



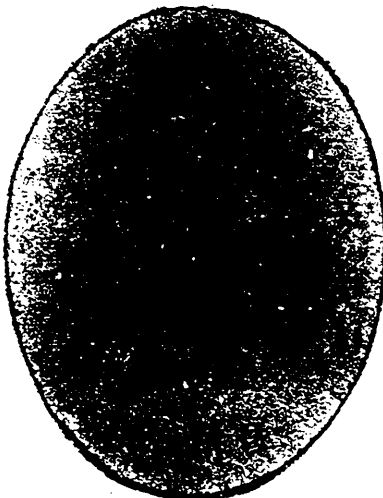
ALL of you who by your Easter offerings helped to build the Orphanage this year in China will be glad to see the face of the dear Missionary who was so interested in Annie, Ida and all the other little cutcast girls of China that she longed to give them a happy and comfortable home where they might learn of Jesus and grow up to be Christian women and give this blessed news to their own people.

You will remember that in April, 1897, she wrote—"How very much I would like it if our Woman's Missionary Society could see its way clear to open up an Orphanage here. We have plenty of ground room, and a small native building will accommodate a number of little ones with the help necessary to care for them. If some of our home friends, to whom the Lord has trusted his money, could only realize the good that could be done with a few hundred dollars in saving the little girls here, I am sure it would be willingly and gladly given."

Before that Missionary year ended her work in China was done, but the wish of her heart was not forgotten, and even more than she had hoped for was realized. To this Home has been given her own name—it is "The Jennie Ford Home," and we doubt not that in Heaven today she rejoices over the success of this good work,

Miss Brooks wrote in April of this year :

"The Jennie Ford Home is almost finished. It is a very pretty two-story building; and the large tree right under whose shadow it is built, almost seems to be spreading out its leaves in blessing on it. May the dear Lord abundantly prosper this department of our work! When one thinks of how much good even one of these little ones might bring about, were she to grow up a Christian and go out among her people to propagate the Gospel that saved her to the world, one feels like thanking God anew for the privilege of doing His work on this line, along with that of the other departments. May He give us wisdom to train them in such a way that they will best do His work! How much we need of His power and grace and enthusiasm!"



MISS JENNIE FORD.

Miss Foster also wrote in April :

"Just a few lines to let you know how the Jennie Ford Home is progressing. We began building the 1st of March, and in five weeks' time it was nearly finished. It cannot be completed until the hardware arrives from Shanghai, which will probably be in about a month. The Orphanage is not a large building, as it is only 28 x 15 feet. There is a kitchen, a dining and a bed-room down stairs, and just one room up-stairs the full length of the building. We should not have been able to put up as large a building as this had it not been for the contributions of three or four friends on the field. We think that the building will accommodate about fifteen children."

Miss Foster also says, on March 22d, one of the boarding-school girls, returning from prayer-meeting, picked up a baby on the street, only two months old. She is a nice, healthy, good-natured child, but because she was a girl the dogs were welcome to her!

You will be sorry to hear that baby Annie was very ill with phenumonia, in May, and they all thought she would die, but the little life has been spared, no doubt for some good purpose,

### THE FATHER'S CARE.

In the trees the birds are singing, in the mountains and the glens,  
By the rivers and the brooks and by the sea;  
But there's food for all the robins and the tiny little wrens,  
And there's bread in His hand for me.

All the meadows bloom with daisies and with dandelions bold,  
And the clover-blossoms cover all the lea;  
But there's clothing for the lilies and the buttercups of gold,  
And there's raiment in His hand for me.

And the clouds of trouble gather, and the stormy wind is heard,  
And the angry tempest rages wild and free;  
But there's shelter for the sparrow and the little humming-bird,  
And there's safety in His arms for me;

And the world is full of children, oh so many and so fair!  
Like the sunbeams as they sparkle on the sea;  
But there's room for all the children in the Father's tender care,  
And there's room in his heart for me.

*Chas. I. Junkin in S. S. Times.*

### THE GIFTS OF THE BIBLE.

A pleasant exercise for a children's meeting would be one which would teach the boys and girls about the gifts God has promised through the Bible.

At the preceding session each child could be instructed to bring to the Gift Meeting a slip of paper containing a passage of Scripture in which God has promised us some blessing or some gift. These slips could be collected and read aloud, and as each is read the child who brought it could rise and tell where it is to be found. Each could also later be asked to repeat the verse that he brought.

Among the most notable passages containing reference to gifts are John iii: 16, "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Also Matthew xi: 28: "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Likewise John xiv: 27: "My peace I give unto you." Other passages are: Acts xvii: 25; I John v: 11; I Corinthians xiii: 7; James I: 5; Revelation ii: 10.

### A KOREAN BOY'S COMPOSITION ON FARMING.

There are two kinds of fields in Korea, one is land field and the other is water field.

Here are the principal names of grains which are sown in land field: Barley, wheat, oats, peas, broom-corns, buckwheats, and castor oil beans; but the grain which is sown in water field is just one, the rice.

Now I am proceeding about how they do sow them.

There are two ways of sowing the barley in Korea—some one sows them in autumn and some one sows them in spring, but the barley which was sown in autumn is more good for to eat and the spring barley is worse.

Then there are two kinds of grains which are sown in autumn, the autumn barley and the wheat; but all the rest are sown in spring.

When they begin to sow their seeds in autumn or in spring they carry out the manure into the land

fields beforehand and then spread it out just after they plow the fields into lines and sow the seeds upon the lines where the manure is, and then cover the seeds with earth.

In summer they weed their fields two or three times.

I guess Korean farmers are more troubled than other countries because they have not many machines like foreign countries, but they have only plows, oxen, hoes, rakes, and sickles, and the manure costs very dear, so some of poor farmers are very difficult to have a good farming.—*Over Sea and Land.*

### SELF-DENIAL WEEK.

SELF-DENIAL week, in the mission band,  
As, of course you readily understand,  
Was planned for the purpose of giving a lift  
To the mission cause by an extra gift.

"Oh, dear! cried Bessie; "Oh, my! Oh, my!  
I don't see how I can self-deny.  
I've nothing to do with it at all;  
I've scarcely a penny my own to call;  
Whatever I save must be very small."

"I wonder, I wonder," cried Tom and Lou,  
"What in the world we can ever do.  
Not a cent is ours to spend or give;  
'Tis as much as we all can do to live.  
If we earned a little 'twould be so small  
It would't be worth our giving at all."

So the children talked; but they talked in vain,  
For the leader hastened to make it plain  
That the "doing without" for the Saviour's sake,  
And the little sacrifice each could make,  
Were the very things that they all should seek,  
Just a day at a time, self-denial week.

You might never guess how it came about,  
But each one found something to do without,  
For their hearts in earnest they really gave,  
And their best endeavors to earn and save.

Not a single member of that bright band  
Had a chance to do something great and grand,  
But the little things by the many wrought  
Exceeded all they had hoped or thought;  
And the gift of their hands went far and wide,  
That the bread of life might not be denied,  
But the hungry souls might be satisfied.  
If you add the littles and multiply  
You will find that they count up by and by,  
It is *keeping on*, after all, that counts,  
And that brings to the treasury large amounts.

—*Julia H. Johnston, in Over Sea and Land.*

### THANKS TO THE W. M. S.

The Indians of Kitamaat in public meeting assembled, request the Revd. G. H. Raley to forward their hearty vote of thanks to the Woman's Missionary Society of the Methodist Church, for substantial aid already rendered towards the maintenance of a home for the training of their children.

With the wish expressed by all:—"That the kind-hearted ladies of the W. M. S., and all Christian friends, may, as God inspires them, of their bounty, remember the little Indian children, who are waiting to eat the crumbs that fall from their table."

## FIELD STUDIES FOR SEPTEMBER.

REVIEW OF THE WORK CULLED FROM PAPER  
PREPARED BY FIELD SECRETARY.

## JAPAN.

**T**HERE are 15 missionaries representing the W. M. S. in 5 cities of Japan; 3 boarding schools in which 172 are enrolled; 2 orphanages caring for some 30 children; a school of 50 carried on by the "King's Daughters;" 2 industrial schools with teaching in the evening; over 600 meetings last year for women and children; 5,566 visits made with a view to leading to Christ and instruction in the faith; 8 pupils and 28 women baptized. One of our girls, near the gates of death, was able to say "Life looks very sweet, but either way is all right."

Fruits are apparent from the sowing of former years, both among native teachers and pupils, and many are faithfully witnessing for Christ and teaching what they know in the villages to which they have returned.

One of our missionaries writes: "Nowhere but in the mission schools can the girls of Japan receive the Christian training which is so much needed to build up a strong womanhood in our churches."

To this end daily Bible instruction is given, that being a part of the curriculum, and practical effort is encouraged and guided in several small Sunday schools, beside the church Sunday school, and other meetings for children.

## CHINA.

Five ladies represent us in Chenta, China. We now possess a good commodious property, on which are some native buildings fitted up for hospital purposes. We have built a home for our missionaries, a school and dormitories for children, in which there are about 50 day pupils and 8 boarders. Meetings are held with women and the good seed is being faithfully sown.

An orphanage has just been completed in which four little waifs have already found shelter and home. It will accommodate 15.

## FRENCH WORK.

In the French work the W. M. S. shares equally with the general society the running expenses of the Institute, where there are 70 or 80 in residence. Two French day schools in Montreal are maintained, some of the teachers also doing the work of Bible women, thus reaching many living in poverty and superstition. One or two country schools are also aided.

## INDIAN WORK.

One of our first works was the uplifting of the girls at Port Simpson, B. C. Some 40 of them are now in our Home under the care and instruction of three teachers.

In Dr. Bolton's Hospital, in the same place, we maintain two nurses, and their work is most highly valued.

The Coqualeetza Institute at Chilliwack, developed from the Home planted there by the W. M. S., is now supported jointly by the two societies. One hundred

boys and girls are receiving the benefit of an industrial training as well as being nurtured in the ways of the Lord. Appropriation is made for Kit-a-Maat, White Fish Lake, and McDougall Orphanage, so we are interested in five Homes for Indian children.

Five hundred dollars has also been given several years to the Methodist Orphanage, St. Johns, Nfld.

## CHINESE RESCUE HOME.

Most valuable work is being done among the Chinese who come to our shores, not only in the rescue of the down-trodden and oppressed and the care and nurture of those who have professed to believe in Jesus, but also in the attempt, through the opening of a day school, to lead the children to Christ.

Our three representatives are doing all they can by these methods and visiting the women of Chinatown to win them to God. In general they meet with a kindly welcome and are well treated.

From Miss Bowes: Victoria, B. C., June 9, 1898.

Regarding the case of Quai Shing (Elsie), which was appealed to the Supreme Court at Ottawa by the Chinaman who claimed to be her owner and decision given in favor of the Rescue Home, Miss Bowes writes: "It is the greatest victory ever won in court regarding the rescue of Chinese in B. C., and I am sure it will tell for good perhaps in the near future. The fact of our victory flew through Chinatown like wildfire, and we think we can see as a result that the little slave girls on the streets look upon us as friends, and not enemies, as heretofore."

## QUESTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER.

## JAPAN.

How many missionaries have we in Japan?  
How many boarding schools and how many enrolled?  
How many Orphanages and children?  
What of the King's Daughters' School? Industrial School?  
How many meetings last year? How many visits?  
How many baptized?  
What is said of one of our girls?  
What is the result now of the seed sowing of former years?  
What did one of our Missionaries write of Mission Schools?  
What is said of Bible Study, and encouragement to practical effort?

## CHINA.

How many ladies represent us in China?  
What property have we there?  
How many in the school? What meetings are held?  
What of the Orphanage?

## FRENCH WORK.

What share has the W. M. S. in the French Institute,  
What other schools does it maintain in Montreal?  
What other good work? Any other schools aided?

## INDIAN WORK.

What can you tell of the girls at Port Simpson?  
What connection have we with Dr. Bolton's Hospital?  
How is the Coqualeetza Institute supported and what work is being done there?

What are the five Indian Schools in which we are interested?

## CHINESE RESCUE WORK.

What good work is being done among the Chinese in B. Columbia?  
How many Missionaries have we there and what are they doing?  
Will you tell the story of Elsie?  
What was the result of the great victory won?

# PALM ✻ BRANCH.

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MISS S. E. SMITH,  
 282 Princess Street,  
 St. John, N. B.

SEPTEMBER, 1898.

UR prayers this month are to be especially made for "Our boards of management, officers and committees; also our sister societies." Every year at this time we are asked to remember in prayer those who are in authority in our societies—those who make and mend the laws, and with whom rests the chief responsibility of the work—those who so much require wisdom and good judgment that they may direct the Lord's work and spend the Lord's money aright. We say the chief responsibility rests upon them, but by no means all the responsibility and that fact is recognized when they ask for our prayers. We can hold up their hands as Aaron and Hur held up the hands of their leader, Moses, by the faith and prayer which that act signified.

Can we believe that this is the last month of another missionary year? We have to send up our accounts and reports to our officers to see that they tally with the accounts kept by them. This is of the utmost importance to the success of our work.

We are responsible to a still higher Tribunal for the improvement of this year's time and talents and opportunities, and the success of our own lives and perhaps many other lives must depend upon our faithfulness. Will the accounts tally?

On looking over the Palm Branches of the year, we find that we are much indebted to our missionaries, especially our Japan missionaries, for valuable help. Busy and burdened as they are, they might have claimed to be excused, but there have been few papers this year in which their work has not been directly brought to our notice—and there is no food like that fresh from the field.

An article in the August Missionary Review, "The Supreme Need in Missionary Work," is most helpful

on this subject of prayer for missions. We can only cull a few ideas. Prayer is to missionary work what air is to the body—the element in which it lives. The very first duty of a church in regard to its missionary work is to awaken, maintain and sustain in its members the spirit of prayer. He who prays for missions never forgets that the work is God's; that he is aiding in the Divine enterprise of missions. How important this is to our missionary committees and boards. The carrying on of a mission involves so many business details that unless the church is simply full of prayer, men will be tempted to forget God, and will try to do God's work in their own way.

We appoint a committee or board to manage our Foreign Mission work. How can we secure that the committee will act wisely and will judiciously employ the means at its disposal? Only by prayer. Nothing else will secure that the men we appoint are kept in touch with God so that in the work the Spirit of God as the Spirit of Wisdom shall rest on them.

In the evangelization of the world, the missionary prayer meeting is a greater force than the missionary public meeting.

A praying church never lacks missionaries. If they are not forthcoming it is a sure sign that that work has not the place it ought to have in the church's prayers. A church has no right to send out any man unless she is prepared to uphold him by prayer. Prayer for missions must be intelligent, definite and intense.

A propos of the Plebiscite again.—In matters of social reform, woman's influence is greater than man's. Her power is indeed great. Let neither of you ever despair.

JOSEPH NEESIMA.

We are glad to receive "Na-Na-Kwa," from Kitamaat, published by Rev. Mr. Raley, and setting forth the claims of the Home there.

Miss Maggie Smith of the Coqualeetza Institute is home for rest. She will pardon us for publishing her letter, which we thought would be of interest to our readers.

"I left Vancouver July 1st, and am now at my old home in Nova Scotia. I have only six months' furlough, when I will return to my old work at Coqualeetza. It is so nice to think I am to go back, for my heart is certainly with the children there.

When I left there were about 102 children, I think, all strong and enjoying good health, with one or two exceptions. While in Victoria in June I called on Misses Bowes and Morgan. Just missed seeing Misses Churchill and Elliott. The latter expected to go out that same evening in the steamship for Fort Simpson. Four girls went with us as far as New Westminster for a two weeks' holiday.

While in Vancouver three or four of our boys and girls called to see me. I almost wish I could see some of them to-night.

I hope to get a good rest and be able to do better work on my return."

## HOW THE UTOPIA MISSION BAND HOLDS ITS ANNUAL MEETING.

BY ANNIE E. MELLISH.

"Hurrah for the sea shore! Hurrah for the Mission Band! Hurrah for our annual meeting."

Such are the cries that arise from over fifty merry hearted children as they leave behind them the heat and dust of the city for the delightful sea breezes of the North Shore.

"Whose children are these, and to what place do they belong?" asks a curious stranger.

"Why, these are the members of the Utopia Mission Band off for their annual meeting and picnic."

"You do not mean—it is not possible that they hold their annual meeting in connection with a picnic? The ladies out west claim that this is the most important meeting of the year."

"So it is here, and the President of the Band realizing this fact and knowing that it is impossible to gather together her scattered flock so soon after the summer's frolic, uses this means of uniting business and pleasure. The effect is marvellous."

"No doubt," continues the still critical stranger "but is it not making light of the sacred cause of missions to hold a meeting amid the excitement of an hilarious group of children at a picnic?"

"So one would naturally suppose; but when children have been romping and playing for hours they are sufficiently tired to sit still and enjoy a good substantial supper. This meal over all march to a beautiful grove on the river's brink, singing 'Onward Christian Soldiers?'"

"And do they hold their meeting there?"

"Yes! The President takes her seat on a small bank of moss, and, surrounded by the children, conducts the meeting the same as if in the church parlor. It is surprising how well they behave, but of course they have been educated up to it and enter into the spirit of the meeting with much vigor and gusto. Reports bright and concise are heard and passed from every committee. The election of officers by nomination and ballot follows, and their work is assigned thus:

President—General manager and presiding officer over first meeting of each month.

1st, 2nd and 3rd vice-Presidents—Presiding officers over the meetings alternately.

Recording Secretary—Reads the minutes.

Assistant Secretary—Calls the roll.

Corresponding Secretary—Conducts the correspondence.

"Palm Branch" Secretary—Canvasses for "Palm Branch" and reports her success at the meeting.

Assistant "Palm Branch" Secretary—Assists in the distribution.

Programme Secretary—Records members' names alphabetically and appoints in turn four each week on the programme committee.

Treasurer—Keeps the funds and faithful record of same.

1st Assistant Treasurer—Takes up collection.

2nd Assistant Treasurer—Credits the amount given by each toward membership fee.

Mite-box Secretary—Her office is to see that every member has a mite-box, and to read an article on the subject at Band, once a month.

Auditor—Audits the accounts. This office is generally filled by the retiring President.

Lookout Committee—Three are appointed to look out for new members, call on absentees and report at each meeting.

Scrap Album Committee—A committee of four have charge of scrap albums and collect from members, and others, items on the different mission fields. Competition is keen in order to have the longest column at the end of the month.

Organist—Accompanies the singing with organ.

Musical Leader—Assigns to each member her place in the Band chorus according to their respective vocal powers. Is also held responsible for good singing.

Of course the constitutional three are added, making a grand executive of twenty-six members.

Suggestions on different plans of work are heard and held over for consideration until the next meeting.

The selection of the yearly "prayer motto" is both pathetic and interesting. A number of original verses are read, and all agree that the choice should be the one written by a little flaxen-haired girl of nine summers. It runs thus:—

We want to save the heathen  
Who live far o'er the sea,  
So loyal to our church and Band  
Oh help us Lord to be!

The closing hour has come at last. All join hands and sing "From Greenland's Icy Mountains."

Look! my skeptical friend, Look!! What could be more sublime? The sun in all his majestic grandeur is gradually disappearing from view. The radiant sky, illuminated with the harmonious tints of purple, red and gold, casts its reflection on the rippling waters underneath. So, under the very smile of Heaven, looking far out over the waters and thinking of those beyond who bow down to wood and stone, this faithful Band of little workers sing with heart and soul:

"Waft, waft ye winds the story,  
And you, ye waters roll,

The chorus rings forth loud and clear. Back in yon distant farm the busy farmer stops his work, reverently removes his hat and murmurs the dear familiar words. The blithe milkmaid slackens her quickened pace—listens—and snatches up the song. Still out o'er the briny deep the chorus swells. The heart of the lonely fisherman is touched. It is the hymn his mother used to sing. So with the foaming waters round him, with arms clasped and eyes uplifted to Heaven, he, too, joins in the grand old anthem.

"Till like a sea of glory  
It spreads from Pole to Pole."

Charlottetown, P. E. I.

Ramabai is held over for another month.



Address - COUSIN JOY, 282 Princess Street, St. John, N. B.

Dear cousins, we give you this month the story of a little Japanese girl who had been hungry all her life, till she came to a mission school. If you feel as Cousin Joy did when she first read it you will cry too, in sympathy with that poor little girl, but you will rejoice with her that her hungry days are over, and that she bids fair to have a happy and useful life in the service of the Lord Jesus. A story like this ought to make us feel truly thankful for our own large share of good things, all undeserved; and truly anxious to give of our abundance to those who are in need. Let us remember, dear cousins, that while our Heavenly Father looks down and loves each one of us, He does not give us the good things of this life, nor the promise of the life to come for our own sakes merely, but that we may pass it on to others. He wants us to have a share in His own joy—the joy of giving.

Dear Cousin Joy—This is the first time I have claimed you as a cousin. I take the Palm Branch; like it very much. I am secretary of the Rays of Light Mission Band. I have one brother and two sisters; their names are Evan, Inez and Verdie. I live in Amherst, which is a town of about four thousand inhabitants. We have a nice Sabbath-school, with an average attendance of about 200 scholars. We have a nice library, also good superintendent and teachers; Rev. J. L. Batty is our pastor's name, and we like him very much. No more this time.

Amherst, N. S. MYRA KNOWLTON.

Dear Cousin Joy—I am very much pleased to write these few lines. I belong to the Junior Christian Endeavor. I think I have found out the answer to May's puzzle—it is 'Miss Minnie Spence,' she is the missionary in Port Simpson.

I remain yours sincerely,  
Kingston, Ont. KATIE GREEN.

Dear Cousin Joy—I have been reading the Palm Branch and noticing the letters there, I thought I would write to you too. I am ten years old, and I'm staying down here in the country with my aunt, and she takes the Palm Branch.

I got the first two puzzles in the July number.

They are Dr. Maud Killam and King's Messengers. I live in Charlottetown, but I like the country.

I'm not Methodist, but Presbyterian, and belong to the Little Jewels Mission Band of St. James, Church. We had a large concert last Christmas in aid of the missionaries in Trinidad, I think it was, and we made about \$34.

Your loving cousin,  
ELEANOR F. REID.

Tryon, P. E. I. Glad to hear from our Presbyterian cousin.

Dear Cousin Joy—I belong to the Coqualcetza Mission Band. We take "Palm Branch," and always welcome its arrival. We met once a week in our Band all winter, but are having our holidays now. We hope that you are having a pleasant summer, as it must be very tiresome getting "Palm Branch" out all of the year. Good bye.

Your loving cousin,  
Charlottetown. EDITH WEEKS.

Thanks for good wishes, Cousin Edith. Yes, editorial work must go on, though the bees are humming and the brooks are babbling.

#### PUZZLES FOR SEPTEMBER.

I am composed of 13 letters.  
My 9, 11, 1, 6, means situation.  
My 9, 5, 12, 1<sup>st</sup>, 3, a thin piece cut off.  
My 7, 11, 1, 13, to use the teeth.  
My 7, 3, 9, 12, is most good.  
My 2, 8, 4, part of the body.  
My whole is something in which all good people should now be much interested  
J.

I am composed of 17 letters.  
My 7, 2, 4, 17, means a place of defence.  
My 2, 7, 17, 13, 10, means frequently.  
My 5, 6, 14, 13, an arched roof.  
My 8, 3, 16, the highest kind of animal.  
My 4, 9, 12, 15, means anger.  
My 1, 6, 2, 10, is a gift.  
My 4, 2, 11, 5, is the highway for people to walk on.  
My whole is an important part of our Missionary Society.  
S.

#### FOR THE CHILDREN.

I WONDER if any child who reads this knows what it is to be really hungry, and to have nothing to satisfy their hunger. No potatoes and meat, no bread and butter, no nice sweet milk. Have you ever cried yourself to sleep because you had nothing to eat and were so hungry, and then arisen the next morning to be obliged to wait until father and mother could go out and earn a few cents, and then buy a little food, not enough to satisfy, but just enough to keep you from starving? If you know nothing of such want, you are happy children, and do very wrong if you ever grumble and complain, even one word, because you do not always have just what you want. If some of you are tempted to do such a thing as complain, just

think of the poor children of Japan who have to live on zampan. The zampan is the food that is left over by the soldiers in the large garrisons. Cold rice, and bits of meat, vegetables and soup, and all kinds of things, just dumped in together. Dealers buy this mixture of remnants and sell it out to the wretchedly poor people who cannot buy anything else.

There is a zampan selling place near here, and three times a day there is a crowd of poor people waiting with a few cents that they have succeeded in earning, or have pawned their clothes for, and when the door is opened there is a rush, for there is not always enough for all. There are poor ragged, shivering children, bent old men and women, and sick, weak, feeble, lame and blind, looking, oh, so pathetically hungry, and so eager to get just a little, for if they are too late this time they must wait until the next time, though they are so hungry.

I know one little girl who lived with her grandparents. They were very poor, and lived on zampan, and never had enough even of that, so this poor child was always hungry. But when she was ten years old, she was taken into a mission school. She had been compelled to eat so sparingly for so long that she did not know she could have all she wanted, and so would be hungry between meals, and would go slyly to the closet and take the cold rice and eat it. When the matron found it out she chided her for stealing, but the missionary teacher was wiser, and told the little girl that she could eat all she wanted three times a day, and if she was hungry between meals she would always find a rice ball ready for her in a certain place, and could go openly and take it, that she need never go hungry.

The child stood in utter amazement. "Can I eat all I want?" "Certainly," said the teacher, "all you want." And what do you think she did? She lay down on the floor and cried and cried, just to think that she could have all she wanted to eat.

She is still in the mission school, where she has been for eight years, and there are many hopes that this little zampan girl will become a useful woman. She has been a Christian for six years, and is already working as she can for the Lord. Do you suppose she can ever forget the day when for the first time in her life she had enough to eat?

Dear boys and girls, in your homes of plenty, won't you sometimes think with pity of the poor zampan children, and ask the Lord to give them food for the body, and the far more precious food for the soul, the bread of life?

And as you pray, of course, you will want to do what you can to help them too.

—Miss A. BUZZELL in *The Japan Evangelist*.

"The Sunbeam," published last year by the editorial staff of the Ladies College, Whitby, is a bright, interesting sheet, with its "rays and ex-rays." Thanks are due for the copies sent us.

## ETHEL'S TRUE STORY.

MRS. N. G. ALGER.

GRANDMA has gone way off to the store, and left me to stay with you; and oh, mammy, just see the pictures she let me have to look at! I really b'lieve I have found the mish'nary who prayed 'bout the rats. He's taken 'side of a house. Yes, I am sure it is he. Take me up, and I'll show it to you."

"Why, honey," said the faithful old colored woman, who had been with Ethel's grandmother since before the war, "I guess you 's mistaken. He didn't pray about rats did he?"

"Deed he did!" exclaimed Ethel, "and I think you're 'staken as you can be if you 'spose I don't know. I did 'member his name, but forgot. I got 'quainted with his mother last summer. He lived near Boston, and made ever so much money, but he loved Jesus so well he wanted to tell about Him to folks that never heard, so he went to Africa, and lived in a big house that belonged to Govment. But there were such lots of rats he couldn't take any comfort.

"The cats round there were little twenty things, as 'fraid of rats as they could be; so Mr. Mish'nary and Mrs. Mish'nary and all the little Mish'naries couldn't sleep nights; and rats spoiled their clothes, and the things they got to eat, so it seemed as though they couldn't stay there another minute.

"That makes me think;—you know my prim'ry teacher went to China to tell folks about Jesus, and one night the rats went right over her face—yes, they did!" and Ethel nodded her head until every hair went on a strike, while mammy rolled her eyes and said, "O-o-o-o!"

"Well," said Ethel, "Mr. Mish'nary prayed most all night that the Lord would take away the naughty rats. You know Jesus lets us pray 'bout anything we want to, only we must say 'If it be thy will' Isn't He good? He says 'Casting all your care;' and, of course, rats are cares, when they're eating 'all your good things.

"Mr. Mish'nary said he knew the Lord would help them, and next morning, what do you think? When they opened the door, there stood a great, big, 'merican cat, but she never came in till they 'vited her, then she went to work and killed rats, and rats, and rats—that was what she came for, you see—and by and by there were some beautiful little kittens, and she brought them up fine, and set them to killing rats. She would get one and put it down before them, and if they couldn't manage it, she would give it a whack or two to show them how; and when they could all kill rats, real good, that nice old cat went off, and they never saw her any more.

"But the mish'naries gave all the kittens but one to their 'merican friends, 'cause they were troubled with rats, too. Now that's a realty, truly story. Aren't you glad I told you? Grandma says such answers help us 'bout casting all our care—there she is. This minute, and I'll go and tell her how I 'mused you."

—*Children's M. F.*

## LEAVES FROM THE BRANCHES.

## N. B. and P. E. I. Branch.

In March a Mission Band was organized at Leonardville, N. B., by Miss Beatrice Duke. Ten members were enrolled. The name chosen was the "Veazey" Mission Band. Miss Annie Conley was elected president and Miss Minnie Conley corresponding secretary.

The quarterly report cards for the quarter ending June 15th, which have been received, have, in nearly all cases, been most encouraging. "Kensington" Band held a concert and ice cream social, realizing \$14.09. "Ready Helpers," Sackville, report interest increasing. Plans are being made for a parlor meeting during the holidays. Other efforts are also being made to increase the funds. "Friendly Workers," Jacksonville, writes:—We have very interesting meetings, and our love for mission work is increasing. "Happy Workers," Summerside, have divided their band into social, literary and lookout committees, giving each committee special work to do, and they find that this method works well.

A very pleasant and profitable afternoon was spent at the Methodist parsonage, Gibson, on Thursday, July 7th, when the "Active Workers" Mission Band of Marysville joined some interested band workers of Gibson in a union meeting and picnic. Mrs. Turner, the hostess, was ably assisted by Mrs. A. Rowley, president of the "Active Workers." After the meeting, at which Rev. Mr. Turner gave an interesting talk, the children repaired to the lawn, where they were entertained by refreshments and games. The two bands numbered about fifty members.

J. T.

## Nova Scotia Branch.

Berwick.—The secretary of "Royal Workers'" Band writes:—"In looking over our year's work we feel encouraged. We have a membership of twenty-two, with one life and two honorary members, and an average attendance of fourteen. Our meetings have been held regularly, and though our funds have not come up to the sum we should like, yet we have raised twelve dollars so far this year. We take ten copies of the Palm Branch, and are much pleased with it."

Wilmot.—The secretary of "Picquet Guard" Band writes:—"Our Band is in a fairly prosperous condition. The members all seem to be interested, and look forward with pleasurable anticipations to our fortnightly meetings. Our literary committee strives to have a pleasing and instructive programme at each meeting. The average attendance is twenty-one. Our band supports the Indian girl, Emily Sewell, in the Coqualeetza Home."

Gabarus.—The "Stepping Forward" Band reports regular meetings, and five new members.

124 Tower Road, Halifax,

M. BRAINE.

Miss Edna McPhee, cor. sec. "Atherley" Mission Band writes:—

We are pleased to report that on May 9th, 1898, a Mission Band was organized in the basement of the Atherley Methodist church by Mrs. (Rev.) W. H. Buckler. Twenty joined, and since then four have been added to our numbers.

We meet every two weeks on Monday afternoon immediately after four o'clock, every second meeting being a temperance meeting. In the election of officers the boys shared equally with the girls. We also make use of our vice-presidents, each one in turn being expected to take charge of a meeting. The meetings are very inspiring, and perhaps you might like to know our order. We aim at being through in one hour. Have our programme all written out before.

Order of meeting:—

Song—By the Band.

Prayer (short)—By L. Director and 3 or 4 boys and girls.

Song—1 verse by the Band.

Sentence prayers—5 or 6, or more, boys and girls.

Collection—Fee, 1c. a meeting.

Roll call—Each child responds by a verse of Scripture.

Report from flower and fruit committee—Two or three children appointed to each street to look after sick.

Report from Palm Branch—11 subscriptions received.

Programme:—

Song—Solo.

Map—Country assigned; 3 minute paper on country assigned.

Facts—Several children.

Benediction.

If our report be too long pardon us and condense. We are busy making a quilt, having special day for sewing.

(We cannot locate this report, not having been able to discover to what Branch it belongs. We do not usually print programmes, not having room for them, but as there are few Band notes this month we make an exception of this case).

## OUR NEW GOLD PIN.

The Literature Committee has just completed arrangements for our W. M. S. and Mission Band Pins in gold for life-members. The star is attached by links to a pin which is stopped by a small gold ball, and makes a very suitable gift for a life-member. The pins are \$3.50 each, and the order is to be accompanied by a voucher of life-membership from the Recording Secretary of the Auxiliary or Band to which the member belongs. It will be well to order at least three weeks in advance, to allow time for correspondence and unforeseen delays.

The Literature Committee regrets that it has been found necessary to increase the price of the silver Mission Band Pin to 15 cents each, \$1.50 per doz. Please enclose the usual two cents for postage and wrapping,