

taking. Thirteen have responded in a manner that has filled our hearts with gladness and thanksgiving, the amount collected during the year being much greater than we had dared to hope it would be. Surely the Lord is working with us.

Later a talented, consecrated young sister, Mary M. Rioch, of Hamilton, Ont., offered herself as our missionary, and accepted and is now about leaving her home and friends and all that is dear to us in this home land, that she may go to far off Japan to tell the wondrous story of the Christ who died for them.

May we pray unceasingly that God's choicest blessings will rest upon her, and that many souls may be won to Christ through her efforts. And while we pray let us work, that she may receive the support that will be needed. A responsibility is resting upon each sister in Canada. Shall we not discharge this responsibility faithfully, thanking God that there is a homeside to the foreign work in which we can all have a share. Sister Rioch's salary will be \$600.00 per year, but outfit and travelling expenses will make the cost about \$1,000, for the first year. As yet only \$600 have been collected, so that all that can be raised will be needed.

A report of work done and money collected since our organization was sent to O. C. W. B. M., at their June meeting in Bowmanville (and I might here say that they are very grateful for the help we are giving, and express themselves as highly gratified with the result of our work thus far). The programme committee, advised by other sisters and by many of our brethren, sent for Sister Mary Graybiel to attend our annual meeting, believing that she could help us greatly in this—the beginning of our work. She has kindly come to us, and we believe that her presence alone will encourage and help us, and will awaken in us a deeper spirit of consecration and of sacrifice for the work of our blessed Master. May the seeds sown by her while here continue to bear fruit in the generations that are to come.

We want to express in this report our thanks to the editors of THE CHRISTIAN for the kindness shown to us by them.

Although published in the interests of home missions, its columns have ever been open to our work. The sermon in last issue by the editor-in-chief will, we believe, be a great help to our work. We thank Bro. Crawford and hope that his noble example, and that of his people, will stimulate us all to greater activity and liberality. May we each do our part in "holding the rope" while our dear sister goes into Japan seeking for souls.

We have watched with a deep interest the effect of the foreign upon the home work, and are highly gratified with the results. Instead of our home work suffering (which none would regret more than we), it has done much better this year than in the previous years. This we believe will follow as a result of "watering others." We ourselves shall be watered. "Give and it shall be given to you." "Good measure pressed down and running over shall men pour into your bosom." These words Jesus is saying to us, and when we do our part the promise will be fulfilled in us; and while we scatter we shall increase.

We cannot settle this question as to whether we should assist in this work or not. It has been settled for us. Our marching orders are "go." We cannot trifle with this command any more than with others and be guiltless. While it remains in God's word we should go and we should send, even though a convert were never made.

Ours is the obedience, the results are God's. Shall we not then, dear sisters, in the year that is before us, consecrating all our powers to Him and putting our hand in His, let Him lead into paths of usefulness in His service, that whether in the work at home, or in the foreign field, we shall over say:

Not for ease or worldly pleasure,
Not for fame my prayer would be,
Gladly would I toil and suffer
Only let me walk with Thee.

MISS RIOCH'S LETTER.

HAMILTON, August 27th, 1892.

To my dear sisters of the Maritime Provinces:

GREETING:

Through the suggestion of a sister I determined to write to you, telling you how I thought of becoming a missionary and of the work I expect to do when in my new field; knowing that you are contributing to my support and thinking you might take more interest in my work for the Master in Japan, did you know me a little. I would have been pleased to have met with you all and have become personally acquainted with you, but as that is impossible will send my photograph that you might have a little idea of the person you are making sacrifices for, in order to help send to the foreign field, and hoping to hear from some at least of you. In this way perhaps we may seem not altogether as strangers.

Those of you who take the *Canadian Evangelist* will have heard already what I have to say, but you will bear with me, I hope, for the sake of those who do not.

Ever since I can remember I have always been interested in missionary work, reading with eagerness anything that I could get in regard to it.

Many things had been coming up in my life to turn my thoughts in that direction.

This last winter a member of our church met with an accident, and as her home was not in the city she was taken to the hospital. The school in which I was teaching, being just across the street, I ran over very frequently, as she seemed rather lonely. When I saw the nurses going from this bed to the next, I thought what an immense amount of good they might do; how much suffering they could alleviate, not to mention the gospel seeds they could let fall, that with God's blessing might spring up into everlasting life. A sermon here, a little thinking on what Christ had done for me, an article there, all helped to point in the one direction. One article in the *Young People's Standard* especially took possession of me. It told of a certain Duke, who, while passing through an art gallery, stopped before the picture of "Christ on the Cross," by one of the great masters. The Duke seemed to be fascinated by the picture. Never before had he so realized the love Christ had for him. At last he exclaimed: "Henceforth He shall be my only passion, He and only He." He went out from that gallery to become a missionary and to give up his vast wealth for the furtherance of the gospel.

One day a thought took hold of me, how, why, or in what particular connection I cannot say. But it came and not to be trifled with. The thought was: "Why don't you go?" Why don't I go? Oh, nonsense! And so dismissed the thought, or rather thought I had. For the next two weeks, whenever my mind was not thoroughly taken up with other matters, that was the thought that stared me in the face, "Why don't you go?" I never worked so hard, in school or out of it, as I did those two weeks, in order to keep my thoughts from going in that direction. I did not want to go. I did not want to leave home and friends. At last I grow hot and impatient. I turned and faced the question, "Why don't you go?" Do you not love Christ well enough? Anything that you might leave, is it to be compared with what He gave up for you? No, my heart answered, not even as dust in the balance; and I felt that I loved my Saviour well enough to give up all to Him. Then I took up the question both *pro* and *con*. I brought up every possible reason why I should not go; and looking at them there as they stood, I seemed to see nothing but the little word *self*. When I looked at the other side of the question, there seemed many things in favor of my

going. I may not have realized the qualifications a missionary must have, but still that is how it appeared to me when I did not want to go. So, after a hard struggle with self, I answered the question, Yes, I will go, God helping me. I felt then as if a great load had fallen off me. The next thing was to tell mother. She looked at it as I did. So it was decided. Thinking it was better to become a medical missionary, I made inquiries, with a view of making application for admission into one of the hospitals. Some time later I picked up the *Canadian Evangelist* and the first thing I read was Miss Sinclair's letter, asking for one of her sisters to volunteer to go to Japan. I showed it to mother and asked her if she did not think that was meant for me. She thought it was. The next day I sent in my application to the O. C. W. B. M. Miss Sinclair sent an acknowledgment with a letter of introduction to Bro. Moigs, who was to pass through Hamilton the next week. I had a long talk with him. He told me all that I would have to encounter and that I ought to feel pretty certain that it was God's will that I should go.

Talking over the matter a few days later with one in whose judgment I have the utmost confidence, he told me that I might know that, if God opened up the way for me. And as no difficulties, but rather encouragements, have arisen so far, I feel confident that it is His will I should go.

Now, concerning my work. I shall be associated with Miss Harrison in her school for girls. The object of this school being to prepare these girls for the work of preaching the gospel to their sisters in darkness.

I shall be leaving my dear, dear home the latter end of September for Cincinnati, where I shall meet the others who are going, thence to San Francisco and from there to Japan, where I shall be met by Miss Harrison, who has offered me a glad welcome to her heart and home, which I shall accept if circumstances permit.

And now, dear sisters, before saying good bye, I would ask that you remember me *very often* at the throne of grace, that I may obtain mercy and find grace to help in every time of need.

May your convention be very pleasant and profitable, and may He, who knows how to bless, bless you abundantly.

Your loving sister in Christ,
MARY M. RIOCH.

Married.

HOWARD-BLACKFORD.—At Tiverton, N. S., Oct. 15th, by H. A. Devoe, Mr. Wm. Howard, jr., of Westport, to Wealthia, youngest daughter of Mr. Simon Blackford, of Tiverton.

TITUS-McDORMOND.—At Westport, N. S., Oct. 1st, by H. E. Cooke, Isaac L. Titus, of Freeport, N. S., to Mary E., eldest daughter of Mr. Maurice McDormond, of Westport.

Died.

VAN TASSEL.—At his home, Digby Co., N. S., after a long illness, Robert J. Van Tassel, in the 81st year of his age. Bro. Van Tassel was baptized about thirty years ago by the late Elder Harris Greenlaw. He was buried at South Range, close beside the remains of seven children who had preceded him across the river of death. His widow and several children survive him.
H. A. D.

PUGH.—At the General Hospital, Boston, Mass., Sept. 22nd, Sister Martha Pugh, aged 40 years, loving wife of Bro. Charles Pugh, of Westport. The loss we have sustained in such a noble-hearted Christian worker as Sister Pugh is a severe one indeed. She was devoted to the cause of God in all departments of the work—in all parts of the vineyard she loved to labor. She was a member of the C. W. B. M. Auxiliary at Westport, a Sunday-school teacher, a constant Christian worker. Her vacancy is not easily filled in the home or in the church. Bro. Pugh and family have our prayers and sympathy. May God sustain in every time of sorrow.
H. E. C.

WILLIAMS.—Died, at her home in Shubenacadie, Hants Co., Sept. 13th, Mrs. Patrick Williams, aged 73 years. Sister Williams was baptized by Bro. D. Crawford and united with the Church of Christ in Shubenacadie, and in her death the congregation there have lost a faithful member and true friend to every good work. Bro. Williams, to whom she had been married fifty-four years, is still living at the advanced age of 81 years. She was the mother of thirteen children, eleven of whom survive her. She had thirty-seven grandchildren, thirty-two of whom are still living. Beloved and respected by both old and young, and mourned by a large circle of friends, she has passed from earth to Him whom she believed and loved, full of faith and good works, and with the full assurance of eternal life.
E. C. F.