



SOME years ago we showed the pictures of two little Chinese girls on our front page. One was Annie, only a few months old when picked up on the streets of China, a poor, neglected little baby, thrown out to die. It was thought, at first, that she could not be restored, but when the dirt was washed away and warm milk given her she revived and was tenderly cared for by our good missionaries. Then there was Ida, a dear little girl of two, also cast out by her own people. Sometime after a Home was built, where the little waifs could be gathered in. It was named the "Jennie Ford Home," for one of our dear missionaries who had gone to heaven from China. This Home now shelters six little orphans—all happily little children. Another little baby two months old was picked up and brought in by one of the school girls, but she afterwards died. Here you see four of them (two added since). Ida, the oldest and largest, of course; then Annie, to your right, Tiena Shu Fang and Baby. Pray for these dear little ones that they may grow up to teach the religion of Christ Jesus in their own country.

SOMETHING TO THINK OF THIS NEW YEAR.

(Continued.)

Well would we have liked to know more of the infantile years of our Saviour. But nothing more is told us until He was twelve years of age, when He went up to Jerusalem with his parents to the great feast. Re-



ORPHANS IN THE "JENNY FORD HOME."

turning home, it seems to us a piece of gross carelessness that they had gone a full day's journey before they missed Him. In such a large company and Jesus, no doubt, being a favorite with all, they would naturally suppose He was somewhere in their midst—but as He could not be found they became alarmed and returned to the city. Going at once to the temple, they found their boy in the midst of the learned

doctors and wise men of the law, who were amazed at His understanding and questions, and wondering who and what He really was. When His parents rebuked Him for treating them so, His answer equally astonished them. He said: "Why is it that ye sought me? Wist ye not that I must be about my

Father's business? He had, no doubt, been well instructed in the Jewish Scriptures and laws, as Jewish parents were commanded in Deuteronomy 6th and 7th and 11th and 19th: "Thou shalt teach these words to thy children, and talk of them when thou sittest in thine house," etc. Were the children of the present day as faithfully taught, what a different world this would be. We read that the young lad went home with them and was subject to them, growing in wisdom and stature, and setting an example to all youth.

Many years elapse before anything more is told us of His young days. He next appears with His cousin, John the Baptist, on the shores of the river Jordan, where He came to be baptized. John knew well the mission of his illustrious relative, and pointed Him out as "The Lamb of God who should take away the sins of the world." John had been taught of God, that a true sign would be given whereby they should know Him as the true Messiah. They would see with their own eyes the Spirit of God descending upon Him in the shape of a dove and hear a voice proclaiming: "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

(To be continued.)

C. Ross.

AUXILIARY SUBJECT OF PRAYER FOR APRIL.

"I gave My life for thee.
What hast thou given for Me?"

One of the most thrilling tales of history is that of the "Children's Crusade" of the 13th century, when, inspired by the preaching of Stephen, the Shepherd and prophet, an army of 100,000 children set out for the Holy Land to wrest the sepulchre of Christ from the hands of infidels. But, alas! soon they were overtaken by cold and hunger, and not one of all this number saw the object of their pilgrimage.

The close of the 19th century sees an army of children again organized, but this time their purpose is the noble one of sending the Gospel to the boys and girls in far-off heathen lands. This time they are sure of success for Jesus Christ, Himself, is their leader.

When our Saviour was crucified, over eighteen hundred years ago, He made atonement for the sins of the world, not for ours only but for the sins of every boy and girl, man and woman in far-off China, Japan, India, Africa and every country where the foot of man has trod. But all these years have been allowed to pass and two-thirds of the world are still without a knowledge of Jesus and His redeeming love. Every year 30,000,000 souls die without hope of life beyond the grave.

The motto of the missionary church to-day is: "The Evangelization of the World in this generation." In this noble work our Mission Bands must bear a part, and this need not be so small either. God asks and expects us to do what we can, and all that we can, and will not be pleased with less. At this glad Easter-tide, when we remember the death and suffering of Jesus Christ for us, we should ask ourselves what we can do in return for all Jesus bore for us. Let us first of all give Him our hearts, our love. This He

wants from each of us. "Son, daughter, give Me thy heart? When He has taken our hearts and cleansed them from all impurities, let us ask Him to train us for usefulness in His service. Perhaps some of us may be so honored as to be called to go to foreign lands to carry the blessed Gospel story, and all of us are called to work for Him at home, and to help send others.

Then He asks of us something else besides our hearts and our lives' work, and that is our money. It is not because God has not given His children money that Missionary Boards cannot send more missionaries, but because we want to use it for ourselves rather than give it to God. And it is not for the necessities of life we use it, but for luxuries. Four times as much money is spent every year for chewing gum as is given for missionary work, besides what is spent on candies, peanuts and pop-corn. Could not our Mission Band members form a league not to use their coppers in this way, but to put them in their "do without" boxes? Should we give to the Lord that which costs us nothing? For our Easter offering, let us make some sacrifice in gratitude for all Jesus Christ has done for us, and give all we can so that before another Easter many boys and girls in far-off heathen lands may have heard the sweet story of Redeeming Love.

Ont.

A. C. W.

HOW TO DO GOOD.

You want to know how to do good, my dear?
Believe me when I say,
You can do more good by being good,
Than in any other way.

"Now are ye light in the Lord," we read;
Then walk as a child of light;
You will make this world of sin and need
With heaven's own glory bright.

The light of heaven, my dear, is love;
It shines like a golden sun;
It warms the cold, dead hearts of men,
And quickens every one.

So open your heart to love Divine,
Let it shine in first, my dear,
And then shine out to guide and bless
And purify and cheer.

If you grow like your Saviour, sweet and pure,
And kind and good and true;
Your ready hands and feet each day
Will deeds of mercy do. — *Sci.*

Suggested Programme for April.

1. Opening Hymn, "Mary to the Saviour's tomb."
2. Read, in concert, the Easter story.—Matt. 28: 1-10, 19.
3. Short prayer that the whole world may soon know the Easter joy.
4. One verse of "Joy to the world."
5. Minutes, reports, business.
6. Easter recitation.
7. Field study with questions and map.
8. Very few remarks from Leader or Auxiliary Visitor.
9. One verse of hymn, very short prayer and benediction.

WINTER.

The year has lost its leaves a'win,
The world looks old and grim;
God folds his robe of glory thus,
That we may see but Him.

We serve Him in the good we do,
The blessings we embrace,
Not lighting farthing candles for
The palace of His grace.

He has no need of our poor aid
His purpose to pursue;
'Tis for our pleasure not for His
That we His work must do.

The fashion of His providence
Our way is so above,
We serve Him most who take the most
Of His exhaustless love. —*Alice Cary,*

FIELD STUDY FOR APRIL.

CHENTU.

In the Field Study for March we talked of China, and of its vast, populous western province, Sz-chuen, Chentu, the capital of Sz-chuen, and the one station which our Society holds in China, is a large and wealthy town, situated in a fertile plain. Surrounding it is a great earthen wall, having its outer side faced with solid brick masonry. Somewhere amidst the narrow streets of this city, with its crowded population of nearly half a million, is a little cluster of buildings closed in by a substantial mud wall. Here is the hospital, with its 38 beds, here the operating, bath and waiting rooms, besides a good dispensary, where more than a hundred patients can be cared for in each dispensary day; here, too, is the school with its different departments; while near the shelter of a wide-spreading tree is a little two-story house, the "Jennie Ford Orphanage," where there is room and loving care for fourteen homeless little ones.

The difficulties to be encountered by our missionaries in China are of a different character from those surrounding the workers in our other eastern field. The native distrust of foreigners is much more deeply rooted; it is based on a denser ignorance and is proportionately difficult to remove. Hence the scant freedom allotted to strangers, and the superstitious fear that has broken out now and again in threats and in riots.

Nor can the missionaries enter into the work at once in coming into these fields, "white unto harvest." Months must be spent on the study of the language before even the tiniest door of entrance can be pierced through the mighty barrier of the Chinese tongue. In Japan great strides have been taken in medicine and surgery; not so in China, where gross superstition and ignorance dominate in cruel fashion all care for the sick. Hence the prominence given to the medical department of the work. Desire for education is not wide-spread, this, coupled with the fact that foot-binding is not permitted amongst the pupils, largely accounts for the small number enrolled in the school. Pupils come in slowly, but the work goes on with steadily brightening prospects.

In February 1894 Miss Gifford, M. D. (since Dr. Kilborn), and Miss Brackbill arrived in Chentu to found there the pioneer mission of our Society in China. Hard study of the language, patient effort to come in touch with the people, arrangements for buying property and for building filled to the full more than a year of weariful waiting. At last in April, 1895, a day school was established, and the arrival of Miss Ford, a trained nurse, assured the immediate opening up of medical work. One month later the awful and now almost-famous Chentu riot took place. Our missionaries happily escaping in safety, though the mission and its contents were utterly destroyed. Before satisfactory arrangements could be made for re-opening work another year slipped by; at its close Dr. Kilborn, Miss Brackbill, and Miss Ford returned to Chentu to find certain hampering law-regulations done away with, and a more kindly spirit apparent amongst the people.

The year of 1897 saw three added to the little band of workers—Miss Foster, Miss Killam, M. D., and Miss Brooks; but with the passing of the busy months came sorrow—Miss Ford slipped away into wider work and sweeter ways of service. Outside Chentu, on a knoll, which has a tiny river running at its base, and rich rice fields stretching between it and the city walls, is the chosen God's Acre of the Canadian Societies. There, on the hill's summit, is Miss Ford's grave.

Through the last two years much distrust has been apparent among the people, alarming tidings of neighboring riots and destruction of property reaching the missionaries in Chentu very constantly.

On Dr. Killam's arrival, Dr. Kilborn joined her husband to work under the auspices of the General Society, and Miss Brackbill's well-earned furlough began with the new year of 1899. Reinforcements in the person of Miss Henry, M. D., and Miss Brimstin, reached Chentu about a month since, so that the little company now numbers five—Miss Foster, evangelistic work; Dr. Killam, Dr. Henry, Miss Brooks and Miss Brimstin; the two latter being trained nurses. The school has 15 pupils. The orphanage six little waifs. St. John. A. S.

QUESTIONS FOR APRIL.

1. Name the Woman's Missionary Society Station in China, and tell what you can of the compound.
2. State some of the difficulties of the work.
3. When was the work opened in China, and by whom?
4. What sad interruption took place in 1895, and with what result?
5. For whom is the Orphanage named, and why?
6. Tell what you can of the work.
7. Give the names of the Missionaries in the Chinese field.

HINTS TO SUBSCRIBERS.

Will those who, in sending orders for papers this year, failed to notice the change in price for single subscribers from 15 cents to 20 cents (made last year on account of the postage) kindly remit the extra five cents? We thank those who have already done so.

Will all sending orders please remember to give the name of the Branch to which they belong; also the address (if a renewal) to which it was sent last year?

PALM * BRANCH.

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

ST. JOHN, N. B., MARCH, 1900.

WE have been greatly interested lately in reading of the Chinese in San Francisco; how the strong prejudice against them has been lived down and how those who have been given a share in the rights of citizenship. This is as it should be, and we know that great efforts are being made in their behalf by true Christians. Many of the natives of China return every year to their own country; they are wedded to their own customs and most of them, doubtless, to their own religion, but we cannot help wondering what impressions they take back with them. How great the responsibility of a Christian nation!

Our Chinese rescue work in British Columbia is being faithfully carried on, but opium is a dread foe to contend against; such noble work must show results in time.

"Prayer is desired that the medical work may prosper and lead to great spiritual results. That good, strong, healthy workers may be raised up from among the little school children. That the hearts of the Chinese may be opened to receive the truth; that they may be disposed to attend the meetings and to send their children to the school." One reason why they will not send the children to school is the prejudice against unbound feet, required there; but we think it a hopeful sign that ten little girls have been found whose mothers are willing that their feet should be unbound. Pray for China.

Next month we will give the Chentu Hospital and pictures of Dr. Henry and Miss Brimston, our latest missionaries to China. These cuts have been kindly sent us.

We would strongly recommend Mrs. Deacon's article on "Lights and shadows of Mission Band Work in February Outlook. It should be well studied. It would make a very helpful reading.

THE NOVA SCOTIA BRANCH OF THE W. M. S.

1882 TO 1900.

"The Lord has done great things for us, whereof we are glad!" Every business house has, at certain

times of the year, a stock-taking. The ledgers, journals and day-books are brought from the safe, carefully gone through, the credit and debit accounts set forth, the balance sheet made out and the result—success or failure— anxiously awaited. Our Branch meeting is our stock-taking; the time when it is right for us to examine into the affairs of our branch of the "King's Business" in Nova Scotia. What is our standing? Have we failed or succeeded in our missionary work, as shown in our meeting of September 1899, held in Amherst. Let us glance back to the first year of organization. On Jan. 12th, 1882, came a messenger in the name of the King asking the women of this province to band together for missionary work. They gathered in Brunswick St. Church, Halifax, and the Cor. Secretary of that first meeting shall tell you about it.

"I am sorry that the early records of the first auxiliary organized in N. S. cannot be found. But I remember the meeting in Brunswick street very well. Rev. L. W. Beaudry, of Montreal, came to Halifax as the representative of the General Society to attend anniversary meetings. Our W. M. S. was then about one year old. Mr. Beaudry announced at the close of the missionary meeting on Sunday evening that he would like to meet the ladies of the congregation the next afternoon at 3.30. About twenty assembled in what was then known as the "square room." Mr. B. gave an outline of the work of the W. M. S. and eloquently appealed to the women assembled to organize then and there. We were all much interested, and consented to be organized that afternoon, January 12th, 1882. I was appointed secretary pro tem, and I will never know how I got to the little table on the platform. At that time I was afraid to "lift up my voice" even in a class meeting, and the reading of the minutes at the close of that awful meeting may be considered among the ordeals of my life. How wonderfully our work has developed our women!

The officers of this first auxiliary were: President, Mrs. S. F. Huestis; Vice-presidents, Mrs. John Starr and Mrs. Brecken; Recording Secretary, Miss Temple; Cor-Secretary, Mrs. Whiston; Treasurer, Mrs. Naufts. The income of the first year was \$140."

When we know that the trembling, almost speechless Cor-Secretary of that day is now our capable and gifted president, Mrs. Whiston, we can begin to realize what the work of God has wrought in us. Still in another part of Halifax was the seed being sown, and Mrs. Hart, a charter member of Grafton street, sends the following note:

"The Woman's Missionary Society of Halifax, south, was inaugurated on the 25th of January, 1882, with a membership of eighteen.

Mrs. Geo. Starr was elected president; Corresponding and Recording Secretary, Miss Silver.

The first report covered a period of nine months, then the membership had increased to forty-nine; amount remitted to general treasurer \$210.85.

I do not know who was treasurer. Sixteen of the charter members have 'gone home'—that I know of—there may be more."

R.

(To be continued.)

SCHOOL-GIRLS ON THE WAR.

Lottie and Mary were walking home from school one day, through a long, grassy lane, which led them near their home, when Mary began questioning her friend as to why her face had been so sad and gloomy for some time past. Lottie was usually full of spirits, and if there was any fun or frolic going on she was generally one of the foremost in it. But of late a decided change had come over her, and Mary was determined, if possible, to know the reason why. At first she did not meet with much success, for her friend did not seem disposed to talk, but Mary knew that a young friend of Lottie's had lately joined one of the contingents going out to South Africa, and felt sure Lottie's altered manner had something to do with it. Henry Bliss was a distant relative of hers, and they had always been fast friends. Knowing how dangerous the expedition might prove, this decision of his was a great grief to his numerous friends. To Lottie he had always been specially attached, though both were too young for any one to make any comments, he being but 20 and she 16 years of age. However, when Mary mentioned his name Lottie burst into tears and for some time was unable to speak. At length she said: "Of course, Mary, I do feel terribly about Henry, and since he has talked so much about it, I have had such strange thoughts about this fearful war. You know how many prayers have been offered that God would interpose and stop this fearful carnage and bloodshed, but yet it goes on, and how many valuable lives have been and continue to be sacrificed. I have wondered if God had a controversy with our beloved nation--otherwise would He not have heard and answered so many prayers? I have been reading of late much in the Bible, where God allowed so much of this kind of thing amongst His own people.

"But, Lottie, dear, the British nation has always been so successful and forward in every good work. Sending out missionaries, building hospitals, feeding the multitudes in distant lands who are starving. Then our good Queen is such an excellent Christian, what can be wrong? The Israelites, you know, forgot God and worshipped idols. That is why God punished them."

"I know this, Mary, but there are other idols besides graven images, and many things that are wrong are permitted. We read in 2nd Chronicles, 16: 9: "The eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth to make Himself strong in behalf of those whose hearts are perfect before Him." God is too pure to behold sin with any degree of allowance, and our government takes enormous revenues from licenses for the sale of intoxicating drink. Look how those terrible saloons and distilleries are licensed to destroy millions, both soul and body. Many more than will be killed by this awful war."

"Why, Lottie, I never thought of that. I know

that the opium traffic is dreadful, and large revenues are received from it, while fields in India grow poppies to make opium, which, if sown with grain, would prevent such multitudes from starving to death as we are hearing about these days."

"Oh, Mary, if our law makers and legislators would but study the Bible and see how God beholds such things, they would not justify many things that are now allowed. In Isaiah 5th and 28th amongst the woes pronounced "against the people, there is one against those who justify the wicked for a reward." This means, when a liquor-seller pays, or rewards the government for his license, they permit him to sell any amount of that pernicious liquor that is such a curse to our beloved country. Is this not loving money better than obeying God?"

"I fear you are right, Lottie, dear, but I never saw it in that light before."

"I do, indeed, grieve about Harry, Mary, for I cannot exercise the faith I desire that this war will speedily end, when I see God is permitting so many of our best and bravest to fall. Do let us pray more earnestly that God would open the eyes of our nation to mourn for and forsake all national sins, for is it not written, "They that honor Me I will honor."

C. R.

WHAT ARE THEY SAYING?

I hear the voices of children
Calling from over the seas;
The wail of their pleading accents
Comes borne upon every breeze.

And what are the children saying,
Away in those heathen lands,
As they plaintively lift their voices,
And eagerly stretch their hands?

"O Buddha is cold and distant,
He does not regard our tears,
We pray, but he never answers,
We call, but he never hears.

"Oh! vain is the Moslem prophet,
And bitter his creed of fate!
It lightens no ill to tell us
That Allah only is great. BEE

"We have heard of a God whose mercy
Is tenderer far than these;
We are told of a kinder Saviour"
By sahibs from over the seas.

"They tell us that when you offer
Your worship He always hears,
Our Brahma is deaf to pleadings,
Our Buddha is blind to tears!

"We grope in the midst of darkness,
With none who can guide us right
O, share with us Christian children,
A spark of your living light!

This, this is the plaintive burden
Borne hitherward on the breeze;
These, these are the words they are saying,
Those children beyond the seas.

—Children's Work for Children.

THE PALM BRANCH.



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

Dear Cousins,—See what a host of new cousins we have this time. Well, we are always glad to welcome the new cousins—you may all be sure of that—indeed we cannot have too many, for it shows a growing interest in our work, and our work is God's work, that is the beauty of it. But Cousin Joy will not talk much to you this time. She will let you speak for yourselves in your letters, and she hopes the printer will find room for them all, but if not they will appear next month.

Cousin Sadie would like to know how to work out a charade, and perhaps some of the other cousins would too, so we will give one as an illustration. Take the word

PEX-MAN-SHIP.

My first is something used in writing to Cousin Joy; my second represents the human race; my third is a three-masted vessel; my whole is an art to which much attention should be paid. (Words may be used as well as syllables)

Cousin Katie wishes she knew how to find out puzzles, so we will explain. Suppose it says I am composed of 13 letters. Put down 1, 2, 3, up to 13 numbers at the head of the page in a straight line, with little spaces between. My 8, 5, 9 is to "shut out." You guess it is Bar. Then put B under 8, A under 5, and R under 9. Next, my 4, 3, 1, a name for one we love. You guess it is Pet—then P goes under 4, E under 3, and T under 1; so with all the words—when, if you have guessed rightly, the thirteen letters make "my whole," something that comes to visit you every month"—The Palm Branch.

Dear Cousin Joy,—This is the first time I have written to you. I belong to the Mayflower Mission Band. It has been started about two months now, and we have about twenty-one members now. I take the Palm Branch and enjoy it very much. I do not know how to work out the puzzles yet, but wish I did.

From your loving cousin,
Sackville, N. B. KATIE FAWCETT.

Dear Cousin Joy,—I have never written to you before, because I have never taken the Palm Branch, and so I never heard of you. I take the Palm Branch since the new year, and I am quite interested in it. I think I have found the answer to the puzzle in the December list, written by Ethel P, of Baie Verte, it is, "Love one another." I also send a puzzle to be printed in the Palm Branch.

Your loving cousin,
LaHave Islands, Lun. Co., N. S. ADDIE M BELL

Dear Cousin Joy,—This is the first time I have written to you. I take the "Palm Branch" and like it very much. Our Mission Band meets every Wednesday and our leader is Miss Mary Beateay. I have found the answers to two of the puzzles in the January number. They are, "Pundita Ramabai" and "Love one another."

St John, West. BLANCHE HICKSON.

Dear Cousin Joy,—I am a member of the "Jennie Ford" Mission Band. I like to go to it very much. We had a mission concert Saturday evening before Christmas; the collection amounted to \$2.83. Our Band has greatly increased since it started. We commenced with only nine members, but now it has increased to twenty-two members, and with good hope for more, as our president is a great favorite with the young. Our youngest member, Mary J. Schofield, is only three years old.

Yours respectfully,
Carsonville, K. C OTIS M. MCLEOD.

Dear Cousin Joy,—We take a great interest in your corner. We have found the answer to both puzzles. The first is "Chamberlain," the second is, "God is Love."

The Fort Rouge Mission Band, organized by Mrs. Bellamy, is growing. We have raised over \$20. We also send stamps to Mr. Bartlett, and get money for our Band in that way.

Your loving cousin,
Winnipeg. LILLIAN BULL.

PUZZLES FOR MARCH.

I am composed of 12 letters.
My 10, 8, 11, is part of the face.
My 6, 2, 3, is not small.
My 4, 8, 5, is something we all have.
My 7, 12, 5, 4, 10, 11, is a girl's name.
My 9, 7, 3, 8, 1, is pertaining to a king.
My whole is the name of a Mission Band.

Stonffville, Ont. PEARL.

I am composed of 11 letters.
My 5, 10, is a pronoun.
My 11, 2, 10, a covering for the head.
My 4, 2, 8, 6, is what hunters go for.
My 1, 2, 7, 10, is part of a ship.
My 3, 2, 9, 10, is manner of walking.
My whole is the name of a Mission worker.

La Have Islands. ADDIE BELL.

ANSWER TO REV. MR. KIRBY.

My dear Miss Smith :

I have been trying to find Mr. Kirby's bill of fare for his Christmas supper.

- Spread the cloth.—Num. 4: 8.
- Bright shining of the candle.—Luke 11: 36.
- Salt without prescribing how much.—Ezra 7: 22.
- Oil in a cruise—1 Kings 17: 12.
- The dishes and the spoons and the bowls.—Num. 4: 7.
- With the bread in the basket—Leviticus 8: 31.
- Strong of appetite—Isa 56: 11.—Margin.
- Pour out the broth.—Judges 6: 20. Pottage—Gen. 25: 20.
- The roll.—Jeremiah 36: 25. Use a little wine.—1 Tim. 5: 23.
- Broiled fish.—Luke 24: 42.
- We remember the fish we did eat freely.—Num. 11: 5.
- Bring of the fish which ye have now caught—John 21: 10.
- Hare.—Deuteronomy 14: 7. Chickens.—Matt. 23: 27.
- Besides harts and fatted fowl.—1 Kings 4: 23.
- Kidneys.—Exodus 29: 13.
- All manner of baked meats. Gen. 40: 17.
- Partridge.—1 Sam 26: 20. Two young pigeons.—Lev. 12: 8.
- Quails—Ex 16: 13. Ten cheeses.—1 Samuel 17: 18.
- A basket of summer fruit—Amos 8: 1.
- Pomegranates and figs.—Numbers 13: 23
- Apples.—Prov. 25: 11. Dates.—2 Chron. 31: 5.—Margin.
- Two baskets of figs.—Jeremiah 25: 1.
- Then thou mayest eat grapes thy fill.—Deuteronomy 23: 24.
- We remember the melons.—Numbers 11: 5.
- Bunches of raisins.—1 Samuel 25: 18.
- Nuts and lemons.—Genesis 43: 11.
- Give us this day our daily bread.—Matthew 6: 11.
- Tell them who are bidden I have prepared my supper.—Matt. 22: 4.
- Eat, drink, and be merry.—Luke 12: 10.
- A feast is made for laughter.—Eccl. 10: 19.
- Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefit.—Psalm 103: 2.

For Thine is the kingdom the power and the glory for ever and ever, amen.—Matt 6: 13.

I remain yours,
HELEN COLTER,
Burt's Corner, York Co.

Answers to puzzles for January :

1. Miss Lottie Deacon.
2. Pundita Ramabai.
3. Love one another.

WHAT HE COULD DO.

"Mamma," said a little boy, "I wish Jesus lived on earth now."

"Why, my darling?"

"Because I should like so much to do something for Him."

"But what could such a little bit of a fellow do for Jesus?"

"Why, mother, I could run errands for Him."

"So you could, my child, and so you shall. Here are some things I was going to send to poor sick Margaret by the servant, but I will let you take them, and do an errand for Jesus. For when He was on earth He said, 'Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.'"
—[Children's Record.]

FOR WHOM?

Susie was chairman of the missionary committee, and had worked hard all the year to make the work a success. Her delight was great when she found that the missionary offerings were larger than ever before.

"Miss Morris is so pleased," she told her mother "It is worth working for, just to see her so happy."

"I am sure it was," her mother said. "Miss Morris

is a dear superintendent, and I am sure you girls and boys ought to do a great deal for her sake. But it is not for Miss Morris only, is it dear?"

Susie looked sober. "I think may be it's partly for the boys and girls over in India," she said. "I'm afraid I haven't thought enough about them, though. And—and—" she stopped short.

"You are not sure it is partly for Christ? Yes, daughter, I think it is. But we would all work better and to better purpose, if we could keep Him in mind always. I have read of a workman who was carefully finishing his work under the eaves of a great church building. 'Why are you so careful?' asked another workman, 'No one will see that.' 'Ah,' said the first, 'I work for God, and he sees everywhere.'"

Susie looked up brightly. "I hope it will be something besides 'partly' next time," she said.—[C. M. Friend.]

London Branch.

Miss Jelia Buchanan, Cor.-sect. of the Alymer Mission Band, sends us the following:—

When first given my five cents I was enthusiastic, and in my dreams I saw scores and scores of poor little heathen children, clothed, fed and educated all from the small beginning of 5 cents, so I bravely started out by grating a bottle of horse radish, and if any of you doubt the courage it takes to do this, it is only because you have never tried it. Then I sold it to mother for 10c. Some way, after that—it may have been the heat—or perhaps it was the tears that flowed while thinking of the heathen, all of which were shed while grating that horse-radish—at all events for two short happy months I forgot all about it; but when I again thought of that poor little 15 cents I was wild. Perhaps you can imagine my desperation when I tell you that when father gave me 25 cents to go to the dentist to get a tooth out, and as he always lets me have the money if I pull it myself, I walked the backyard for two whole hours with a brick tied to my tooth. Mother only had given me till 5 o'clock before going to the dentist, so in that way I earned 25 cents more. and Oh! it makes me so happy to suffer for the heathen. After that I made 15 cents by cutting the lawn, then 5 cents going an errand for mother: there was also 10 cents given me for ice cream, which I saved. Then mother gave me 5 cents by mistake, but she said it was against her principles to rectify mistakes. This makes in all 70 cents, including the 5 cents given me. Next time I hope to do better.

[We would advise this dear little girl to leave horse-radish grating to machinery. God wants her to use her eyes, but not to injure them in his service. That must have been a first tooth, but don't try such a harsh remedy again. When you go to the dentist mind take something to ease the pain, for God has allowed such things to be found out. He is not a hard Master. He does not want us to suffer that way, even for the heathen. If He did He would be no better than the gods of the heathen. He does want us to be so glad and thankful that his Son has suffered for them, as well as for us, that we shall be willing to work and even deny ourselves pleasure for the sake of telling them of it.]

LEAVES FROM THE BRANCHES.

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

DERBY.—A Band composed of senior members, who pay Circle fee, and junior members who pay Band fee, has been organized.

Leader.—Mrs. David Crocker.

Pres.—Miss Eliza Tweedie.

Cor. Sec.—Miss Bessie Parker.

The District Organizer speaks most hopefully of this new group of workers.

CHATHAM.—A Band was organized Jan. 3rd, with fifteen members, and as many more are expected at next meeting.

Pres.—Miss Sarah Briggs.

Cor. Sec.—Miss Lulu Gamble.

We heartily welcome all these new comers to our work, hoping that in working for those whose need is great, they may realize a blessing in their own lives.

Have just heard of a Band at Crapaud, P. E. I. "Cheerful Workers;" fifteen members. President, Miss Marguerite Macneill; Cor.-Sect., Miss Maud McKimmen.

Miss Lucretia Durant, Cor.-Sec. of Margate, P. E. I. M. Band, writes:

The Sunbeam Mission Band held its anniversary in the church on the evening of January 15. Twenty-four Band members took part, and the programme consisted of suitable music, recitations and exercises. Our president, Miss Fairlie Durant, gave a report of the Band and a short sketch of the work being done by our missionaries in the different countries. A large crowd was in attendance and the collection amounted to \$6.00. Our Band increased since the beginning of this year by 13 new members, making now a total of 31. The monthly attendance is good, and the children show considerable interest in learning the Field Studies as the Palm Branch is taken in almost every family.

Glad to hear of the "Elizabeth Chapman" Circle, organized at Woodstock. President, Miss Fay Chamber; Cor.-Sec., Miss Nellie Dent.

E. E. C.

Bay of Quinte Branch.

BELLEVILLE.—The Cor.-sec. of Tabernacle Mission Circle writes: That on Miss Gertie Bowers leaving the city to become a trained nurse, the Circle made her a life-member of the Society to show their appreciation of her faithfulness. Increased interest is being taken in the work by the membership. \$7.50 was returned to the B. Treasurer last quarter.

BELLEVILLE.—"Jubilee" M. Circle reports two new members last quarter.

BRIGHTON.—"Jessie Munroe" Mission Band reports nineteen new members during last quarter, and a box of dolls, toys, books, and scrap-books sent to the Deaconess Home, Toronto.

SMITHFIELD.—"Wayside Gatherers" Mission Band reports an average attendance of seventeen members with hopes for a better record in future

M. G. HAWLEY.

Nova Scotia and Newfoundland Branch.

UPPER PORT LA TOUR.—In our "Bonair Circle" meetings there is shown much interest in our missionary work. Our gatherings are well attended.

AMHERST.—The "Rays of Light" Band meets every other Friday. We started our meetings in November and are increasing our membership. We had three new members this last quarter.

NEW GERMANY.—The "Try Again" Band is at work. They have lately had a "pie and proverb social." The proceeds of it, \$3.50, were remitted. They are now preparing for a public meeting.

SPRINGHILL.—The "Jubilee" Band meets once a fortnight. We have an average attendance of sixty. Last quarter we spent our time in helping our church, but we are now preparing for a public meeting.

Some of the Bands have forgotten that the first quarter of our year ended on the 15th of December. I would like all remaining report cards to be sent in at once. If the Bands have not sent for the envelopes for the Easter offering, will they send for them at once? They are 3 cents per dozen.

124 Tower Road.

A. M. BRAINE.

HOW TO MAINTAIN INTEREST IN BANDS.

(Continued from last month.)

Do not attempt too much. A thorough knowledge of the needs of one mission is better than a general idea of missions as a whole, or, as it frequently happens, a very hazy idea of the needs of any. Let us suppose that we are to consider "Our Indian work."

Resolve the Band into a party of travellers, and see that each little traveller has some item of news concerning the "Great North West." By the aid of maps and pictures give the children an intelligent understanding of the geographical and physical conditions of the country. One boy may say, "I have just returned from the Saskatchewan" and proceed to point out his supposed route. Have ready a series of questions and answers concerning this particular district, but before the interest wanes introduce a second traveller, and encourage them to notice differences concerning climate and physical features. At a second meeting consider the various tribes who inhabit these districts, and thus the way will have been prepared for a better understanding of their needs and of the necessities for "doing all we can to aid them."

Whenever practicable, employ marches and motion songs—children love action. Local dialogues may also be employed with good effect. For example. Instead of your quarterly report, with its monotonous repetition of so much from members fees, so much from ice-cream sales and magic lantern entertainment, embody your figures in breezy dialogue form, and let a half dozen boys and girls tell the story of "what our Band has done."

Enlist the parents by personal visitation and invitation; get the mothers interested. Strive to have one or more present at each meeting. Above all strive to have the children realize that they are working for Jesus, and that He demands our very best.

N. S.

J. J.