



A GLANCE AT OUR WORK IN WEST CHINA.

Our Woman's Missionary Society sent out its first Missionary to China in 1892. This was Miss Brown, who changed her mind on the way out and became Mrs. Dr. Stevenson; she was there through the riots, but is now at home in Ontario. In '93 Dr. Retta Gifford and Miss Brackbill went out and became very efficient workers. Dr. Gifford soon afterwards married Dr. Kilborn, of the General Missionary Society. In '95 Miss Jennie M. Ford, a trained nurse, went out, and now, after two years of faithful service, sleeps peacefully under God's stars which look down on China. Miss Foster, also a nurse, of the N. S. Branch, went in '96, and last year Miss Brookes, a teacher of Ontario, and Maud Killam, M. D., of Nova Scotia, set sail and arrived in June. Dr. Killam, whose picture our young readers will be pleased to see, is a native of Yarmouth, N. S., and a daughter of Frank Killam, Esq. Having received a thorough medical education she determined to forego the advantages which her home affords and devote her young life, with all the skill that God might give her, to work for Him and suffering humanity in the far distant land of China. We judge what manner of spirit she is of by her reply to the General Secretary



DR. MAUD KILLAM.

who met her on the way. To the kindly expressions of sympathy because of leaving home and friends, words no doubt greatly appreciated, she simply said, "My face is towards China."

Her first letters are charming with their description of the country, and their expressions of faith in God.

She says: "This quieter beauty is somehow more to me than the grandeur; its softer voice tells of His power and love." Again, "Away in far-off West China we find God the same in His care for all, the same wondrous beauties of nature, and I believe we shall find our brother men the same." We hope she will long be spared to do grand work for God in the dark world to which she has gone.

On the return of the Missionaries to Chentu, after the riot, they purchased a property of which they did not get possession till Sept, '96. The first thing they did was to build a wall twelve feet high for the purposes of protection. The next thing was to build a school house.

We quote from Dr. Kilborn.*

"It was decided that the native buildings on the place be refitted and converted into a Hospital. By refitting, I mean putting in floors and ceilings, glass windows instead of paper ones, and foreign doors to replace huge native things on wooden hinges, and paint and white

*Last year's report.

wash everywhere. Refitting a native house practically means rebuilding without putting up the frame. The work on the hospital is not yet completed, nor can it be till the house is finished and the Hospital building all free. When the work is completed we will have a commodious and convenient Hospital, eminently suited to the needs of the work."

Now you see dear young friends why we are asked to give our offerings this year to China. This Hospital which has already seen service needs funds to carry it on, and the "Jennie Ford Home" for the little orphans must be built as soon as possible. God speed the good work.

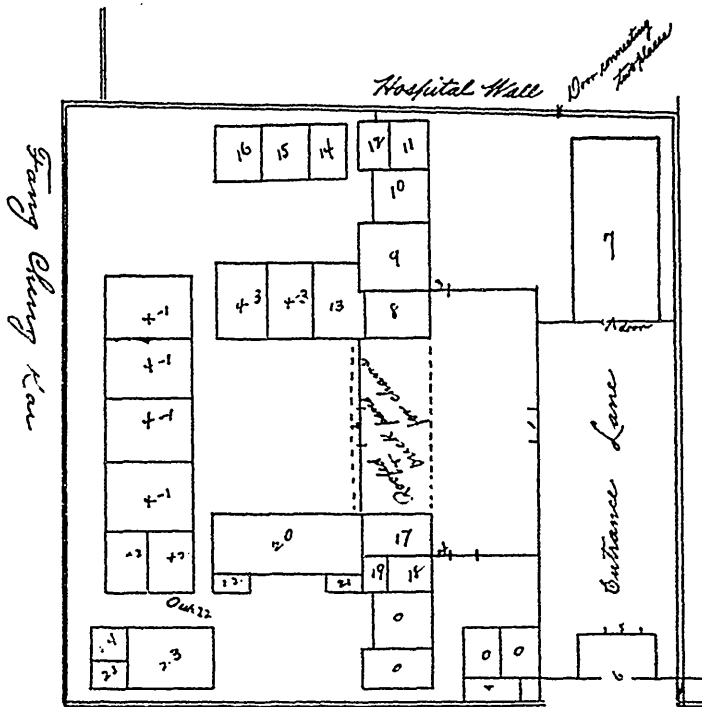
We have read some strange facts about the people

grandmothers wore, and their great grandmothers.

The boy will have the front hair shaved off and wear the rest in a long braid or cue at the back, and it will be his ambition to have this cue as large and thick as possible. The little girl when she becomes a young lady will dress her hair very high up on her head and adorn it with flowers and pins and jewels. If she be poor she will have cut glass and imitation gems.

In our Christian schools they will try to unbind the feet of the poor little girls, and so to teach the Chinese mothers of the love of Christ that they will give up this cruel and silly custom.

S E S



PLAN OF HOSPITAL.

- Boundary Walls.
Walls between courts—10 to 12 ft. high.
1-2-3-4 Doors between courts.
5-6 Entrance from street.
7 Waiting Room.
8 Guest "
9 Consulting Room.
10 Dispensary.
11 Drug storeroom.
12 Dark room for eye examination.
13 Study.
14-15-16 Rooms for Native helpers.
17 Operating Room.
18 Instrument Room.
19 Bath Room.
20 Hospital Ward.
21 Linen Room.
22 Bath "
23 Kitchen for Hospital.
24 Pantry.
25 Coal Room.
X-1 Sitting Room, Dining Room and two Bedrooms.
X-2 Study and Bed-room for Miss Foster.
X-3 { Kitchen and Store-room, to be used later for
Wards.
0 Servant's Quarters.

J. J. K.

in China, young and old. One is a singular custom they have of making the first clothes of a baby boy out of the garment of some very old man. They think this will make the baby live a long, long time, and you see baby boys are precious in China though baby girls are not. It would be very nice to be a child in China for one thing—they never wear any kind of tight fitting clothes, they are all loose and comfortable. In winter they do not get hurt when they fall down because they are so bundled up. Little boys and girls wear clothes very much alike when they have grown to be men and women. They will then wear an outer robe like a tunic and trousers that come down to the ankle. Chinese ladies do not care for European styles, but wear just what their

The life of a woman in China is not a happy one, for she has no voice in the management of her home other than in submission to her husband's parents, and her life is one of toil. She is little esteemed, seldom loved, and she lives in loneliness, with but little consideration shown her by husband or family. She must toil while her husband feasts, and as for him, he regards his home life of little account apart from the ministrations of comfort he there receives. The betrothal of a girl takes place usually when she is from thirteen to fifteen, but sometimes when she is no older than ten. A girl of the higher class is never permitted opportunity to have a moment's conversation with a man not a member of her own family, and the marriages are always arranged by persons called marriage brokers. These brokers are old women, keen and shrewd.—*Selected,*

THE CORN AND THE LILIES.

Said the corn to the lilies,
 "Press not near my feet,
 You are only idlers,
 Neither Corn nor Wheat.
 Does one earn a living
 Just by being sweet?"

Naught answered the lilies,
 Neither yea nor nay,
 Only they grew sweeter
 All the live-long day,
 And at last the Teacher
 Chanced to come that way.

While his tired disciples
 Rested at his feet,
 And the proud corn rustled,
 Bidding them to eat,
 "Children," said the Teacher,
 "Life is more than meat."

FIELD STUDY FOR MAY.

Our Chinese Mission.-- 1892-1897.

WE will assume that all readers of the PALM BRANCH are familiar with much of the history of China, and so, though the subject is so full of interest that we might fill many columns in describing the wonders of this strange land and the peculiar customs of its people, we must leave our young friends to search out and learn these facts for themselves.

It is a country of the very oldest civilization, and has been practically closed against all other nations until this nineteenth century.

In 1840, England, in resentment for some indignities, declared war against China, and the Chinese being defeated were obliged to submit to a treaty which compelled them to open several ports for trade, thus making it possible for missionaries to enter.

In 1807, Robert Morrison, the first Protestant missionary to China, was sent by the London Missionary Society, and within fourteen years he had translated the Bible into the Chinese language. English and American Societies have established Missions in the different parts of the Empire, and now, our own beloved Canadian Methodism "holds a fort" in the far west of China.

In 1891, Dr. V. C. Hart, a returned missionary from China gave such a thrilling description of the ignorance and superstition of the people and their need of Christianity, that the hearts of our Methodist people were stirred with deepest sympathy, and it was decided that our church should open a Mission at Sz. Chuen as soon as possible. Student volunteers had been waiting and longing for this opportunity, and when Dr. Hart consented to return to China as leader of our advance guard in, 1892, five brave young Christian workers gladly obeyed the call to work in this far-away corner of the Master's vineyard. These pioneers were soon joined by two ladies sent out by our Woman's Missionary Society, and after their arrival in China for a time all were busy studying hard to acquire the difficult language so that they might tell the "old, old story of Jesus and His love," to the Chinese.

The record of the work accomplished in one short year reads like a fairy tale. A reading room opened and thousands of people attracted by it to read and purchase such books as Christian Missionaries had for sale.

A dispensary had been opened—an excellent property had been secured—twenty-nine pupils, nine of whom were girls, attended the day school, and learned with great eagerness, a Bible lesson and prayers commencing the daily studies. Mrs. Hartwell says: "Chinese boys and girls can be taught to sing very sweetly and correctly."

Dr. Kilborn wrote: "In our medical work we have ready access to the hearts of a great multitude of the people of this city and surrounding country." These were the hopeful words of the report for 1893. During the next year the Missionary force was strengthened by new recruits from Canada, and the pioneers became 'homesteaders'—happy family life being once more the coveted privilege of these isolated foreigners. Little children were given to these Christian homes, and were welcomed as precious blessings—an object lesson which the Chinese need to learn. The report for 1894 was full of encouragement, the various departments of work being successfully carried on.

The Missionaries were full of hope and courage and the Society at home rejoiced to know that God was crowning their work with His own blessing—when a message came, brief, but significant, "China—Property all destroyed, lives safe." With aching hearts we waited to hear the worst, and soon the particulars of that dreadful riot of May, 1895, told us of the sudden attack of the infuriated mob and the escape of our missionaries, though the cruel hatred of their enemies made it necessary for them to leave the place as soon as possible.

Months of trial followed. Some of the little party who were among the pioneers returned to Canada, the others remained at Shanghai until 'Government' should determine the question of 'Rights.' God has "made the wrath of man to praise Him" Within two years our Methodist Mission was re established, the financial loss had been paid by the Chinese government, desirable properties were secured,—hospital and dispensary work, schools and printing press were all in prosperous condition. The Missionary staff is larger than ever before, and now we hope and pray that the blessings of Christianity may be the joy and comfort of those who in their ignorant heathenism "had no hope and were without God."

Lunenburg.

C. A. H.

QUESTIONS FOR MAY.

- What is left for our young friends to do?
- How was China opened and in what century?
- Will you tell what you know of Robert Morrison?
- What part has Canadian Methodism in China?
- What stirred the hearts of the Methodist people?
- Who were the first to go in response?
- Who joined them in 1893?
- How does the record of the work read?
- Will you tell of the Reading Room, Dispensary, School?
- What does Mrs. Hartwell say of the Chinese boys and girl?
- What was the report for '93?
- What happened next year?
- What object lesson did the Missionaries give the Chinese.
- What message came from the mission in '95? Describe the danger?
- What followed? How did God bring good out of the evil?
- What is the prospect now?

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

MAY, 1898.

IF it be true that our great Methodist founder, John Wesley, said that we must go (with the Gospel message), not only to those who want us, but to those who want us most, no doubt if he were here today he would think, as we do, that perhaps of all countries China needs that message most.

If it be true, as stated on good authority, that every third person who lives and breathes on the earth, who toils and suffers under the sun, is a Chinese; that every fourth child born into the world looks up into the face of a Chinese mother; that twice as many people as live in Canada die every year in China without a knowledge of Christ, then it must, it must be true that China needs the message most.

The religion of China is a mixed one, as we all know. Confucianism and Ancestral worship prevail. The latter is a religion of superstition and fear, not of love as we have been sometimes led to think it. Easter is spent by the Chinese in visiting the graves of their ancestors, not to plant beautiful flowers or lay wreaths of immortelles upon them, in token of their hope of one day meeting again, for they have no such hope. It is to worship and make peace with them that they may not be molested by their spirits throughout the year. How different from the religion of the Lord Jesus Christ!

The Chinese know nothing of medicine nor how to heal the sick and wounded, so China is full of disease and misery. But Christian Medical Missionaries have found their way into large portions of China and a new day is dawning for her. Li Hung Chang's visit to our continent too will yet bear precious fruit. It is said that China's civilization and evangelization must come through her upper and educated classes, and the outlook is most hopeful.

Intelligence has lately come of the appointment of Hu King Eng, M. D., as first physician in the household of Li Hung Chang, Viceroy of China. Miss Eng was born in Foo Chow, 1866, and was a daughter of one of the most efficient native Methodist workers in China. Her Grandfather was a military Mandarin (Governor) who embraced Christianity late in life, his five sons also accepting it; the family was the second in China to embrace it. She took a special course of study in the Ohio Wesleyan University, preparatory to adopting the medical profession. In 1890 she was admitted, on examination, to the Wes. Med. College, Penn., and was soon ranked among the leaders of the class. After completing a full medical course she spent one year and a half in post graduate and hospital work and was practicing in Foo chow when this honor came to her. Dr. Eng is the first woman in China to be graduated from a medical college.—*Review*.

We are sorry to have to postpone Miss Preston's interesting letter again till next month—it will be good when it comes.

The poem "Jesus loves me" was sent from a young correspondent in Nova Scotia. Though not perfect in construction, it is sweet in sentiment, and there is a poetic vein running through it. If our young friend will study the rules and principles of Rhetoric she may attain to a high degree of excellence.

We hope that the plan of our hospital in Chen tu given this month will form a nice black-board lesson for Mission Circles and Bands.

(Continued from page eight.)

The Young Woman's Missionary Circle reorganized last November for its third year of service. We now number eighteen members, and we feel that our interest in the grand work is increasing under our present energetic leader, Miss C. Perley, who is frequently assisted by Mrs. B. Coulthard. Although Mrs. Coulthard has charge of the "Band" her deep interest in the work embraces every Branch of the Woman's Missionary Society.

On the evening of the first of March our "Circle" and "Band" united and held a most successful Public Meeting in the lecture room of the Church. After reports, readings, recitations, and singing by the smaller ones the feature of the evening was a most stirring address from the President of N. B. and P. E. I. Branch, Mrs. Chipman. It was not so much what she said, but the way she said it that touched the hearts of all in the well filled room. The collection amounted to \$20.00, which was divided between the "Circle" and the "Band."

Signed on behalf of the Circle

NAN. P. THOMPSON, Sec.
 Fredericton, March 31st, 1898.

JESUS LOVES ME.

The fading light of day stole softly into the room,
Touching the face of our darling (she was only three),
And had brightened our lives but a short, sweet space,
And we loved her tenderly.

She lay back among the pillows,
With the damp, bright curls on her face,
She was sleeping now so sweetly
And smiles down her cheek did chase.

We thought as we looked upon her,
At the fair, angelic form,
How hard it would be to lose her,
What a void in heart and home.

All at once the sweet eyes opened,
And she whispered low and clear,
"Sing 'Jesus loves me,' once again,
For I think that Heaven is near."

I checked back the tears rebellious,
That blindingly filled my eyes,
And tried to sing, I could doubt no more,
On her face was a look from the skies.

So I sang with a heart nigh breaking,
"Let his little child come in,"
Then glancing at the darling's face
I saw she had entered in.

How I miss the pretty, prattling voice.
And her little step on the stair,
But I miss her more when the shadows fall,
And it's time for her good night prayer.

But the shepherd's voice had said to her,
In tones so low and sweet,
"Come little one, the earth's too rough
For the tread of thy little feet."

She is dwelling now in the happy land,
'Mid fountains and flowers fair,
When the call comes to me o'er the harbour bar,
Thank God, I shall meet her there.

Dartmouth.

C. T.

est Workers" down in the Eastern Provinces were thinking and working for the cause out here.

In the name of the baby let me thank you for your donation. Will use it to purchase caps and shoes, for her and it will provide nearly enough for a year's wear. Am sending you a baby's cap as a sample so you can see what they use out here.

The little baby—Fuh-an-Lc Annie Ford is just as cute as she can be, and is trying to walk. She is still dressed in foreign clothes, except the caps and shoes, but next year will put on Chinese.

The other one, Shih Au teh—Ida Stone has on Chinese clothes. She is now nearly 3 years old. Of course walks all over and says everything in Chinese and also knows a few English words. She is fat and healthy, a very different looking child from what she was last year, when we picked her up from the street. We expect Dr. Hart up in a couple of weeks when we are going to have them both baptized.

If the ladies at home give us permission to start an Orphanage, we will probably have other babies in this winter that will not be provided for.

Besides these babies we have eight little girls with un-bound feet (school girls), on the place and it is a pleasure to see them run around and play like little girls at home, instead of limping around with their poor bound feet.

Wishing your Mission Band success in all its undertakings and that you may be used in our Master's cause,

I remain, sincerely yours,

SARA C. BRACKBILL.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I.,
April 5th, 1898.

MISS MACRAE writes:—

I enclose a letter from Miss Brackbill which will be of interest to PALM BRANCH readers. I may state that the money was sent by the "Earnest Workers" Mission Band of Grace church in this city, to be used for baby Annie Ford. Another dollar is ready to be forwarded this year. This is the result of the kindly thought of the earnest and considerate resident of this Band, Mrs. T. Pickard. It is the intention of the Earnest Workers Band to send \$1 00 to baby Annie Ford every year till she grows to be a big girl. May God abundantly bless them and also baby Annie.

CHEN-TU-CHINA,

DEAR MISS KIRBY:—

Nov. 12th, '97.

Your letter of July 29th containing \$1 bill arrived a short time ago and I was so glad to hear that some "Earn-

WHITE FISH LAKE, ALTA.,

Feb. 27th, 1898.

DEAR SISTER:—We have six girls in the Girls' Home at present, and we can get more without asking for them, inasmuch as the little start made has taken with the people, who are now offering to send their boys too. We think it wise to take care of the six as best we can until the accommodation is more ample, and the clothing more complete. The girls are very happy and busy. One of them, Jemima Apow, is allowed to be at home from Saturday until Monday, but she returns on Sunday after service in the church, or else has a good cry if prevented. She is only five years old.

The girls are in charge of Miss McAdam the matron, who receives \$10 per month.

I shall send a statement of expenditure to the W. M. S. at the close of the month of June.

Asking your sympathy, and prayers that God may bless this His work, I, in the cause,

Am yours very sincerely,

E. S. GLASS.



Address—Cousin Joy, 282 Princess Street, St. John, N. B.

DEAR COUSINS :—We know that you have all given willingly, lovingly, this Easter, to the "Jennie Ford Home" and no doubt this offering of love and gratitude has brought back an Easter blessing to your own hearts. We shall look eagerly forward now for tidings of this new building which we hope will soon be reared in Chen-tu, and prove a home indeed to little Annie, Ida and many other poor little Chinese children.

DEAR COUSIN JOY :—I belong to the Mission Band of United Workers, which was organized in November. We have about thirty members in our Band. We meet every second Friday, after school, and our meetings are very pleasant and interesting. We always answer to our names with a verse of Scripture. We take ten copies of PALM BRANCH, and I always try to make out the puzzles.

Is the answer to the charade puzzle in February number Crosby Boys' Home, Port Simpson, British Columbia?

I think the answers to the puzzles in the March number are: 1st—Happy Workers; 2nd—Dear Cousin Joy; 3rd—Star of Hope. I will send you a puzzle which you may print if you like.

I remain yours lovingly,
Newcastle, N. B. EDITH M. CLARKE.

The answer to the charade in February number is Crosby Girls' Home, Port Simpson, British Columbia.

DEAR COUSIN JOY :—I have great pleasure in writing to you as this is the first year I have taken the PALM BRANCH. I am a member of the Olive Branch Mission Band here. I am quite interested in the puzzle department of your paper. I think I have found the answers to the March puzzles: 1st—Happy Workers; 2nd—Dear Cousin Joy; 3rd—Star of Hope. I hope I will be able to answer some more another time.

Yours lovingly,
Fergus, Ontario. JENNIE SILKWOOD.

DEAR COUSIN JOY :—I have wanted to write to the Cosy Corner ever since I found the answer to one of the puzzles in the February PALM BRANCH. It was the name of the dear Mission Band I used to belong to in Montague, but you see I am a month behind and perhaps now I am not in time for the April PALM BRANCH.

I heard of a use for old tin cracker boxes the other day, and what do you think it was? Why, you know

in South Africa there are dreadful white ants, which destroy everything they come across and so the poor natives are very glad to have the tin cracker boxes to keep their Bibles in and other books the Missionaries give them, so that the ants can't get at them to eat them up.

Wouldn't it be funny to send a load of tin boxes over to them? I think I will close now with love to dear Cousin Joy.

We are glad to see Cousin Berry Foster's name in PALM BRANCH again. Lovingly,
Richibucto, N. B. MARY LAWSON.

DEAR COUSIN JOY :—Will you allow me to write a little letter to your lovely paper? We take the PALM BRANCH, and don't know how we ever did without it. I have found the answers to February puzzles, which I think are correct. The first is Dayspring, and the 2nd is Loyal Workers Mission Band. Hoping that this letter is not too long, and that I may write again,

I remain your cousin,
Burlington, P. E. I. HERBERT R. PROFITT.

DEAR COUSIN JOY :—I take the PALM BRANCH and like it. We have quite a few members in our Band now and our motto is: "We will do all we can to win Japan for Jesus," I expect to take a trip to the coast. We are busy working for Naotoka San.
Moose Jaw, N. W. T. GORDON BOLE.

DEAR COUSIN JOY :—This is the first time I ever wrote to you. I think I have found the answers to the March puzzles. First—Star of Hope. Second—Happy Workers. We take the PALM BRANCH. We are going to take up an Easter thank offering for the Jennie Ford Home in China. I belong to the Sunbeam Mission Band of Grace Church.

Yours lovingly,
Brampton, Ont. JESSIE LANCELY.

DEAR COUSIN JOY :—We have no Mission Band here, but we have a Junior League; it is a very small, only about 15 members. We have a missionary meeting once a month. I take the PALM BRANCH and think that it is a very nice little paper. I think that I have found the answers to the puzzles in the March PALM BRANCH, they are first—Happy Workers; second—Dear Cousin Joy; third—Star of Hope.

Your friend,
Harcourt, Kent Co. MAGGIE JOHNSON.

PUZZLES FOR MAY.

I am composed of 17 letters.

My 2, 11, 6, 9, is something used for sharpening.

My 1, 17, 7 is a number.

My 13, 8, 16 means cloudy.

My 14, 5, 12, 15 is something noble.

My 10 15, 11, 1 is something that often hurts in China.

My 4, 3, 1, is a spout of water.

My whole, we hope, will soon make its appearance in China. J.

I am composed of 15 letters.

My 8, 7, 5 is an animal of the tiger kind.

My 5, 7, 2, 10 is a part of an animal.

My 1, 2, 10, 4 is very wicked.

My 3, 12, 11 is a part of the body.

My 15, 11, 9, 14 will spoil a white dress.

My 13 is a common beverage.

My whole is the President of our Mission Band.

FRED M. COLPITT.

WORKING FOR JESUS.

AT the close of a beautiful Spring day, as the sun was gilding the tops of the mountains, and filling the hearts of all with love and happiness, a group of young girls in the Spring of life joyfully made their way to the old parsonage which stood in a little dale between two green hills.

The girls were to meet at the parsonage, for the purpose of planning how to obtain more money for their Mission Fund. They were heartily welcomed by Lucy Williams, President of their Mission Band and a daughter of the Parson.

Their hearts were light and their hopes were high as they were busily laying down their plans, when suddenly the door burst open and Maggie Wilson entered, exclaiming—"Well, girls, I see we are here once again, to plan how to get more money for the Mission Work."

"I have just been telling the other girls Maggie," said Lily Newell, "that if we would leave off so much planning and work a little more, we wou'd perhaps get more money into the treasury."

"Those are my thoughts too; and I think it a shame that as long as we have been members of the Band, we have not given one cent of our own earnings," sighed Lucy Williams.

"Listen Lucy," demanded Maggie, "what if we have no means for working or of earning money, what can we then do?"

"We can work at something, every one of us, if we have the ambition to," said Lily, "for my part, as Papa owns a lot of land, I could make a garden, and raise vegetables and fruits for market, and then receive"—

"But we are not all farmers' daughters," broke in Maggie.

"I for one, am not," said Lucy, "but I know not what difference that should make, as work is required in more places than on a farm; and as you all know we keep two servant girls, while a little extra work on my part would only give need of having one; and wou'dnt a servant girl's wages for one year help to give Light to the dark places of the earth?"

This remark brought thoughtful expressions over the girls' faces, when little Annie Watson piped in, "Papa has offered me two cents for every time I bring him his slippers, when he comes home tired, and this money I will put into my mite box."

"Now," said Maggie, "since all the rest, and even little Annie are willing to work, I am too. I am really ashamed of having been begging money so long, instead of working for it. I believe now that we will be more

anxious, and think more about the heathen, if we try to help rescue them."

"See Lucy," said Daisy Laten, (speaking for the first time), "I know by what you said a short while ago that you thought none of us worked for the money which we gave to the Mission Band, but I am glad to think that you are mistaken; for the last two years I have been earning all the money which I gave."

"How's that?" said Lily, knowing that she excelled them all in her offerings.

"Well, I'll tell you," said Daisy, "about two years ago, when I asked Papa for money, to pay my dues to the Mission Band, he said, 'Daisy, I shall not, and never will, refuse you the twenty-five cents for your year's dues; but don't you think it will be more pleasing to Christ to see that you are willing to work for Him in more ways than asking for money?'" At those words I dropped the quarter into my mite box, for an Easter offering and formed a resolution from that time to earn my Missionary money. I have earned it by doing extra work at home, and as Papa gives me a certain amount of money each year to buy my clothes with, I save part, by wearing my dresses until they are a little out of fashion, thinking more of the needs of the heathen than of dress."

"Now, girls," said Nellie Langley, who had been aroused by the earnest conversation, "I think Daisy deserves a great deal of credit for earning money herself, when her father would not refuse her any."

"Yes, and do you think it any harm to ask parents for money, as well as to earn it ourselves," said Lily.

"I think the time for our parents to help us is at our sales. You know that we sometimes have more stuff than we can sell, and that is the time for us to receive help," exclaimed Daisy.

After the girls had ceased lauding and admiring Daisy for her ambition and earnestness, Lucy proposed that they should commence next morning to find something to do; and to see at the end of the year whose offerings should be the largest. At this proposal they separated with this text in their minds, "Freely ye have received, freely give"

During the delightful days of Spring and in the hot days of Summer they worked, and through the mild and misty days of Autumn they ever toiled on for the Master, with happy and loving hearts. At last when the year was dying and they gathered together their offerings, they found they had as much again to put into the treasury as they formerly had.

Overjoyed by this year's success, some of the members determined not only to give offerings of money and good-will, but also, after they became old enough, to give themselves as missionaries to help spread the Gospel to the perishing.

CELIA M. COLPITTS.

Pleasant Vale, N. B.

LEAVES FROM THE BRANCHES.

Our New Gold Pin.

The Literature Committee has just completed arrangements for our W. M. S. and Mission Band Pins for life-members. The star is attached by links to a pin which is topped by a small gold ball, and makes a very suitable gift to 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.

The Literature Committee regrets that it has been found necessary to increase the price of the silver Mission Band pins to 15c. each, \$1.50 per doz. This price will not be asked until the 1st of June; until then it will remain as at present, 10c. each for any quantity. Please enclose the usual 2 cents for postage and wrapping.

TORONTO CONFERENCE BRANCH.

Mrs. Young, Gravenhurst, writes:—We have quite a flourishing Mission Circle here, called "Sunbeam" of which Miss Harvie is President, and Miss Emma Young, Corresponding Secretary. They have undertaken to support a girl in the "Crosby Home" (Selina Lampson) for whom they are also earnestly praying that she may be a great blessing to her own people in future years.

A Mission Band was also organized in December. Mrs. J. Groves was elected President and Miss Mary McCauley, Secretary. They began with 15 members since increased to 30, and there are more to follow.

There are several new Mission Bands in this Branch. "Rose Bud" Mission Band, Gravenhurst.

"Loving Workers," Dunn Avenue Methodist Church, Toronto.

"The Maple Mission Band," Thornbury.

"Buds of Promise," Uffington.

M. HALES, Cor. Sec'y.

MONTREAL CONFERENCE BRANCH.

Miss Alberta Phelps, Corresponding Secretary of the Delta Mission Band, writes: I am pleased to be able to report our Band in a fairly flourishing condition. There is at present an increased interest in the work. All those who have taken the PALM BRANCH are more than delighted with it, and are still continuing to take it. In order to raise money some of the members of the Mission Band have made spectacle wipers and doilies, and in this way we have succeeded in raising quite a nice sum.

NOVA SCOTIA BRANCH.

HALIFAX, NORTH.—"The Gleaners" Mission Band has held six meetings so far this year, with an average attendance of fourteen out of a membership of twenty-one. To make articles for a bazaar in February a sewing circle was held all winter. The proceeds were \$23.46. In January we had a Birthday Party at which we raised \$2.28, representing the united ages of our members. The total amount raised from all sources so far is \$26.74.

ROUND BAY.—Mission Band work in this place progresses slowly. Average attendance, six. The youngest

life member in our bands, however, lives here. His name is Cecil Lawson Hagar, and he is about a year old. He is quite tall, dark hair and eyes, and is very good natured, sitting and playing for hours, but cannot walk or talk much. His mother wishes to thank the friends who made him a life member. Fifteen dollars have been forwarded to the Branch Treasurer.

HILLSBURG.—"The Rope Holders" Band still continues to grow in interest. Ten new members have been added this quarter. Several of the girls have accepted Jesus.

MARCIA C. BRAINE,

124 Tower Road.

Band Secretary.

N. B. and P. E. I. BRANCH.

Miss Jessie Forge, Cor. Sec., writes: The "Do What We Can" Mission Band, Moncton, reports one more life member. In January the Band held a Rainbow Tea which was a great success, \$33 00 being realized.

BAY OF QUINTE BRANCH.

NAPANEE.—The Secretary of Eastern M. Circle writes:—Last autumn, when, after the long summer holiday our Circle began to think of work again, the question naturally arose: What form shall our work take for the coming year? On hearing of the grand undertaking of the W. M. Society, that of building an Orphanage in Chentu, China, we at once decided to bend all our efforts in that direction, but not being very strong ourselves thought perhaps the Epworth League of C. Endeavor would like to assist. The idea was accordingly proposed to them and most heartily received, and as a result the Circle and League agreed to jointly raise the sum of \$25 00 for the "Jenny Ford Home." Success has crowned our efforts and we hope and expect the amount will be very soon realized and all through systematic giving. The League is raising its share through the Fulton plan and the Circle has adopted monthly subscriptions. In addition to this the Circle is preparing a bale of clothing for use in one of the Indian Homes in our own Canada.

NEWBURGH.—Corresponding Secretary Daughters of Zion Circle forwards \$2.00 for the "Jenny Ford Home," hoping it may help a little to cheer the hearts of some poor children. The Circle is at present engaged sewing for the little girl that it clothes in Crosby Home, Port Simpson.

HASTINGS.—Friendly League reports 22 new members with no change made in the fee as all are willing to pay 25c. A Band concert is in preparation.

FOXBORO.—"Cleaners for the Master" Band reports an average attendance of eighteen, with a membership of thirty nine. No change made in the Band fees. Two quilts are about ready for quilting.

DALRYMPLE.—"Wide Awake" Band reports three new members during quarter. Preparation is being made for an entertainment and Easter thank-offering.

DESERONTO.—"Pansy" Band reports a very good attendance, with \$3 00 their first remittance sent Branch Treasurer.

MILL BROOK.—"Willing Workers" M. Band reports thirty members as a staff to begin mission work.

LAKEFIELD.—"Cheerful Workers" M. Band reports progress and a decision to keep the Band fee at twenty-five cents, thinks it a pity to lower the fee.

M. G. HAWLEY,