



EASTER THANK-OFFERINGS.

KANAZAWA ORPHANAGE.

A dead Christ could do nothing for us, but a living Christ is able and willing to do more than we can ask, and "Because He lives we shall live also." His great gift, to us who will receive it, is life forevermore. Therefore no Thank-offering shall be more willingly, cheerfully, joyfully given than this Easter one.

You all know that it was decided at Board Meeting in Kingston, that our Easter Thank-offerings should go to Japan this year, as buildings there were so much needed. That of the Auxiliaries, to the "Mother-school in Tokyo"—whose good influences have moulded so many youthful lives through past years. The Thank-offering from Mission Circles and Bands for a new building in Kanazawa, also much needed. We give you again the picture



that was given last March of the inmates of the present orphanage. You will remember Miss Veasey's interesting description of them all. Of the Christian matron, Okumura San, who stands behind in the centre. Of her two Christian sons, one at either end of the same row, the eldest of whom had already left the Orphanage to take a Normal School course, and who had said: "I mean to teach Christianity wherever I go, just the same as if I were a preacher."

Then you will all recognize Motako San, "Herbie Bellamy's boy," the boy in whom he took so great an interest, and for whom he worked so unselfishly. This new "Orphanage" will be called "The Herbie Bellamy Orphanage" in memory of dear little Herbie, and no doubt many of you will give all the more gladly because of your loving interest in that dear little worker. We think nothing could please him more, even in Heaven, than to know that this wish of his heart had been carried out. And is not this cause dear

to the heart of the loving Saviour too; Does he not care for the little orphans of Japan, even as he cares for you, the children of this highly favored land? He wants you all for His kingdom.

The one in centre of front row is little O Teru San, the little one whose poor mother was about to sell her for a dollar when she was rescued by the Missionaries. Should we not give these little otherwise friendless orphans a good, comfortable home?

To know that the new building in Tokyo is needed we have only to remember the heavy earthquakes of '92 and '94 which shook the present building to its foundations. Then last year we heard of two of the little girls praying for fine weather for a school entertainment, because "Our building is so old that the rains enters, and it would have been very disagreeable to have tubs, etc., standing round on such an occasion;" and again, "We had a typhoon night before last

which tore off 150 tilcs from the roof and a good deal of plaster from the outer walls." So you see we are not asked to give to that which does not need our help. Our dear missionaries who are doing such good work in that distant land must not have real hindrances to their work.

RE MISSION BAND WORK.

I have noticed the discussion in Palm Branch concerning the advisability of choosing one field for study during the year. In my experience in Band Work I have certainly found this the best plan. Take up the field study each month briefly, but at each meeting have a drill on one particular Field. Let some member of the Band prepare a map of the country with all our mission stations plainly marked. Study the physical features of the country, the manners and customs of the people, and then all about our missionary work there, the names of the missionaries, etc., until they are perfectly familiar with the whole Mission Field. This plan takes a longer time but is more thorough, and satisfactory.

A. C. W.

Miss Bailey, Mission Band Corresponding Secretary of the Montreal Conference Branch, writes:—Speaking from my own experience, I think it much better to stay long enough on one Field to become thoroughly acquainted with it. How can children have any clear idea of the work of our Missionaries at the different stations, the manners and customs of the people and the geography of the country from one short hour of study? I think some times it would be wiser if in our auxiliaries we devoted more time to one subject.

Miss McGeary, Mission Band Corresponding Secretary of Hamilton Conference Branch, while disclaiming any practical experience, says: "On general principles I would think it far more advisable to be thoroughly acquainted with one field at a time. Of course all these things depend very largely upon a Mission Band's local circumstances.

Am much interested still in the ideas drawn out from Mission Band Secretaries and others on this subject. But you will pardon me when I say that I cannot yet see why children who are emphatically "People of one idea" can avoid losing interest in all other countries while studying one long enough to be thoroughly conversant with it.

N. B.

X. Y.

Cards written by "Herbie," with printed photos, may be obtained from his mother, Mrs. John Bellamy, Moose Jaw, N. W. T. "The money goes in his box to finish his year's work."

APROPOS OF BAND WORK.

We have been greatly interested in the discussion between E. E. C., X. Y., and others. It is a subject that will bear a good deal of thought as it is decidedly a critical time with Band workers. The mode of raising money is also a vital question, and the time is rapidly drawing to a crisis when it must be decided. Personally, I do not care for questionable things to be held in the church for the conversion of the heathen. It is only right that we should work for them, but if we cannot save them without hurting our own reverence, why, then— It seems to me, if we had more prayer and less excitement in our Band work that God would send the power and wisdom.

INTEREST.

WHERE VIOLETS GROW.

Some careless word had touched her heart—
And childhood's griefs are hard to bear—
An April shower had cleared the air,
And, like the gleam when shadows part,
I heard a whisper soft and low
Break through her tears: "But then—I know
Where violets grow.

O happy secret all her own!
Whose hidden wealth of bud and bloom,
Through every grief or passing gloom,
Its sweetness kept for her alone,
And never sorrow overflows,
Or burdens vanquish one who knows
Where heartcase grows.

There is a book whose silent tone
Hath wondrous power to make me glad
And life is never wholly sad;
I have a secret all my own,
One place—it is not far to go—
"The shadow of a Rock!" I know
Where violets grow!

—Selected.

Suggested Programme for Mission Bands—May.

1. Opening Hymn—"Safely Through Another Week."
2. Announce subject for prayer and study—"China and Chinese work."
3. Read in concert—Isaiah 35th chapter.
4. Sentence Prayers for guidance in sending God's Word to those who know Him not.
5. Roll Call, responded to by verses of Scripture.
6. Transaction of regular business, (written reports.)
7. Paper*—"Trip to China," including every Band member.
8. Duet or Chorus, "Lo, the Fields Are White for Harvest."†
9. Leader supplements "Trip to China." in a bright, short talk by taking her hearers to our different Mission Stations, explaining the work and asking questions. ‡
10. Hymn—"To the Work, To the Work."
11. A few words of prayer for the preservation of our Missionaries in China, by leader.
12. Lord's Prayer and Mizpath Benediction in concert.

* Or Blackboard.

† "Behold, the fields are white."—Music Depots—3 cents each.

‡ Field Study in this number.

WHO SHOULD GIVE? WHY? AND
WHEN?

Who should give? Why everybody;
Everyone has gifts received.
Everyone should spread good tidings,
Till the whole world has believed.

Why? you ask me. Surely, surely,
There are reasons, and to spare;
Christ commands it, love demands it.
Hands *must* give, if true hearts *care*.

When to give? Oh, what a question.
Hear the answer: Now, *now*, NOW!
Give with love, and faith: give freely,
Jesus Christ will show you how.

—C. M. F.

FIELD STUDY FOR MAY.

CHINA AND THE CHINESE.

CHINA—"The Flowery Kingdom" sometimes called "The Celestial Empire" whose records date back to the time of Abraham, is arousing ever-increasing interest in the civilized world of today.

It is difficult for us to realize its marvellous size. It is one-third larger than all of Europe, and eighteen times as large as the British Isles. Its population is variously estimated at from three hundred and fifty to four hundred millions. If all the people in the world should march in single file every fourth person would be a Chinese. When we realize how few of all this multitude have ever heard of a Saviour's love, our hearts go out in earnest desire to hasten the glad time spoken of by Isaiah: "Behold, these shall come from far: and lo, these from the north and from the west: and these from the land of Sinim."

Such alarming rumors of riot and rebellion have recently reached us, that our thoughts and prayers have been very constantly with our dear lady missionaries in China, Miss Brackbill, Miss Brooks, Dr. Maud Killam, and Miss Foster. Still their letters come to us as full of hopefulness and courage as ever. At one time, they had their valuables packed, ready for hasty removal, for several weeks, not knowing the hour when all their property might be destroyed and possibly their lives taken. Wicked men posted up placards against foreigners and circulated a rumor that the missionaries ate children and could see thirty Chinese feet into the ground, besides many other unpleasant reports. However, the Chinese officials have done their utmost to quiet all rioting, posting favorable placards on the walls of our Mission property, and stationing soldiers outside to protect them from harm. But, best of all, the all watchful Eye of Him who never slumbers nor sleeps is caring for them, and will keep them in perfect peace.

The "Jennie Ford" Home, providing for fifteen in-

mates, has been finished and opened. Five little waifs have been sheltered therein, the last one rescued from the street, being a half starved baby, three or four months old, left in the gutter by its cruel parents, to die of cold and hunger. One little baby has left this "Home" for its Heavenly one, and is the first to greet her in whose memory the Home was established.

Medical work is also being carried on. Four pleasant rooms in the hospital have been fitted up for use, and during the first three months five hundred and seventy-four treatments were given, besides visits made to the houses, and two patients received into the hospital.

Miss Foster is kept very busy nursing, never being without a patient, and also with evangelistic work. "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few. Pray ye therefore the Lord of the Harvest that He may send forth laborers unto His Harvest."

Ont.

A. C. W.

QUESTIONS FOR MAY.

What is China called and how far back does it date? Has the world any interest in it today?

What is its size compared with Europe? With the British Isles?

What is its population? What illustration is given?

How do we feel when we think of their darkness?

What has made us think much of our lady missionaries in China just now, and why do we pray more than ever for them?

What are the names of our missionaries there, and what is said of their letters at this time?

What dangers threatened them and what preparation did they make?

What reports were circulated against foreigners?

How did the Chinese officials act in this crisis?

To whom are their thanks chiefly due?

What is said of the Jennie Ford Home?

Will you describe the little ones sheltered there?

What work is also being carried on there?

How much work of this kind has been done?

What good work does Miss Foster do?

What Bible verse applies to China?

In an interesting interview, reported in The Methodist Recorder, Mr. Baring-Gould was asked, "What was the origin of your great hymn, 'Onward, Christian Soldiers'?" "I'll tell you that," he replied. "When I was a curate I had charge of a mission at Horbury, one mile from Wakefield, and one Whitsuntide my vicar wanted me to bring all the Sunday-school children up to the mother church for a great festival. 'Well,' I thought, 'there's that mile to tramp, what shall I do with them on the way? All of a sudden it struck me, 'I'll write them a hymn.' And I did. It was all done in about ten minutes. I set it to one of Haydn's tunes, and the children sang it on the way to church. I thought no more about it and expected the hymn would be no more heard of."

PALM ✻ BRANCH.

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

ST. JOHN, N. B., APRIL, 1899.

LUKE 24th.

BUT they constrained Him saying "Abide with us"—oh, how well for them and for us that they constrained Him! Well for them because of the blessing gained—well for us because of the knowledge of the blessing possible to be gained. He was made manifest to them in the blessing and breaking of the bread. And their eyes were opened and they knew Him and He vanished out of their sight. What a revelation to their once sad but now rejoicing hearts. Jesus Himself! and still feeling the power of that divine influence which had rested upon them while walking and talking together they turned to one another and said: "Did not our hearts burn within us while He talked with us by the way and while He opened to us the Scriptures."

Dear young friends, do we want to walk and talk with Jesus, by the way, as his disciples did? How shall we do it? You say it would be an easy thing if He were living here again on the earth, but would it be? Let us think—you and I might be left out if for any reason we could not take that long journey to Jerusalem. The heathen have local deities, confined to place and time and special purpose—gods many and lords many—but our God has passed into the Heavens, there to plead our cause as no other advocate could ever plead, and thence, by the agency of His Holy Spirit He will come to dwell in every individual heart and home—if we invite Him. The disciples did not understand this then, but they did after that blessed experience at Pentecost.

The disciples were sad before Jesus came to them because they were mourning a dead Christ, not rejoicing in a living one. Are we making the same mistake? There is danger of it. O let us trust this living, loving Christ more and more!

What were the conditions on which Jesus revealed Himself to them? First they had left all and followed Him—

lacking as they were in faith they loved Him and their lives were devoted to His service. Are we willing to leave all and follow Him? They were willing to be instructed. If we open the Scriptures ourselves He will open them still wider and show us "Jesus Himself," in every page

What was it that made the disciples such noble witnesses and examples of His power to save? Was it not the face to face and heart to heart companionship of the strong Son of God? And this companionship is offered to us! Are we ready for it? "How can two walk together except they be agreed." Shall we not enter into solemn covenant with Him and say, "Saviour, take me, I come to Thee just as I am, walk with me, talk with me, reveal Thyself to me, so shall I become one whom Thou canst use for Thy glory."

Sorrow is divine! Sorrow is grand and great! Sorrow is wise and far-seeing! What are the natures that cannot suffer? Who values them? From the fat oyster over which the tide mud rises and falls without one pulse upon its fishy ear, to the hero who stands with quivering nerve parting with wife and child for home and country—all the way up is an ascending scale, marked by increasing power to suffer.

And when we go up, up above all earthly values, up above principalities and powers to find by what emblem the Eternal God chooses to reveal Himself, we behold "in the midst of the Throne, a Lamb as it had been slain."

Mrs. Stowe in "Minister's Wooing."

We are exceedingly glad that we have at length succeeded in securing two talented young ladies, who are known as excellent Band workers, to furnish us with the Field Studies and Suggested Programmes for the remainder of the year. Our best thanks are due to both of these kind young ladies.

We are very sorry that the notice re Mission Band envelopes did not reach us in time for the March number. We had no idea that they had been issued.

We have no Mission Band, but the paper goes to houses where there are children. We appreciate the Palm Branch and do a little home mission work, by individually paying for copies to be sent to poor children. I mark the name on each copy, then hand them to wife of postmaster at Rosedale, who distributes them through the F. O. with other mail. I mention the method of distribution, for where there is a Christian woman in a post office, or one who would take the papers and distribute quietly at Sunday School, it seems to me that many Auxiliaries where there are no Mission Bands might profitably take papers at club rates.

Yours,

L. M.

"O hearts of love! O souls that turn
 Like sunflowers, to the pure and best!
 To you the truth is manifest:
 For they the mind of Christ discern
 Who lean, like John, upon His breast."

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

EIWA JO GAKKO,
KOFU, JAPAN.

Miss Washington writes:—I wanted to tell you of our Christmas day, kept Dec. 26th; of the loads of lovely presents we all got, and the delightful letters, and of our feast in the School dining-room with all the teachers and a few of the girls; and most particularly did I want to tell you of our Christmas tree held in the afternoon in our largest school room, for the pleasure of all the little ones who attend our various Sunday Meetings for children. There were 220 of them here, besides twenty-five babies on backs of twenty-five larger babies. It was all so pitiful and yet so happy! Some of the children wore poor old dark clothes, and some wore the most startlingly bright and new ones, of all the colors of the rainbow. Some had clean faces and some had dirty ones, but I do not think many of them thought of either faces or dresses after the programme began. How they all tried to repeat their verses or read their poems in the very most approved Japanese style! And what dear little things they are, every one of them!

I wish you could have seen the intense satisfaction on each little face as they received some gay but trifling toy. It just made one long to give them each something worth while—and yet that is what they are getting every Sunday, isn't it? The thing most worth while of all—more and more of Christ, who loves them all now just as dearly as he loved the little ones of Galilee long ago.

We went to our church Christmas, in the evening.

This month I have had two meetings in Kato and one in Nawazaki and Tomatata, and a woman's meeting, a factory meeting and a children's meeting in Ichikawa. I enjoy the meetings very, very much wherever they are. The one in the factory was particularly interesting. Over fifty girls and women, some so small and thin and with eyes so pathetic. I cannot describe, even to myself, the feelings that came as I looked into their faces. I seemed to see, for a moment, their past life and their future written on each. They listen to the Gospel very eagerly and we believe they are beginning to accept it in their hearts. The rest of my evening has been taken up in training three of the girls to take part in an English dialogue to be given in the Bungokwai, on the 11th. Think of composing dialogues as well as teaching them!

This has been a very cold season indeed. Till lately we had more of the great winds we had last year. One morning Miss Preston remarked at breakfast that she felt rather hot without a wind for so long, and that she scarcely knew where she was. Next day she knew "all right." My! it *was* a wind! It rattled and banged the shutters and doors, made the floors tremble and our heads ache, and did not get over blowing for four days and four nights. It has

blown two days since then but only one day at a time, and we don't mind that. There has been almost no snow and very little rain. Miss Preston is improving very quickly now."

COQUALEETZA INSTITUTE,

CHILLIWACK, B. C., Feb. 4th, 1899

Miss Maggie Smith writes:—I arrived here only two weeks ago, but soon got settled down to work and now my furlough is only a dream. At times I forget I was ever away. I was so pleased to see the dear boys and girls, and if possible, love my work more than ever. I had a nice class meeting with the girls on Tuesday evening. I am feeling so much better since my return.

Last evening the Palm Branch came and I enjoyed seeing the picture there very much—the children here were also pleased with it. If I visit Martha and Peter next year as I hope to do, I will try to write a description of the visit for you.

[We will all hold Miss Smith to her promise, and shall be delighted to hear from her]

"THE FIELD IS THE WORLD."

White fields around thee
Glistening and gleaming,
Then why with with folded hands
Idly stand dreaming!

Say not "till harvest time
Four months are owing,"
Lo! some around thee now
Reap of their sowing.

For the dear Master's sake
Do not delay;
Remember 'tis thee He bids
"Go work today."

Fades life's short daylight soon,
Fades into night,
Breaks the Eternal Morn
Fadeless and bright.

Then with our garnered sheaves
Few though they be,
Haste we to meet the King,
Glad Him to see.

And if these words shall fall
From the Just One
Throned high in glory there,
"Servant well done."

Say shall we count the toil?
Ah no! but rather
Sorrow for missing sheaves
Left us to gather.

'Then ere the twilight falls,
On life's brief day,
While hands and heart are strong
Forth and away!

St. Stephen.

M. E. VEAZEY.



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

DEAR COUSINS: You will be pleased to see the faces of your little Japan friends again, those who were last taken into the Kanazawa Orphanage. These, with the boys and girls on our front page, are those for whom we are going to help provide a comfortable house with our Easter Thank offering—the home which is to be named for that dear little boy now in Heaven

Herbie Bellamy. I am sure you will all want to give to so good a cause. If you love Jesus yourselves you will love those who are learning to love him too

Cousin Jennie wants to know why we do not send boxes, etc., from the East to needy people. Well, one great reason is that it costs too much for freight to send them so far. Then we might not send them just what they want. We know that the great wants now are these new buildings in Tokyo and Kanazawa. Is it not better to show our confidence in the ladies of the Board who know just what the need is, and send them that for which they ask? It is always safe to send money.

Some day perhaps we will work for a Newfoundland Mission nearer home, where it will cost less to send boxes.

Now Cousin Joy wishes you all a glad and happy Easter,

DEAR COUSIN JOY:—I am a member of the Blackmore Mission Band. I take the Palm Branch and think it very interesting. We have quite a large band. I have made a puzzle and if you think it is all right you may put it in the Palm Branch.

Your cousin,
Ritcey Cove, N. S.

EMMIE C. MYRA.

DEAR COUSIN JOY: I have written to you before, but I thought I would like to write to you again. I am treasurer of the Mission Band here, and we are doing pretty well so far. I think I have found the answer to the March puzzles.

They are as follows: 1st—Wayside Helpers of Delta; 2nd—Proverbs; 3rd—Chushan-rishathaim.

Your loving cousin,
Kensington, P. E. I. HARRISON LOETHER.

DEAR COUSIN JOY:—I want to ask you just one question. Why is it that we do not in *all* our Bands send boxes of clothing and other things to the North-west or wherever they most need them? I often read of what they do in Montreal or Toronto in that way and I sometimes wonder why we in the East do not. I asked our leader and she did not know, so, I thought I would ask you.

Your loving cousin, JENNIE GRAY.
You will find your answer in Cousin Joy's Editorial on this page, Cousin Jennie.

No. 1—Wayside Helpers of Delta; No. 2—Proverbs;
No. 3—Chusan-rishathaim.

Answers to Puzzles for March. By NELLIE.

PUZZLES FOR MAY

I am composed of 16 letters.

My 5, 6, 12, is a girl's name.

My 14, 15, 18, 16, is to burn.

My 1, 2, 10, 12, is a lot of animals.

My 3, 12, 15, is to behold.

My 4, 6, 9, is what shines.

My 8, 7, 3, is an animal.

My 8, 2, 11, is the atmosphere.

My whole is the name of a friend.

Ritcey Cove.

EMMIE.

I am composed of 28 letters.

My 19, 18, 26, 3, 2, 25, is a living being.

My 27, 19, 14, 22, is something real.

My 5, 8, 2, 21, the seat of knowledge

My 23, 13, 19, 11, 15, the seat of love.

My 14, 5, 1, 20, 28, 9, 6, are a people in whom we are much interested.

My 27, 10, 18, is what most heathen children know nothing about.

My 4, 24, 12, 7, 17, 11, is what heathen children know a great deal about.

My 12, 16, 15, 8, a ceremony.

My whole is what Jesus said to Martha.

COUSIN JOY.

EASTER'S MEANING.

"What doth Easter mean to thee,
Little maiden,
With its fragrant lilies laden?"

Joyously she answered me,

"Easter meaneth, 'Do not weep

Any more at thought of death,

For 'tis just to fall asleep

And awake in Heaven,' He saith.

All its meaning none may tell—

But Christ is risen, and all is well!"

THE FLOOD.

Four little boys were talking about the flood. One, on being asked what he would have done if he had been living at the time of the flood, replied, "I would have gone into my mother's bedroom and shut the door." The second said, "I would have climbed to the top of a big tree." The third said, "I would have climbed to the top of a high mountain;" and the fourth said, "I would have gone to the door of the ark and said, 'Mr. Noah, please let me in.'" The first three boys, who would have tried to save themselves, would have been lost, and the fourth boy only, who would apply for help, would have been saved. Neither young nor old can save themselves. All who want to be saved must go to Jesus.

EASTER THOUGHTS FOR LITTLE WORKERS.

Jesus died that we might live
This is the day our Savior arose from the dead.

Let us learn a sweet lesson from the flowers. In the winter they die, but in the spring they come again. So Christ will raise our bodies from the grave unto life eternal.

Sing your joyous songs today, little workers, for Christ our Lord has conquered our last enemy, death, and gone to prepare a beautiful home for us in heaven.

—Sunbeam.

AN EASTER SONG.

BY MARGARET E. SANGSTER.

Sing a Song of Easter,
A song of happy hours,
Of dashing spray, and shadow play,
And lovely springing flowers,
Of birds come home again to build
Beside the cottage eaves,
Of waking buds, and rushing floods,
And dance of rustling leaves.

Sing a song of Easter,
A song that means a prayer
Of want and love to one above
Who keeps his world in care;
A song for all on this green earth,
For dear ones passed away,
Sing clear and strong the joyful song,
The song of Easter Day.

Sing a song of Easter,
A song of pure delight,
A song that starts in merry hearts,
And swells from morn till night;
An Easter song that children lift,
Without a jarring chord,
That thrills afar from star to star,
To praise the children's Lord.

SIX EASTER EGGS.

BY SYDNEY DAYRE.

HARRY had been lying on a lounge for three weeks for he had broken his leg. It was very hard for a little boy to keep quiet all day; but it gave him a very good chance to show a patient and sweet-tempered spirit.

Harry's mamma and all his friends were doing all they could to help him pass away the time. They read to him and told him stories. They brought him pictures and flowers, and fruits and nuts.

"What have you got for me?" he asked one day in a fretful voice. His mamma had just come in. She showed him something in a little box.

"What are they?" asked Harry.

"Easter eggs, dear. See how lovely they are!"

They were lovely. Each one was coloured all over, and had a pretty flower painted on it, with some reading.

"They are for you and your little sister," said his mother. "I will let you have your choice, because you have to keep still. Which do you like best?"

"I want them all," said Harry, putting up an ugly lip.

I am very sorry to say that Harry was not showing any patience or sweet temper. Indeed the more people tried to be kind to him the more cross and selfish he seemed to become.

"Don't you want to give some of them to little Jessie?" asked his mamma.

"No o-o-o," whined Harry.

"See!" said his mamma, taking up one of the eggs, "Do you remember when you went to find wildflowers last spring? These are the little purple and white anemones that used to peep at you almost from under the dead leaves. And don't you know how the blue violets smile up from the grass? The dear Lord has made everything beautiful for little children, and he loves them all and wishes them to love one another."

"I'll give Jessie two," said Harry in a very unwilling voice, "and I'll have four."

"Very well," said mamma, "which will you keep?"

She felt sorry at seeing what pains he took to pick out the four prettiest for himself, leaving what he thought the dullest and plainest for his sister.

Soon after he woke up next morning he heard tripping steps near his door, and soon a cheery voice cried, "Good morning, brother!" and Jessie's two arms went about his neck as she gave him a loving kiss.

"See!" she said, "mamma has given me two Easter eggs. I'll give one to you, Harry—the prettiest one, too, because you can't run about as I can, poor Harry!"

O how ashamed Harry felt as his dear little sister offered him the prettiest of the two he had picked out for her because they were the ugliest, chatting away all the time!

"Or, I'll give you both. Mamma says this is Easter Sunday, when Christ arose from the grave to show people the way to heaven. And he loves little children, and he wants them to love one another."

"O Jessie!" said Harry, "I'll take your eggs, but I'll give you mine, every one. Yes, you must take them."

She had to, for Harry would have it so. She ran out in the garden to find a few snowdrops to put beside his breakfast, and carried them to him, singing like a bird: "Little children, love one another."—Sunbeam.

Our choicest offerings we bring
To Thee, this day, Oh Christ, our King,
And lay them at Thy feet.
Our hands hold lillies fair, to grace
The alters of the holy place,
Fair lillies, pure and sweet,

LEAVES FROM THE BRANCHES.

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

FREDERICTON—The Mission Circle reports an increase in membership and also in interest this year, largely the result, we think, of the faithfulness of the officers.

This Circle held a Concert on Wednesday, March 1st, when an excellent program was provided and the funds very materially increased.

TAY—The Pansy Band is doing good work—meets regularly, reports regularly and has now eighteen members, instead of the eleven of a few months ago.

A few months ago we kept with joy the birth-day of our Lord, when love prompted the gifts which made our Christmas present to Jesus. Does not the Easter-tide bring, perhaps, even a greater joy in the thought that because He lives we shall live also? Then let us joyfully present our Easter Thank Offering which will bring comfort and hope to some of God's suffering little ones, remembering that He hath said: "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

Fredericton.

E. E. C.

Nova Scotia and Newfoundland Branch.

DARTMOUTH—The Secretary writes,—“The Buds of Promise Mission Band is ‘all right’ as the male members would say. They turn out forty strong to every meeting. That shows interest. On Feb. 10th a meeting of special attraction took the form of a union of the Woodlawn and Dartmouth Bands, when Woodlawn came three miles on the coldest day this winter to be present at a Band meeting. A duet by two Chinese boys formed a unique feature of the programme. We cannot tell all the good times we are having, nor how much we want to send the Gospel to girls and boys who have never heard of Jesus. But we want to do what we can.

KINGSTON.—“Stars of Knight Band is pleased to report progress. Shortly before Christmas a box containing five quilts, cards, literature, etc., was sent to the “Supply Committee.”

On Jan. 24th fifty friends gathered at a Social. A good programme was provided, and a simple lunch served, which added five dollars to the funds.”

Halifax,

MARCIA B. BRAINE,
Band Sec'y.

Montreal Conference Branch.

WINCHESTER.—E. F. Mill, Cor. Sec'y writes: We are pleased to be able to give an encouraging report of our Mizpah Mission Circle.

The past year has proved one of advancement in attendance and increased interest in mission work. We have adopted the plan of appointing our programme committee each month and that together with the Watch Tower is proving an interesting feature of our meeting. We find in this part of the work the Honorary members are taking a very active part

At Christmas we sent a box of clothing to the Deaconess Home, Toronto, which was well received.

The proceeds of an “At Home” and a Concert recently held amounted to \$21.85.

The Honorary as well as the Active members of our Circle have been collecting used stamps for the Rev. S. Y. Bartlett and already 3,088 have been forwarded.

Under the presidency of Mrs. Palmer, an enthusiastic worker, the outlook is most encouraging.

A Mission Band has been organized at Elizabeth Town, Ontario.

Iroquois, Ont.

E. S. BAILEY.

Toronto Conference Branch.

Mrs. John Ward, Cor. Sec'y writes: The Askin Street Mission Circle is pleased to report an increase financially last year, having raised \$83.50. Of this sum \$13.13 was by special collection in aid of the Jennie Ford Memorial Home. We have a membership of 72, ten of whom are life members,

In November last we sent a barrel of goods to Christian Is. valued at \$20. Amongst other things it contained 5 quilts, most of which were pieced by our Junior members. We think this very good for our first attempt.

Last week in place of our regular meeting, we held an open one, in the Lecture Room of the Church. The leading feature of which was an original piece entitled, “A plea for the Nations” written by our President, Mrs. Douglas. All who heard it were much pleased and could not help being better acquainted with the needs of those countries represented. Our regular monthly meetings are held at the homes of the different members, and are usually bright and well attended. We are hoping that our interest in this good work may be increased during the present year.

A new Mission Band has been organized at Allandale called “Willing Workers Band.” President, Miss Lillie Arnold; Cor. Sec. Miss Pauline Cummings.

We are pleased to report also a Mission Band at Trinity Methodist Church, Toronto, called “Trinity Band.” Pres. Miss M. E. Good; Cor. Sec. Miss Maud Philips.

4 St. James Ave. Toronto.

M. HALES.

Orders for PALM BRANCH to be sent—not to Miss Ogden, but to Miss S. E. Smith, 282 Princess Street, St. John, N. B. Single copies for the year 20 cents.