of the Moslem palace
The marvellous fane that stands
On the banks of the distant Jumna,
The wonder of all the lands.

You have read of its marble splendors,
Its carvings of rare device;
Its domes and its towers that glisten
Like visions of Paradise.

You have listened, as one has told you
Of its pinnacles snowy fair,—
So pure that they seem suspended
Like clouds in the crystal air:

Of the flow of its fountains falling
As softly as mourners' tears;
Of the lily and rose kept blooming
For over two hundred years—

Of the friezes of frost-like beauty,
The jewels that crust the wall,
The carvings that crown the archway,
The innermost shrine of all—

Where lies in her sculptured coffin,
(Whose chisellings, mortal man
Hath never excelled), the dearest
Of the loves of Shah Jehan.

They read you the shining legends,
Whose letters are set in gems,
On the walls of the sacred chambers,
That sparkle like diamonds.

And they tell you these letters, gleaming
Whosoever the eye may look,
Are words of the Moslem Prophet—
Are texts from his holy book.

And still as you heard, you questioned
Right wonderingly, as you must,
"Why rear such a palace, only
To shelter a woman's dust?"