

BRIGHT SPOTS.

The General Board of Missions reports some bright spots in the history of the year. The debt has made the year a dark one for our missionaries serving in the home field, but their heroic devotion has made the darkness bright.

The dedication of the Scandinavian church at Minneapolis, under the pastoral care of Bro. Chas. J. Helson, our Swedish missionary, is a victory. The splendid success of E. W. Darst, our city evangelist in Chicago, with three churches and four missions organized in one year, makes the year luminous. The work of J. W. Lowber at Galveston, Texas; the new church-house at San Antonio, Texas, under W. B. Craig; the work of the Northwest, under the leadership of W. T. Cowdon; these are all bright spots in this year's history.

The promise of the collection for home missions is far the best in our history. If every soldier of Jesus Christ, minister, elder, member in the church, will do what is a reasonable service toward the collection it will be the greatest year in the history of the American Home Missionary Society.

The May offering is an act of worship. Let us worship God in the beauty of holiness, in spirit and in truth. Let us pray to be guided by the spirit in making our offering. Let us remember the teaching of the truth as we contribute to the work of the Lord. Make a systematic canvass of the congregation for the offering for "home missions." See that every man, woman and child in the congregation gives. Let no one escape on the plea that their contribution might be too small. Nothing is too small to be used of God.

Co-partnership with God does not require worldly wealth. To own stock in eternal realities one need only invest according as the Lord has prospered him.

No Christian who fails to contribute to this offering can feel assured of having used another opportunity for glorifying God.

Read the record of the home missionaries. Get "posted." Give intelligently. We have heroes here at home. We, who are strong, ought to bear the burdens of the weak. The home field is the most imperative call before our people, because upon it depend all other branches of service. Let us take America, and the conquest of China, India and Africa and all the earth shall be sooner and better accomplished.

Prayer services in behalf of the home mission offering ought to be held in every church in the brotherhood.

"Nothing succeeds like success." Bro. Smith may feel assured of a great offering. The work of home missions has been a continued prosperity thus far during the year. The debt is diminishing daily. This year will make an epoch in the cause of home missions, and we are glad of it. Home missions lies at the base of all missionary effort. Without a warm interest in that cause there can be no genuine consecration to the foreign cause. Home missions must therefore always be kept to the front.

Let the offering be an offering of sacrifices, which is our reasonable service.

"Home, sweet home," is the one song that welds the world together. The man who wrote it, though homeless and a wanderer, received the recognition of royalty, and was buried with national honors. The simple heart-hymn that, more than all else, made his name famous, touches the chords of every soul. Whatever relates to the home appeals at once to men. "Home missions" means the strengthening of the cords of love that

bind the heroes in the far-off fields to the workers here at home, and make their work secure and guarantees its permanence. Therefore let us again push "home missions to the front."

SPECIAL—We urge upon all our churches to take up a collection in May for the Home Mission Board of America. They have already spent nearly \$1,000 00 in these provinces. They are now pledged for \$550.00 a year for the work in Halifax and Pictou. Then consider the grand results from their efforts all over this continent and by contribution we can all help them plant the cause we love in many places where it is not now known. We hope none of our churches will neglect this but show that we are in full accord with them in this most important work. Remit to B. L. Smith, Secretary, Y. M. C. A. building, Cincinnati, Ohio.

We are pleased to announce that Brother M. B. Ryan will hold a short meeting in Pictou continuing over the 2nd and 3rd Lord's days in May. Evangelist Gale has held a successful meeting there and aroused a deep religious feeling, and it is thought that Bro. Ryan can do much good by going there at this time. Bro. Blenus' Lubec meeting is reported in the Halifax notes. We are glad to be of some help to the good people of Lubec.

All the churches will rejoice to know that Bro. Bolton will labor for the churches at Westport and Tiverton. A prominent member visiting from there says of him, "He is just the man we have been praying for." We welcome Bro. Bolton to the work in these provinces and pray for blessings on his efforts. Surely we are being blessed in having another good preacher added to our forces. We trust all of them will be more enthusiastic over home mission work so that the cause will become very strong in these parts.

RECEIPTS.

Previously acknowledged,	\$574 62
Leonardville—	
Per Wm. Kay,	1 00
LeTete—	
Elder W. Murray,	1 00
McAdam Junction—	
Bro. and Sister Wm. Martin, ..	5 00
St. John—	
Mission Band,	5 05
Milton—	
Per Miss M. G. Freeman,	2 85
Taunton, Mass.—	
Miss I. Dewar,	50
	\$590 02

J. S. FLAGLOR,
Secretary.

Post Office, St. John.

Foreign Missions.

Maritime C. W. B. M.
Expect great things from God.
Attempt great things for God.

REPORT FROM AUXILIARY AT TIVERTON.

Our Society was re-organized in February, with thirteen members. The President is Mrs. Wesley Outhouse, Vice-president Mrs. Allen Outhouse, Treasurer Mrs. E. A. Smith. We have only met twice; the receipts of first meeting was one dollar and twelve cents, of second, eighty-five cents.

We hope to continue the good work we have begun and in this way do much to advance missionary work.

Yours truly,
ANNIE F. COSSABOOM,
Secretary.

SECRETARY'S LETTER.

DEAR SISTERS,—

You will be glad to know that I have again received a large donation from a brother and sister who have before shown their deep interest in our work. This time the offering was \$25 00 for Sister Rioch's support. The interest in missionary work seems to be increasing in St. John, as our collections for this work are larger than ever, of late; also, the new church in the North End has already shown the right spirit, by beginning to contribute to this cause.

I received a very interesting letter from Sister Rioch a few days ago, extracts from which I am sure you will all enjoy reading.

"The week before last we opened our new schoolhouse for the poor children of Matagaw Cho. Will write to the children all about it. It is so nice and cosy. Tell the brother who contributed so generously, and the others who assisted in erecting this building that it is as snug and comfortable as can be.

Then, too, perhaps you have heard of the fire which burned a large girls' school, and the home of Miss Miller, who taught in the school. Well she is now living with me, and I am so happy. Isn't God good to me? She helps me so much with her counsel, and one needs wise counsel here, as one false step could injure the work so much.

Let me congratulate you dear brethren in St. John on your fine missionary spirit. It puts new life in me to hear of and from you all. Was so pleased to hear of your branching off to another part of the city. A missionary church always grows.

It has quite touched me to hear of the beautiful sacrifices that have been made for this work and will make me strive to be more worthy of all your loving kindness for His sake, that I may be found a faithful messenger of you all to the women and children of Japan.

I think that your children in the Maritime provinces have done wonderfully and am glad that they have also taken up work in India.

Many thanks to all your dear people for the loving greeting sent from your annual meeting."

FROM THE TREASURER.

DEAR SISTERS,—

Are you all working and praying for the work that we have undertaken?

Our need of both was never so great as now. Instead of "Go" it has been and is "Send" with us. Miss Rioch has gone in our stead, and the question comes to each of us, "Am I doing all I can to uphold her hands?" Can we ask Our Father to bless us and our work, and then neglect that work which he has permitted us to undertake. Unless each one fulfils the pledges she has made, we cannot keep our missionary in the field. Now is our time of need. Can we let our work suffer for the sake of more consecrated pocketbooks? God will surely hold us accountable, should we do so.

The year is going so swiftly, and we are behindhand in our receipts, and never has the call of "Onward" been so imperative.

We appeal to the Women's Auxiliaries, Y. P. S. C. E., Sunday schools, and "friends," who have so nobly helped us in the past years, not to "grow weary in well-doing." It is the Lord's work, and he expects it to be done.

Our motto might well be, eyes open for work, hearts heathenward, prayer heavenward, Bible and pocketbook in hand and both open. This will insure success. But let it be now, that our work may not suffer.

SUSIE B. FORD.