

The Woman's Missionary Society.

[This Department is in the interests of the W. M. Society. All communications for it should be addressed to Mrs. Jos. McLeod, Fredericton.]

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REPORT OF REV. J. N. BARNES.

To the Corresponding Secretary of the Woman's Mission Society:

DEAR SISTER,—According to appointment we began work on the Tobique river. We had one meeting at Rowena. Our next stand was at Riley Brook, where we spent two Sabbaths. Had a number of meetings, and succeeded in getting a good, large society among the women, and a Mission Band; we also organized a Band at Nictau, and started a Cradle Roll at both places. We visited all the families and prayed in all but one. This is a very promising part of the field. The pastor, Bro. Bell, is much encouraged in his work. It is ten years since I visited this part of the river; the improvement in that time is very great, but there remains yet much to be done. Brother Bell is working very hard; he has far too much field to work—over forty-five miles of a pastorate. We next moved down to Dow Flat, about twelve miles. Had three meetings there; started a Cradle Roll, visited all the families, prayed, with nearly all. On Friday left for Burnt Land Brook; was much encouraged, succeeded in organizing a Woman's Society and a good Mission Band. We had one meeting at Long Island and Plaster Rock, but did no organizing. Arthurette was the next point reached. Had meetings on the last Sabbath in the month—morning and evening, and at Read Settlement in the afternoon. Organized a large Mission Band at Arthurette on Monday of seventeen members. This ended the month's work, which I consider a very profitable one, for more reasons than one. In my visiting I found a number of precious souls very ready to receive the help I could render them, and some found peace in believing. It was like cold water to the thirsty soul.

We shall (D. V.) continue here a few days yet, as there is more work to do in this section.

Summary of work for the month: Families visited, 70; prayed with, 58; meetings held, 17; Sabbath school meetings, 4; Woman's Societies organized, 2; Mission Bands organized, 4; Cradle Rolls organized, 3; miles travelled, 272; cash collected, \$12.55.

J. N. BARNES.

Arthurette, Nov. 3, 1904.

ANSWER TO PRAYER.

BY REV. J. M. COLDREN.

I have been requested to repeat an account of how God answered prayer. Some years ago, I don't remember the exact date, the whole denomination was asked to pray for me and my work, and workers at Chandbali. Before this call in the *Free Baptist and Morning Star* had reached us in India, the day for prayer had arrived. I remember very well, when I got up in the morning, the room seemed filled with a mighty presence, and I was filled with

the Spirit beyond anything I had witnessed before. The very air seemed surcharged with this blessed influence, and I had much faith and hope given me. Bro. Rama Jenna, and Caleb, came to me with great rejoicing and said: "Bro. Coldren, what is this?" I never felt such a power on me before. It just seemed as though all India was soon to be converted. We went into the prayer meeting, and the blessed influence was there, and during a season of prayer, one Hindu teacher fell down on his face and began to plead for mercy. When he arose his face fairly shone, and several others were deeply affected, and the whole church was quickened, and the work helped in many ways. A few days later the papers came from home bringing the announcement of the call to prayer. Then it was clear to me, for that wonderful blessing was simply an answer to that call for prayer in our behalf. Dear Christian friends, you do not realize what a power you might be in India, even though you are so poor you can neither go or spare any money to send. Remember the prayer of the righteous availeth much, neither is it limited to distance or time. Now this is the month of special prayer for India, and in our own field let us, as Free Baptist Christians, not forget our workers. They certainly need our prayers.

A MISSIONARY'S WILL.

It could not but be that the late Francois Coillard should refer in his will to the work of the mission on the Zambesi, which for many years had been the one absorbing concern of his life. Hence one of the clauses in his last testament was to the following effect:

"On the threshold of eternity and in the presence of my God, I solemnly bequeath to the churches of France, my native land, the care of the work of the Lord in Barotsiland, and in his holy name I adjure them never to relinquish it—and thus to despise and renounce the rich harvest that is in reserve as the fruition of seed sown in suffering and tears."

These are words from the heart of a great missionary, and they are in harmony with the urgent command of the Master, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." Are we touched by the will of the servant? With how much greater eagerness should we act on the marching orders of the great Captain of our salvation?

TO RESCUE THE HEATHEN.

Once when the venerable Dr. Duff, the returned missionary from India, was addressing a great crowd at Edinburgh, with his accustomed fervid eloquence, he fainted in the midst of his speech. When he recovered he looked about him, and said to those who stood by his bed:

"I was speaking for India, was I not?"

They said he was.

"Take me back, then," he exclaimed, "take me back, that I may finish my speech!"

In spite of reasonings and remonstrances, back he went, and, lifting up his voice once more, he asked:

"Is it true that we have been sending appeal after appeal for young men to go to India, and none of our sons have gone? Is it true that Scotland have no more sons to give to the Lord Jesus? If true, although I have spent twenty-five years there, and lost my constitution, I will be off to-morrow, and go to the shores of the Ganges, and there will be a witness for Christ!"

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General Religious News. Increasing by Millions!

—No less than 2,900 sermons by Chas. H. Spurgeon are in printed form, and there is a constant demand for them.

—The Congregationalists of the United States report that last year 1,082 of their churches were not cared for in any way whatever, although 2,113 of their ministers were without charges.

—The freethinkers have been in evidence at Rome and at St. Louis this season. We wonder if they have remembered that, a century ago, there were not over a hundred foreign missionaries, while now there are fifteen thousand four hundred at work, with other thousands to follow.

—Speaking at a recent meeting, Mr. R. W. Perks, the father of the Twentieth Century Fund movement of the English Wesleyan Church, said that now that that fund was out of the way, he intended to direct all of his efforts toward Methodist union. He announces himself as very hopeful of the outcome, and considers that the opposition is not representative of the real sentiment of either ministers or people.

—Since George Muller founded his Orphan Homes in Bristol, England, 63 years ago, \$5,712,395 have been given for their maintenance, and \$2,088,065 for other charitable and religious objects connected with these institutions, all of which was raised "as the result of prayer to God, without any one having been personally applied to for anything." The income last year was nearly \$200,000, and 308 orphans were received.

—The work of the evangelists, Dr. Torrey and Mr. Alexander, is now outlined for a year ahead. This month they are spending at Cardiff, Wales. From there they go to Liverpool, where a three months' mission will be conducted in a building seating 11,000 people. In February they go to London, where five months will be given to evangelistic labor. July and August will be spent in the United States, and then

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1900,	- - -	\$4,894,874
1901,	- - -	5,502,069
1902,	- - -	6,542,569
1903,	- - -	7,764,542

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the evangelists will return for a final four months' campaign, ending with a carefully planned mission at Oxford University.

—There is an earnest body of Christian people, calling themselves "The Society of Soul Winners," who occupy themselves with undenominational religious work in the mountain regions of the South. This field includes 86,000 square miles of mountains with 2,600,000 inhabitants, nearly all of Scotch-Irish and Anglo-Saxon descent. Nearly half of these people dwell in regions so remote as to be unreached as yet by any of the Home Mission Boards, and it was with a deep sense of the needs of these scattered peoples that in 1897 a little company of men and women undertook to reach them along lines more nearly those of the Sabbath School Union and the Bible Society than of denominational missions. From one evangelist, with which the work began, in five years the number has increased to 68. None of them are paid more than a bare living, many receiving only \$15 and not one more than \$30 a month. The society is supported entirely by voluntary offerings.