


going on. Talk things over with them and hear and draw out what they want to ask and say.

So much for the manner of starting a Childrens' Missionary Guild and of the detail of the work, but of what avail is this knowledge if no earnest woman can be found to put it to practical use? How many here will begin this very Lent to forward Christ's Kingdom by teaching His little ones the part they may take in this most glorious cause? "There will be so many difficulties," says one. Quite true; but is anything worth doing accomplished without trouble? "Others can do it better than I, they have more time, more money, more gifts for the work." Does God ask service from His rich and gifted children only? Is there not a place in His army for every soldier of the Cross? "The results will be so small for the trouble and time spent." Who can venture to estimate the future grand result? when by these means our children will be trained to work for God and His cause, to realize the claims of others upon them, to love the Church of their Baptism, to feel and know that she is a living, working Church, and that they have a banner to lift in her army in the great battle against ignorance and sin. This Mission work of ours may seem but a small factor now, in the regeneration of the world, but the next ten years will see an advance beyond the brightest hopes of many among us, and the next generation will find, we humbly trust, no professing Christian who will not be utterly ashamed to say, "I know very little about Missions—I have never taken any interest in them." Meantime, let us, individually do our part to bring about this universal missionary spirit, and in no way can this be more effectually done, than by training the young to feel their responsibility.

To any who feel a desire to take up this work and face its many difficulties and its possible disappointments, I would suggest for their motto, the Word of the Lord to Zerubabel, spoken by Zechariah: "Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit saith the Lord of Hosts."

### SYSTEMATIC AND PROPORTIONATE GIVING.

 TORONTO Diocesan Society for the promotion of systematic and proportionate giving, consisting of (1) Members of the Church who agree to practice and to promote systematic and proportionate giving; (2) Members of the Church who pay not less than a tenth part of their income to Church and charitable purposes. Member-

ship fees: Adults 50c. per annum, children 10c. to be sent to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Diocese, and employed by the Committee in the extension of the work of the society. The members of the society are left free to distribute their offerings. Parochial Branches may be formed by the clergyman and four members of the society. For further information application may be made to the Organizing Secretary, Rev. William H. Clarke, 133 Shaw Street, Toronto.

We would commend the work of the above society to our readers. The duty of systematic and proportionate giving is binding upon every Christian, but is very generally forgotten or at least but poorly practised. Much good may be, and we believe has already been done by the above society. There are now twenty-five members on the list, which we hope to see much increased during the present year. The Woman's Auxiliary to Missions is a strong and much valued helper in this work, many of the members of which have joined the society.

The growth of the principles advocated by this society is seen in the large number of publications issued on the subject, *e.g.*, "The Path of Wealth," "Giving and How to Give," "An Earnest Plea for the Lord's Portion," etc., etc., as well as in the Resolutions passed in the Synods and Conferences of various Christian bodies. The following Resolutions were carried at the Provincial Synod, Montreal, in September, 1889:—

(1.) That some of the methods adopted now-a-days to obtain money for Church purposes are very questionable, and such as the Church of England, in the Province of Canada, is called upon most earnestly to protest against.

(2.) That the Bishops and Clergy, be, and are hereby respectfully requested to do what they may to bring those under their spiritual oversight to a realization of how dishonouring to Christ and His Church is a neglect of duty and a contempt of privilege in the matter of Christian giving.

We have received from the Secretary of the Society of the Treasury of God, in England, a copy of the First Report and Balance Sheet of that society. This society like the Toronto Diocesan Society seems to be making slow but steady progress, having "ninety-four members, comprising four bishops, thirty two clergymen, and fifty-eight laity." The Balance Sheet shows receipts to the amount of £82 os. 1d.

We earnestly invite all members of the Church to join the Diocesan Society. Systematic giving and mission work go hand-in-hand.

BISHOP COURTNEY, of Nova Scotia, is reported convalescent, but will not be able to resume work for some time. He is advised to go to Italy for a period of rest and recuperation.