

W. B. M. U.

MOTTO FOR THE YEAR:

"We are laborers together with God."

Contributors to this column will please address Mrs. J. W. MANNING, 178 Wentworth Street, St. John, N. B.

PRAYER TOPIC FOR JULY.

For our Home Mission work in these Provinces that the laborers may be greatly encouraged and a host be won to the Lord.

Notes From Our Western and Central Associations.

The Vestry at Milton on Saturday afternoon was crowded when the delegates and friends met in our Associational gathering. On the platform were our County Secretaries from Yarmouth, Queens and Annapolis; Mrs. P. R. Foster, Mrs. L. H. Burnaby, and Mrs. J. W. Brown, with Miss Gray.

The Provincial Secretary presided and the meeting was opened with singing, reading the scripture by Mrs. Burnaby, and prayer. Then followed an earnest, warm-hearted address of welcome from Mrs. Cook of Milton, to which Miss Steadman of Mill Village replied.

The roll call of Aid Societies and Mission Bands was being called, when we received a message from the Association asking to adjourn in order to listen to the greetings from the Methodist Conference. While we all felt sorry to have our meeting disturbed, yet it was felt that we must comply with the invitation. On returning to the vestry, the room was again crowded, but by this time the afternoon was so far advanced that in order to allow our sisters to hear Miss Gray we were obliged to give up the hearing of the reports. This was a great disappointment, but such things will occur even in "the best regulated families." Miss Gray was listened to with much interest, though owing to the lateness of the hour there were constant interruptions, as one and another had to leave.

That meeting we believe will tell yet for the Master's glory. It belonged to him; He had been asked in faith to use it for Himself, and we believe He will, even though we cannot see the results.

Chester.

On our way to Chester Association we stopped at Bridgewater, and held a meeting on Wednesday evening. Though the notice was short, yet quite a number were present, and the service was enjoyed by all, and lasting impressions were made. We were hospitably entertained by Mrs. Trefey. It makes no difference whether you come by boat, train or from a thirty mile drive by coach, there is always a welcome and good cheer awaiting you in this home.

Our meeting was held in the audience room at Chester on Saturday afternoon. We had arranged to meet in the Vestry; but on Saturday morning learned that some of the brethren wished our meeting to be upstairs and were willing to adjourn the Association for that purpose. This had been done the year before, but we had thought only because our place of meeting was unsuitable, and with no thought on our part of the arrangements becoming permanent. Many of our sisters do not feel at free to take part as when by ourselves; and it does seem as though the matter should be freely discussed before this arrangement becomes permanent.

The meeting was a good one. The presence of the Holy Spirit was felt. We opened with the usual prayer and praise. Miss Vienotte reading the scripture and Mrs. Nalder offering prayer. Not much time could be given to reports, not as much as we had hoped for. But those who spoke had the work at heart, and the cause is growing. Mrs. Simpson of Berwick gave us a splendid paper on "Consecration in Mission Work." That every one in the large audience was interested, was evidenced in the intense eager attention with which every one listened. That some were lifted to a higher plane of service we know. Our Publication Committee should not fail to have this address printed in leaflet form. All our Societies should read it. A short address was given by Mrs. Read of New Germany, our new Secretary for Lunenburg County. Her earnest words were good to hear, and meant much for the future work. Miss Gray spoke to us of the work in India, and asked for the prayers and sympathy of all, as she goes back to her work in September.

One great cause of rejoicing in this meeting was that our sister Mrs. Martell was able to be with us, and those who listened to her, could only thank God that He had answered our prayers for her recovery. We could not be too grateful that she was with us; and only ask that she may be fully restored to health. A solo from Mrs.

Foreign Missions.

Crandall was enjoyed by all. The service closed with prayer, and the benediction by the Moderator.

Many thanked God for this meeting, may it tell to His glory, in increased service.

The collections were as follows.—At Milton, \$5.60; at Bridgewater, \$1.04; at Chester, \$11.65; Total \$18.29; forwarded to Mrs. Smith, Treasurer.

On the first Sunday in May we had the joy of administering the ordinance of Baptism. Two believers thus put on Christ in the presence of a large company of interested witnesses; with these two, there were received into church fellowship, two others on experience, another is now seeking admission by letter, there is enquiry on the part of some. We feel that the Lord is helping us in our efforts, may it please Him to call many to righteousness, now, while the pressure of famine is upon the land. When the multitudes are needy and helpless surely they ought to seek the Lord.

R. SANFORD.

The Point de Bute, N. B., W. M. A. S. held a public meeting in the Baptist church Sunday evening, July 4th. A programme consisting of music, recitations, readings and addresses by Mrs. Smith, Treasurer, W. B. M. U. and Dr. Steele was given. A collection amounting to \$10.50 was taken at the close.

SAC'Y.

Forest Glen Society.

On Friday evening, July 2nd, it was my privilege to visit the W. M. A. S. at Forest Glen. A short meeting with the society was held after which a public meeting took place. A programme consisting of addresses, recitations and music, was carried out and a pleasant evening spent. At the close of the meeting a collection for foreign missions, amounting to \$7.00, was taken. If every one of our societies would put forth the same effort that the few at Forest Glen did, our funds would be considerably increased. What we need is earnest, united and consecrated effort. No sacrifice made for the master can ever be in vain. So my sisters, let us one and all, endeavour to work more earnestly during the next half-year than we have in the one just closed.

Yours in the work,

Moncton, July 6th.

FLORA CLARKE,
Sec'y. West. Co.

Foreign Mission Board.

NOTES BY THE SECRETARY.

At a meeting of the Foreign Mission Board held on the 7th inst, the resignation of Rev. W. V. Higgins, as our missionary to the Telugus of India, was read and reluctantly accepted by the Board. Mr. Higgins is released from any obligation to the Board, and the Board from any financial obligation to him after July 15th. The Foreign Mission Board has been very desirous that Bro. Higgins should return to India in the early autumn, and could think of nothing else, so far as he was concerned. After due deliberation he has reached the conclusion that the health of his wife is such as to preclude her living in India, and with this before him he has not seen his way clear to go there by himself, with slight, if any, prospect of his wife being able to follow him in the near future. That he has acted conscientiously in the matter, according to the best light at his disposal, none of us who know the man, can doubt. We are sorry, exceedingly so. His decision is a great grief to the Board, but we cannot help the matter. We have done our best to have it otherwise. The work in which we are engaged is God's work, and the workmen are His also. To Him, therefore as 'the Lord of the harvest, let us look for laborers.

We should send out another family this autumn. As it looks to the Board there should be two instead of one, but if two cannot be found, then one this and another next year. Mr. Higgins expects to enter the pastorate in these Provinces as soon as a suitable opening presents itself. Here is a chance for a good church to get a good man. The appointment of missionaries is a very delicate duty which devolves upon the Foreign Mission Board.

Physical, mental and spiritual qualifications must be considered. Not every one who has a desire to go as a foreign missionary ought to go. David wanted to build the temple, but God only wanted him to prepare the materials that another might build. Some who want to go to foreign fields ought to stay at home and stir up the people to give, that others better suited than themselves may go. A brother, who is himself sickly or has a feeble wife, presses, urges and begs to be allowed to go, and if the request is granted, it is likely that in two or three years he is back home, having spent some two or three thousand dollars mostly in long sea voyages and tiresome

journeys. Those who sent him have become discouraged, and the work is hindered. We need our healthiest, strongest, most earnest, patient, hopeful men on the foreign field. Simple desire to go does not necessarily constitute a call. Thus writes the secretary of the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, and the views thus expressed are those held by the F. M. B. of the Baptist Convention of the Maritime Provinces.

The policy of the Board is to make diligent inquiry in reference to the one applying for appointment. The most accurate information is sought from all sources, especially from the teachers and intimate friends of the applicant, is the information to be sought. The consequences are of such a nature that the most reliable information from these sources should be conscientiously given. Men of unquestioned piety, good common sense and healthy bodies are wanted. Men of strong faith and hope with prudence, patience and energy, these are the men that are sought. The mission field is not the place for a coward, a sluggard or a pessimist. The duties and responsibilities are so great that it requires all the faculties to be on the alert. Strong bodies, large brains and great hearts are all put to the test. Anybody will not do for a foreign missionary. He ought to be the best endowment man among us. His duties call for the exercise of the greatest variety of talent. The work of a foreign missionary will tax the best energy of brain and brawn and heart. God give us such men. They are greatly needed just now. Never more so.

The Holy Spirit not only quickens the sensibilities, but enlightens the understanding. The effects of the Spirit's operation are intellectual as well as emotional. The Spirit teaches us to think as well as to feel. It is light as well as heat.—Sel.

Faith draws the poison from every grief, takes the sting from every loss, and quenches the fire of every pain, and only faith can do it.—Holland.

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