

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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NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS.

Dear Sisters,—Permit me to extend to you through "our column" very cordial wishes for a Happy New Year. May 1905 bring more true worshippers than any of its predecessors.

"Time flies, and draws us with it," and we have each again launched our frail barque upon a yearly voyage. We need not fear the rocks nor tempests, if the Master's hand is at the helm, and we should be glad of the new beginning with its fresh resolutions for better work. We have learned to look for kindness and goodness in all our paths, so we go forward with glad hope and expectation.

It is said that every word whispered upon the air starts vibrations, which will go on and on forever. The same is true also of influences which go out from our lives in the commonest days—they will go on forever. This should make us most careful what we do, what we say, and what quality of life we give to those about us.

Oh, how it behoves us so to live, and toil each year, that when there is a summing up of all the years we may hear from the Master's lips the commendation "Well done." While we have tried to do something to help on this great work in redeeming the world for Christ, we feel that we ought to have been more faithful and active, and, personally, I feel that I should have done much more.

He wills us to be His instruments. Shall we give Him anything but the best? In this new year shall we not take up the work with renewed vigor, resolved, in His strength, that we shall do greater work for Him? "Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of Hosts."

We must press forward in the assurance that the Gospel will accomplish its end. Any cause that is good is sufficient reason to call for advance. To each of us falls some part in giving Christ to the world. "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might." "Fear thou not for I am with thee; be not dismayed for I am thy God; I will strengthen thee; yea I will help thee; yea I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

Perhaps some sister asks, What can do? Watch for an opportunity for seed-sowing, and pray that the good seed may grow. Quiet personal work done for His sake can never be wasted. "A word in season how good it is." Some are

hindered by the fear of the world, from which let us pray to be delivered. Some undervalue their own influence. Let such remember "I cannot do everything, but what I can do I will do."

Dear sisters, we need to do much earnest, consecrated work. Let us give unto Him the best, and may it be said of each one, "she hath done what she could."

With best wishes for all the days,

Sincerely yours,

AUGUSTA SLIPP.

Central Hampstead, January, 1905.

A BOY ON MISSIONS.

Perhaps no similar statement of the missionary obligation can be given than that which forms the concluding sentence of a small boy's composition on "Missions." "It's my opinion that all the folks in the world what has got the Bible ought to send it to all the folks in the world what hasn't got it." There may be some exception taken to the grammar, but it would be hard work to misunderstand the meaning or to upset the simple logic of that simple statement. Isn't that just it?

Mission Notes and News

The Young Men's Christian Association has spread steadily in Japan since it was introduced a few years ago, and now forms a national union of 2,600 members in seven city associations and fifty-two college associations.

Sons of a Mohammedan governor in Egypt are now receiving their education in one of the schools of the United Presbyterian Church (U. S.) in that country. British occupation and Presbyterian schools are proving good things for the land of the Pharaohs.

One Christian man attributes his conversion to the lecture of a Buddhist priest. The lecture was one round of abuse of Christianity, and as the man listened he decided he would go and find out for himself what it was that was so dreadful in the "Jesus doctrine." He went not once, but many times, and ere long became a follower of Jesus.

A number of temples have recently been turned into government schools, the idols being publicly burned. If the missions can rise to the opportunity, most of the thoughtful Chinese will gladly place their children in Christian schools. The officials, too, are now taking stringent measures for the suppression of footbinding.

Rev. J. H. Morrison went to India in 1838. His children and grand and great grandchildren, and all the daughters-in-law and sons-in-law, have made up an aggregate of three hundred years of work in India, given by his family—a tribute, indeed, to the value of missionary children.

It is now announced that every African tribe from the mouth of the Congo to Stanley Falls, a thousand miles in the interior, has the Bible in its own language. About 9,000 converts are gathered in the various native

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churches, Christian schools are planted in hundreds of villages and native seminaries for the training of Christian workers are established.

Presbyterian missionaries report that in Japan, Buddhism is studying and adapting Christian methods, forming Young Men's Associations, establishing great schools, inviting Christians and even missionaries to take their place among the lecturers to the students. The Buddhists are hoping to capture the secret of the energy and the power of Christianity. When they have found that secret they will no longer be Buddhists but Christians.

Less than 30 years ago (1875) Stanley gave King Mtesa, of Uganda, his first lesson in Christian doctrine. At that time there was not a Christian in all Central Africa. This year the *London Times*, in the regular course of its news, publishes an account of the consecration of the great Christian cathedral, built by the Uganda church, at Mengo, which was formerly King Mtesa's capital. Ten thousand native Christian Ugandans attended the consecration services.

The governor of the Shantung Province in China, who rules over thirty millions of people, lately requested a missionary to procure for him a copy of the New Testament. The British and Foreign Bible Society responded by sending him 200. The governor proposes to present them to his official subordinates for their study, being persuaded that if they knew more of the Christian religion the anti-Christian feeling would soon disappear.—*Ex.*

A few years ago the pupils of a certain Japanese high school mobbed the home of two English missionary women, breaking their window and shying stones at the ladies themselves. A few weeks ago a B. F. Bible Society agent visited that high school, was courteously treated, sold Bibles and Testaments to the students, and his biggest Bible to the school library. Something deeper than mere curiosity as to Western knowledge underlies such a change of sentiment in an out-of-the-way town in Japan.

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—Rev. J. G. Shearer, Secretary of the Dominion Lord's Day Alliance, spent Sunday in Fredericton, preaching in the Presbyterian and Methodist churches, and addressing a meeting in the Sunday school room of the Free Baptist church in the afternoon. Mr. Shearer is doing excellent work in behalf of Lord's Day observance.

TRIP TO EUROPE.—The Rev. Dr. Withrow's Programme of Travel for 1905 has come to hand. It is a handsomely illustrated pamphlet. It will be sent free on application. See advt.

—A brewer donates \$200 to an orphanage, and is thanked for his generosity. Nothing is said of the fact that but for the business out of which the money was made there would be need of fewer orphanages.

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