

end. They can exist, only as kings are said to reign, "by the grace of God."

Women are ingenious in device—clever at carrying their points. "What woman wills, God wills," says the French proverb. If women are made to know the extreme needs of the heathen, they will certainly be ready to do what they can for them. How can they be led to look into this work—to make themselves intelligent about it? Only by laying upon them a share of its responsibilities. We are all too busy to spend time acquiring knowledge that we do not expect to use. Machinists may listen to agricultural lectures, but they carry away only what concerns their part of the business. We cannot teach by simply pouring in facts. Our students will retain little more than what we get them to say themselves about the lessons.

Women listen to missionary sermons as demurely and respectfully as possible; their thought, meanwhile, busy with practical matters that depend upon their energy and skill. Catechise them, and you will find that, like the worldly-minded merchants, farmers, and lawyers, who come to church out of curiosity, and who pretend to no responsibility of the cause on hand, they have no notion of the number or the efficiency of missionaries, the feasibility of this or that plan of extending the work, its risks, costs or methods. Instead of going home to lay the warm, quivering facts upon the young hearts under their care, they dismiss the subject with a resolution to give a little more money than last year—the very poorest gift in their power, do you see?

There is no human force for good or ill equal to the talk of women. They have listeners who have all power in heaven and on earth. They talk to God and the little children. No one talks of that of which she does not know; nor takes pains to know much of that for which she has no responsibility. Women will help bring public sentiment to a permanent interest in the missionary cause only when they have responsibility in its management. Just this the Woman's Missionary Society gives them. Hence, this Society is absolutely necessary to the permanence of the advance missionary movement of the Church. So far from lessening the interest in the General Missionary Society, and consequent contributions to its treasury, the prayers and exhortations, speaking and writing of the women have contributed in no small degree to the sentiment that makes it safe to ask the Church for more missionary money than it has ever given before.

Christian women must know the facts; and may God help us to comprehend them! While the Woman's Missionary Society is subject to the missionary authorities of the Church, in the choice, appointment, and control of its missionaries, and in the disbursement of its funds, yet it carries the burden of the evangelization of heathen women. Heathen women are shut away from the teachings of male missionaries. Not one dollar of the funds of the General Missionary Society goes to the salary of a female teacher, the building of a female hospital, orphanage, or school-house, or the support of a girls' or women's school. All the work among the women of foreign lands has been handed over to the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society. The missionaries' wives render the Society invaluable service. There are not nobler or more efficient women "this side heaven." Some of them are working themselves to death. "All for love, and nothing for reward." Yet, as one of them writes from India: "The wives of missionaries, be they never so willing and able to work, cannot always be depended upon. By the care of their families, and the sickness of their husbands or children, their hands are often tied."

Will not the women of the Church accept the trust God has laid upon them, the care of the salvation of the women of all heathendom?—half the populations; the half who have by far the most power over the civilization, as they train the children; the half who, of all human beings, suffer most deeply from the degradations, the debasements, the oppressions, and the vilenesses of paganism? All that is good or beautiful or pure in our lives comes to us through Christ, the best friend woman ever had, or ever will have.

Never did woman wield such power as now. Mordecai said to Queen Esther, "Who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" He said, also, "If thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance come from another, but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed." May God help each of us to understand that our tenure of the marvellous blessings he has given us hinges upon our unselfish efforts to help others to like precious faith! Let us not be content with the little "two cents a week." Let us sacrifice to the Lord that which costs us something; and let us not rest till every woman in the Church is fully awake to this responsibility.—*The Ladies' Repository*.