

to Almighty God for so many blessings? As to the spiritual outcome of our prayers and work, surely no one can measure that but Him for whose honor and glory we have lovingly tried to use the time and talents He has given us. The oft-repeated refrain that comes from the mission fields, "We could not do without the Woman's Auxiliary," tells its own joyous tale to us, and ought we not to be very thankful indeed for even that one encouragement? and yet we have many more for which to be grateful.

Then we come to the second heading, "The individual spiritual life of the members themselves."

Ah! here comes a very *home* matter. Look into your own lives, dear friends, and see with how much good we can credit the W.A.

Think if our loving Saviour has not drawn you closer to Him since you first heard and thought more of those who know Him not, even by name? Are not your sympathies enlarged, your time better arranged so as to consecrate more of it to God, your self-denials increased, your purse more open? Has not the "toleration" with which, perhaps, you first consented to be a member quickened into the "love and zeal" spoken of by Mrs. Henderson? Has not your connection with the Auxiliary widened your ideas beyond your own parish, diocese, or even our grand Dominion, and, as Miss Emery said, "deepened the feelings of what life was given for"? And, best of all, see how our members have been and are being led by the Holy Spirit to give *themselves* to His work—for missions. And into the secret sorrowing inner chamber of many a heart has an interest in the Auxiliary come as a God-given lifting-up of the bowed head and balm to the broken spirit when crushed to earth by some chastening stroke.

Each heart knoweth its own sorrows, and it is not for me to lift the curtain of these all too sacred precincts further than to ask you to *show* your thankfulness to a merciful Saviour who has so led you to follow His footsteps, and losesome of the keenness of your own grief while ministering to others who are crying aloud for your practical and loving help. And wafted to us down the years come those beautiful words quoted by Mrs. Tilley, "He that watereth shall himself be watered."

THE HOSPITAL IN JAPAN.

The object laid before us by the Provincial Board, to which our thank-offerings are to be designated, is a much-needed one. Our lady medical missionary, Miss Smith, has done splendid work in the hospital in Kobé, of which the *Leaflet* has kept us informed from time to time.

Since moving to Nagano the work of the training school for nurses has had to be much

curtailed, as the only hospital there is not fit for ladies to work in, and is most unpopular with the natives.

The thank-offering given at the last Triennial will be devoted to the lease of a lot of land, on which a small dispensary will be erected now, and, later on, the hospital. This will enable Miss Smith and her nurses to do something, but only in a very cramped way. To give them scope for the grand work which lies open to them in reaching dark souls through suffering bodies is to be our privilege in this thank-offering, coupled with the "rendering unto God the things that are God's" in grateful recognition of Auxiliary blessings, only a very few of which time has permitted me to touch on.

Please think these out for yourselves, and when you remember a blessing be practical, and give, then and there, a definite thank-offering for that particular blessing, no matter how small the offering may have to be. Don't put it off until another time in hopes of having a larger amount to offer. It is the motive, not the sum, the Lord looks at, and five cents given in the right spirit will be more acceptable than thousands of dollars given for show. Speak often to each other of this thank-offering, and make it the subject of your meetings now and then, inviting reasons for it from your members at large. The Bible is full of references to the duties of thank-offerings. If every time we came across them in our Bible study we put a cent in our thank-offering box, the reference would remain more firmly in our minds. The thirty-fifth chapter of Exodus always seems to me very especially an Auxiliary chapter. The offerings described there can find many counterparts in our work. Beginning with the willing mind, going on to the silver and gold, and the blue and purple, and scarlet and fine linen, spun by the wise women, represented by the work for our bales; then the necessities for the tabernacle, the service, and Aaron, corresponding with the church furnishings, surplices, stoles, and other such articles; the jewels, some of which many of our women have given, and so on. Please enlarge this heading. And do not let us stop there, but go on to the fifth, sixth, and seventh verse of the thirty-sixth chapter, and each act our part in imitating the free givings of the children of Israel, so that when the thank-offering of 1898 is brought in it may be said of us, "There is sufficient of all the stuff to make," and, we would add, *endow*, the hospital of the Woman's Auxiliary in Japan. The "too much" there can never be while so many heathen hearts are awaking there and crying to us "Jesus-people," as they call us, to "come over and help them to know that Christ, the love of whom constraineth us to give to Him our Woman's Auxiliary thank-offering."

L.H.M.

Mite boxes are now ready for the thank-