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Secretarial Notes.

In last issue I called the attention of our membership to the coming Thanksgiving day. I have many times thought that if our prayers had more true, earnest thanksgiving in them that they would be more pleasing to our Heavenly Father. We enjoy so many blessings every day, yea, every hour, that it seems almost presumptuous for us to ask more, but we remember the word that our Lord is more willing to give than we are to ask.

But we must remember that thanksgiving should be more than mere words. From Cain and Abel God required an offering, and all through the ages He has required something of his people in the form of a tangible offering of the fruit of their labours.

In these days it does seem to me that we have, in a great measure, lost sight of the demands upon us. Yet the need is far greater to day than ever in the past. The work of saving souls is ours, in the name of our Lord the Kingdom must be extended, and it can only be accomplished by our gifts. It costs money to send missionaries to India. It costs to maintain our home mission work. It costs to carry on our several departments of work. I almost fear that there will be those who at the great day of reckoning will plead, Lord, in thy name we have prophesied and performed many wonderful works, but He shall have no knowledge of them, for he was sick and they ministered not unto him, naked and they did not clothe him, hungry and they gave him no meat.

In another column will be found the very excellent paper of Miss Slipp on this subject. I trust that it will be read by each member. I would suggest that it be read before the societies. The paper touches upon this important subject of our responsibilities to the work of our Master, and should have our careful consideration.

No society should be without a thanksgiving service, a real, true thanksgiving, one that will bear fruit.

COR. SEC.

The Spirit of Self-Sacrifice in Foreign Missions.

[Read before the Woodstock Convention, in August '97, by Miss Jessie H. Sapp.]

"If any man will come after me let him take up his cross and follow me." The first lesson to be learned in the school of Christ is that of self-denial. Our nature is so different from the divine that if we would do God's will we must deny ourselves. But in this the nineteenth century and living in this Christian country, the sacrifices which we have to make are very very small, especially when we compare them with those of Jesus our great Leader, who left his Father's home in Heaven, suffered even death on the cross—or with those of the apostles, who, though repeatedly suffering imprisonment and scourging rejoiced that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name.

Perhaps those who deny themselves the most for their Saviour, are those who leave home and friends and go to heathen lands to tell the story of Jesus. But when we think of Carey and Judson and the terrible hardships which fell to their lot we are constrained to cry out, "Surely the lines are fallen unto us in pleasant places, yea we have a goodly heritage." Yet there are many things with which the missionaries have to contend of which we know nothing. The food and manner of living in Eastern countries is, of course, very different from ours, and missionaries must necessarily be severely tried before becoming acclimated. In many foreign countries, also, the natives are so accustomed to cheat and circumvent their oppressors, that the ability to do so becomes to them a

virtue, and it is with great difficulty that those who become Christians are made to believe this to be wrong.

In addition to this the apparent lack of success which often follows their labours for a long time, is to say the least very disheartening and the almost complete isolation of the workers from friends and fellow Christians dears them from the sympathy and help which otherwise might be theirs.

But those who have given up home and friends and have gone to proclaim the gospel story to those who know not Jesus, cannot do this work alone. Money is needed and the sacrifice on our part may come in here. But do we know anything about sacrifice along this line? Do we realize that we are but stewards entrusted with a larger or smaller amount of money to be used for the building up of Christ's Kingdom? We think if we give a tenth we are doing our share, but are we doing all we can? There are some and are they not blessed, who do deny themselves the luxuries and indeed many necessities of life for the sake of giving to missions. The large contributions of the rich are heralded the world over, but they are not as large in Christ's sight as the hard earned dollar of the poor needle woman. Paul says, "What hast thou that thou didst not receive? One talent, or two, or five—we have nothing of our own, we occupy for another. At one time in the history of the early church, 'Not one of them said that aught of the things which he possessed was his own.' And shall we hold back part of the price? God forbid! The better way is to be systematic in our giving. The Lord expected from the Jews one tenth and, under ordinary circumstances, we should give at least that. Ten per cent for Jehovah and ninety per cent left for me. Is there much self sacrifice in that? But there is much of the ninety per cent which may be used on self and home under Christ's order and for his dear sake. The ten, or twenty per cent if we can, is merely what we owe, then there are the thank-offerings and self-denial gifts which are truly gifts.

Then the missionaries need our prayers. Let us consider this under these headings:

First. The need of prayer. When Christ was upon earth, we read that many times he sought the quietude of some lonely spot to pray—not only that his disciples might be kept from evil, but that he himself might be able to do the Father's will and glorify his name. If Jesus with his divine nature had need of help from God how much more we. In times of perplexity when the pathway seems completely hedged in and we know not which way to turn how often a way out of our difficulties, or the straight path of duty is shown us by sacred communion with the All Wise One.

Second. The power of prayer. Let us look for a moment at Elijah as he stood on Mount Carmel, alone—the only prophet of the Lord, opposing the four hundred and fifty of Baal. What faith must have been his when he prayed, "Hear me O Lord Hear me, that this people may know that Thou art the Lord God." He knew that his prayer would not be in vain. "Then the fire of the Lord fell and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench." Think you the power of Elijah could have surpassed that of the prophets of Baal had he not asked the assistance of Jehovah? Al! will answer, nay. Then you remember the third time Peter was in prison. The passover is passed, on the morrow the prisoner is to be brought forth and condemned. Still Peter trusts in God, and is peacefully sleeping when the angel of the Lord appears, and at his word, despite the sixteen soldiers, Peter's chains fall off, the gates open of their own accord and Peter is free. If we look into the humble Christian home of John Mark we will see why this miracle has been performed. The friends are praying for Peter and Christ said—"Ask what ye will, . . . and it shall be done."

Third. The effect of prayer. As we pray we must come in close touch with the great Teacher, who taught as never man taught. We learn from him the importance of the work of his kingdom for which he paid so great a price. We imbibed his spirit and are thus enabled with his help, to carry on the work according to his will. Also when times of discouragement come and we know that we are not forgotten at the throne of Grace, by our Christian brothers and sisters, remembering that the effectual, fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much, we are supported by God's omnipotent hand and feel the unseen presence helping and strengthening us.

Can we not then help the cause of missions by prayer? We have spoken of some of the trials of the missionaries life. If we have felt that the prayers of others have helped us, may not our prayers,

weak and faithless though we feel them to be, strengthen and encourage others. Let us then pray more earnestly, more faithfully and more often than ever before, "asking great things of God—expecting great things from God."

The Spirit of Self-sacrifice.—There may be but few of us who are able to donate large sums for the carrying on of Christ's work in the world, but let us remember that it is not the amount which finds acceptance with the Lord but the spirit in which it is given. The poor woman whom our Saviour commended cast into the treasury only two mites, but her gift was counted greater than all the others because she gave in the spirit of self-sacrifice as great a gift as possible "Even all her living." This spirit is essentially and only Christian. It's most noted example is, of course, Jesus himself, but whether found on the pages of profane or sacred history—among pagans or Christians—it must of necessity partake of the nature of the Christ. We must not limit it to the mere matter of giving of worldly possessions. This is a most circumscribed view to take of it, and savours least of the Christ sacrifice. In mythology we may in stance, Damon and Pythias, in sacred history David and Jonathan as those making great sacrifices for friends; but immeasurably greater is the sacrifice of one's life for one's enemies, found only in the Christ. Nehemiah too partook largely of the character of the Divine Master—when for the good of his dispersed people and over turned city—for twelve years he and his brethren did not eat of the bread of the governor as his predecessors had done—taking the people's bread and wine and forty shekels of silver—because of the fear of God and we may add love for his people. Thus whether it be time, talent or money, "Every man as he purposeth in his heart so let him give; not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loveth a cheerful giver."

Bible-Class Organization.

Class organization is often useful, especially in large Bible classes. A Bible class of young men and women in the Thirty-seventh Street Methodist Episcopal Sunday school, of New York welcomed a new teacher, T. G. Ellsworth, some time ago, who at once proceeded to form a complete organization, his theory being "to interest everybody by giving them something to do which they have a talent for doing." The class selected by vote a secretary, to keep brief minutes of the title of the lesson, records of attendance, reports of officers, and other items of interest; a treasurer, to take the offerings and forward them to the Sunday-school treasurer; a geographer, to be ready with the geography of the lesson; a historian, to whom are referred questions of history and research; a librarian, who takes charge of getting library books desired; two persons to have charge of a question bureau, to whom are referred questions requiring deliberation; a "blackboard artist," who sketches the most forcible points of the lesson on the board, and gives a two-minute explanation; and an advisory committee of five, who foster regular and early attendance of the members. "Crowned with good deeds" is the class motto. The white carnation is the class flower, worn on occasions of special interest. The class has its own stationery, for the use of all, the letter head containing the names of officers and committee members. The leader testifies: "With these methods the young people could not long remain silent, but soon started out to work and talk. Each member was willing to take the position of teacher in turn—with some fear and trembling at first; but it soon wore away, as the leader was near at hand to aid when necessary."—Sunday School Times

If you want a reliable dye that will color an even brown or black, and will please and satisfy you every time, use Buckingham's Dye for the Whiskers.

Come All Who Suffer.

Mrs. E. Brown, Hamilton, Ont., says: "I have used Laxa Liver Pills and find them perfect as a cure for biliousness and sick headache. I strongly recommend them to all who suffer from such troubles as an unrivalled remedy."

People Praise It.

DEAR SIRS.—I have often had coughs and colds, as well as bronchitis. Norway Pine Syrup cures me every time. I recommend it as a perfect cure for all throat and lung troubles.

LIZZIE HARDY,
Mayfield, Ont.

There are so many cough medicines in the market, that it is sometimes difficult to tell which to buy; but if we had a cough, a cold or any affliction of the throat or lungs, we would try Bickel's Anti-Consumptive Syrup. Those who have used it think it is far ahead of all other preparations recommended for such complaints. The little folks like it as it is as pleasant as syrup.

What is Your Religion Worth

A gentleman was travelling from Cambridge to New York, and, as a true servant of the Lord Jesus, he sought ever to be about his Divine Master's business. Ere he started, he furnished himself with a pocketful of tracts; and as the train glided out of the Cambridge station he began to hand them round. One of the passengers refused; and taking a race card out of his pocket, he held it up saying:

"You see this. That's my religion."

"Is it, my friend?"

"Yes," he replied.

"I suppose you have a good many of those cards?"

"Oh, yes; I have them pinned all over my mantelpiece."

"Well, then, go on and collect as many more as you can, pin them all round your room, and when the doc or tells you that you have only ten minutes to live, take them all down, count them over and see what your religion is worth."

They sat quiet; the one in silent prayer and the other in anxious thought. When the gentleman opened the door to a light, the man said, "I say, you can give me one of those papers if you will." The tract was immediately given, but the result is known only to him who will not let. His word return to him void, but will make it accomplish his purposes.

Dear reader, what is your religion? Every person has a religion of some sort or another, for man must worship and make a god of something or somebody.—Selected.

A story is told of a "young man who picked up a sovereign lying in the road. Ever afterward, as he walked along, he kept his eye steadfastly on the ground in hope of finding another. In the course of his long life he picked up a goodly amount of gold and silver, but all these years he saw not that heaven was bright above him, and nature was bright around him, but he kept his eye upon the mud and filth in which he sought the treasure; and when he died, a rich old man, he knew this fair earth of ours only as a dirty road in which to pick up money as he walked along.—Anon.

If some men would die as soon as they ought to, some other men would live longer than they do.

FREE.

We direct special attention to the following remarkable statements.



For eighteen years I was not able to do any work, was confined to the house three years, often confined to the bed; took cold on the slightest exposure, eyes were weak and discharged great deal of mucus, was deaf in right ear, suffered intensely with pain in head, had fainting spells, often thought would lose my mind, and was a misery to myself and friends. Eighteen months ago used Aerial Medication, in two weeks hearing was fully restored, Catarrh gradually subsided, and in six months was entirely cured. It has been one year since I used the treatment, the disease has not returned, and I feel like a new person.—MRS. KATE ELLEGOOD, 2221 Walnut St., St. Louis, Mo.

34 years ago I had risings in my ears, had Catarrh 30 years, hearing failed, for many years could not hear loud conversation two feet away, had continual roaring in ears, hoarseness, throat sore and dry, intense pain over eyes, and "stopped-up" feeling in my head. Greatly impaired health so I was not able to work. Used Aerial Medication in '92. It stopped the roaring pain and soreness, fully restored my hearing, for five years have been free from Catarrh.—WM. F. BOWERS, Howell, Ark.

"Whereas I was Deaf, Now I Can Hear."



At the age of 39, after having suffered from Catarrh Deafness 20 years, am truly thankful to state that I am entirely cured by Aerial Medication; my hearing which had become so bad that I could not hear a watch tick, or conversation, is fully restored. I will verify this statement.—WILLIAM RITCHIE, Derby Centre, Vt.

The late Prof. Basil Manly, of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky, says of Aerial Medication: "I can cordially recommend its use." Write for free-simile of this letter.

It has always been a pleasure to carry your ads, and your remedies are popular with our people. Bell and Van Ness, Editors Christian Index, Atlanta, Ga.

We have reliable assurance that the above statements are genuine and that Dr. Moore is a reputable physician.—Cincinnati Herald and Presbyter.

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This very liberal offer having proved remarkably successful last year, I have decided to renew it, and will for a short time send medicines for three months' treatment free. For question form and particulars, address, J. H. Moore, M.D., Dept. B2 Cincinnati, O.

Good Things To Learn.

Learn to laugh. A good laugh is better than medicine.

Learn how to tell a story. A well told story is as welcome as a sunbeam in a sick room.

Learn how to keep your own troubles to yourself. The world is too busy to care for your ills and sorrows.

Learn to stop croaking. If you cannot see any good in this world, learn to keep the bad to yourself.

Learn to hide your aches and pains under a pleasant smile. No one cares whether you have the earache, headache, or rheumatism.—Unidentified.

What men call a failure may often be what angels call a success.—The Evangelist.

Strength alone knows conflict. Weakness is below even defeat, and is born vanquished.

The fondest anticipation in a woman's life is when she is looking forward to the coming of the sweet and tender little bundle of humanity that will some day call her mother. It is a pity that this joyful expectancy should ever be clouded with solicitude and dread of the physical which it involves. There is no need of this excessive anxiety if the prospective mother will avail herself of the health-sustaining power of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription taken early during the expectant period. The special organs and nerve-centers pertaining to maternity are directly fortified and reinforced by this wonderful "Prescription." It gives the mother genuine, permanent strength, capacity and cheerfulness. It renders the ordeal of motherhood absolutely safe and comparatively easy; insures against subsequent relapse and prostration; promotes ample and healthful nourishment for the child and endows it with natural constitutional vigor.

For nearly thirty years Dr. Pierce has been chief consulting physician to the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute of Buffalo, N. Y. Any woman may consult him either personally or by letter free of charge, and with absolute assurance of receiving sound, practical advice from the highest professional authority. By enclosing thirty-one one-cent stamps to pay the cost of postage and mailing only, she will receive a paper-bound copy of Dr. Pierce's thousand-page illustrated book, "The People's Common Sense Medical Adviser," or a handsome cloth-bound copy, for fifty stamps.

Mrs. Fred Hunt, of Barnt Hills, Saratoga Co., N. Y., says: "I read about Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription being so good for a woman with child, so I got two bottles last September, and December 13th, I had a twelve-pound baby girl. When I was confined I was not sick in any way. I did not suffer any pain, and when the child was born I walked into another room and went to bed. I never had an after-pain or any other pain. This is the eighth child and the largest of them all."

Pure

Blood first of all; that is the starting point on the road to health. Without it Dyspepsia, Constipation, Biliousness, Headache, Liver and Kidney Complaints, Scrofula, Ulcers and Abscesses thrive and increase in the human system. But with pure

Blood

circulating freely these diseases cannot long remain. There is nothing to keep them there—no impurities for them to feed on. Burdock Blood Bitters purifies the blood, and drives out all impurities, waste and effete matter more quickly and surely than any other remedy. If you want pure blood and good health take

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