

There is a great multitude of those who are divinely "called" to stay at home. Well understood and graciously fulfilled, the staying at home is a beautiful calling. There is none more high, none more holy. But they who fulfil it loyally will, like true patriots in time of war, be eager for news from the front ready to send supplies to those who are on the field.

Our responsive service is a service for all, not for a select few. Christ is our leader. He waits for our response. What shall it be? How shall we learn to respond fitly?

First of all, we must provide ourselves with books and learn to read them. We must not only learn to read something somewhere about missions, we must learn to find the service appropriate for the day in which we live. It is because we have not kept the place in the book of God's providences, and have not responded promptly and in full unison to His leadings, that our service so lags, so lacks in spirit and in effectiveness.

We are living in a time which should be the dawning of Easter Sunday, and we are droning away in a service which was in order only away back in the Ash Wednesday of missionary history. Our Master's "Go ye" of the first century is being rapidly transposed into "Come ye."

From the sending of the seventy until now, He has sent His disciples only into the places into which He Himself will come.

From here and there in India, in China, in Japan, in Africa, as well as in Europe and America,—wherever two or three are met in Christ's name,—from there the voice of our Leader sounds to us at home a royal, "Come ye." And the voice of His providence blends to us with His voice of command, as we read of Japan, eager for light and knowledge; China, half awake, with daily threatenings of relapse into heathen slumbers; Africa, plastic, waiting, ready to be moulded by the powers of good or of evil.

And what are we responding to all this? We,—why, we are still slowly spelling out the first word of command, and trying hard to convince ourselves that, somehow, "y-e," spells, "some one else."

There is a discordant incongruity between the readings of our Leader and our responses. What is amiss? Let the young women provide themselves with books, and learn to keep the place. Let us altogether turn from the Ash Wednesday, "Spare thy people; spare them," which we have learned to repeat almost without thinking, and let us put our whole souls into a living prayer for guidance in doing our part toward ushering in the great Easter service of praise to the Lord from all the nations of the earth.

(To be continued.)

The W. M. Society of the North West.

The following is from a private letter from Mrs. Doolittle, the Cor. Sec.:

A surprising interest in mission work has been awakened among our people since our July meeting. The success which attends the work here is due only to the power and grace of our God. Seven new circles have been organized; and for this new country with its widely scattered Baptist churches, that means a good deal. The hearty interest with which they have entered into this work is very encouraging. Mrs. J. C. McDonald, our director, found the sisters in every church she visited ready, willing, anxious to organize for work. Some of the circles have adopted the excellent plan of holding open missionary meetings each quarter. Money is raised by weekly or monthly contributions; no stated fee, but every woman is urged to "lay by her in store (weekly, as far as possible) as God has prospered her." It seems to me this will educate our people to give, as no stated fee would ever do. Each woman is thus taught to make the amount she gives a matter of conscience, enlightened by a Bible rule.

I hope you will not think me presumptuous, and pardon the suggestion if it seems rude, but I have wished you Ontario ladies would throw the \$1-a-year scheme overboard, and urge proportionate, systematic giving, founded on God's word, to the Circles.

[This young Society has sent the first foreign missionary from the Baptists of that country—Miss Booker, who is now on her way to India. Besides this, they support a young lady missionary to the Indians near Portage la Prairie; and help support a preacher to the Germans in Winnipeg.—Ed.]

News from Circles.

OSNABRUCK CENTRE.—The Mission Circle of Osnabrick Centre requested me to write you a short account of the work done by it during the past year. The secretary's book shows an increase in membership of eleven; also \$40 raised for Home and Foreign Missions, by voluntary contributions. Besides this, the Circle held a public meeting, Oct. 14th, which was well attended. The collection taken up at the close amounted to \$5.25. The meeting was opened in the usual manner, and an interesting essay was read by Miss Ethel Moke, containing an earnest appeal for more active work on the part of the members. Also pressing home the duty of helping on this great work, to those who have not yet joined the Circle.

Miss Frith, of West Winchester, delivered an address, which was listened to with great interest, and quickened our zeal in behalf of Foreign Missions. A Mission Band was organized in July and now numbers forty-five children, who are very much interested in the work. We feel encouraged and pray that the Lord will bless His work here still more abundantly during the coming years.

Yours in the cause. MRS. W. T. GRAHAM.

SAWYERSVILLE, P. Q.—Our Mission Band was organized, October 8th, 1887, with eight members; it has now twenty-one; its name is the "Mission Stars." We have the "Kings Messengers," and study the lessons in them. We have raised, Mission Band fees seven dollars and Mission Boxes twenty-three dollars. We sent away this fall to Mrs. Mc-Lauren, for India, some basted patch-work, work-bags, scrap-books, and book-marks. We held our annual meeting on Sunday afternoon, September 15th. The programme consisted of songs and recitations. Our members live so far from each other that we cannot meet in the winter and so cannot accomplish as much as we might if we could meet more regularly. We generally meet once a month and hold our meetings two hours; the first part is spent in reading and singing and the last part in making patch-work, book-marks, scrap-books and work-bags. We have not done very much but we hope what little we have done will help in the Master's cause. Hoping to do more in the coming year.

LUCY ANNABLE, Cor. Sec.

ROCKLAND.—The annual meeting was well attended, the hall being filled. A good programme of readings, music, etc., was prepared. The President, Mrs. James Eakin, presided and opened the meeting with appropriate remarks. The Pastor gave a short address at the close of the programme, encouraging the workers.

MAGGIE EDWARDS, Sec.

BLENHEIM.—The Honest and Earnest Mission Band held a very successful social in the church here, at which the following report was read:—

The Honest and Earnest Mission Band was organized May 10th, 1889, twenty names being enrolled. The interest in the Mission cause has been gradually increasing,