

W. B. M. U. TIDINGS.

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS PER YEAR.

Vol. 3.

Amherst, N. S., February, 1896.

No. 26.

MOTTO FOR THE YEAR.

"Workers together with Him."

PRAYER TOPIC.

For Mrs. Archibald that her health may be improved and that the work may prosper.

Suggested Program for Feb. Meeting. From the Treasurer of the W. B. M. U

OPENING PRAYER. Praise for the baptisms in Bobbili.

HYMN.

SCRIPTURE. Isaiah 49. 1-13.

HYMN.

READING. Tidings for the month.

PRAYER. By two or three sisters.

HYMN.

REPORT OF TREAS.

PRAYER FOR THE UNINTERESTED IN OUR CHURCHES.

CLOSING HYMN.

"Tidings is issued to help our W. M. A. S. presidents in preparing for their monthly meetings, We fear, in many cases we have not the president's address. Any Society needing address changed, please communicate during this month with

Mary Smith.

Tres. W. B. M. U.

Dear Sisters,

This is a word to you individually; not collectively as societies, but to each one as regards our individual responsibility to God and his cause. First, I thank many of you, for the way you have responded this year to the needs, your money has been received regularly and with many a marked increase in interest is manifest. This is certainly encouraging in view of the great work before us a "work" that must grow until the Master comes.

Notwithstanding this pleasant fact, we find ourselves as a "Union" today in an unenviable position. On Jan. 31st our liabilities will amount to \$1950, to meet this the Treasurer has about \$900. Is this financial state caused by your money and mine re-

maining in our pocketbooks, when it should be in the King's work?

Has the Treasurer of your Society received your quarterly dues? Apart from that have you given your thank-offering to the Lord, have you remembered Him as kindly as you have your earthly friends? He gives us "every good and perfect gift," have we earnestly considered returning a gift to him. By comparing my figures you will find we need \$1000 placed in the Treasury between today and Jan. 31st. Sisters, excuse these pertinent questions. My prayer is that your response will be so great, that a glad "thank you," will be gushing forth from the heart of your Treasurer during the next four weeks.

MARY SMITH.

Tres. W. B. M. U.

Our Monthly Programme.

As the name implies, this programme is only meant to be suggestive.

It helps to answer the often-asked question, "how shall we conduct our monthly meeting?" But it is only meant to *help*. In some places our Sisters take part so readily, that a programme is perhaps hardly necessary. Yet we do think that the President should always have her meeting arranged for, at least a week beforehand and if possible those who are to have readings, or papers should be notified some days in advance. Per-

haps we do not realize as we should the importance of this hour.

We heard of a Society once where the members would talk of things pertaining to everything but Missions until the hour for opening had passed, when the President would say "Now what shall we sing," and then hunt through the book till a hymn was found. How much interest is there in a case like this; and how much good will be done by this Society? Now surely our Programme fits in, in a case like the above. Of course such cases are rare, still our Programme is meant to meet such. But what we want is, that a glance at our Programme will lead some President to exclaim, "Why that puts me in mind, I know a reading that will suit better than the one mentioned etc. etc."

Our Presbyterian fellow workers in the United States issue such a programme monthly. My dear Sisters this Missionary hour is a very sacred one. Let us give it our best and most prayerful thoughts, not a few hurried moments just before we meet.

Will any of our Sisters who have suggestions to make, or a more "excellent way" to shew, kindly write us.

This is the King's Hour, let us make it bright and glad for Him.

Hints or suggestions will be gladly received by

Miss A. E. Johnstone,
Dartmouth N. S.

My Dear Sisters:—

You have been hearing from time to time about the meetings which have been held at the Clock Tower. The controversy between the Mahomedan and the Christians, has made a great stir in the Town, and the subject of religion seems to be the topic for conversation everywhere. For years past the Gospel has been faithfully preached in Bimlipatam, but never before has there been such a good opportunity for reading and explaining the Scriptures to the common people as has been given through this blasphemer of the Lord Jesus Christ. The questions asked by him, had to be answered direct from the Bible, because his criticisms were made mainly upon the contradictions (?) in the New Testament.

Day after day the same questions were brought up, and even when the truth was made clear, he would not admit it. When he read a passage from the Bible, he read in such a way, that a very different meaning would be understood by his hearers. For example in Galatians 3. and 13. he passed over the words "*for us,*" and emphasized the last part, "cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree." This perversion of the Scripture gave the Christians an opportunity of presenting the passage in its true light.

The Mahomedan has gone to Rangoon, and the meetings have been discontinued, but before he went a-

way the crisis came. On Monday the 4th of Nov. he was especially loud in his denunciation of the New Testament, and sarcasm of the Christian religion. Among other things he said, "I am going away, and after I am gone, can any one say, that the Mahomedan was beaten. You are my witnesses," he said to the audience. Then the oft repeated challenge to meet in some Hall' get a chairman, and have his criticisms discussed publicly was again given. This he did not want to do. He much preferred the Clock Tower, for his power, over a certain class lay in his ability to ridicule and blaspheme the name of Christ. But some of the leading men among the Hindoos took it up. They said, "This is a good word. Let us get a Hall, and ask the Sub-magistrate to be Chairman." The Mahomedan could not back out, and on Tuesday morning it was decided to hold a meeting at 5 P. M. in our Chapel, the Sub-magistrate readily consenting to be chairman. Then the preparation began. Notices were sent round, and the Chapel put in order. The large platform placed between the two front doors, so that those in the siderooms could hear. Long before the time for meeting the people began to come in crowds till the house was full. Every bench and chair available on the Compound was carried over to the Chapel, and yet many had to stand during the two hours the meeting lasted. Some

were outside looking through the doors and windows, and some had to go away. As one of the missionaries wrote afterwards, "It must have been a grand sight to see that Chapel filled." It was indeed a grand sight, but it would be grander if they had come to worship the true God, and pay homage to His Son, our dear Saviour.

For several days these meetings were held, until the Mahommedan went away with a "small face." as the native people say. He refused to come again, and it was apparent to all, that he was put to shame and confusion.

Since the meetings have been discontinued, a daily prayer meeting is held in the Chapel at five o'clock and again at eight the missionaries meet

for prayer and Bible study. The message of salvation has been proclaimed faithfully for over four months, and now the great need is an outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the people so that the truth may be applied to their hearts.

Although this work has been carried on by Mr. Morse, we all are interested in it, and are praying that there may be a turning unto the Lord, among the Telugus. O for a Pentecost! How our hearts beat, when we anticipate such a day! Why should we not expect it? Our Lord is the same yesterday and today and forever.

A. C. GRAY.

Bimlipatam.

Nov. 30th. 1895.