

Foreign Missions.

W. B. M. U.

"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 APRIL.

For our Grande Ligne Mission, also that the French work in these provinces may be greatly blessed in the salvation of souls.

Our sister, Mrs. Grenier, wife of the French missionary in Weymouth, Nova Scotia, writes:

Just a few items concerning our labors will perhaps prove useful to you. We are holding cottage meetings in Catholic homes and we see good resulting from them. Last Saturday evening one man took his stand for Christ, and on Sunday at our meeting in the church a young man made a start also. One man was baptized a few weeks ago and is proving very faithful, and we hope he will be a great help to us. We also have another case of a man who is coming to the light. At present he is lying very ill with grip, but we visit him in his home and bring him the comforting words of Christ. His children have given up going to the Catholic church. Our prayers are being heard and we praise the Lord for it. Our hearts are being cheered. Many Catholics attend our meetings in the church and more especially in the cottage meetings. Our people are very poor and have had a hard time this severe winter; we have helped them all we could so they could attend the meetings. When the warm weather sets in we hope to be able to resume our Sunday School. Most of the parents do not know how to read but we read to them. The children go to school and learn how to read. I give them leaflets when I have any and they are delighted.

An old Acadian woman who attended our meetings (as often as the distance and circumstances would permit) was taken suddenly ill. Mr. Grenier was sent for, he visited her, read and prayed with her, Catholics being present; the dear soul kept repeating passages of the Scriptures which she had heard, for she was unable to read. Finally she grew worse and the neighbors called in the priest, but he could not win her back to her former faith for she had accepted Christ as her Saviour. The priest never returned to her, but Mr. Grenier visited her until the end came. At the funeral all the Catholic neighbors were in attendance, and then followed the remains to the cemetery which was quite a distance away and it was pouring rain. Another case, a young man who also attended our meetings and was converted. He took ill and sent for Mr. Grenier who went to read and pray with him. I also had the privilege of talking to him about his eternal welfare, and found him happy, anxiously awaiting the summons. He said on one occasion, "How I long to go." We said, "Do you suffer much pain?" "No," said he, "but I thought I would have been gone by this time." He thanked Mr. Grenier for visiting him and for pointing him to Christ. I shall never forget his happy, sweet expression all through his illness, which lasted but a few weeks.

These are but instances of our success, much quiet work is going on in the hearts of the people. We trust God will still use us, his humble servants, to further his cause. We hold meetings as regularly as weather and the roads will allow. We have to go great distances to visit our people so our time is well employed. We read and pray and converse quite freely. The people are polite and receive us well, and I trust that they know us better they are not so prejudiced. Asking God's blessing upon you all and the work I remain, Your sister in Christ, J. GRENIER.

NOTICE.—There was a mistake in the address of Mrs. Simpson, County Secretary for Kings. It should be Mrs. D. H. Simpson, Berwick, N. S.

Valley Church, Surrey, N. B.

The twenty-first anniversary of the W. M. A. Society was celebrated on Wednesday, March 15. During the afternoon the members of the Society congregated in the vestry, each bringing two friends with her. At 5 p. m. tea was served, to which the speakers for the evening service, the pastor, the deacons and the choir were invited. It was a very enjoyable time, about forty being present. The intervening time was spent in social chat, interspersed with music, after which we repaired to the audience room of the church, where an enthusiastic meeting was held, presided over by our pastor, Rev. J. Miles. The meeting opened with music by the choir, Scripture reading and prayer by Rev. T. Allan (Methodist). The annual reports were read by the Treasurer and Secretary. Very able and earnest addresses were given by Revs. C. W. Town-

send and S. W. Keirstead. "A recitation, "How we paid the Foreign Mission Debt," by Laura Miles, and an exercise, "Cast thy bread upon the Waters," by Mary Lowthers and Lily Mollins, aided us greatly in passing a very pleasant and we trust a profitable evening. Collection for Home Missions \$5.25. After a few remarks by Rev. Mr. Allen and our pastor the meeting closed by singing "Only remembered by what I have done." We trust that our meeting together at this time may awaken a deeper interest, and that some talents which hitherto have been lying dormant may be brought to the front and utilized for the Master. A. E.

Greenville W. M. A. Society.

Our Society has been organized four years on June 18 next, but we have only reported once through your column. We are progressing fairly well. Have had one new member since the new year came in. Have been able to hold all our regular monthly meetings through the winter, although sometimes they would be quite small on account of sickness. We lost one sister last fall by death. Our pastor's wife is a great help to us in our meetings. We planned having a public missionary meeting for the last three months, but failed on account of sickness. We hope to have one soon. Yours in the work. MRS. E. S. WILLIAMS, Sec'y.

Foreign Mission Board.

NOTES BY THE SECRETARY.

Wanted 100,000 Missionaries for Africa.

This is the appeal to the home church which comes from Livingstonia, British Central Africa.

The missionaries write: "Doors are open on every side at which we helplessly look, unable to enter. Where, from the arrival of the white man with God's message, there has ever been stolid indifference or even fierce opposition; today there come deputations of old men and young saying, "We, too, would learn; send us teachers." We sit before them and say, "Fathers, brothers, would that we were able. But you must wait and God will send his messengers some day." And they say, "We have waited and waited, why do you despise us?" Our heads are bowed when we reply, "Brothers sometime you, too, will hear." Day by day we cry, "Lord of the harvest, thou seest the fields; send, Lord, ere it be too late."

The appeal continues: "But surely this call is too extravagant! No, it is the only method of evangelization. For this must not be the work of the few, but of the many—of all. Every member of the church must feel that he is an integral part of the missionary force. Every member can have his share in the redemption of Africa. We know that all cannot, must not go to foreign lands. Would that the slightest indication of such a danger were visible! But this is a spiritual work. It recognizes no boundaries of sea or land, and some who never left home have been among Africa's best evangelists. What then may you do to help forward this triumphant march of God?"

1. Live. There should be no isolation in this work of the kingdom. Running throughout the world God has unbroken lines of communication through which he flashes power. Rome is lit with electricity which is generated in the Albani hills. So God takes the life and fire of the church at home and sends it forth into the most distant and isolated parts of the world. So you may contribute in no slight measure to the salvation of Africa. If you are careless, forgetful, prayerless we shall soon feel the weary chill of your life. But if in devotion to Christ you pour yourself out for Africa's redemption, we, too, shall know the thrill of your consecration. Though Zinzendorf found his home in Europe, yet his labors live this day in every continent of the world.

2. Pray. The true mystical connection, by way of God, between the home and foreign fields has been traced by every missionary who abides in Christ. Mary Moffat wrote thus, "Oh for a more general spirit of prayer and supplication! I hear from my friend, Miss Lees, that the very time of the awakening here was the season of extraordinary prayer among the churches at home." Even Paul felt the increased power when the church followed him with prayer. His appeal is in the most intense language, "I beseech you, brethren, for the Lord Jesus Christ's sake, and for the love of the Spirit, that ye strive together with me in your prayers to God for me." Our appeal then is for 100,000 men and women who live in obedience to God and will fulfil their ministry of intercession in our behalf. With such a backing of prayer one man shall become a thousand and the noon-day of Christ shall soon appear.

3. Give. It is not to the liberal rich we appeal, but to the 100,000 who give nothing or little, and so lose one of their most blessed privileges. There is no over drain on the liberality of the common Christian. It is a shame if Christ's work among the heathen is to be handicapped while 100,000 ordinary Christians mispend their savings giving never a thought to the call of Christ. If word came to you that Christ was in chains in Africa, and required a ransom is there one disciple of the Lord who would not gladly give all to set him free? Is he not in chains? In these little ones who lie in darkness can you not see the brothers of Christ—nay Christ himself? "Inasmuch as ye did it unto one of the least of these my brethren ye did it unto me." Two cents a week from 100,000 new missionaries will mean an increase of contributions to missions of over \$100,000 a year. Can you not help and you will never

miss it? Never miss it! Am I only to give to God that which I shall never miss? Nay! Let me give until I feel that I am giving, then God will bless me for entering into the sacrifice of Christ. Do you not believe in foreign missions? What if Christ does? Has He not given tokens of His approval? Perhaps you never thought about it. Yes, that is it. You do not see the scared and bestial faces. You do not hear the wail to the threatening spirits. You do not see the valleys dotted over with villages where God is not known, and where men and women have no higher thoughts or hopes than their goats; where they live for food and lust, then creep into the dark to die. We see, we hear, and we cry. "Brothers pity those who live and perish in the dark."

We might almost fancy that those words were written by our own little band of missionaries in India. And India might be substituted for Africa. It is a moving appeal, somebody will hear it. For this reason it has been given a place in this column. There are so many who do nothing for these lost ones—all of whom might do something. Brethren hear the cry of the perishing, and send your answer promptly, and other cries which you do well to heed. But what are these after all compared with the need, the awful need of our fellows dying in the dark, going out into a night without the promise of a dawn. Surely the Baptists of these Provinces ought to double what they are doing for this work. What is wanted is a spirit of consecration.

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