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W. B. M. U. TIDINGS.

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS PER YEAR.

Vol. 4.

Amherst, N. S., Feb., 1897.

No. 37.

MOTTO FOR THE YEAR.

"Workers together with Him."

PRAYER TOPIC.

For Mr. and Mrs. Corey and Miss Clarke, that many souls may be won to Christ in Kimedya through their efforts. That Miss Clark's health may be completely restored.

Suggested Programme for March.

five per cent, or one dollar for every twenty received.

HYMN.

PRAYER by the leader. All joining in "The Lord's Prayer" at the close.

SCRIPTURE reading, responsive, Rev.

7:9—17.

HYMN.

READING, "Tidings."

PRAYER.

SEVERAL readings on China, Africa, Japan.

PRAYER for these countries.

HYMN.

MINUTES of last meeting.

CLOSING prayer.

At the meeting in February, let the leader select a committee of three, who will look up short readings on these different countries and who will distribute them to others to read.

Leaflets on the mission work in the above named countries, can be obtained from Miss Myra Black, Amherst.

This "News Committee" is proving a great success in the Dartmouth Aid Society. The new President introduced it there in the autumn.

Please notice and remember when remitting money to the Treasurer of the W. B. M. U., not to send American currency, as it means a direct loss of

MARY SMITH,
Treas. W. B. M. U.

Parla Kimedi.

DEAR SISTERS,—It is just two years since we arrived in India, then everything was new and strange and I wondered if ever I should get used to the many disagreeable sights that we saw every day and the constant thud of the tom-toms which to our western ears sounded like anything but music. Today Mrs. Corey and I were talking over our first impressions and wondering how our new missionaries who are nearing the shores of India would be impressed; now our eyes and ears have got used to the sights and sounds and they do not seem so dreadful.

In this letter I am going to try and give you a glimpse of life on tour. Akultampara was my place of residence, from there I visited five other villages. One year and a half ago I spent four days there but then my vocabulary was decidedly limited so I did not get very well acquainted with the people.

I lived in the little church building which is right in the street. The people were living on all sides of me so I had the benefit of all the noise

The church is about 14 by 20, feet, has a mud floor raised a foot at one end, the windows are simply holes with bars across close enough to keep dogs out but cats wander in and out at pleasure, at nights bats innumerable kept the air in motion. I called them my punkah, they made me think of Dr. Judson's description of "Bat castle," a house that he lived in at one time.

From early morning until late at night the people came to see me and my furniture which consisted of a bed, table, chair, lamp, a few dishes, and a box in which I kept my food, this box has four legs which were kept in tins of water so that the ants could not get in. One day I was rather taken back when they asked about my idols. I assured them I had none, but they pointed to the dishes on the table and said, there they are. I explained that I did not worship them but used them for eating my food. They as a rule pile their food on a green leaf and always eat it with their fingers, so know nothing about knives and forks. The people never seemed to get tired watching me eat and crowded around the windows just as eagerly after I had been there three weeks as they did the first few days.

In the mornings I did not go out to the houses but spent my time talking to the people that came to see me. They listened very well, and I in turn listened to their trials which are more than usual this year because of the famine. We have had no rain yet and in that part of the district the rice crop is a complete failure.

There are some things that we cannot understand and this is one. No doubt it is for the good of the people but it is hard to witness the suffering of the many helpless children. Every afternoon Lizzie (the pastor's wife) and I went out to visit the people in their homes. Many women sent for us, and many who did not send seemed just as glad to see us, only at one or two houses were we refused a seat on the veranda.

I managed to visit every street in Akultampara, some twice over. Some of the villages were quite a distance away, at one all the children disappeared as soon as I arrived, they had never seen a white woman before, and it took quite a while for them to get over their fear enough to come out and see us.

In another village I counted one hundred and forty people as they gathered around us listening eagerly to the words of Life. After we made our salaams and started away, a man came up and spoke to me in English. He told me he was a christian and knew all about what we were saying, but that it was no use to talk to these Jungle people, they had never been away anywhere so did not know anything; he had been away somewhere and learned a little English. I tried to show him that the Lord had given him a great opportunity to work for Him right in that village, as we had more than two miles to go I had not much time to talk, but could not be sure that he really knew what salvation meant.

The evenings were spent in my room surrounded by the Christian women and others who came in. I would generally read a chapter that I felt would be helpful to them, then

have prayer before parting for the night.

One evening about nine o'clock two Brahmin women came to call and seemed very much interested in the words they heard, they did not stay long as it is quite an unusual thing for Brahmin women to be out on the street, they were afraid of being seen.

As to results, the people listened well, admitted that we had something that they knew nothing about, but cash is their great barrier, and our prayer is that many who have heard the word may have courage to confess Christ before all.

There is much of both joy and sorrow in the work, joy in telling the story, and sorrow that it is heeded so lightly. Dear Sisters, let us unite in our prayers for these women and all others that are in like darkness on this mission field, their name is legion.

Very Sincerely yours,
M. Clark.

Our Home Mission Finances

Are not as they should be. Up to date we have received \$283.00 this year, which is more than \$100.00 less than last year at the same date. When we met in Berwick last August, the delegates from the Aid Societies voted that we raise the following sums this year for Home Missions, viz:

North West Missions	\$ 600
Indian Work	100
Grande Ligne	400
Home Mis. N. S. and P. E. I.	300
" " New Brunswick	200
	—————
	\$1.600

Of this \$1,600, only \$283 has yet come in, and we are nearing the close

of the second quarter.

We call upon the Presidents and Secretaries of all our Societies, to bring this matter of Home Missions before the February meeting, and that immediate action be taken.

The Home Mission Committee have hesitated to ask one dollar per member for Home Missions, and yet there are many of our Societies who could do much more than this, and thus help those who are weak in numbers, and in the ability to give.

Sisters of our W. B. M. U., when you sent your delegates to the Annual meeting, you sent them with power to vote for you. Will you now fulfill the pledges made by you through your representatives? Remember the salaries of our Home Missionaries must be paid quarterly as well as those on the Foreign fields.

Any questions regarding our Home Mission work will be gladly answered by the undersigned.

AMY E. JOHNSTONE,
Convenor of H. M. Com.
Dartmouth, N. S.

Notes From Nova Scōtia.

We are sorry to learn that Mrs. P. R. Foster, our Secretary for Yarmouth Co., has been out of health for some weeks. We hope we shall soon hear better news. In Mrs. Foster's report of work accomplished just before her illness, we had the cheering news that "Mission work is looking up in Yar. Co."

Mrs. Foster's report appears in the "Link" and "Column" so we will only give here the Societies and Bands organized by her during the Autumn visiting.

Oct. 1896. At Overton a sec. of the

West Yarmouth Church, An Aid Society was formed with twelve members. Sec'y, Mrs. Allison Cole; Pres. Mrs. Isaac Killam.

On Nov. 9th 1896. In the North Temple and Ohio Church, an Aid Society was organized with seventeen members. Miss Judith Crosby, Sec'y; Mrs. P. S. McGregor, Pres.

The Prov. Secretary extends a hearty welcome to these new workers.

Also on Oct. 4th 1896. At Chegogin, a Mission Band was formed with 21 members. Sec'y, Miss Lennie Carey; Pres., Revd B. H. Thomas. And on the same day at Overton, a Band of 34 members was organized. Sec'y, Miss H. Carey; Pres., Miss Nellie Ross.

If possible, a still more hearty welcome is extended to these young workers. God bless them one and all.

In Digby County the Aid Society at New Tusket was re-organized in Nov. 1896. Miss E. May Sabean, Sec'y. Membership 12.

This Society was formerly the Havelock A. Society.

At Bass River January 1897, a Mission Band was formed by the Pastor's

wife, Mrs John Clark, with Mrs. Fulton as President. We hope soon to hear from this Band.

At Nictaux, West Ann Co., the Mission Band which was started last April with a membership of 14, now numbers 34. Under the leadership of Mrs. Norman Beckwith and Miss Hattie Morse, this Band is growing in more ways than in numbers.

Will every County Secretary in Nova Scotia bring the matter of Home Missions before your Societies?

I am anxious to hear from every Mission Band in the Province. Please write and let me know how you are progressing, and what you think is most needed to help you in your work.

Will the County Secretaries in the Eastern part of N. S. look after this Band work. Only two reported in the Eastern Association last year. viz: River Hebert and Antigonish. The former, "Cheerful Givers," the latter, "Little Helpers."

Amy E. Johnson

Prov. Sec'y N. S.

Dartmouth, N. S.