

### Sister Belle's Corner.

(For the Little Folks who read this Paper.)

DEAR BOYS AND GIRLS, Many hundred years ago a missionary felt that God wanted him to leave his home and go and tell people about Jesus. He loved the Saviour who had saved him, and was ready to leave friends, riches, his own country, and everything he loved, to walk from city to city telling the old, old story to those who had never heard it. At last he reached a great city in a heathen land, famous for its splendid buildings, poetry, learning and works of art. But the missionary's heart was sad in the midst of all this beauty, when he saw the city wholly given to idolatry, full of idols. Let me tell you about some of them, to show the silly fables these men who thought themselves so wise believed. They thought a great many gods lived in the sky, others in the sea, others under the earth, or in the woods and streams. The greatest god was called Jupiter, and people thought he was angry when thunder and lightning came. Every four years great races and games were held in his honor. Apollo was the son of Jupiter. He was supposed to drive the sun around the earth every day, by means of four horses harnessed to it. He was also the god of music, poetry, medicine, and the fine arts. Mars was the god of war, Mercury of thieves, Bacchus of drunkards, Vulcan of blacksmiths, Venus the goddess of beauty, Cupid was her son, and used to shoot people with his bow and arrow. Neptune was the god of the sea, and used to drive over the waves with a great shell for his chariot, and horses with fishes' tails. Many other gods, just as strange and foolish were worshipped by this mistaken people. Beautiful temples were built in their honor, containing marble images of these idols. This city was also noted for wise men. One believed that when people died, their souls went into the bodies of animals or birds. Another thought the world such a wretched place that he never looked at any one without weeping. At last he went to a cave in the mountains, lived on roots and herbs, and was as sad as he could wish. Another believed that the fewer enjoyments a man had, the happier he would be, so he went about barefoot, carrying a bag, a jug, and staff. At last he got a great tub and lived in it day and night. Many people who lived in this city spent their whole time in hearing or telling something new. No wonder the good missionary felt sad to see this beautiful city in such a state. He went about day after day in the streets, in the markets, everywhere talking about Jesus and against their idols. At last these foolish-wise men caught him, and said, "What does this babbler say? He seems to be setting up strange gods." So they took him to their chief court and asked him what he meant. His answer was one of the greatest sermons ever preached upon earth. I can only give you a little of it, to show how brave he was to tell the truth before this mocking people whose hearts were set on their idols. "Ye men of this city, I see you are all too superstitious. Among the gods that ye worship I saw an altar with 'To the unknown god' written upon it. Let me tell you who He is. God made the world and all in it. He is Lord of Heaven and earth, and does not dwell in temples made with men's hands. You cannot worship Him with gifts as if He needed anything, for He gives us our life, our breath, and everything we have. This God wants you all to repent, to seek and find Him, for He is not far from any one of us. In Him we live and move and have our being. If then we are made by this God, why do you worship gold,

or silver, or stone made by men? God has seen your ignorance, and sent me to tell you the truth, and to tell you all to repent. He has chosen a day when all the world shall be judged by Jesus, His chosen one, and has proved this to us by raising Jesus from the dead." These are not exactly the words, but their meaning. Some who heard this sermon laughed and mocked; others said, "We will come and hear you preach another day," but a few men and women believed his words and turned from their idols to love and serve the living God. So Paul, the greatest of earth's missionaries, left the city of Athens, and went to tell other people of Jesus.

SISTER BELLE.

480 Lewis Street, Ottawa.

### To the Boys and Girls who Read the "Link."

I am sure you all read the piece in the LINK, about the box of fruit sent to Mr. Timpany and others, from the friends here, and I think we are all glad to know that they are enjoying such a nice treat in that sultry land, away from all friends. But we must remember that that fruit will only last this year; then they will require to have more sent. Now, I want to ask each one of you who can do so, to dry one rearpuff of fruit or corn, and put it in a muslin bag, and put your name on it, to be sent in a box next fall to India. Some one who intends sending will be kind enough to direct, through the LINK, from what place. Now, don't say "That is too little to give." You all know that cents make dollars, pints make quarts, and quarts make bushels. Try it young friends, and see if you will not be well repaid. "Inasmuch as ye did it unto the least of my disciples, ye did it unto me."

Whitevale, Ont.

E. E. MCCONNELL.

MISS BELBY, a medical worker in the Zenanas, has been invited by Queen Victoria to lay before her the particulars of Zenana work in India—a subject in which her Majesty has recently taken a great deal of interest.

### WOMEN'S BAPTIST FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF ONTARIO.

*A. Acknowledgments for July, and up to August 10th, 1882.*

Belleville Mission Circle, \$2.15; Belleville, special for Miss Frith, \$10; St. George Mission Circle, \$7; Alexander Street Mission Circle, \$13.58; Woodstock, \$12.35; Woodstock Mission Band, \$7.05; Jarvis Street Mission Circle, \$9.35; Yorkville Mission Circle, \$13.05; Georgetown, \$6.75; Cheltenham Mission Circle, \$5; Brantford (East Ward Mission Circle), \$6.50; Thorold Mission Circle, \$3; St. Catharines (Missionary Guild), \$5; Hamilton Mission Circle, \$40.53; Miss Sadie Sherwood, Rosedale, \$1; Mrs. J. Mann, Bridgenorth (for Miss Frith), \$5. Total, \$147.01.

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