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# W. B. M. U. TIDINGS.

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS PER YEAR.

Vol. 3.

Amherst, N. S., January, 1896.

No. 25.

*MOTTO FOR THE YEAR.*

"Workers together with Him."

*PRAYER TOPIC.*

For Miss Gray and all the native workers in Bimlipatam—the girls school and those in the town who seem so near the Kingdom.

## Suggested Program for January.

**HYMN.**

**PRAYER.**

**RESPONSIVE READING.**

**LEADER.** God be merciful unto us, and bless us, and cause His face to shine upon us.

**RESPONSE.** That thy way may be known upon earth, thy saving health among all nations.

**LEADER.** Let the people praise thee O God ; let all the people praise Thee. O Let the nations be glad and sing for joy.

**RESPONSE.** From the rising of the sun even unto the going down of the same, my name shall be great among the Gentiles . . . For my name shall be great among the heathen.

**LEADER.** O sing unto the Lord a new song ; for He hath done marvelous things : His right hand and his holy arm hath gotten him the victory,

**RESPONSE** O give thanks unto the Lord ; call upon His name ; make known His deeds among the people.

**LEADER.** Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

**RESPONSE.** We are laborers together with God. The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them. And our highway shall be there and a way, and it shall be called the way of holiness ; the unclean shall not pass over it ; but it shall be for those : the waylaying men though fools, shall not err therein.

**LEADER.** Who is like unto thee O Lord, among the Gods who is like

thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders !

RESPONSE. Thine O Lord is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty ; for all that is in the heaven and the earth is thine ; thine is the kingdom O Lord, and thou art exalter as head above all.

PRAYER. Praise for the work already done in Bimlipatam, and petition for still greater blessing.

HYMN.

READING TIDINGS.

DISCUSSION. How much more can our Society do this year than last ?

HYMN.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING.

READING of Mrs. Morse's letter in Messenger and Visitor of Dec. 4.

DOXOLOGY.

Maps of our Telegu Mission Field can be obtained from our bureau of literature. (Miss) Myra J. Black, Amherst.

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### Our Silver Year.

At our annual meeting in August, we celebrated this silver year, our twenty fifth anniversary. But does it not seem that two days were very little to give to this celebration ? But few of our members could be together then. Can we not do something else ?

"So blessed are we ! and yet what can we bring ?

For all Thine, even our hearts desire

To do thy will. Let these past years inspire

Our hearts to give and pray, our

thoughts to sing

"Gifts for the Silver Year ! Hearts filled with love,  
Mind, soul, and body set to do Thy will.

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Dear Sisters,

Something for the January Tidings is the request, and what shall I say ? I have been away from the field about five months, but my heart has been there, the most of the time, and that may be one of the reasons, why I have not recruited faster. As I look over the mission field, which we suppose the God of all wisdom has committed to the Baptists of the Maritime Provinces, I see it teeming with the unsaved hundreds of thousands of whom have never been touched by the Gospel of Christ.

Out of the thirteen missionaries in this country, two have been laid aside from active service the larger part of this year.

By the time you read this three others will have completed their first year in India, and during this period have not been able to engage in much direct work, beyond the study of the language. Others, because of their own illness, or that of their wives, have been absent from their stations from three to five months, while still another has had weeks of fever and weakness at home.

For several years past, the increase in the number of native agents, has been small ; and much of that increase

is, perhaps, in quantity rather than quality. Conversions from among the have been few ; while from those who are baptized from our boarding schools some fall out by the way, and for others, we must wait years before they become particularly useful. The mission has always been so inadequately manned, that we have never been able to push and KEEP PUSHING, the work among the heathen, WHICH MUST BE DONE, if we desire a liberal harvest from that quarter. In the late Convention, some one well said, that "God's conditions of blessing must be met." "How can they hear without a preacher?" and how can they be converted unless they hear ?

How shall we get native agents, unless the supply of missionaries is sufficient, not only to supervise and hold the work, already built up, but to lead out the churches into continuous and cheerful obedience, to our Lord's command to make disciples.

We have met with some reverses ; probably not more than our share ; possibly not enough to tone up the spiritual fibre of the mission, at home and abroad. And will not more meet us, in the near future, if we do not learn well and practice faithfully the lessons these would teach us? For the sake of the Master, who is waiting for us to come up to his conditions of blessing, for the sake of these people, whom we must meet face to face before a just God, would that we could be warned in time. Suppose, t...at

"whosoever sins ye retain, they are retained," applies to your relations and to ours, to these perishing multitudes ? Sometimes I wonder what Heaven will be to us, if we take with us the memory of having heard the awful word 'DEPART' to many of these who might have heard the "Come ye blessed," had we been faithful to the trust committed to us.

Early in 1896, Miss Gray will go on a well deserved furlough, after a long term of service. Mr. and Mrs. Higgins are also going, not because they desire furlough but because Mrs. Higgins cannot live in the country. Mr. Higgins is one of our best men, and we are sorry to see him turn his back on the foreign field. You feel the disappointment ; perhaps we do a hundred-fold more.

Then out of your thirteen missionaries, there will be seven on the field, who are really prepared for work. But one of these because of long and hard work in the past, is under positive medical orders to leave the plains, when the hot season returns, and others may be obliged to do the same. Our mission has had the best strength of some of us, and those will never be able to give again, what they have given in the past.

Over and over again, during my seventeen years connection with this mission, there has been before my mind's eye, the vision of a swiftly rushing river, amid the rising and falling waters of which, the onlooker

could catch glimpses of a few men and women striving to stem the mighty current. Occasionally one or more drops out, and there is a cry for help, as the remaining ones struggle against the oncoming waves. Sooner or later the vacant places are filled, but the average number of toilers is but slightly increased, and the progress made is so slow, that the many on the banks, become perhaps, impatient or careless and the few who have been doing their utmost, continue their efforts with aching and sometimes, almost fainting hearts. Can you not shut your eyes and see all of this, and does not your heart say, it is true ?

We talk a great deal about money, or the lack of it ; but is there not a need back of that, which if supplied would do away with all this spirit, which perhaps, does not make for the Kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ ? He did not talk about it; he did not tell his disciples to plan ways and means of getting it. If He considered the matter, which so perplexes us, He did not mention it when he committed the work he had begun to others. He did say, "ALL authority is given unto me, go ye therefore ;" he also said, "tarry till ye are endued with power from on high." Did he mean that this power from on high was to be the basal thing in the church for the evangelization of the world ? That with it all minor needs would be supplied ; that without it, all other possessions, be what they may would accomplish little.

Is it because our churches have failed to make as prominent as they should, the first great qualification for service, that they are so weak, and the work out here so poorly furnished with men? This preparation is not for ministers and a few others, who, some would say, should be especially good, but it is for all; for those in the pulpit, and those in the pew, for men and for women, and WHO CAN ESCAPE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF NOT HAVING IT, when it is free to all, and is absolutely necessary to the work of God.

In Isaiah we read "for the work of my hands command ye me". Dear Sisters, for months, the thought has been growing in my mind, that if the woman of our Churches would really go to praying about this, many of our perplexities would disappear. Will you think about this power from on high? Pray about it, pray about it every day, as you go about your work and ask God to give it to you personally, and to us all as his people. It will furnish the men and provide the money, and turn the hearts of these idolators to the living God. This power will let light into the darkness; it will right your method of work, and ours, it will give our Board and its Secretary new courage, it will transform us all into an active living people, and the pleasure of the Lord will prosper in our hands.

C. H. ARCHIBALD.

Bangalore, India,  
Oct. 15th. 1895.