

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 OCTOBER

For God's blessing upon our missionaries going to India, that they may have a pleasant passage and the continual presence of the Master. For a revival of missionary zeal among our pastors and churches and a larger ingathering of souls at all our mission stations.

Bridgetown, N. S.

Some time has passed since you have heard from our Aid Society. We are making some progress along the line of missionary work. God has given us many rich blessings. New members have recently come into our Society, using their talents, time and means in the service of Christ. Thursday, Oct. 12th, was observed as Crusade day. In the afternoon we held our prayer meeting in the vestry of the church; the power of the Holy Spirit was manifest. In the evening we held our public meeting. A large number were present. A pleasing and profitable programme had been arranged. Two excellent papers were read, stirring our hearts to more earnest work. The readings, recitations, music and dialogue were selections in line with the subject of the meeting. Rev. E. B. Moore and wife cheered us by their presence as well as their helpful words. Our thank-offering amounted to \$18. We thank the Master for the God-given opportunities of working for him.

"Once, ah, we sigh! but we never can stop;
What is life for but to work till we drop?
Only one thought, to rise to the top,
As the years go by."

A. L. DIXON, Sec'y.

St. Stephen, N. B.

I herewith send you a short account of our public meeting held in the vestry of our church on the evening of Oct. 12th, to observe Crusade day. The meeting was led by our President, Mrs. J. B. Robinson. Meeting opened with hymn, "Jesus shall reign," followed by the reading of the 115th Psalm by Miss Wright, which she said she had read so many times in India; prayer was offered by Rev. Mr. Newcombe; singing by a quartette of young men; the president gave a short account of the missionary meeting she had attended at Fredericton; secretary gave the report of the work done by our Society during the past year; Miss Addie Wry sang a solo very sweetly; our pastor gave an historical sketch of our missions. The ladies of our Society served refreshments. We sent invitations to the Methodist and Presbyterian Societies to be present with us, and extended an invitation to the church and congregation. We had a large number present, gained three new members and the collection amounted to \$632. We think every one spent a pleasant evening. MRS. C. A. LINDON, Sec'y.

Willing Workers Mission Band.

As there has not been any report from the First St. Margarets Bay Mission Band for a long time, I venture to send the following: We meet as usual, the first Sabbath in every month immediately after Sunday School, and fill out our programme with readings, recitations and dialogues of a missionary character. We have a very small number enrolled, but the few we have well deserve the name of Willing Workers. Our earnest prayer is that our "mothers in Israel" will come in and help us. God grant that we may win them soon. Much missionary information has been given, and our young people are becoming better acquainted with our missionaries and their work. Our offerings for missions are small, yet those of us who know something of the effort that is being made by the people in our village to meet the claims of our Home and Foreign Missions, feel that we have reason to thank God and take fresh courage. We feel very thankful that God has given us some little part in the great work of winning the world for Jesus. We pray daily for more workers, that the Holy Spirit may be poured out upon God's people in the home land, so that God's work shall have the place he means it to have in the hearts of not only the few but of all.

Yours in the work,
MRS. NEIL MACDONALD, Pres.

PHOTOGRAPHS OF INTEREST. I am sorry to say to all who have seen the above notice that for the present there will be some delay in obtaining photos of Miss E. D'Pranzo, who has won so many friends during her visit among us. H. H. WRIGHT.

Monies Received by the Treasurer of the W. B. M. U. from Oct. 6th to Oct. 17th.

North Brookfield, F. M., \$14; Brockway, Tidings, 25c; Homeville, Tidings, 25c; Wolfville, "a believer in Christ," F. M., \$3; Annandale, F. M., \$2.14, H. M., \$1; Oxford, 10c fund, \$3.14; Little Bras d'Or, F. M., \$4; H. M.,

\$1.75; G. L., 25c; Reports, 10c; Hantsport, F. M., \$2.25; H. M., 73c; Point de Bute, F. M., \$11.50, H. M., \$1.50, Tidings, 25c; Reports, 25c; Clyde River, F. M., \$2.50, H. M., \$2.50; Gabarus, F. M., \$3.20; Greenfield, Tidings, \$1; Osborne, F. M., \$3.18; Dartmouth, F. M., \$13.50; part of this amount is from 10c collections. Biltown, F. M., \$9, H. M., \$2, for Mrs. Sanford's expenses \$2.40. Tidings, 25c; Newcastle Bridge, Tidings, 25c; Milton Queens Co., F. M., \$5.27, H. M., 25c, G. L. M., 20c; Cumberland Bay, F. M., \$3; Cumberland Bay to constitute Mrs. Nathaniel Branscombe a life member, F. M., \$25; Parrsboro, F. M., \$7, H. M., \$6; Morristown, F. M., \$5; Forbes Point, F. M., \$5, H. M., \$2.

MRS. MARY SMITH, Treas. W. B. M. U.
Amherst, P. O. Box 513.

Foreign Mission Board.

NOTES BY THE SECRETARY.

The friends of Missions will be pleased to learn that Rev. George and Mrs. Churchill, with their daughter, sail today from New York for their Bobbili home. Mrs. Churchill passed through St. John on Wednesday of last week, joining her husband in Boston. Miss Bessie Churchill does not go to India as a missionary of the Foreign Mission Board. That she will find something to do for her Master in India there can be no doubt.

Miss Annie Williams, the daughter of Rev. John Williams, of Onslow, passed through St. John on Saturday of last week. She came across the Bay in the Prince Rupert and was in time to catch the train for Boston. She sails with Mr. and Mrs. Churchill, and is expecting to assist Mr. Hardy in establishing a Christian home at Palcondah or some other station among the Telugus as the Conference may suggest when they meet in January next.

The addition to our Mission staff is quite large. The expense of sending these out this year is a heavy tax on our Mission treasury, as any thoughtful person can readily see. Thanks to the men and women who have made this advance possible. Our next advance must be in men. Two more families are in urgent demand. They are greatly needed. To meet this need certain qualifications on the part of the men to go are required, and advanced contributions from individuals and churches must be made. Oh, how easily this could be done if the many who were not at Convention were to do as some did who were there, and made possible the sending of those who have already left our shores. Easily the money could be forthcoming to send two additional families, one of them for the Savara work and one to break new ground at Sompert. The amount that has already come into the treasury from the Convention pledges and the generous donations from two warm friends of our Mission work have not discharged the indebtedness of the Board. The work must go on. There can be no let up. We have undertaken by God's help to evangelize 2,000,000 Telugus. We want more men to help us. We must have them. We are untrue to the trust reposed in us if they are not forthcoming. Pastors and brethren of the churches give us your most hearty support.

Let me appeal to you with all the affection of my heart in the name of Christ, that you help on this work as never before. Do not fail to teach your people the most important of the "all things" he has commanded. Let me in the spirit of Jesus Christ appeal to the men and women of considerable means, are you doing all Jesus wants you to do to give the gospel to the heathen world? And let the rank and file of all our members do something for this greatest work of the church. In connection with all our work as churches of Jesus Christ there is no needier field. There is none fuller of promise and there is none that will bring in larger returns in the great day when the jewels are to be gathered.

Some churches should support a missionary, others should combine in so doing. Young Peoples Unions could unite in the support of a mission family to the spiritual uplift of all thus engaged. There is nothing to which they could give themselves that would so broaden their sympathies and enlarge their hearts as an intelligent interest in world-wide Missions. Oh, brothers and sisters in Christ, "Lift up your eyes and see the whitened fields." There is room for work in India. No fear of jostling against a fellow worker, or of building on another man's foundation. "Come over and help us" is the cry that is ringing in our ears day and night. Let all respond as some have already done and the will result be most glorious.

The Missionary Axe.

One day a missionary was preaching in the city of Benares. The large crowd was civil and attentive. At length a Brahman said, "Look at those men and see what they are doing."

"They are preaching to us," replied the people.

"True; what has the sahib in his hand?"

"The New Testament."

"Yes; the New Testament. But what is that? I will

tell you. It is the gospel axe, into which a European handle has been put. If you come today you will find them cutting; if you come tomorrow you will find them doing the same. And at what are they cutting? At our noble tree of Hindooism—at our religion. It has taken thousands of years for the tree to take root in the soil of Hindoostan; its branches spread all over India; it is a noble, glorious tree. But these men come daily with the gospel axe in their hand; they look at the tree and the tree looks at them. But it is helpless. The gospel axe is applied daily, and although the tree is large and strong, it must give way at last.

"True," replied the missionary; "but many a poor handle gets worn out, and many a one breaks; and it takes a long time until a new one is obtained from Europe, and until that handle is prepared and shaped."

"Ah," he answered, "if that were all, it would be well enough, and the tree would have respite; but what is the real cause? No sooner does a handle find it can no longer swing the axe than it says: 'What am I to do now? I am getting worn out; I can no longer swing the axe; am I to give up cutting? No, indeed!' He walks up to the tree, looks at it, and says, 'But here is a fine branch out of which a handle might be made.'"

"Up goes the axe, down comes the branch; it is soon shaped into a handle; the European handle is taken out, and the native handle put in, and the swinging commences afresh. At last the tree will be cut down by handles made of its own branches."—Sesl.

The Great Company, a History of the Hudson's Bay Company. By Beckles Wilson. With original drawings by Arthur Heming. Published by the Copp, Clark Company, Limited, Toronto. Price, cloth, \$3.00; special edition in Morocco, \$5.00.

"The Great Company" is without doubt the most important Canadian historical work that has appeared for years, and it is particularly gratifying to those who are inclined to deplore the fiction-loving tendency of the age to find that Mr. Willson has so handled his subject that, without omitting anything of historic value, the very interest of the narrative would satisfy the most dissipated taste.

It is impossible in a brief review to give any adequate idea of the vastness of the task which the Hudson's Bay Company accomplished in shaping the destiny of half a continent for over two centuries. And the fact that so inspiring a theme has remained so long untouched in the field of literature is only explained by the unwillingness of the Company's officers to give access to the Archives, whence alone the bulk of the material for such a work could be obtained. Through the courtesy of the present Governor of the Company, Lord Strathcona, this difficulty has been removed, and every facility granted the author to render the narrative complete.

The result is one of the most fascinating histories ever written. The reader is charmed at the very outset by the romantic career of those two intrepid fur-traders, Radisson and Groselliers, who having travelled far and wide through the great North-West, first realized something of the enormous wealth to be obtained from the furry denizens of this vast region, and then being unable to arouse an aggressive spirit in their countrymen at Quebec, conceived the idea of circumventing French authority by using the Hudson's Bay route, and of turning to the English for support. On failing to find patrons in New England, the dauntless pair set out for Paris, but to meet with no better success. While there, however, they were joined by a certain Colonel Carr, who in Boston, had strongly advised them to go to the English king, and now furnished Groselliers with a letter to Prince Rupert. This adventurous spirit, of whom Mr. Willson paints a most attractive picture, entered heartily into the enterprise, and "The Honorable Company of Merchants-Adventurers trading into Hudson's Bay" came into being, an institution which survived nearly all conditions and all regimes, and for two full centuries existed unshorn of its greatness, and endures still, as Mr. Willson says, the one enduring pillar in the New World map.

It is noticeable that, from the very outset, the object of the Company was to make its trade permanent. And in order to accomplish this, the Company from the beginning rejected the plan of seeking to exchange "glass beads and gilded kickshaws" for furs, and endeavored to provide the Indians with weapons for killing or ensnaring the game, as well as with knives, hatchets, and kettles, which were indispensable for dressing it and for preparing pemmican. And to such an extent was this policy successful that within a few years the natives had lost the use of the bow and arrow, and when half a century later Fort Nelson was captured by a French military party not equipped with trading supplies, hundreds of the aborigines died from starvation within twenty leagues of the fort.

Perhaps no part of Mr. Willson's book is more intensely interesting than his accounts of the expeditions of Verandrye, Hearne, and Mackenzie, those intrepid explorers, who with little or no encouragement from others, in the face of terrible difficulties and dangers at every turn, and in spite of the faint-heartedness and treachery of their followers, carried all before them by their indomitable courage, and finally, each in a different direction, reached the utmost limits of this vast country. In describing their journeys Mr. Willson has caught the true spirit of the explorer and carries the reader with him, now despairing, now hopeful, until their object is accomplished. In fact the author's style throughout is rapid, easy and flowing, and he handles his subject in a masterly manner.

A word remains to be said about the appearance of the volume. It is a credit to the publishers and to the book-making art in Canada. It is beautifully and substantially bound and printed, and profusely illustrated. Mr. Heming's drawings are the finishing touch, for no other living artist is so well able to depict the North-West, its scenes and its people, as this young Canadian.