

# FOREIGN MISSION JOURNAL

Published Monthly by the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

"ALL POWER IS GIVEN UNTO ME IN HEAVEN AND IN EARTH. GO YE, THEREFORE, AND TEACH ALL NATIONS."

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## FOREIGN MISSION JOURNAL.

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All communications in reference to the business of this Board should be addressed to H. A. TUPPER, Corresponding Secretary, Richmond, Va.

### THE BUSINESS OF THE BOARD.

In the May number we gave some account of the organization of the Foreign Mission Board, its purposes and modes of procedure. In this we take up the conduct of its financial affairs. As an intermediary between the churches and the missions, it has business connections with both, collecting from the one, disbursing to the other. The Corresponding Secretary devotes a large part of his time to the collection of money for the support of missionaries, the erection of chapels, the maintenance of schools and the publication of the Scriptures in foreign lands. The simpler and easier work of transmitting funds to their destination is attended to by the Treasurer.

The Board gets annually from each mission station a full account of expenditures and an estimate of what will be needed for salaries, rents, schools, building, &c., for the incoming year. These accounts and estimates are scrutinized in committee and then by the whole Board. Thereupon appropriations are made as large as the financial prospect will justify, and the missionaries are informed of the amount which will probably be at their disposal, and allowed to expand or instructed to contract their work accordingly. Contraction, when necessary, is made in the expenses for schools, out-stations or native assistants. No appropriation is absolute, but subject to increase or diminution during the year, according to circumstances; the missionaries, however, must keep their ordinary expenses within the amount appropriated.

Funds are transmitted in one or the other of two ways, both of which cost about the same. If the state of the treasury will allow, the missionaries are authorized to make *drafts* and negotiate them. It is a gratifying fact that the Board has always met its obligations promptly, and has thereby secured a standing in commercial circles, which enables its employees to get drafts discounted at the lowest

market rates. By this method the missionary gets his money as soon as he needs it, and the Treasurer has nothing to do but pay the draft when presented. The churches ought to make the stream of their contributions so constant that we might give all missionaries standing authority to draw quarterly in advance. But sometimes there is reason to fear that large drafts could not be met, and then authority to draw is withheld, and as funds come in the Treasurer remits from time to time. Remittances must follow, as drafts also do, the channels of trade through New York and London or Liverpool. Neither our notes nor our coins pass as money outside of America—our currency must be converted into Sterling Exchange, and this again into the *Lire* of Italy, the *Cowries* of Africa, or the *Cash* of China. For this work our Treasurer is peculiarly well situated, in being the cashier of a Bank, and therefore familiar with the fluctuations of the money-market—he uses for us his best skill and judgment, without any other reward than the answer of a good conscience. All who know anything about foreign exchange will appreciate the fact that it costs something to transmit money, and that it reaches its destination in very different shape from that in which it started; but occasionally a good sister will accompany her contribution, say for Moses Stone, with a request that his receipt for the amount be returned to her. She forgets that we have no safe way of sending a five dollar greenback to Africa, and that, if sent, it would not buy in Oghomoshio so much as a loaf of bread.

For raising money we rely on agencies, societies, special contributions and, chiefly, on regular collections taken in the churches by their own pastors and deacons. A word or two on each of these.

Agents are employed in several States to go from place to place, present the cause, disseminate information and collect money. It is common to speak of them as "necessary evils," and doubtless they do occasion mischief by tempting some to wait till personally called on for their contributions, or to give nothing except when so visited, but it may well be doubted whether these evils attach to the importunate beggars or lie at the doors of those who will not give without such importunity. When all our churches shall do their duty without solicitation, travelling agents may be entirely dispensed with, for then the millennium will be near at hand, if not already come; but at present, so many of our people are necessarily so much engaged with their own affairs, that they forget the claims of missions unless reminded by some one who makes it his business. The experience of the Board, in its efforts to do without agents, has abundantly demonstrated their necessity. We hope, however, that all our agents will look not merely to the present, but to the future, and that by extending the circulation of the JOURNAL and encouraging the churches to carry out plans of systematic giving, they will gradually render their work less and less necessary and be enabled to return to more congenial employments.

Of societies, co-operating with or working through the Board, the most numerous and most effective are the organizations among the ladies,—they ought to be extended in all the States. Woman under heathen customs is deeply degraded; christianity has

done much for her and "she loveth much." Every town surely, and many country neighborhoods, should have their woman's societies, to glean after the reapers and gather up the little sums that would else be lost. The Board employs as many female as male missionaries. Why should not the ladies of the South support the ladies of our missions?

Special contributions are earnestly invited. If any person or church feels special interest in any branch of our work and will contribute for it, the Board is bound by its own rules to carry out the wishes of donors whenever made known. Anything given for the Rome chapel or for the Canton residence will be added to the amounts already collected for those objects, but contributions to any mission for its regular work must be counted as part of the appropriation thereto made, and in case the contributions in any year should exceed the amount of the appropriation to that mission, the excess will go to its credit and increase the appropriation for the ensuing year. If any society or other body is inclined to undertake any special work, the Corresponding Secretary will gladly help them to make a selection. In this connection we mention the obvious propriety of making efforts to raise money in the colored churches for our African mission.

But after all, agents, societies and special donations are but as scouts, skirmishers and detached battalions—very useful in any army—yet victory depends not on these, but on the steady advance of solid columns of infantry. We must rely, we hope to rely more and more confidently, on the measured tread, the resistless advance of the hosts of God's elect, organized according to his own appointment and marshalled under officers of his own choosing. If the churches would appoint a suitable time once a year or oftener to contribute for Foreign Missions, if the pastors would inform themselves and their flocks about the progress and needs of our stations, and if the deacons would see that every member be invited to give something to this cause, there would be no lack of means to carry on the Lord's work.

All money collected is sent to the Corresponding Secretary, receipted for by postal card and entered on his cash book, a condensed transcript of which is published monthly in the JOURNAL. He does not pay it out for any purpose whatsoever, but deposits it daily in bank, and once a week transfers the sum on hand to the credit of the Treasurer, giving him therewith a statement, not of all the items, but only of the amount received from each State. The Treasurer, therefore, does not cumber his books with a multitude of entries, but keeps his account of receipts by States only. He disburses, whether to meet drafts, make remittances or pay little incidental expenses, only as directed by the Board and upon the order of the President. All bills and accounts are examined by the Finance Committee and regularly audited. It will be seen that the counting of all money by several different persons, the Secretary's book, the Treasurer's book, the receipts sent to parties and the published acknowledgments, are checks upon each other which make it well nigh impossible that any mistake, if made, should escape speedy detection.

We have given this matter more space than we can afford, but not more than it deserves. If, in aiming to condense we have sacrificed clearness, we shall be glad to have any questions asked, and will answer to the best of our ability.

## FOREIGN MISSION JOURNAL.

RICHMOND, VA., JUNE, 1877.

OUR MISSIONARIES  
In the Field.

## CHINA.

AT TUNG CHAU.—P. O. Chefoo.—T. P. Crawford, Mrs. Crawford, Mrs. S. J. Holmes, Woo Tsun Chau, (native pastor,) and three native assistants.  
AT SHANGHAI.—M. T. Yates, Mrs. Yates, Wong Ping San, (native pastor,) and one native assistant.  
AT CANTON.—H. H. Graves, Mrs. Graves, Miss Lula Whildon, Yong Seen San, (native pastor,) and eleven native assistants and Bible-women.

## AFRICA.

AT ABIDJAN.—P. O. Lagos.—W. J. David, and two native assistants.  
AT LAGOS.—W. W. Colley, and one native assistant.

## ITALY.

AT ROME.—G. B. Taylor and Signor Cocorda.  
" LA TOUR.—Signor Ferraris.  
" MILAN.—Signor Paschetto.  
" CAMPI.—Signor Martinelli.  
" NAPLES.—Signor Colombo.  
" BARI.—Signor Basile.  
" ISLAND OF SARDINIA.—Signor Cossu.

## At Home.

J. B. Hartwell, Mrs. Hartwell—P. O. Columbus, Ga.  
E. Z. Simmons, Mrs. Simmons—P. O. Kossuth, Miss. N.  
B. Williams, Mrs. Williams—P. O. Montgomery, Ala. Miss  
L. Moon, Miss E. Moon—P. O. Carter's Bridge, Va.

## WRITE TO THEM.

We give the postoffices of our missionaries, with the hope that many will write them a letter occasionally. Think how much you would be delighted, if in their place, to have such expressions of interest. And ask them questions about their work and the people among whom they labor—ignorance is a disgrace only when one makes no effort to get rid of it. The missionaries would write letters better suited to our wants, if they received every month from different quarters, a batch of pertinent inquiries. But do not expect private answers—that would be too great a tax on their time. Ask them to answer you along with others, at their convenience, through the columns of the JOURNAL. The postage on a letter weighing not over half an ounce, is to Italy five cents, to China, (via San Francisco), ten cents, to Africa, fifteen cents.

## IL SEMINATORE.

This monthly, now in its second year, is edited by our missionaries at Rome. It appears in pamphlet form, with 32 pages in each number, and would prove interesting to those of our readers who know Italian. The price for subscribers in America is seven Lire, or about \$1.50 a year. Address, "Il Seminatore, 10 Passeggiata di Ripetta, Roma, Italia."

We take from the April number the following notice of the death of our former missionary, Dr. Cote:

"UNA DOLOROSA NOTIZIA.—Domenica 1 corrente, moriva in Roma il Sig. W. N. Cote, che fu per qualche anno soprintendente dell'opera iniziata in Italia dal nostro Comitato. Egli soccombette ad una pleuritide con complicazione di febbre, sopraggiuntagli in modo fulminante dopo una sua gita a Napoli. Il Sig. Wall, che lo assistette durante la sua breve malattia, ci disse ch'egli ebbe una morte felicissima.—Ci uniamo di cuore a questo voto del *Cristiano Evangelico*. 'Voglia il Signore consolare la sua afflitta famiglia, ed essere il padre dei suoi bambini orfani.'"

## SHALL THEY GO BACK?

Our missionaries in China beg for reinforcement. We have laborers anxious to go and ready to work as soon as they reach the field. Miss Lottie Moon is waiting quietly, but anxiously, holding herself in readiness to start at any time on a week's notice. Brother Simmons and wife are also eager to be

gone; they write begging that the Board will not let another meeting pass without making arrangements for them to start. Only the money is lacking. Fifteen hundred dollars will pay travelling expenses for all three. Let us have, brethren, a special contribution for this object. Some who have already given as usual to Foreign Missions, can add something for so pressing a demand, and any who have failed to heed the general call, surely cannot turn a deaf ear to the plea sounded simultaneously from opposite sides of the earth.

## PRAYER FOR MISSIONS.

We proposed last month to unite with all our readers in a concert of private prayer every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, in the morning, for our missionaries in Italy and Africa, in the evening for those in China. Public and private devotions help to sustain and inspire each other. None can properly lead a congregation in prayer unless they go often into their closets—none can pray faithfully in secret who "forsake the assembling of themselves together."

While, therefore, we continue to pray as above suggested, let us also have more frequent mention of the mission work in our Sunday worship and in our prayer-meetings. The duty of a pastor is to guide his flock by example as well as by precept—the business of those who pray in public is to lead the devotions of the assembly into right channels. Verily, brethren, some of you have been derelict in this matter for these many years. Please begin at once to make amends and publicly plead with God, citing his promises, appealing to his mercy, and begging for the exertion of his power, to bring a rebellious world in subjection to his Anointed.

## SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION.

The meeting of this body, recently held in New Orleans, was pleasant and profitable. The improved spirit of the people, in view of political changes and financial prospects, was apparent in the home-circles, on the streets, in the places of business, and over the whole face of the city. The proverbial hospitality of the place was lavish and superabundant.

The key-note of the meeting was struck in the Convention sermon, on the *Dignity of Service*; and all the brethren seemed to have a mind to work. The Reports of the Boards were encouraging. Some of the committee reports on these Reports were able papers. The speeches, in several instances, were of decided power, and there was an evident expansion and deepening of the missionary spirit. The harmony was well nigh perfect.

The *Foreign Mission Journal* was freely distributed, and many brethren who appreciate the necessity of disseminating missionary intelligence for church and Christian prosperity, promised to secure subscribers for the paper. An eminent minister, who was detained from the Convention by sickness, said: "The thing to be done at New Orleans is to revive the monthly concert of prayer for missions." This idea had seized also on other minds and hearts. Earnest addresses were made on the subject; and the Convention recommended to the churches its regular observance. Dr. Winkler's speech on our *Italian Missions* will be published in tract form. Who will present our Board with a thousand copies for gratuitous distribution, to aid us in raising twenty thousand dollars more to complete our Rome chapel fund? If other speeches and sermons delivered during the Convention could be published and generally circulated, the heart of our Southern Zion would be stirred to follow the "Voice of Providence," which, as one of the reports showed, is

summoning God's servants to enter more freely and fully into the harvest fields of the world.

A large number of the delegates and other visitors went down to the *Jetties*, some hundred and ten miles below New Orleans, in the splendid steamer Robert E. Lee. The Jetties are an elongation of the banks of one of the mouths of the Mississippi for two and a half miles, over the sand bar of the "Southern pass," as this mouth of the river is called, by means of mattresses of willow twigs, which being sunk with stones, and catching the sediment of the river, make artificial banks of growing willows, much firmer than the natural banks themselves. By narrowing the channel the current is increased, and thus the river serves as its own dredge. Instead of eight feet of water on the bar, twenty feet have been secured. When thirty feet have been secured the engineer, Eads, will receive for his grand work eight millions of dollars from the Government. It is calculated, from the rate at which the natural banks have formed, and the distance which the bars keep from the mouths of the passes, that this masterly achievement of science will keep the river open for two centuries!

Thus genius and money are worthily employed to advance the commerce and material prosperity of a great city and of our country. Shall not all the powers of our churches be put forth that the waters of life may have free course and God's word be glorified in the establishment of Christ's kingdom to the ends of the earth?

The same Boards were re-appointed. The place of next meeting is Nashville. The Convention sermon to be preached by Dr. Curry, of Richmond, the President of the Foreign Mission Board.

Dr. Boyce was President of the Convention; Wm. E. Tanner, of Virginia, and Rev. O. F. Gregory, of Alabama, were the Secretaries. "The Proceedings of the Convention" will be issued in a few days from the publishing house of our enterprising brother, A. L. Nelson, No. 57 Camp street, New Orleans, to whom all who wish copies, whether for themselves, their churches, their Associations, or their State Conventions, will apply.

The *Foreign Missionary* of the Presbyterian Church reports quite a revival, which has continued for some months, in Oroomiah, Persia. Meetings are held according to the plan of Moody and Sankey, and with results not unworthy of comparison with theirs. The following is a summary of the intelligence published in the May number:

"The tidings that reach us from the mission-fields are very encouraging. The accessions to the Church in Mexico are many. The work in Siam is growing in interest. At the last communion in Bangkok 4 were admitted, and 10 in Petchaburi. At Chieng-mai 5 were baptized. In Persia the revival continues, and is spreading. In Syria the last year has been one of religious advance. At the last communion, March 11th, at Abeiah, 5 persons were received, 4 of them young men from the academy; 8 on the same day were admitted to the church at Sidon, 6 of whom were pupils in the school. Over 100 were admitted to church privileges in Japan the past year."

A young Mohammedan of Futtahpore, a city some 120 miles westward of Allahabad, straggling slowly along the bazar, picked up a scrap of printed paper which lay on the ground. The broken piece contained a few verses of the 7th chapter of the Gospel of John. The words were used by the Divine Spirit for the production of conviction in his mind, and the result was his conversion to Christ and his identification with his people in that city. Torn up in unbrage, as no doubt the little was, God once more fulfilled his word, and caused even the wrath of man to praise him.

A missionary band of ten girls in Spencerport, N. Y., has raised \$40 during the year.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS.

We have not room to print in full the excellent reports of committees in the Convention, to whom several portions of the annual report of the Board were referred, but present the following extracts:

*From Committee on African Missions.*

None of our missions give brighter promise of immediate beneficent results than those to Africa. A continent of one or two million of souls is open to the missionaries of the cross. In our judgment these missions to Africa should be reinforced as speedily as practicable.

It seems to your Committee specially important that our colored churches in this country be encouraged and urged to send and aid in supporting from among themselves, young colored ministers, educated in the schools, of devout piety and practical judgment, to their fatherland. They are best fitted for the work in Africa. Their own churches would be blessed and developed by engaging in this work.

*From the Committee on Treasurer's Report.*

1. The liberality of our missionary at Shanghai, brother M. T. Yates, in relinquishing his salary, and in building a chapel and school house, ought to stimulate to a corresponding liberality the churches, who should see that this station, as well as our other stations, shall be amply provided for as to men and means.

2. The policy of the Board to reduce appropriations and retain in this country our Missionaries, if necessary to square the accounts of the Board, seems wise to your Committee; but, it is profoundly hoped that the necessity will be obviated by the prompt and liberal offerings of the churches.

3. From the testimony of many among whom these missionary brethren have labored as agents of the Board, it is apparent that the expenses of these agencies have been judicious in view not only of their actual collections, but of the valuable information which they have imparted, and the deeper interest in missions, which they have excited. In regard to the employment of regular agents in the several States, your Committee would express no opinion, but leave that question to the wisdom of the Board.

*From Committee on China Missions.*

The doctrine we desire to emphasize, is, that the Chinaman is a child of Adam, inheriting his depravity and a partaker of his curse. He is our brother, the child of a common parent. The same law condemns him, and the same gospel provides for his redemption. To him prophecy points, and for his salvation, millennial glory waits. For him Christ died. China constituted a vast portion of the travail of his soul, and on the mediatorial throne he will never be satisfied and fully glad until he sees of the travail of his soul.

## RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. We recommend to this Convention, and urge with all possible emphasis, the immediate reinforcement of the force now in the field so soon as adequate funds are secured.

2. That we urge upon the membership at large a study of the theory, history, and practical workings of the mission enterprise. And, therefore, that the delegates present assist to the utmost limit of their ability in securing large subscriptions to the Foreign Mission Journal.

3. That we co-operate with the Board, by cultivating the thought that it is our Board—they are our agents and Christ's servants.

4. That we urge upon our churches the resumption of the Monthly Concert of prayer for Missions.

*From Committee on the Voice of Providence.*

The changes that transpire in the systems and institutions of men are the voice of providence, and this is true when such changes put out the light of truth, as well as when they admit it, for thus are the children of light aroused to thoughtfulness and to action.

It is the conviction of the church of Jesus Christ, that the eventful present and immediate past are the significant indications of providence, and your Committee are profoundly impressed that it is the duty of this Convention as a body of the servants of Jesus Christ, to regard the events named in the report of your Board, as the callings of God upon them to enter in where the wrath of man or the progressiveness of thought has opened the door for the ingoing and activity of all the forces and

instrumentalities used by Christ for the work and triumph of His Kingdom. If we have his spirit, and are truly his, we can neither ignore nor disregard these physical expressions of his will concerning us.

We recommend the adoption by the Convention, of that part of the report referred to us, and that all necessary action be taken to give it the greatest possible emphasis and practical effect.

*From Committee on Italian Missions.*

Your Committee cannot but rejoice at the encouraging outlook. The incidents reported recall the mission of Apostolic days. New fields are occupied; new enterprises undertaken. The Vatican Mission heretofore sustained by a sister society and conducted by the loved and honored Van Meter, has been assigned to our charge. Cities and Provinces previously unoccupied, are added to the list of our preaching stations.

Mothers from whom the character of the new generation receives its first and enduring stamp are encouraged to meet and pray for God's blessing upon their families. Chapel attendance is promoted among a people passionately fond of music, by sacred song. Public discussions are held with Catholics and Infidels. The Jews, so long neglected, hear "of Him of whom Moses in the law and the prophets did write;" and the press sends its missions where the living herald of the gospel cannot go, and publishes, even amid the dispersed of Italy, the gospel of the grace of God.

There is no mission more inviting, none which offers larger results for the labors expended upon it. In regard to the chapel at Rome, we are impressed by the necessity of using the fund for the erection or purchasing of a convenient building so soon as the opportunity for profitably doing this shall arise, and yet we doubt not that the Board are acting wisely in waiting for such an opportunity. In a matter so important there must be no failure.

*From Committee on Woman's Work.*

We have been slow to learn. Offering the gospel almost exclusively to adults, we were for a long time blind to the interests of children. Awake to the necessity for a large number of laborers in heathen lands, and for the collection of funds for their support, we were similarly blind to the fitness and efficiency of Christian women for these noble undertakings. In the face of the facts that an apostate church has long employed them in the most stupendous and successful endeavors, that the eighth chapter of Luke presents the record of Christian women unitedly devoting themselves to the success of our Saviour's personal ministry, and that we have witnessed for half a century the examples of their undying heroism in the lands of the East, we have yet been slow to recognize and employ their power. And now, in no mere spirit of gallantry, but with abiding gratitude to God, we would record our appreciative testimony to the efficiency, fidelity and success of those noble women who have labored with us in the gospel. And we would pledge ourselves to the employment of all right methods whereby their services can be procured and encouraged. Not only are they our most effective workers, because of their greater zeal, persistency and unselfish love, but there are more of them than of men. And besides all this, they are the most available and valuable power in a true pastor's hand, for securing the aid of the men.

The result of their own special work in the past twelve years has been a universal surprise, as is also the recently announced fact, that of the four hundred laborers for Jesus in the land of China, three hundred are Christian women.

The time may be at hand when it will be advisable that they shall appoint a Central Committee to combine their efforts, to stimulate the work, and to give permanent record to their success.

## A LETTER FROM MRS. CRAWFORD.

TUNG CHOW, March 14th, 1877.

My Dear Dr. Tupper,—Your letter of January 5th was received two weeks ago by our first spring mail. At the same time we heard of the arrival of the Misses Moon at their home in Albemarle county. We were sorry to learn that Miss Eddie was worse again. I sincerely trust she may be restored to good health and find a field of usefulness suited to her aspirations. Her friends here are unanimous in thinking she cannot stand this climate and all the strains of missionary life in this province. Miss Lottie we hope can, and we long to have her with

us, cheering us socially, and aiding us in the work she so loves and to which she applied herself so efficiently. She will be lonely without her sister, to whom she was so devotedly attached.

The missionary spirit seems very low in most of our Southern churches. Sometimes we are tempted to be discouraged, and to fear that the work we have begun here under so many difficulties is to die with us. All the missions of other denominations have been reinforced over and over, always having some fresh element coming in to keep up the link with America, as well as impart vigor to the operations on the field. We need a new family—a man and his wife.

I am glad that in many places the sisters are becoming aroused for missions. In this connection, will you allow a suggestion, as the danger may not have occurred to you? The Board and most of the pastors understand fully that these ladies' missionary societies are auxiliary, and entirely subject to the direction of the Board in the disbursement of funds; but young, inexperienced ladies may not always be quite clear on the subject, and are liable to misunderstand their relations to the Board, to the mission, and to those who contribute the funds. We are as yet new in this department, but other missions have had trouble on the subject. You may conceive how awkward it might be for a young missionary to receive directions from an inexperienced society, exactly contrary to the judgment and practice of the Board and of the majority of the mission.

Mr. Crawford has been several days absent in Chefoo—will not be back until next week. We are just beginning our spring work among the villages—a very hard but necessary department. Our schools are doing well. This year we are requiring two dollars each from the parents of our boys towards their expenses. We think it will have a healthful, moral influence.

By slow degrees the prejudices of the people seem to be wearing away. We are received in the houses and villages in a more friendly spirit than in former years—still there is much to be done before the old suspicion and hatred can be entirely removed. Our brethren continue their voluntary labor of an hour or so on Sabbath mornings before preaching time. It is having a good effect upon them as well as upon those who hear them.

The sufferings of the people of this province from famine are appalling. Two hundred miles west of us they are starving by thousands and removing by tens of thousands—so that Mr. Richard, of Ching Chow, thinks that by the time wheat harvest comes in not more than half the population will be left—in some districts none. Thousands of dollars have been sent from Shanghai and other places to Mr. R. (English Baptist missionary), to aid in relieving the destitute.

There is much suffering here, but I have only known of a score or so cases of actual death from want. The government distributes a dish of gruel each day to about twelve hundred people, but this is sufficient only to keep off actual starvation, and our houses are daily besieged by the hungry, shivering creatures. Provisions of course are very high—and, to make matters worse, the price of silver in copper cash has gone down nearly twenty-five per cent.

Mr. Crawford and I are thinking of going to the General Conference of Missionaries at Shanghai in May. It will doubtless be a meeting of much interest and profit, and will repay in our work for the time and money it will cost.

Mrs. Holmes, though not very strong, is as well as she is generally in the spring. On yesterday she and I, accompanied by Chang Yun Who, visited seven different villages, teaching the people the way of life. Landrum is expecting to leave this autumn for America, as you already know. He is a good boy, and very intellectual. His going away will be a sore trial to his mother. She had been thinking, until a year or so past, that she would go and remain with him until he is through college, but the pressing claims of the work upon her have decided otherwise.

A MISSIONARY, writing from Cape Town, says the Dutch Reform Church in South Africa has exhibited more life and energy in the last twenty or thirty years than in two hundred years previously. From 1665 to 1855 the Church had only established 37 congregations. Now there are 113 congregations, with 220,000 souls, 50 ministers, and many churches, mansees, and schools.



## Talks with the Children.

### MISSIONARY GEOGRAPHY—LESSON NO. I.

#### On the Shape of the Earth.

THE WORLD IS ROUND. I saw not long ago a gentleman who has lately been all around the earth. He is a Mr. Cook, an English Baptist, who began about twenty years ago to get up excursions for Sunday-schools, and then to arrange longer trips for grown people, till he is now prepared to take parties almost anywhere. He made up a company in this country to travel a westerly course, and keep on in the same direction till they got back home again. Now get your atlas, and, as I describe it, see if you can trace their route.

Starting from New York, they went by rail to Chicago, thence to Omaha, and thence to San Francisco; from there, in a steamship, across the Pacific Ocean to Japan and Hong Kong, China; then, in another steamer, down through the China Sea and up the Bay of Bengal to Calcutta; from there, by railway, across Hindoostan to Bombay; thence, again by steamer, through the Arabian and Red Seas and the Suez Canal, into the Mediterranean, and so to Brindisi; there they again took the cars up through Italy and through the great Mont Cenis tunnel into France, and so on up to Calais; from there they crossed the British Channel to Dover, where again they took a train by London to Liverpool; and then came in a steamship across the Atlantic to the place from which they started. Now wasn't that a trip!

The party stopped some days at many different places, and so it took them more than six months to get around. They saw a good many missionaries on the route, and met with hundreds of people who had been converted to Christ from the worship of idols; but they saw also thousands who still bow down to pieces of wood or stone and ask these blocks to take care of them.

Did you ever think that, as the earth is round and the sky everywhere bends over it, one country is just about as near the heavens as any other. The same sun which makes day for us, shines also, and since its creation has been shining, on China as well as on America. The same old moon, which you look at, beamed upon the garden of Eden, and on that other garden where the second Adam one night prayed till in his agony his sweat was as it were drops of blood, and it shines, even more softly than here, on the vine-clad hills and terraced gardens of Italy. The same stars that twinkle for you, are also seen, faint and far off, but very bright, by our missionaries in Africa. God, too, the maker of sun, moon, and stars, is just as near to these men in heathen lands as he is to us. We can send them a message through Him in less time than by telegraph. If you were to hear a foreigner praying you could not tell what he asked for, but God understands him. His eye looks into the hearts of all the heathen as well as into yours; his ear is bent down to catch the faintest and feeblest prayer, no matter what part of the world it comes from, and his hand is outstretched to give blessings wherever they are sought.

The surface of the earth is not entirely smooth. Some parts are thrown up so high that we call them mountains, and some are so low that all the rivers run into them, and we call them seas and oceans; but there is not much difference after all between the top of the highest land and the bottom of the deepest water. The moon has a rougher surface than the earth, but, as it glides through the clouds, it looks to us as smooth as a China plate. So it is with men, some are higher

and nobler and better than some others, but it is only because God has given them good parents and good opportunities, and as he looks down upon us from his perfect holiness, he sees us all, in our hearts, very much alike. All have sinned and come short of the glory of God. All alike, whether raised in the light of a Christian country or growing up in the darkness of paganism, need the converting grace of God, and can be saved only through the death of our Lord Jesus Christ. The gospel is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth, and he is no respecter of persons.

Here now are some questions on this lesson. Find out answers for yourself to as many of them as you can, and get mother or sister to help you with the rest.

QUESTIONS. 1. In going round the world by the route described, what mission stations of the Southern Baptist Convention would you pass? 2. What missionaries occupy these stations? 3. What do the people in China worship? 4. Can their gods save them? 5. What form of religion prevails in Italy? 6. Are these people any worse by nature than we are? 7. What has God done for us more than for them? 8. Is he willing to bless and save them too?—See Rom. X: 12. 9. How can they be led to call on him?—Rom. X: 14-15. 10. Can children do anything for the cause of missions?

#### THE TWO WELLS.

I remember to have read somewhere, or to have heard long ago, a story which ran, as near as I can recollect, about as follows:

Once upon a time there was no rain for many days. So great was the drought that every green herb withered, and all the brooks wasted away and the fountains ceased to flow. Now in a certain village there were hard by unto each other two wells, which were exceeding deep, and contained yet some water, when all the rest were quite dried up. And it came to pass that all the people came to quench their thirst; but the man to whom belonged the court in which one well had been dug, spake roughly to his neighbors, and said: "The dearth is great, the heavens are as brass, and give no sign of rain, and my well is already very low, I cannot give unto you lest there be not enough for me and for mine own house." So he drove them away, and therewith he barred up his gates, and made them fast that none might enter. Moreover, he bade his servants draw no longer with pitchers, but with little cups only. But he to whom the other well belonged, was of another spirit, and he said within himself: "Hath God blessed me for myself alone?" So he threw open his gates, and called to the thirsting ones that passed by, saying, "Turn in hither, for I have yet a little water, and draw for yourselves, and for your little ones that ye perish not." Now, when they turned in and drank, behold, the water was lowered, and the stream, deep down in the veins of the rock, which was wont to feed both wells, was turned away from the one and flowed full into the other. So in a few days the one which was not used grew stagnant, and soon its water was good for naught, while the other kept clear and sweet, and yielded an abundant supply, even till the rains came again.

Such is the story. I cannot say that it is certainly true, but it teaches us to give, not when we have a plenty, but when others have need, and it illustrates what we know is true, for the wisest of men has said:

"There is that scattereth and yet increaseth;  
That withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth  
to poverty.  
The liberal soul shall be made fat; and  
He that watereth, shall be watered also himself."

#### SUNDAY-SCHOOL MISSIONARY SOCIETIES.

The April number of the FOREIGN MISSION JOURNAL speaks of the formation of numerous women's societies in Georgia, Virginia, Alabama, and other States. Let them be multiplied! They will give a great impulse to the missionary work. They will call forth interest in behalf of the faithful workers in foreign lands; prayer will be quickened, and donations multiplied.

We hope that Sunday-school missionary bands will be organized in every State. Begin with the children. Membership in a juvenile society, when a little boy, awakened an interest in missionary work, especially in behalf of the Indians, (for our money sustained an Indian boy in a mission school), which will never cease. By all means form a missionary society in every Sunday-school, securing one cent a week from each scholar. As fast as formed report the fact to the JOURNAL, and let it publish them as No. 1, No. 2, &c., in the children's column.

T. S. MALCOM.

ONLY forty years ago Fiji Islanders feasted on human flesh. Now no less than forty thousand children attend Sunday-school, and thousands of the people are earnest, consistent Christians.

#### RECEIPTS FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS

FROM MAY 1ST TO MAY 24TH, 1877.

##### WEST VIRGINIA.—"Massie," \$1.

SOUTH CAROLINA.—Greenwood ch., by J. S. Jordan, \$6.50; J. Lido Wilson, \$1; Swift Creek ch., by P. E. Campbell and R. N. Howie, \$2; J. C. Hudson, 3d Div. 12 Mile River Asso., \$3.60; J. D. Pitts, Hurricane ch., \$3; Huntsville ch., \$3; 2 Mission and S. Union of R. R. Asso., \$11.20; Jas. A. Hoyt, Sec. and Tr. Ex. Bd. S. Asso., \$12.10; Miss M. E. McIntosh, Ch. C. O. for W. M. of S. C., by Jno. Stout, for Miss Whilden's salary, \$254.60; Columbia Baptist ch., by A. B. Woodfin, \$40.45; Geo. W. McVey, for Ch. Sq. Ch., \$100; Y. M. S. Ch. Sq. ch., \$25; S. S. Ch. Sq. ch., \$50; Charleston Asso., \$1.05; Mrs. Melville Mellichamp, by T. W. Mellichamp, \$6.25; Marlboro Union, by R. A. Douglas, Tr., \$3.25; Miss M. E. McIntosh, Ch. C. O. for S. C., \$27.30; Bethel ch., by L. O. Ezell, by Dr. Broadus, \$7.50; Greenville ch., by J. C. Smith, \$242.05; Greenville S. S., \$25—total, \$825.76.

VIRGINIA.—Petersburg ch., by T. T. Eaton, \$1; A member, Muddy Creek ch., \$2.50; Thos. F. Tanner, \$25; Mrs. Gardner, \$1; Mary A. Vass, \$1; J. A. Holvin, \$20; F. C. Endalder and wife, \$1; Flat Run ch., by E. H. Willis, \$78.75; George J. Clark, \$1; Charlottesville Bap. ch., by E. B. Tupper, \$13.65; Lower Northampton S. S., by W. T. Hundley, for Mrs. Crawford's school, \$4.50; L. M. S., Charlottesville ch., by K. B. Tupper, \$21.20—total, \$170.12.

NORTH CAROLINA.—Little Annie Griffith, \$1; Rocky Mount, by R. Newton, \$1; Miss N. E. Matthews, \$2—total, \$4.

MISSOURI.—G. W. Hyde, \$2.15; R. S. Duncan, agent, \$227.63; J. L. Tichenor, \$5.25; J. L. Tichenor, for member Rehoboth ch., \$3.35—total, \$235.28.

TEXAS.—Searsville ch., by B. F. Stevens, \$5; W. B. Warren, \$10; Tyler's Baptist ch., by J. H. Stribling, \$7.50; Bosqueville ch., by brother Carroll, \$7; Robinsonville ch., by brother Carroll, \$5; Bryan ch., by J. P. McLelland, \$50; N. Hines, Tr. Trium Asso., by brother Creath, \$17; J. B. Link, \$113.60; Dr. Law, for Mrs. S. Hodges, \$5; J. M. Zimmerman, \$5; Tryon ch., \$2.40; G. B. Davis, \$2.60—total, \$230.

FLORIDA.—Paran ch. Miss Soc'y, by J. T. Canthen, \$2.30; Fla. Bap. Asso., by A. O. McCants, \$3.20; Pensacola ch., by Jno. Wilmer, \$17.60—total, \$23.20.

KENTUCKY.—Shelbyville ch., \$58.14; Buffalo Lick ch., \$5; Wm. Harris, Last ch., Louisville, \$20; R. L. Thurman, agent, \$50; Clinton ch., by J. I. Butler, \$16.20; Mahala Bawling, \$5; Mayfield ch., \$27.25—total, \$181.60.

MISSISSIPPI.—Colored chs., by A. V. Rowe, \$10.10; Verona ch., by J. T. Christian, \$6.20; Canton ch., by W. A. Mason, \$20; Jno. B. Statham, \$10; Mattie Statham, \$5; Mrs. Chorus, Tr. W. M. Soc'y Cen. Miss., for house for Mrs. Sien, \$12; Central Asso., by J. Woodall, \$25; E. Z. Simmons, agent, \$74.62; sundry parties, by J. B. Hamberlin, \$19; J. G. Hall Sr., by brother Haddock, \$6.25; an old lady, \$2.25; Miss Mary Michael, for brother David, \$5; Dr. J. H. Sample, \$5—total, \$155.92.

GEORGIA.—W. M. Howell, for Elm ch., \$3; W. M. Howell, for Shady Grove ch., \$2; F. M. S., Cartersville, by Mr. B. F. Godfrey, Sec., for Miss Lottie Moon, \$15.55; Newbury Asso., by A. P. Abell, clerk, \$5.35; A. W. Buford, for Kingston ch., \$4.45; A. W. Buford, for Rowland's Spring ch., \$3.20; Reedy Creek ch., by brother Kilpatrick, \$8.30; White Plains, by J. H. Kilpatrick, \$50—total, \$87.25.

TENNESSEE.—McMillan Station, \$5; W. J. F. Allen, \$1; James Bashaw, by A. Sperry, \$5; J. L. Humphreys, \$6.25; Humbolt ch., by brother Senter, \$5.35; Pleasant Plains ch., \$4; Mayfield & Pope, for sundry parties, \$75.16; Infant class of Central ch., Memphis, by Dr. Landrum, \$10; New Hope well ch., by J. H. Cuthrop, \$1.35—total, \$108.36.

LOUISIANA.—Concord Bap. Asso., by R. J. Tabor, \$4.20; Trenton ch., by W. O. Friley, \$21.75; Baton Rouge Miss Soc'y, by Miss Allen, \$10; mass meeting at S. B. C. at N. O. (of which \$73.05, by J. A. Hackett, which includes \$18.50 from colored ch. of Shreveport, La.) \$202.00—total, \$235.55.

ALABAMA.—James L. Sampey, \$5; Dr. McIntosh, for Mrs. Rice's S. S. class, Greenville, \$1.15; Dr. McIntosh, for Greenville ch., \$6; Tuscaloosa ch., by pastor, \$15.50; D. A. Flory and wife, \$2; Huntsville ch., \$5; Miss Traylor, Tr. L. B. Soc'y of Town Creek, \$1.65; Mrs. L. V. Alexander of Tuskegee, \$8—total, \$47.30.

ARKANSAS.—Fairplay ch., by J. Tucker, \$1.50; Liberty Asso., by J. M. Perdue, \$11.60; G. Nosewell, \$5; Bartholomew Asso., by S. T. W. Meek, \$24—total, \$42.

MARYLAND.—Barnsville ch., by Miss Laura R. Gott, \$4. AGGREGATE, \$2,395.63.