

THE Canadian Missionary Link.

CANADA.

In the Interests of the Baptist Foreign Mission Societies of Canada.

INDIA.

VOL. VI., No. 5.] "The Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising."—*Is. lx. 2.* [JAN., 1884.]

The Test.

"LOVEST THOU ME?"

A Question for the New Year

Thus saith the Master: "Lovest thou me?"
More than the wealth I have given to thee?
More than the mountains of silver and gold,
Than houses and lands, and the flocks of the fold,
Then reach out thy hand, and dispense far abroad
For the welfare of man and the glory of God.

Thus saith the Master: "Lovest thou me?"
More than the leisure so pleasing to thee?
More than thy joyance in sight and in sound,
Than varied delights which are scattered around?
Then work in my vineyard, at home and abroad,
For the welfare of man and the glory of God.

Thus saith the Master: "Lovest thou me?"
More than the kindred so precious to thee?
More than thy father and mother so dear?
Or brethren, or children, or wife the most near?
Couldst leave them for me, who withheld not my blood?
For the welfare of man and the glory of God?

Thus saith the Master: "Lovest thou me?"
Resigning thyself as a sacrifice free?
Still patient in sickness, and steadfast in woe;
And serving by waiting, if God wills it so?
Thy springs all in me, when earth's fountains are dry,
Foretastes of fruition that waits in the sky.

Oh, yes, Lord! I love thee. Thou seest my heart
Andndest thine image, all fair as thou art.
Friend, brother, Redeemer? The man and the God,
Who once this poor earth in thy poverty trod!
I will follow thy footprints along the rough road,
Till the feet of the pilgrim shall reach thine abode.

M. A. W. Cooke in American Messenger.

A Word from the General Secretary to the Women's Mission Circles.

(For the Missionary Link.)

It does not require any extraordinary exercise of memory to recall the time when the Mission Circles began to be organized, and when some *wise and cautious* brethren shook their heads at this *innovation*, and said what they could to "nip it in the bud." Was not this new movement a division of our forces? Had it not a disintegrating tendency? Ought not all the funds to be collected by one agency, and go into one treasury? What right had the women, *as women*, to be moving in this matter? Was it not a violation of the great and sacred truth, "They shall be no more twain, but one flesh"? etc. etc. I need not prolong this string of objections. A few, at

least, of the good sisters will remember how they fought this battle on many a — I was going to say, bloody field; but there was no blood spilt. Well, it turned out to be the old story:

"If she will she will, and you may depend on't,
And if she wont she wont, and there's an end on't."

The women triumphed, the circles lived and flourished and multiplied, and the cautious brethren were doomed to see their worst fears *not* realized. If I were to confess that at that time I sympathized a little with the cautious brethren, it would only be saying that I am wiser now than I was then. To begin to object to Women's Mission Circles *now* would be about as sensible as if one rail of a railway track should begin to find fault with the other and to tell it to get out of the way. If it did get out of the way the trains would have rather a poor time of it. And it has come to this that our Telugu Mission would find it rather trying to make headway were it not for the generous assistance of the Women's Mission Circles of these provinces. Since I was elected to the office of General Secretary, and have had to think a little about *ways and means*, I have been in a position to appreciate all this.

And now what about the work for 1884? I mean the work of the Circles in raising money. Last year the splendid sum of \$3000. was contributed from this source. The question is, can it be made \$3,500 or \$4,000 this year? Cannot enough new Circles be organized, and enough new members added to those already existing to accomplish this? Cannot some missionary lectures, and missionary evenings of music, papers, readings, addresses, etc., *with good collections added*, be given to help swell the funds. Sometimes after a society has existed a few years there comes a lull in its interest and work and effort. Let there be no lull in any Circle. Your help was never more needed than it is for this year 1884. *Your mode of collecting money is one which the hard times can not affect much.* The hard times do affect Sunday collections, and the gifts of individuals.

Shall it be \$4000 for 1884?

"Forward! be our watchword."

J. W. A. STEWART.

TELOGU Christians are taught "that every convert must be a missionary and every family a missionary society."