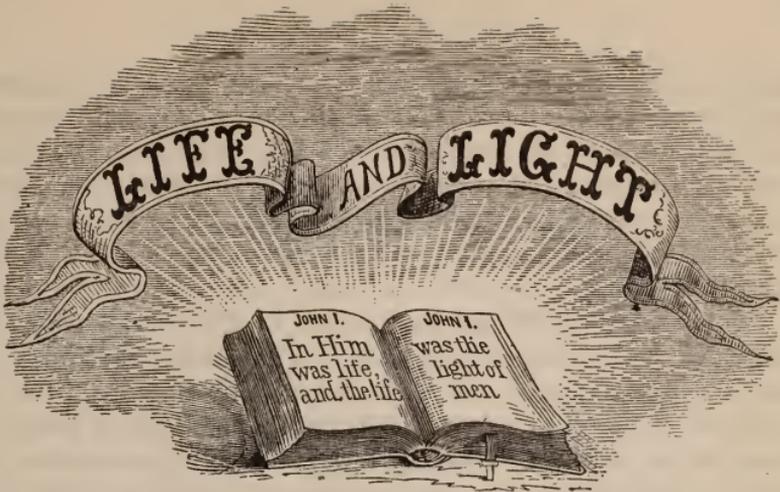






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FOR WOMAN.

VOL. VI.

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AFRICA.

THE HUGUENOT FEMALE SEMINARY.

THOSE of our readers who have heard of the wonderful success of the African Mt. Holyoke Seminary will be glad to read some journal extracts, which give particulars of the first year of its existence. It was established at Wellington, for the benefit of the colonists, most of whom speak the Dutch language, being descendants of the French Huguenots. The Rev. Mr. Murray mentioned in the account is the pastor of the Dutch Reformed Church in Wellington.

“It was while reading ‘The Life of Mary Lyon,’ the founder of Mt. Holyoke Seminary, that the Rev. Andrew Murray was led to believe that a similar institution was the great want of Cape Colony. The need of efficient teachers for village schools had long been felt. In many cases, the important work of education was left to those who could find nothing else to do; and even such teachers were scarce. It seemed, therefore, that an institution where girls could be trained for teaching would be an incalculable blessing to the land.

“At a conference held in 1872, a proposal was made to erect a monument in memory of the French refugees in this part of the

colony. The thought suggested itself, 'Why should not a monument to our ancestors be also an institution that should prove a lasting blessing to our descendants?' The proposal was favorably received by many; and in November, 1872, the first letter on the subject was written to Mt. Holyoke. With the answer came the sweet assurance of sympathy and interest in the hearts of Christians in America.

"On June 25, 1873, the first public meeting was held in the church at Wellington, and the plans and prospects laid before the people. In a circular read at that time, it was stated, that at least two thousand pounds would be needed, and that it would be desirable to have one thousand in hand before commencing the work. The congregation soon contributed eleven hundred and fifty pounds; and a committee was appointed to secure a place for a South African Mt. Holyoke Seminary. There was but one place that seemed in every way fitted for the purpose; but that was in the hands of Anabaptists, and they had no intention of parting with it. No other place could be found. Building was seriously considered, as the only alternative. While still undecided, and waiting on the Lord in prayer, the much desired property was unexpectedly offered for sale for sixteen hundred pounds. Seeing in this an answer to prayer, the committee purchased the place; and the work of refitting commenced. In June, decisivé letters were received; and we learned with joy, that our first teachers, Miss Ferguson and Miss Bliss, hoped to be with us about the middle of November. They arrived Nov. 15, and began work at once, not in teaching, but in planning and arranging, adapting the system that had met the need in America to the wants of Africa. They took possession of the building Jan. 10, 1874, and on the 19th the school was opened.

"Our rules, as well as other school-arrangements, are very similar to those at Mt. Holyoke. The course of study is comparatively elementary, as it was found necessary that all should begin with geography, grammar, and arithmetic. Some of the more advanced pupils have taken up a manual of school management, physical geography, and ancient history: two have begun algebra. We want to make the foundation strong, and hope, in time, to have a worthy superstructure.

"On the second Thursday after the opening, Miss Ferguson, after an earnest address, requested those of our number who hoped they were Christians to meet her in her sitting-room in the even-

ing, while the rest were to come together in the drawing-room. There was a good deal of talk about it among the pupils. Some, though they hoped they were converted, had never openly professed it. Others dreaded the consequence of such a profession before the school. Others thought it was wrong to draw lines, and would lead to self-deception. Deep earnestness prevailed, as each girl realized that her conduct and influence in school would be measured by this profession. Thirteen that day ranged themselves on the Lord's side.

“From that time, the Spirit of the Lord was in our midst; and many faces told of the strivings within, of conviction of sin, and then of joy and rest in a Saviour found. We had earnest addresses from our pastor, Major Malan, Prof. Wofmegt, and others, during these weeks; but, though they served to deepen conviction, it was principally by individual dealing that souls found peace. Every Thursday night, there were added to our number such as believed, until, not more than four or five weeks after our first meeting, we found ourselves a united family in Christ Jesus.

“When the second term opened, all were glad to come back to our school-home. At this time we commenced our mission Sunday school for white children. Feeling, also, the need of a school for colored children, we invited them to the village schoolroom. The first Sunday we had more teachers than pupils; but our numbers increased, until the average attendance was a hundred and forty. Not long after the commencement of our work, we had the joy of seeing a great deal of interest among the children, and of hearing more than one say, ‘What shall I do to be saved?’ About this time, several cottage meetings were started among the colored population in the neighborhood. These have proved a blessing to the young ladies in charge, as well as to those they sought to benefit. Others had the privilege of becoming tract-distributers among the workmen on the railroad not far from the village.

“Our third term commenced in July; and, soon after the opening of the school, it was deemed advisable to write to America for more teachers. Various plans were discussed with reference to the enlargement of the work. So many applications were received, that the erection of a new building seemed to be the only way to meet the demand. The young ladies pledged themselves to raise half the amount necessary; and the pledge was subsequently redeemed with the proceeds of a very successful fair, held on the day the corner-stone was laid.

“A government examination is held twice during the year, for those who wish to become teachers in elementary schools. The names of ten of the most advanced pupils were sent in for this examination, and at the close of the third term they remained to test their acquirements. These were days of anxiety and hard work. When the returns came in, we found that all had passed, six with honors, and that three headed the list of thirty or forty that had passed in the colony. Our usually quiet, orderly school was the scene of much tumult and confusion when the result was known. ‘Have I passed?’ ‘Have I passed with honors?’ exclaimed one and another. One said, ‘I am more glad for the seminary than I am for myself.’ The rejoicing of those who had not been examined seemed as great as the others.

“It will be long before we can reach the standard we desire, as it is customary here for young ladies to leave school early. We are hoping for better things, however, and are encouraged that only eight left at the close of the year. Spiritually we have been greatly blessed. We hope for our pupils, not only that they are saved, but that, with most of them, there has been a deep, thorough change in their hearts, that will show itself in consecrated work hereafter.”

The new building was finished in July, 1875, and is occupied by the higher department, comprising about fifty pupils. In the lower department, occupying the old building, there are forty pupils. The corps of teachers is increased to five; and two similar schools have been opened at Stillenbosh and Worcester, near Wellington.

CENTRAL TURKEY.

CHOLERA INCIDENTS.

BY MISS CORINNA SHATTUCK.

It is difficult to keep in mind, as we read the following incidents connected with the cholera in Aintab, that they occurred among an ignorant and superstitious people, who would naturally be panic-stricken beyond all control by the dreadful scenes.

“During six weeks last summer, the cholera swept away from our city over three thousand out of the forty thousand inhabitants. Would you like to hear, dear friends, how the gospel sustained,

comforted, and even made joyful, many for whom you are praying?

“One sweet Christian woman, formerly an assistant in our seminary, felt exceedingly fearful at the first sound of cholera, and began to think much about death. Her sister asked her to attend a wedding, one day; but she declined, saying, ‘A different invitation has come to me; and I do not feel like going with you.’ Just before she was taken sick, she said, ‘The Bible is unusually precious these days, especially the Gospel of John; and I seem to have entirely lost the fear of cholera now.’ Before the disease came upon her in full power, she asked the brother in attendance upon her sick husband to read to her from the Bible, saying it was such a joy to her. Seeing tears in her husband’s eyes, as she grew worse, she said, ‘Why do you weep? I am going to a home more beautiful than you can provide for me. Think only of yourself and the children, and prepare to come to me.’ With the words, ‘Jesus, help me: he does help me,’ on her lips, in an awful paroxysm of pain, Vartir went to her beautiful home.

“Another dear woman was also found with her lamp trimmed and burning. Being unusually careful in attendance on all the meetings for prayer, her sister said to her, one day, —

“‘How is it, that, with your three little ones, you can come to all our meetings?’

“‘I have made up my mind,’ she answered, ‘that it is not by necessity that we mothers stay so much at home. I saw that I was just letting my children take up my whole time, and was drifting away from these blessed influences; and I resolved to turn about.’

“On her last attendance at the woman’s prayer-meeting, her sister, seeing her about to take a rather conspicuous position, remonstrated with her a little; but she said, ‘I want to be sure to get every word.’ And they remember now with what eagerness she drank it all in, and how earnestly she said, as she was passing out, ‘This has been food for my soul.’

“A few days later, when cholera had begun its work, she said to him who had called to comfort her, ‘My dear pastor, you do not know how sweetly precious and sustaining these words have been, — “The Lord is my shepherd: I shall not want,” — and the thoughts you gave us about them at the last meeting.’ Exultingly and undoubtingly did she tell her friends of the beautiful home to which she was going, and begged them not to mourn for her. ‘So

forcible were her words,' said her sister, 'that when she was gone, and we looked upon her face in death, we felt reproved for weeping, and, time after time, would check our tears, seeming to hear her say, "How can you weep, when I am gone to such a happy place?"' The little daughter, climbing into her father's lap, re-echoed her mother's words, forbidding him to weep.

"It was a blessed death, and brought rich blessings to her father's household, long bound in fetters of ignorance. Her sister Adan, at first without her parents' consent, began to attend church, and is now earnestly inquiring the way of salvation. Her stand, taken modestly but firmly, has gained even the open permission of her parents to attend church as much as she desires. Later comes the news that a brother, long firmly set against these things, has adopted the faith of his sister, from hearing how triumphantly she was sustained in death.

"Shall we enter one more home,—a humble one, yet blessed with Jesus' presence? The mother is attacked with the dread disease. It is near night. The two sons are away in another village, the husband somewhat infirm, and the two little girls only remain. From two or three houses they try to get some one to stay with them, but in vain. The medicines obtained from the physician are of no effect; and she sinks rapidly into the last stages of the disease. She asks to have her boys come home, that she may see them once more; but her husband says, 'It is night, and they are three hours away: it is impossible. Shall I wake the children, that we may pray together once more before you leave us?' Thus commending themselves to Him whom they had long trusted, she is borne through the dark valley, and he is sustained through the sad hours of watching with the dying and the dead for morning light. Locking the door upon the sleeping children and the dead mother, he goes to call their friends; and they lay her away before her boys return.

"A travelling-companion of the elder son, having heard of the death, tried to prepare him for the change in his home, saying,—

"These are sad days. We do not know what changes have come to our homes during these two days. How do you feel, thinking of what may be?"

"I do not fear,' replied Abraham, after a little thought; 'for all must come from my Father, whatever it may be.'

"Can you truly say so?"

"Again reflecting, he answered, 'Yes: I truly can.'

“When he found the door locked, and the house deserted, he felt forcibly that a change had come; yet, as he had trusted, he was sustained, and, though extremely sorrowful, he was not overcome.

“Most wonderfully, too, did our Father sustain the native pastors here, who, faithful to their trusts, remained while hundreds fled from the city. Night and day, they ministered to the sick, the dying, and the afflicted in their homes, and met their eager flocks for daily prayer in the churches, God blessing their labors as never before to the conversion of souls. Touching, indeed, were the confessions, and vows of reconsecration, accompanied, as they often were, by thank-offerings of money or jewelry for the Lord’s treasury. Truly it was blessed to be among them, and precious to be drawn, as, perhaps, one cannot be in ordinary circumstances, so near to the souls of those about us. But the dark souls we could not touch, and the dark homes that saw no ray of light in those days, who can number?”

“Let us renewedly thank God that we are permitted to see so much fruit! Let us pray with greater earnestness than ever before, ‘Thy kingdom come;’ and, whether on this side of the globe or the other, let us labor more earnestly to spread the blessed knowledge that carries health to sin-sick souls.”

SURVEY OF FOREIGN WORK.

As we publish only a limited number of Annual Reports, containing full statements of our work, we give below a brief survey of the pledged work of the Woman’s Board at the present time.

ZULU MISSION (SOUTH AFRICA).

MISSIONARIES. — Mrs. S. W. Tyler at Umzunduzi (30 miles N. W. from Natal), Miss G. R. Hance at Umvoti (40 miles N. E. from Natal), Mrs. M. K. Edwards at Inanda (20 miles N. W. of Port Natal). SCHOOLS. — Inanda Female Seminary, in charge of Mrs. M. B. Kilbon; boarding-school at Umzumbi, Miss M. E. Pinkerton (W. B. M. I.) in charge; day school at Umvoti, Miss Hance in charge. One Bible-reader.

Mrs. Tyler writes gratefully of the hundred-fold reward in the remarkable changes in her field since she first went to Africa in 1849. Miss Hance speaks of increasing interest in her work among the *kraals* and in village schools. Inanda Seminary, with thirty-two pupils, is now in the care of Mrs. M. B. Kilbon; Miss Lindley, who has been in the school, is on her way to the United

States. Mrs. Edwards, the former principal, who has been in this country a year and a half, will probably return to Inanda some time during the spring, taking with her a young lady assistant. The boarding-school at Umzumbi is full of promise; and it is hoped it will prove an entering wedge for the gospel in many a *kraal*. It is a school where a minimum of expense is formulated into a maximum of good.

EUROPEAN TURKEY MISSION.

MISSIONARIES.—Mrs. Isabella G. Clarke, at Samokov (300 miles N. N. W. of Constantinople), Mrs. Ursula C. Marsh, at Eski-Zagra (200 miles N. W. of Constantinople), Mrs. Ellen Baird at Monastir (400 miles W. of Constantinople), in Macedonia.

These ladies write hopefully of work among the women, beginning to see the fruit of the preparatory labor of the last few years.

WESTERN TURKEY MISSION.

MISSIONARIES.—Mrs. Kate P. Williams, Mrs. Cora W. Tomson, Misses Ellen C. Parsons, C. P. Dwight, and A. D. Bliss at Constantinople, Misses P. L. Cull and H. G. Powers at Manissa (200 miles S. W. of Constantinople), Miss J. A. Rappleye at Broosa (57 miles S. S. E. of Constantinople), Mrs. A. A. Leonard, Misses Eliza Fritcher and F. E. Washburn at Marsovan (350 miles E. of Constantinople), Mrs. Elizabeth Giles, Miss S. A. Closson, at Cæsarea (370 miles E. S. E. of Constantinople), Miss F. S. Bliss at Sivas (400 miles S. E. from Constantinople), Miss Laura Farnham at Bardesag (50 miles S. W. from Constantinople). SCHOOLS.—The Constantinople Home, forty-one pupils; boarding-school at Bardesag, Miss Farnham in charge, sixty-six pupils; boarding-school with twenty-one pupils, and preparatory school at Marsovan, Misses Fritcher and Washburn in charge; high school at Cæsarea, Miss Closson in charge; high school and two common schools at Sivas, Miss Bliss in charge; school at Talas, nine boarding-pupils. Six village schools. Six Bible-women.

Our readers are aware that the Constantinople Home building is completed. At last accounts, the occupants were moving in, with prospects of future success. There were forty-one pupils at the close of the last term. Miss Closson is now in Constantinople, but will probably return to Cæsarea during the summer or autumn. Miss Noyes, formerly at the Home, has been obliged by ill health to come to this country. Miss Rappleye is at Broosa, preparing to establish a school for Greek girls. The school at Marsovan is reported unusually prosperous. It has improved its accommodations at an expense of a thousand dollars. A recent letter speaks of the beauty of the schoolroom, with its vines and plants, and simple adornments,—an education in themselves to the pupils. The standard of knowledge required for entrance has been lately

advanced to correspond with the better education of those who apply from the various preparatory schools. Mrs. Leonard's labors in caring for the sick, and in general visitation, have met with success and blessing; and for these labors there is an unlimited sphere. The school at Bardesag reports twice the number of boarding-pupils of the previous year. One-half of these are self-supporting; all furnish their own clothing and books; and every scholar pays a tuition-fee. The school at Cæsarea is much enlarged. Five of the girls were prepared to enter the Marsovan Seminary. "No other year," says the Cæsarea Report, "has witnessed such progress in the woman's work as the one now reported. With the exception of Romodijin, Mrs. Giles has visited every out-station; and the work she found everywhere ready to her hand was encouraging." In the Western Turkey mission, the number of pupils in girls' boarding-schools has increased from eighty-four to a hundred and forty-seven, over seventy-seven per cent.

CENTRAL TURKEY MISSIONS.

MISSIONARIES. — Miss Myra A. Proctor and Miss Ellen Pierce at Aintab, Miss M. S. Williams at Marsh. SCHOOLS. — Female Seminary at Aintab, Misses Proctor, Pierce, Shattuck (W. B. M. I.), and Hollister (W. B. M. I.) in charge. Sixteen village schools in the vicinity of Aintab. Day school at Yarpooz.

The seminary at Aintab has had a very prosperous year, and land has been purchased for enlargement. An unusual religious interest prevails in the city. During most of the year, the Home at Marsh was under Miss Williams. On the arrival of Mrs. Coffing and Miss Spencer of the Woman's Board of Missions for the Interior, Miss Williams returned to the United States for much needed rest.

EASTERN TURKEY MISSION.

MISSIONARIES. — Mrs. C. R. Allen, Mrs. S. A. Wheeler, Misses Hattie Seymour and C. E. Bush at Harpoot (175 miles S. from Trebizond), Mrs. M. W. Reynolds, misses Ely at Van (at east end of Lake Van); Mrs. O. L. Andrus, Misses Sarah Sears and C. H. Pratt at Mardin (150 miles S. E. of Harpoot). SCHOOLS. — Female Seminary at Harpoot. Misses Seymour and Bush in charge; boarding-school at Van, Misses Ely in charge; boarding-school at Mardin, Misses Sears and Pratt in charge. Seven village schools. Seven Bible-women.

All the schools in this mission are reported in good condition. There has been special religious interest at Harpoot and at Van. A new schoolroom has been provided at Harpoot at an expense of five hundred dollars. Mrs. Wheeler has returned to this country on account of the illness of her husband.

MAHRATTA MISSION (WESTERN INDIA).

MISSIONARIES.—Mrs. A. M. Park, Misses S. F. Norris, M.D., and H. S. Ashley at Bombay, Mrs. M. E. Bissell, Mrs. A. S. Hume, at Ahmednuggur (140 miles E. of Bombay). SCHOOL at Ahmednuggur, Mrs. Bissell in charge. Twelve Bible-women.

The school at Ahmednuggur has an average attendance of from ninety to a hundred. Nine of the pupils have united with the church the past year. Mrs. Bissell is now on her way to this country, Mrs. Robert Hume having the care of the school in her absence. Misses Norris and Ashley are now living in their own hired house in Bombay, in a more healthful locality than the one previously occupied. The results of the medical work have been very encouraging. A foothold has been gained in many houses otherwise inaccessible: and it is hoped that friendly relations established may be productive of much good.

MADURA MISSION (SOUTHERN INDIA).

MISSIONARIES.—Mrs. C. E. Chandler and Miss Elizabeth Sisson at Madura (20 miles S. W. of Madras), Mrs. S. B. Capron at Mana Madura (30 miles S. E. of Madura). SCHOOLS.—Boarding and Hindu schools at Madura, Misses Sisson and Rendall (W. B. M. I.) in charge; boarding-school at Battalagundu, Mandapasalie, Miss Taylor (W. B. M. I.) in charge; boarding, Hindu, and day schools at Mana Madura, Mrs. Capron in charge. Station schools, and eleven village schools.

Great progress has been made in this mission in the number of girls' schools. We are sustaining four boarding-schools and twelve day schools more than last year. The Bible-women speak of encouragement in four particulars. The circle of houses in which they read is gradually widening; there are more women desirous of learning to read: those who study take up the Bible with more interest than formerly, and they are more willing to pay for what they receive. Mrs. Capron has found the work opening remarkably before her since her return from America, especially in medical work among the women. Mrs. Chandler is now in this country, expecting to return to India the coming summer.

CEYLON MISSION, JAFFRA DISTRICT, NORTH CEYLON.

MISSIONARIES.—Miss Eliza Agnew at Uduville, Mrs. E. F. DeReimer at Chavagacheny, Misses H. E. Townshend and S. R. Howland at Udupitty. SCHOOLS.—Boarding-schools at Uduville, sixty-eight pupils, Miss Agnew in charge; and Udupitty, twenty-four pupils, Miss Townshend in charge. Village schools in Chavagacherry district. Four Bible-women.

The schools in this mission have been more than usually prosperous the past year, having obtained the highest percentage of

assistance from government of all the aided schools in the same grade in Ceylon. Four have graduated from the Udupitty school, and one has left to be married, all professing Christians. Of the forty-three additions to the church at Uduville, twenty-four were from the boarding-school. Work among the women, by Misses Howland and Hillis, grows in interest. A native pastor writes, that, for more than a mile around their station, he can rarely find a house where these ladies have not visited.

FOOCHOW MISSION (SOUTH-EASTERN CHINA).

MISSIONARIES. — Mrs. L. E. Hartwell at Foochow, Miss A. M. Payson at Nantai (suburb of Foochow). SCHOOL. — Boarding-school at Foochow, thirty pupils, Miss Payson in charge.

Mrs. Hartwell reports long tours into the interior, sowing seed for future harvests. The boarding-school has had a successful year. A monthly child's paper is issued in the colloquial language, edited by Miss Payson and the ladies of the Methodist mission.

NORTH CHINA MISSION.

MISSIONARY. — Miss M. E. Andrews. One Bible-woman.

The work for women in this mission is less fluctuating than in past years. A class of fourteen women has been taught to read, also a class of ten girls. Miss Andrews is still detained in this country by ill health.

JAPAN MISSION.

MISSIONARIES. — Misses Eliza Talcott and Julia Gulick at Kobe (300 miles W. S. W. from Yeddo), Mrs. S. E. DeForest, Misses M. E. Gouldy, F. A. Stevens, and J. E. Wheeler at Osaka (20 miles E. of Kobe).

The work in Japan continues of great interest. Miss Talcott is associated with Miss Dudley (Woman's Board Missions Interior) in a school of thirty-four pupils at Kobe, besides holding frequent meetings with the women. A home and boarding school is also in contemplation at Kioto, as will be seen on another page. A missionary of the American Board writes, "I wish I could tell you how glad we are to have our force increased by the four who have just arrived. It may seem ungrateful to say so; but four persons are really a small number, when it is remembered, that, if the whole force of the American Board's missionaries were turned into Japan to-day, with the language at their tongue's end, there would be no lack of attentive hearers three hundred and sixty-five days in the year.

MISSION TO NORTHERN MEXICO.

MISSIONARY. — Miss C. M. Strong at Monterey (capital of Nueva Leon. Population thirty thousand). SCHOOL. — At Monterey.

Miss Strong reports good progress in her school, notwithstanding the opposition, and the interest in her work as steadily developing.

DAKOTA MISSION.

MISSIONARIES. — Miss Marie L. Haines, Miss Anna Skea, at Santee Agency (Nebraska). SCHOOL. — The Dakota Home.

A prosperous year is reported in the Home, a full report of which will be given in the next number.

MISSION TO AUSTRIA.

MISSIONARY. — Mrs. C. E. Schaffler at Brun (Moravia).

The past year has been one of trial in this mission. Mrs. Schaffler's work has been interfered with by government, influenced, probably, by ecclesiastics; yet she hopes for ultimate success.

In the aggregate, we have now connected with our Board fifty-seven missionaries, twenty-one seminaries and boarding-schools with about seven hundred and fifty pupils, fifty-four village and day schools with over a thousand pupils. There are, also, a large number of day schools connected with the American Board, not needing pecuniary assistance, making, in all, six hundred schools with about twenty thousand pupils, about two-fifths of which are girls.

Our Work at Home.

A CENTENNIAL OUTLOOK.

BY MRS. M. B. NORTON.

IN view of our country's history, natural advantages, and prosperity, what is our responsibility? For what end is bestowed upon us our vast area of hillside and prairie, fringed by mountain-ranges, and bordered by ocean-strands? For what our countless forests, our unlimited mineral resources, our treasures of coal, our

vast internal arteries of trade and commerce? For what our many thousand miles of shore-line on two oceans, where swift steamers ply between our ports and either hemisphere, and our white-winged ships hover at every island of the sea? For what the annihilation of time and space by iron bands which span our continent, and electric currents which thrill the air and the sea the whole world round in our service?

If it be true that mixed races, like the Roman and the Saxon, have ever been foremost in power and achievement, what vista opens before the American, the product of all the historical nations, set in these new conditions? — what but a mission to all the world, such as no race, no nation, has ever had before?

If it be the privilege of America to appropriate the ripened fruits of time, and, since nothing true or beautiful or good ever really perishes, to utilize every triumph of science, and assimilate to her own purposes the literature, art, and industry of the world, what is the length and breadth, the height and depth, of her corresponding obligation?

In a sense belonging to no other, our national birthright is the high commission to carry the gospel to every creature. The Christian principle lies at the base of our social fabric, as in no other land or age. It was not essential that it be formulated in the Constitution at the first: it is not necessary that it be interpolated now. It was written in letters of living light by the finger of divine Providence when religious persecution thrust forth the Pilgrims from English shores, when Roger Williams and Lord Baltimore, William Penn and the Huguenots, though representatives of diverse latitudes and differing creeds, laid on our shores in faith and prayer the foundations of the nation that was yet to be. God wrought through them; and “they builded better than they knew” for his glory, not in the New World alone, but in all the earth. He who made the apostle to the Gentiles pre-eminent among his first messengers has also prepared America for a great apostleship among the nations. To this end were we born, that we might become the channel for conveying our peculiar blessings to those who sit in darkness, and see no light. Our recognition of universal human brotherhood, our civil and ecclesiastical freedom, point unerringly to this great work. No less so does the baptism of missionary spirit in the infancy of the nation. While half a score of feeble colonies on our Atlantic coast were still struggling for existence, that whereunto they were called was distinctly appre-

hended. The Puritan fathers aimed not more at laying the foundations of a community where they might themselves worship God in peace than at the conversion of the savage tribes of the New World. At the close of the century in which the Pilgrims set foot on Plymouth Rock, there were four thousand praying Indians, and thirty native churches, in the Massachusetts Colony alone, as the result of missionary labor done while the wilderness was still to be cleared away, the first cabins to be reared, the first corn to be planted, the first churches and schoolhouses to be built. Later in the early years of our national existence, when infidelity flourished in high places, and embargo, and commercial distress, and threatening war were upon the land, God was still leading it by the right hand of his power to the work for which he had been long preparing the way. The Saviour of men was stirring hearts to go to those beyond, to send, to consecrate to him their money. Thus the great missionary organizations which the century has nourished sprang into life. Thus has the Master called our young nation to drink of his cup, and to be baptized with his baptism.

The famishing millions of the earth are looking to us. Let not the voice of unbelief exclaim, "What are our five barley-loaves among so many?" Harkening to the command, "Give ye them to eat," we will remember that He who gives the direction will see to it that the loaf is multiplied in our hands, even while we distribute according to his word. He who alone has made us to differ asks us to make good our own possession of these blessings, by demonstrating our capacity and our disposition to use them aright. Shall we be left to fall below the demand of our high privilege? These gifts which the ages have brought to lay at our feet can never be ours, if we prove so unworthy. The talents taken from him who used them not for his lord, the candlestick removed out of its place, are on record for our warning. We may ourselves answer the oft-recurring question, "Shall our young nation grow old and decay, be overtaken by disaster and disgrace, like the nations of antiquity?" Yes, if, like them, we neglect the lessons of providence and of grace; if, like them, we spend our Lord's money on ourselves; like them, rejoice in ceiled houses, and purple and fine linen, forgetting the day of recompense, forgetting the high commission with which we have been charged. Deeper will be our downfall and our oblivion, if we fail; higher and richer our reward, if we are faithful to our greater obligation.

Thus we see the elements of our privilege and our responsibility,

—unprecedented advantages in our vast arena, and resources for material action and development; a mechanical and scientific mastery over Nature, which seems more like the wonders of a fairy-tale than sober reality; a historical position which sets before us for our instruction the lore of past ages, conserving the good, and placing on record, for our warning, the failure and the evil; the fresh, aggressive spirit of a young nation; the very corner-stones of our government laid in civil and religious liberty for all men; a special and distinct call to missionary work from the time of the fathers until now; those sitting in the shadow of death calling for help at our doors, and within easy reach of our railways, our steamships, and our telegraph-lines. How shall we meet this heavy account?—we, a people born to be the true cosmopolites of all time and all races. Verily, if we neglect our opportunity, if we fail to understand our mission, our doom is sealed. “Thou art weighed in the balances, and found wanting,” will be written over against us. Sooner let the sun be darkened in the heavens, and confusion reign through all the system which whirls round him in order and light and beauty, than the astounding spectacle of a people nurtured by such goodness, turning away from their high commission to sit down in selfish ease!

What is it to have been born to a *woman's* heritage in this age and land? Is it to spend our years in the round of domestic duties alone; to give ourselves, without ceasing, to the demands of an artificial and over-elaborated style of living, to unending caretaking over drapery and furniture and adornments, which so often prove destructive of the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit? Is it that we may spend our winters in a weary round of society, and flit about in summer-times from springs to seaside, or from sea to mountain side, in fevered reach after rest and health and peace, or in more feverish desire to rival there our neighbors in fashionable display? Is it that we may cross the seas in hope that the mind will change as we go, and happiness steal into the heart under sunnier skies? Is it even that we may sit down at home to intellectual and æsthetic gratification, forgetting those who are starving for the spiritual food we are commissioned to give them?

The century has seen women in Christian lands largely emancipated from domestic drudgery by labor-saving inventions; has seen higher education opened to them in the halls of Mt. Holyoke, Vassar, Wellesley, and Smith, and ponderous college-gates swinging back to admit them; has taught them through a war which

took husband, son, or brother from almost every hearthstone, how easy are mighty ministries of mercy to those in need, if but the heart is touched.

Now our ears are smitten with the cry of our own sex, going down to death in lands where there are few to help, and where we may carry the sunlight of the gospel into dark and wretched homes, barred and bolted still to the entrance of Christian men. A hundred years ago, not one of all these doors was open to us: now not one is shut.

Here is a work for each one of us, that no other can accomplish. Each one can reach it "by prayer, by purse, by proxy, or in person." There is no moment to be lost. While we speculate or hesitate, time speeds: while we halt or falter, myriads throng the broad road.

By the "lines" which "have fallen to us in pleasant places," and which, from so many hilltops of vision, we are tracing afresh in this centennial year, the Master is calling anew for a personal devotion to him, which shall consecrate our all, our very life, with its happy array of attendant blessings, — *his gifts*, — to be used for him as by those who are under solemn bonds to meet their high obligations by work while the day lasts.

WHAT OF IT?

AFTER all, what does it amount to, — all this excitement about the centennial year? All the hundreds of centennial festivals, cropping out in every little village and hamlet, the centennial literature that floods the daily press and periodicals, the pealing of bells, the illuminations, the brilliant processions on the national holidays, the costly buildings and millions of money in our Great Exposition, — what is the use of it all? It is the spontaneous outburst of a young nation, rejoicing in its freedom and the strength of its early manhood. It is to be hoped, also, that with Christians there mingles with an elevated patriotism true gratitude to God for what he has wrought in us as a nation. Yet when it is all over, when the Exposition-doors are shut, when the anniversary days are come and gone, — what then? How many will be the better for it all?

Let us not think, because we are women, that we should not ask ourselves this question. There never has been a movement in

which women have been more prominent. There are women on all the executive committees, woman's hands in all the festivals, and, at the Exposition, a woman's building, in which she is to exhibit what she has accomplished in a hundred years. How are we, as Christian women, to be the better for this large expenditure of time and money? Is it all a waste? Not if it is laid at the feet of the Master, the costly offering of grateful hearts. Yet cannot we honor him more by ministering to his little ones? Cannot we signalize this centennial year by some special work for the four hundred millions of women who know not the way of salvation?

We have a proposition to make to you, dear friends. It is, that, aside from your regular contributions, you shall raise a centennial fund. That it may be a real and vital interest with us, we propose that it shall be for the benefit of the women of Japan. Educated and cultivated, as many of them are, and capable of a full appreciation of a noble womanhood, yet, without the gospel, they are as truly heathen as the degraded being in an African kraal. We ask you for six thousand dollars for the building of a Home in Japan. We hope it will be situated in Kioto, a city of more than half a million of inhabitants, which has long been considered the spiritual centre of the empire. It is here that Yamamoto lives, the blind counsellor of the Kioto Government, who has become so much interested in Christian truth. Yamamoto's sister, a lady of rare culture and intelligence, for several years at the head of a girls' school in Kioto, has recently become the wife of Mr. Joseph Nee Sima, so well known in this country. She was baptized, and received into the church at Kobe, a few days before her marriage. Missionaries have recently been invited to live in Kioto; and through the personal application of Mr. Nee Sima to the minister of education at Yeddo, permission has been granted to start a Christian school.

It has been suggested to the Woman's Board, that a building for a home and girls' boarding-school will soon be needed in Kioto, at an expense of twelve thousand dollars. Plans for it have not yet been matured; but, if the rapid progress in Christianity of the last two years continues, the money will probably be needed before the close of the year. Half the sum necessary, it is hoped, will be raised by the Japanese themselves. The New Hampshire and Vermont branches have each pledged a thousand dollars for this purpose. Who will send *extra* centennial offerings for the remainder?

The cry of "Young Japan" to-day is for "civilization." Let us make sure, that, with their civilization, they have pure and undefiled religion. Let us do our best to raise up Christian mothers for their nation.

GREENFIELD BRANCH.

WE are glad to report the formation of the Greenfield Branch, the thirteenth on our list. An account of its organization is in type, but has been crowded out by other matter. It will be given in the next number.

QUARTERLY MEETING.

THE quarterly meeting of the Woman's Board of Missions will be held in Pilgrim Hall, Congregational House, Boston, on Tuesday, April 4, 1876, at three o'clock, P.M.

WOMAN'S BOARD OF MISSIONS.

RECEIPTS FROM JAN. 18 TO FEB. 18, 1876.

MRS. BENJAMIN E. BATES, TREASURER.

MAINE.

Maine Branch. — Mrs. Woodbury S. Dana, Treas., Norridgewock, Aux., \$6; East Machias Cong. Ch., \$6.50; Searsport, Aux., \$7; Gorham, Aux., to const. L.M.'s Mrs. Adeline Mordough and Miss Jane Noyes, \$50, \$69 00
 Total, \$69 00

C. Home Building-Fund.

Maine Branch. — Gorham "Mission-Workers," of wh. \$50 to const. L.M.'s Daisy R. Waterman, Kittie Garland, \$60 00

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Bedford. — "Buds of Promise," \$8 00
Fisherville. — Mrs. M. A. W. Fiske, 5 00
Webster — Cong. S. S., 25 00
 Total, \$38 40

VERMONT.

Vermont Branch. — Mrs. Geo. H. Fox, Treas., Burlington, Aux., \$10; Castleton, Aux., \$7; Springfield, Aux., \$35; Townshend, Aux., \$13; Bridport, "Lakeside Gleaners," \$85; East St. Johnsbury, Aux., to const. L. M. Mrs. Esther McCurdy, \$25; Vergennes Cong. S. S., for pupil in the Harpoot Fem. Sem., \$40; Rutland, Aux., towards Miss Norris's rent, Bombay, \$42.25; Orwell, Aux., with prev. contri., to const. L. M. Mrs. O. H. Bascom, \$257 25
East Hardwick. — "Wayside Gleaners," 10 00
Fairlee. — Mrs. H. Kibbey, 1 40
Grafton. — A few ladies, 17 00
Montpelier. — Mrs. George W. Scott, 3 00
 Total, \$288 65

MASSACHUSETTS.

Athol. — Aux., \$45 44
Beverly. — Dane-st. Ch., Aux,

of wh. \$25 by Hon. F. W. Choate to const. L. M. Miss Helen Norwood, \$75 to const. L. M.'s Mrs. Mary A. Foster, Mrs. Sarah D. Woodberry, Miss Mary E. Tuck,	\$100 00
<i>Boston.</i> — Mrs. S. C. Chandler, \$2; Mrs. B. Perkins, \$5; Mrs. J. W. Field, \$25; Mary E. Beck, \$1; N. R. K., \$7.60; Mrs. Charles E. Jewett, for B. R. under Miss Hance, \$60; Mrs. S. Blasland, \$5; a friend, \$3; Union Ch., a friend, \$10; "Children's Mission-Circle," \$10; Miss Parcher, \$1; Mt. Vernon Ch., Mrs. James W. Kimball, \$25; Old South Ch., "Bartlett Band," \$30,	184 60
<i>Boston Highlands.</i> — Eliot Ch., Aux.,	20 00
<i>Bradford.</i> — A friend,	1 00
<i>Brocton.</i> — Aux.,	51 00
<i>Cambridge.</i> — Mr. McKenzie's S. S., four classes,	16 55
<i>Conway.</i> — Aux., to const. L. M. Mrs. William C. Campbell,	25 00
<i>Charlton.</i> — Mrs. J. Haven,	2 00
<i>Dedham.</i> — "Broad Oak Helpers,"	7 56
<i>East Braintree.</i> — "Monatiquot Mission-Circle,"	6 00
<i>East Claremont.</i> — Aux.,	3 00
<i>East Hampton.</i> — Aux.,	104 20
<i>East Somerville.</i> — Franklin-st. Ch., Aux.,	14 60
<i>Fall River.</i> — Aux., for Miss Seymour's sal'y, \$337; "Willing Helpers," towards two pupils in the Harpoot Fem. Sem., \$60,	397 00
<i>Gardner.</i> — Little Boys' Miss'y Box,	1 00
<i>Gloucester.</i> — Aux., towards pupil in the C. Home,	30 00
<i>Groveland.</i> — Sarah Tuttle, \$5; Mrs. Laura S. Atwood, 2,	7 00
<i>Hopkinton.</i> — Aux.,	35 00
<i>Lancaster.</i> — St.,	5 00
<i>Littleton.</i> — C. M. H.'s Miss'y Box,	1 00
<i>Lowell.</i> — Aux., of wh. \$25 by Kirk-st. S. S., to const. L. M. Mrs. Horace B. Shattuck; \$25 John-st. Cong. Soc'y, to const. L. M. Mrs. Joseph B. Seabury; \$25 by Mr. A. G. Cunnock to const. L. M. Mrs. Cunnock,	156 00
<i>Marblehead.</i> — Aux.,	20 00
<i>Medford.</i> — "McCullom Mission-Circle," pupil at Marsovan,	40 00
<i>Newburyport.</i> — "Belleville Mission-Circle," pupil in the C. Home,	125 00
<i>Plymouth.</i> — A friend,	5 00
<i>South Amherst.</i> — Aux., to const. L. M. Mrs. M. F. Armstrong,	25 00
<i>South Egremont.</i> — "Buds of Promise," pupil Uduville Fem. Sem.,	30 00
<i>South Framingham.</i> — Aux.,	14 38
<i>South Sudbury.</i> — Aux., \$10; "Mayflowers," \$40,	50 00

<i>Springfield Branch.</i> — Miss H. S. Buckingham, Treas., Mrs. H. M. Loveland, \$100; West Springfield, "Mite-Gatherers," pupil Mrs. Bissell's sch., \$30; pupil Inanda, \$30,	\$160 49
<i>Taunton.</i> — Aux., of wh. \$75 to const. L. M.'s Mrs. William J. Breed, Mrs. Ann D. Reed, Mrs. Benj. C. Hatch,	77 52
<i>Williamsburg.</i> — "Juvenile Miss'y Soc'y,"	19 04
<i>Winchester.</i> — "Seek-and-Save Soc'y," sale of bulbs,	10 00
Total,	\$1,789 38

C. Home Building-Fund.

<i>Dorchester.</i> — Second Ch., Aux., Mrs. Nathan Carruth,	\$50 00
<i>Salem.</i> — Tabernacle Ch., Aux.,	25 00
<i>Watertown.</i> — Aux., for shelf in library,	25 00

RHODE ISLAND.

<i>Rhode Island Branch.</i> — Miss Anna S. White, Treas., Slatersville, Aux., \$10; Central Falls, Aux., of wh. \$50 by Mrs. Joseph Wood to const. Louise A. Tracy and herself L.M.'s, \$66; Barrington, Aux., \$30; Newport, Aux., \$250; United Cong. Ch. S. S., \$274.94 for Miss Payson's sal'y; Providence, Beneficent Ch., Mrs. E. E. W. Field, Milton, Mass., to const. L. M. Miss Elizabeth Eliot Vose, Prov., \$25,	\$655 94
Total,	\$655 94

C. Home Building-Fund.

<i>Rhode Island Branch.</i> — Beneficent Ch., Mrs. S. Millett Thompson, for child's shelf in the library, marked Alice White Thompson,	\$10 00
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CONNECTICUT.

<i>Fair Haven.</i> — A.,	\$2 00
<i>Hartford Branch.</i> — Mrs. Chas. A. Jewell, Treas., Hartford, Centre Ch., Aux. (of wh. \$25 by a friend to const. L. M. Mrs. J. W. Cook, \$25 by Mrs. H. A. Perkins to const. herself L. M.), \$321.40; Asylum-hill Church, \$122.85; Windsor-avenue Ch., Aux., of wh. \$25 to const. L. M. Mrs. J. B. Gregg, \$50; Park Ch., Aux., \$116.50; Pearl-st. Ch., Aux., of wh. \$25 to const. L. M. Miss Lottie H. Hubbard, with prev. contri. to const. L. M. Miss Etta Hubbard, \$139; South Ch., Aux., \$77, S. S. support of Lucy, \$30; "Scathyord Mission-Circle," \$6; Enfield, Aux., \$75.55;	

Rockville, Aux., \$10; Newington, Aux., \$10; Windsor Locks, Aux., to const. L. M. Mrs. Roderick Kendall, \$25; Berlin, Aux., \$14; Terryville, Aux., \$13; four little girls, 43 cts.; Hampton, Aux., \$10.10; West Hartland, \$12; Plainville, Aux., Mrs. L. P. Buell, as a testimonial to Mrs. Marsh, to const. L. M. Mrs. Candace Whiting, \$25; Unionville, Aux., \$45.02; Glastenbury, Aux., \$145.75; \$1,248.60. For printing report, \$24 50, leaving a balance of \$1,224 10

Greenwich.—Second Ch., Aux., 100 00
Lisbon.—Aux., 11 00
New Canaan.—Mrs. Joseph Greenleaf, 1 00

New Haven Branch.—Miss Julia Twining, Treas., Bethlehem, towards p'y't for a sch.-ship at Marsovan, \$10; Bridgeport (of which \$25 to const. L. M. Mrs. J. G. Davenport), \$95.19; Cheshire, Mrs. Paddock's B. C. for pupil at Inanda, \$20.50; Cornwall, to support a pupil at Marsovan, \$40; East Haddam, fr. Mrs. E. E. McCall, to const. L. M. Miss Henrietta McCall, object for wh. it is to be used to be hereafter specified, \$25; Fair Haven, Second Cong. Ch., \$36.05; New Britain, Centre Ch. (of wh. \$25 fr. Miss Julia Stanley to const. L. M. Mrs. James Peck), \$133.34; New Haven, College-st. Ch., \$2; Dwight-place Ch., \$34.50; Howard-ave. Ch., \$40; North Ch. to const. L. M. Mrs. Edward Hawes, \$25; Third Ch., \$8.50; New Milford "Star Circle" (of wh. \$50 for two shares in the Marsovan school-building and \$50 for sch.-ship at Dakota Home), \$100; Northford, to const. L. M. Mrs. George De F. Folsom, \$27.25; North Haven, \$10.80; Prospect, \$1.55; South Canaan, towards L. M.-ship of Mrs. Ellen Manley, \$10; Stamford, for one share in Marsovan school-building, \$25; Thomaston (of wh. \$25 fr. Mr. G. W. Gilbert to const. L. M. Miss Chlos Downes), \$60; Warren, \$7.75; Westport, \$25; Wolcottville, \$20, 757 43

New London Co. Branch.—Mrs. J. C. Learned, Treas., New London, Second Cong. Ch. (of wh. \$50 to const. L. M.'s Mrs. E. B. Jennings, Mrs. R. H. ChapPELL), \$83.22; Griswold Mission-

Circle, \$5; Mystic Bridge Cong. Ch., \$10.40; Old Lyme "Cheerful Givers," \$35; Stonington, Aux., \$34.10, \$167 72
Stafford Springs.—Aux., 22 95
 Total, \$2,286 20

NEW YORK.

Fairport.—Aux., \$20 00
Fredonia.—Miss Martha L. Stevens, 5 00
North Walton.—Aux., 10 50
Sherburne.—Aux., 66 88
Union Falls.—Mrs. Fanny D. Duncan, \$5; Eliza B. Duncan, \$5, 10 00
 Total, \$112 38

PENNSYLVANIA.

Philadelphia Branch.—Mrs. A. W. Goodell, Treas., Washington, D.C., Aux., \$34.45; Orange, N. J., Aux., \$19.25; "Buds for Rebecca," \$10; Jersey City "Earnest Workers," \$34.78; First Ch., Aux., \$33; Mont Clair "Blossoms," \$20; Phila. Central Ch., Aux., \$8.25; "Carrier Doves," \$10, \$219 73
 Total, \$219 73

OHIO.

Mesopotamia.—Mrs. H. R. Parmelee, \$1 00
Windham.—Young Ladies' Mission-Band, 35 67
 Total, \$36 67

IOWA.

Charles City.—"Cricket Circle," \$5 00
Newton.—A friend, 40
Tabor.—Cong. S. S., towards pupil in Udapitty Fem. Sem., 10 00
 Total, \$15 40

CALIFORNIA.

San Francisco.—Miss Martha E. Cummings, \$2; Miss S. M. N. Cummings, \$2, \$4 00
 Total, \$4 00

General Fund, \$5,515 85
 C. Home Building-Fund, 170 00
 "Life and Light," 965 60
 Weekly Pledge, 17 05
 Leaflets, 2 77
 Total, \$6,671 27

MISS EMMA CARRUTH, *Asst. Treas.*

NOTE.—The contribution of \$98.05, reported in the February number as from Broadway Ch., Norwich, should have been the 2d Cong. Ch. of the same place.

Department of the Interior.

INDIA.

EXTRACT FROM MISS RENDALL'S LETTERS.

MADURA, Oct. 29, 1875.

WE shall be thankful when another family comes to our aid, for the work here is more than one person can do. You see where there were once three, — Mrs. Palmer, Mrs. Chandler, and her daughter, — now there is only one ; Miss Sisson's work being quite separate.

I try to console myself by thinking there will be a good time coming soon, when either the Palmers or Chandlers will return; and then the work will be divided, and so much lighter.

You ask me to give a review of the year's work. As I look back, it seems to have been a year of much toil, but almost entirely fruitless. Just now I think I see a little improvement among the boarding-school girls. At the end of the last school-year, so many of the Christian girls graduated, that all this year it has been a real struggle to conquer the disorder, disobedience, and carelessness that reign rampant among these thoughtless girls. The influence of those that left seemed to strengthen the teachers and me wonderfully.

For several weeks past, the cholera has been in the city; and some of our Christians have been swept away by it. I have been hoping and praying that this terrible scourge might prove a great blessing to many of the dear girls in the boarding-school. Not that I wanted them simply to be frightened, and fear death. I wished them all to have such a firm, sweet trust in their Saviour, that the fear of death should be entirely taken away. But all the solemn warnings seemed to drive them away, and make them more careless and light-hearted than before. But God did not leave us to ourselves, and now I see this little cloud arising. What gives me the greatest happiness is, that I see an interest and anxiety among some of the most perverse natures. Surely, "God's ways are not our ways." To-morrow, four of these girls are to be received into the church. I feel thankful for this blessing; but it is not enough, and I believe God will bless us still more. So the

year has not been without fruit. Four precious souls have been saved; and "there is joy in heaven over one sinner that repenteth."

Nov. 6. — The Lord has helped us, and blessed us wonderfully in our city schools the past four months. You remember I wrote you I was going to start a new school for heathen girls in the south part of the city.

I find these south-gate girls very quick and clever in almost every thing. The stories I tell them, they seem to grasp and comprehend beyond any thing I ever saw anywhere else. It would make you glad to see some of the little ones come boldly to the front of the long row of girls, and tell some of the Bible stories they have learned, in their pretty childish way.

I was pleased, a few days ago, to see how conscientious and impressible one of these girls was. She is the oldest and largest girl in school, perhaps eleven years of age. That morning she had been very naughty, and had not tried to do her work nicely. So I told the girls a story to illustrate her conduct; but before I could come to any personalities, when there was silence for a moment, she hung her head, now quite ashamed, and exclaimed, "Ammah, did you tell that story just on my account?"

I was quite surprised; for I did not suppose the child would think I had any reference to her, until I should bring it out quite plainly. If these young consciences are so tender, and a truth is so easily impressed upon these minds, may we not hope that many precious seeds may be sown that will bring forth abundant fruit in the harvest-time?

Please pray much for the teachers of these schools and the little children who attend them, and remember especially the boarding-school.

EUROPEAN TURKEY.

LETTER FROM CARRIE.

THIS is a translation of a letter written to Miss Maltbie by Carrie about her work for Christ in Bansko. She is the same little girl mentioned in the "Life and Light" for December, 1870. She is now about sixteen years of age. She went to spend vacation with a schoolmate for rest; and the love of Jesus led her to do what she could for him during the time. She wants to become a Bible-

woman, and is praying for a baptism of the Holy Ghost to prepare her for her work.

BANSKO, EUROPEAN TURKEY, 1875.

MY BELOVED TEACHER, — I will write to you a little of the things which have happened since I left you.

I had heard of this mountain-road, how very hard it was to pass over it; but now I know by experience. The mountain-air for the lungs is very stimulating, and the beautiful views very pleasant to the eyes; but for the feet the road is very hard. The air of Bansko is very pleasant and does me good. The people, too, are very friendly; and I find it easy to open conversation with them. Since I came, I have visited in many houses; and it has been my desire to be useful, even in a small degree, in this place. The thought that has constantly been in my mind, and impelled me to do the more for Jesus is this, "To-day is the best and only opportunity I have to work for the Saviour; and, as for to-morrow, I hope to live to see it, but I have no promise." Many times I went out on the street without having any place in mind to visit; but I knew God had prepared work for me for the day, because I committed my way to him, and trusted in his faithful promise. With this confidence I went forth; and some one would stop me to look at my dress, or to ask me some questions; and I would improve the opportunity to tell them of Jesus, feeling this was an opportunity given me by him. They were the more eager to hear, for they are a very religious people, and are not satisfied with the faith they now have: besides, most of them are very poor, and greatly need the comfort which can only be found by trusting in Christ.

They wondered very much when I told them of the salvation our Redeemer has wrought out for us all, and that fasting, trust in the saints, and penances, were entirely useless.

One holiday I was invited to visit at the house of a friend who has wealthy neighbors. I had not been there long, before many of them came in to hear me read the Bible, and sing. We talked with them some about the duty of mothers to their children. But poor mothers! For a pity they knew almost nothing of their duty, and even confessed that they had many times beaten their poor children without cause, and at other times praised them when they ought to have been punished. It was very evident that they had need to learn the first principles of Christianity. They all

listened eagerly, as I explained, from John x., of the way which leads to heaven, and of the gate through which they must enter it; and I was much interested in the questions they asked. The harvest here is ripe, and there is much need of workers sent of the Master into the harvest. Oh, how pleasant it is to tell the "old, old story" of Jesus Christ!

Soon I shall see you, and will tell you all the rest.

Your pupil,

CARRIE TODROVA.

JAPAN.

EXTRACT FROM MISS DUDLEY'S LETTERS.

DEC. 21, 1875.

A GREAT SORROW has come to us in the death of Mrs. Emily Gulick. She came from Kalgan, North China, with her husband, Rev. John Gulick, hoping he might recruit his health. Her death was sudden, though not entirely unexpected by herself. She was patient and cheerful, and, on the morning of the day she died, she sang "Safe in the arms of Jesus;" and we all felt that even here, she was living in his presence. Her body rests in a sheltered corner of our own large lot; and her soul is with Him whom she loved and lived for. The first death of an adult in our circle makes us realize how little a life we have to live here. [Many in America will remember this missionary of English birth, who had with her a little Chinese girl whom she had adopted.] . . . I wish to acknowledge here a package of fancy articles and a bed-quilt from the young ladies of Cuyahoga Falls, O., brought by Miss Wheeler. . . . My time is fully occupied, attending to every thing in the Home outside of the schoolroom, and having the advanced class in universal history, composed of six of our best girls, also helping some of the older girls in their classes. We have thirty-six scholars, only six of whom are boarding in the Home. We are going to lose one, who goes to join her husband. He has been in England two years, and came back prejudiced against Christianity. But he is changing now; and she is full of faith for him; though the tears fall at thought of leaving us. This is the beginning of many such trials; but, if each dear girl goes forth strong in her Saviour, we shall gladly give them up.

Most of my missionary work is in Hiogo, the native town, Kobe being the foreign concession; have a walk of a mile and a half

four times a week. It has been a hard field, but we have signs of a coming harvest.

Have had a large class of medical students in Sunday school, and finally three of the physicians themselves; hope to start a class for women sabbath afternoons, as they cannot go out in the mornings.

I go now to Amaga-Saki, a city of ten thousand inhabitants, once in two weeks,—eighteen miles by rail. There is regular preaching by one of the young men; and the audiences are large. My heart yearns over the dear lambs of the fold left in Sanda; and I hope to spend part of the holidays there. There are to be several additions to the church here on New Year's sabbath.

The following extract is of much older date, but too interesting to be omitted.

“The little lady,” as we call her, a bright, pretty woman, had begun the difficult task of dressing herself and children in foreign clothes. The Japanese baste their garments together, to be taken apart at every washing. She wanted to learn to sew; and for six weeks I spent two hours a day at their house, teaching the wife and a sister to sew, and the grandmother to knit. The old lady, who in her drab robe, white kerchief, and spectacles, looked like one of our ideal grandmothers, seemed quite proud as the little red stocking grew slowly from her fingers. The garments showed what could be *well* done, by those who, all their lives, had only folded their white hands, and been waited upon.

AFRICA.

PART OF MISS DAY'S LETTER.

AMANZIMTOTE, SOUTH AFRICA, Oct. 28, 1875.

A YEAR ago, there was apparently a good degree of religious interest in the school, which seemed to be a continuation of the state of feeling the previous term, though there had been two months' vacation between.

Two or three evenings in the week, sometimes every night after the evening session of the school, the boys met in the dining-room for a short prayer-meeting. During this term of which I speak, and the previous one, eighteen of the pupils expressed earnest desires to begin the Christian life; and others manifested more or

less interest in their souls' salvation by words or acts. Many of them have since given evidence of true conversion. We are grateful for this, but long to see the work going on and increasing.

This term, there has seemed to be a very general interest in study, and earnest attention to Mr. Wilder's stirring appeals to them to come to Christ now.

Of work outside of the school, I do less than I would like to do. Since taking charge of the boarding establishment connected with the seminary, I have less time for visiting the people than before. Only on Monday afternoons am I free to go out among them. I enjoy it very much, and shall gladly embrace any opportunity in the coming vacation for spending some time in that way.

PEKIN, NORTH CHINA.

EXTRACTS FROM MISS CHAPIN'S LETTER.

WE are very soon to lose three, and probably four Christian girls from our school; but we are glad to feel that others are coming forward to take their places, not only for their own sakes, but for the sake of the school. Three of these girls are to be married within a few months; and one of them has already gone home to make preparations. She is the one who has been longest with us, having been the first pupil Mrs. Bridgman obtained when she opened the school, more than ten years ago. This girl has been a great comfort and help to us, especially since she occupied the place of eldest girl in the school, which has been for more than a year. She has exerted a quiet but very strong influence over the girls; and it has always been for good. She is a girl of sweet disposition, and not at all self-asserting, still possessing a great deal of quiet dignity and firmness. She was a great favorite with the girls, and there was much lamentation among them when she went away. We regretted her going quite as much, and probably more, on some accounts, than did her schoolmates.

Greatly to our regret, these girls who are just leaving us are all to marry heathen husbands. We were not able to make betrothals for them to Christian young men; and, as an early betrothal and marriage is considered indispensable for the respectability of Chinese girls, their parents took the matter into their own hands, and made the arrangements themselves. Indeed, I doubt whether they would have given their consent to any arrangement that we might

have proposed. Although we feel sorry not to have them marry Christian men, we have more hope of their being able to hold to their Christian character than we have had for most of the girls who have hitherto gone out from the school. They have been with us a good while, and we think they have the truth not only well grounded in their *minds*; but we hope it is firmly rooted in their *hearts*, and trust it will bear fruit in their lives.

Besides these girls who are so soon to be married, there is one other in our first class, who is not betrothed that we are aware of; but her time is nearly out, and we have understood that her grandmother, who has the care of her, intends to take her away as soon as it expires. That will leave us with a younger class of pupils than there has been in the school for many years, and will diminish our number to fifteen. We hope to have some new pupils soon.

This is a time of depression and barrenness in every department of missionary work here; but as "the darkest hour is just before dawn," so we are hoping and praying that the dawn of a brighter day may be just before us. A great many are looking with earnest expectation for the speedy outpouring of the Spirit upon these barren wastes; and, when that shall come, we know that even this desert land shall "rejoice and blossom as the rose."

I feel sure that you are joining your prayers with ours for this greatly needed blessing.

Home Department.

RESPONSES TO OUR CENTENNIAL CIRCULAR.

"YES, we are ready to help. At our meeting in January, we decided to follow the example of our Methodist sisters, who meet once a month for prayer and missionary reading, followed by a social tea. Every member pays one dollar a year. In accordance with our invitation, fifteen or twenty came together. Several paid the dollar at once; and others will pay quarterly. Prayers were offered for missions. Miss Collins's letter was read, and from the February 'Herald' the articles entitled 'Treasury Department,' 'Retrenchment in the Light of Experience,' and 'Centennial

Work.' We had a very pleasant and social time. In this case, 'tea has become a means of grace.' I think the ladies may become quite interested in missions. While we are together, we shall make use of our hands in some way for good. Some will knit mittens for the poor around us; others will cut and baste patch-work for the children in mission schools to sew, and will send it to the secretaries of the Woman's Board of Missions for the Interior, 75 Madison Street. We will try and take a share in each of these enterprises."

"I have received your Centennial Circular; and, having missionary friends who have children in this country to be educated, I would prefer that the mite I have to offer should be applied to defray the expenses of their education. Had I the vigor of fifteen or twenty years ago, I should be glad to offer a home to one if no more of them. There is a great tenderness in my heart for these lonely ones; for my path in life has been lonely also. Left fatherless in infancy, and motherless at the age of sixteen, there has been a great want, a craving, all my life, for a parent's love, and a home with father and mother."

"Your Circular of centennial work was read at our last missionary meeting, and the question asked, 'Shall we assume some of these shares?' Our meeting was small, owing to bad weather; but we voted to assume at least one share in addition to our other pledge, and hope we may do more."

"Last year we only sent you twenty-three dollars and some cents: this year, we pledge you fifty dollars. Besides this, we want to take one of the ten-dollar-shares set forth in the Circular."

"The Centennial Circular was read to the ladies of our society at their monthly meeting. Much interest was felt in all the objects, for which additional contributions were solicited; and it was decided that we would take five shares, without specifying to which of the three objects the money should be devoted. This we propose to do in addition to the fifty dollars pledged for Miss Hillis, hoping, however, that we shall not be obliged to limit our offerings to this amount."

"You say that you long for more grace. Did you ever *long*, and not receive?" — *Fidelia Fiske*.

A MISSIONARY MEETING IN MICHIGAN.

Our company of four delegates started early for the conference, which convened at H——.

We arrived a little before ten o'clock, the hour appointed for the meeting. As there was but one room in the church, the ladies met in a private house. Only three churches were represented. Others had appointed delegates, but bad travelling prevented their attendance.

We were kindly received, however, and most of the forenoon was spent in reading documents relating to woman's missionary work, in answering questions, and in discussion. The afternoon session was a lively one. All had become interested in the subject, and were not slow to express their interest. The wife of a German pastor was very enthusiastic, promising that she would do all she could to help the work along. The ladies of H—— will form an auxiliary immediately. One thought she could spare a little butter to make up her contribution; others, that they could pick a few more berries, &c. You may be sure that every cent raised will be the fruit of some self-denial.

I had felt no anxiety about the final result; for the work was the Lord's, and he had been guiding and controlling the whole matter, removing obstacles, cheering and sustaining us through all our preparations, in so marked a manner, that we could have no doubt about our duty. You may judge of the deep gratitude of every heart when our efforts were crowned with such signal success. But, if our cup was filled before, it overflowed when we received from members of the conference words of hearty appreciation and sympathy. I think it will not be difficult to secure the co-operation of nearly all the pastors; and, if the subject can be fully brought before the churches, a spirit of self-sacrifice will be developed that will surprise all. The great need is more information.

FAREWELL MEETINGS IN ELGIN, ILL., AND CHICAGO.

THE church at Elgin, Ill., gave its parting words and benediction to Miss Starkweather in a public meeting, Feb. 10. Although a resident of only two years standing in that place, she had by her activity in Christian labors, and by her rare personal character, endeared herself to a circle reaching much beyond the church of

which she was a member. This was abundantly evident in the large attendance, the tender interest of the services, and the many tears with which the farewell words were said. Miss Dudley of the Japan mission, to which Miss Starkweather also goes, is from the same church, while the immediate neighborhood has given to this mission Rev. (Col.) Davis and wife, and Mrs. Doane.

S. J. H.

ON Thursday, Feb. 17, a meeting was held in Chicago to take leave of Miss Alice J. Starkweather of Elgin, Ill., and Miss Martha J. Barrows of Middlebury, Vt., who left for Japan on the 18th, with Rev. H. H. Leavitt and wife.

After opening prayer by Prof. S. C. Bartlett, Miss Barrows was introduced by her former pastor, Rev. Prof. J. T. Hyde, who said a few words of earnest commendation, having previously given her the highest testimonials as a devoted Christian and a woman of unusual executive ability. Rev. Mr. Humphrey made a brief address upon the work of missions in Japan; and a few words were said by Mr. Sawayama, a Christian Japanese, now being educated at Evanston, Ill., for future missionary work in his native country. A few words of farewell on behalf of the Woman's Board of Missions for the Interior were spoken by Mrs. Moses Smith. The consecrating prayer was offered by Rev. William A. Bartlett, after which the meeting was of a social character.

SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR LIFE AND LIGHT

Should be sent to Secretary Woman's Board of Missions, Congregational House, Boston, and not to the Chicago Secretaries, as, if sent to Chicago, the money must be re-mailed to Boston.

ALL MONEY FOR THE W. B. M. I.

Should be sent to the Treasurer, Mrs. Francis Bradley, Evanston, Ill., rather than to the Secretaries in Chicago, as, if sent to Chicago, it must be re-mailed to Evanston.

FORMER SUBSCRIBERS TO THE ECHOES'

Should now subscribe for the WELL-SPRING. Send for it to John Fairbanks, 54 Madison Street, Chicago.

TERMS FOR WELL-SPRING.

Weekly,	65 cents per annum, postage prepaid
Semi-monthly,	33 " " " " "
Monthly,	16 " " " " "

A St. Louis correspondent writes, "I am delighted that the 'Echoes' are in 'The Well-Spring.' If that can only be strewn broadcast over the land, may we not reasonably hope for a more intelligent generation to succeed us as missionary workers?"

"Always be ready to do the work, and let others have the name of it." — *One of the Excellent Missionary Fathers.*

RECEIPTS OF THE WOMAN'S BOARD OF MISSIONS OF THE INTERIOR.

FROM JAN. 15, 1876, TO FEB. 15, 1876.

MRS. FRANCIS BRADLEY, TREASURER.

OHIO.	MICHIGAN.
<i>Akron.</i> — Aux., Miss S. W. Ashmun, Treas., \$16 00	<i>Canandaigua.</i> — Aux., \$5 50
<i>Cleveland Heights.</i> — Aux., Mrs. Fannie Lamson, Treas., 26 00	<i>Detroit.</i> — "Sunbeam Band," for school at Battalagundu, and, with previous contri., to const. May Hinsdale, Mary Yeager, Linnie Wheaton, Fannie Eddy, Nellie Scripps, Florence Taylor, Mary Lane, and Lulu Griggs L. M.'s, 20 00
<i>Hudson.</i> — Aux., to complete support of two Bible-readers in Madura, 37 85	<i>Eastern Conference S. Schools.</i> — For purchase of horse for Miss Pinkerton, Livonia S. S., 75 cts.; New Baltimore S. S., \$3.05; Romeo S. S., \$5; Armada S. S., \$4; New Haven S. S., 61 cts.; Flat Rock, Aux., \$2, 15 41
<i>Lodi.</i> — Aux., Mrs. A. H. Robbins, Treas., 5 00	<i>East Saginaw.</i> — Teachers' Mission-Circle, for share in Japan newspaper, 10 00
<i>Madison.</i> — Aux., for scholarship at Erzroom, Mrs. H. E. Hendry, Treas., 13 00	<i>Flint.</i> — Aux., for Stomata Ar-niseaie of Samokov, Mrs. E. L. Bangs, Tr., 15 00
<i>Oberlin.</i> — Children's Miss. Soc., to be applied upon Mrs. Mumford's salary, Mrs. E. P. Chamberlain, Treas., 30 00	<i>Fruitport.</i> — Mrs. E. W. Fletcher and daughters, 6 00
<i>Ravenna.</i> — Aux., Mrs. E. R. Waite, Treas., 8 52	<i>Grand Rapids.</i> — Aux., for support of Bible-reader in Nico-media, 22 00
<i>Tallmadge.</i> — Aux., Mrs. L. M. Sackett, Treas., 30 50	<i>Kalamazoo.</i> — Aux., for salary of teacher in Marash school, 20 00
<i>Twinsburg.</i> — Aux., Miss Fannie L. Wilcox, Treas., 5 00	<i>Leslie.</i> — Aux., 2 00
<i>West Andover.</i> — Aux., Miss F. T. Tuttle, Treas., 17 62	<i>Pontiac.</i> — Aux., of wh. \$10 is to complete scholarship in Mrs. Cofling's school, the remainder for Miss Pinkerton's salary, 30 00
Total, \$189 49	<i>Romeo.</i> — Aux., of wh. \$10 is for
INDIANA.	
<i>Angola.</i> — Aux., Mrs. E. C. Andrus, Treas., \$7 00	
<i>Indianapolis.</i> — Mayflower Ch., Aux., 4 75	
<i>Portland.</i> — Ladies of Liberia, 8 00	
Total, \$19 75	

Miss Pinkerton's salary, the remainder for the Bridgman school, and to const. Mrs. Seth L. Andrews L. M., \$60 00

Total, \$205 91

ILLINOIS.

Aurora. — 1st Cong. Ch., Aux., \$26 50

Chicago. — 1st Ch., Aux., \$135.03; Mamie Newcomb, 60 cts.; Leavitt-st. Ch., Aux., \$50; New England Ch., Aux., \$80.81; Union Park Ch., Aux., \$80.60; Mrs. J. L. Pickard, \$25, 372 04

Elgin. — Aux., 3 75

Evanston. — "Towel-Hemmers," 2 79

Hoyleton. — S. S. Miss. Society, E. Harper, Treas., 7 00

Lake Forest. — Miss M. N. Hathaway, 25 00

La Salle. — Aux., Mrs. E. B. Treat, Treas., 9 75

Lombard. — 1st Ch. S. S., for Bridgman school, 15 06

Peoria. — Plymouth Ch. S. S., for Bridgman school, 15 00

Quincy. — Aux., with prev. cont. to const. Miss E. M. Lewis L. M., Mrs. E. Littlefield, Treas., 15 00

Rockford. — Mrs. H. A. Sandford, for children of missionaries, 10 00

Waukegan. — Aux., Mrs. H. E. Partridge, Treas., 6 00

Wheaton. — Aux., for salary of Miss Dudley, Mrs. J. M. Chapman, Sec., 13 15

Total, \$521 04

WISCONSIN.

Bristol and Paris. — Ladies of Cong. Ch., for salary of Mrs. Curtis, \$15 00

Delavan. — Aux., to complete amount pledged for Mrs. Coffing's tours, Miss Josie Stevens, Sec., 2 81

Kenosha. — Aux., for school at Erzzoom, Mrs. Isaac Clapp, Sec., 31 00

Madison. — Aux., for support of schools in Cesarea. Turkey, and to const. Mrs. Alexander Kerr, L. M., 30 00

Menasha. — Aux., 12 25

Milwaukee. — Mission Band, for salary of ass't teacher at Manissa, Mrs. C. N. Childs, Sec., 25 00

New Lisbon. — Aux., \$16; Young People's Mission Circle, \$6.77, 22 77

Princeton. — Mrs. C. D. Richards, 1 00

Racine. — Aux., for Manissa school, \$71 30

Sparta. — Aux., for Manissa school, Mrs. R. M. Dunlevy, Tr., 9 25

Shullsburg. — Aux., Emma L. Virdin, Tr., 2 50

Total, \$222 88

IOWA.

Chester. — Aux., for support of Tenny, in Samokov school, \$17 25

Des Moines. — Aux., for salary of Miss Hillis, 25 00

Denmark. — Aux., to const. Mrs. Isaac Field L. M., Miss Ella J. Brackett, Tr., 25 00

Fairfield. — Aux., Mrs. D. Webster, Tr., 10 75

Grinnell. — Aux., \$30; Cong. Ch., Miss. Soc., \$29; all for salary of Miss Hillis, 59 00

McGregor. — Aux., for support of Shimon Hariturian of Harpoot, Mrs. R. Grant, Tr., 7 90

New Hampton. — Aux., Mrs. E. F. Powers, 1 00

Sabula. — Aux., toward salary of Miss Whipple, 10 00

Toledo. — Mrs. E. N. Barker, for teacher at Hadjin, 10 00

Total, \$165 90

MINNESOTA.

Hamilton. — Aux., Miss C. J. Anderson, Tr., \$9 00

Total, \$9 00

MISSOURI.

St. Louis. — "Pilgrim Workers" of Pilgrim Cong. Ch., for salary of Miss Anderson, Miss Mary Jones, Pres., \$25 00

Total, \$25 00

COLORADO.

Colorado Springs. — Aux., \$3 85

Total, \$3 85

MISCELLANEOUS.

Sale of Pamphlets, \$6 35

Envelopes, 1 97

Total, \$8 32

Total, \$1,371 14

ERRATA. — In the March number, in receipts from Ohio, instead of \$25 from Sheffield auxiliary, read \$30; instead of \$95 from Elyria auxiliary, read \$75; making total from Elyria \$115, and total from Ohio \$631.81.

MARY E. GREENE, Secretary.

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Life and Light for Woman

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