Vol. VIII.

Elale

SEPTEMBER, 1894.

No. 11.

B 491164 B

Moman's Executive Committee

MISSION MONTHLY

OUR LAND FOR CHRIST.

Digitized by UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Original from UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

https://hdl.handle.net/2027/mdp.39015068447609 http://www.hathitrust.org/access use#pd Generated on 2020-12-11 04:25

# HOME MISSION MONTHLY.

Vol. VIII.

SEPTEMBER, 1894.

No. 11.

### EDITORIAL NOTES.



UR great and rapidly growing nation is developing class distinctions and race antipathies; vexed social and economic problems are multipling. Thus the topic of the month—

"The Outlook"—considered in its relation to home missions and the times, is most significant. Christian men and women of to-day, who seek to discharge their duty to their country and their fellow men, find serious matters confronting them. "But." as says the Congregationalist, "manly men and womenly women are thankful for the privilege of living in days like these and in They welcome diffia country like ours. culties that are big with opportunity. twenty years before the Declaration of Independence this country was rife with discussions concerning the foundations of government. Many feared that those foundations would be destroyed, and, when the war broke out, believed that their destruction was accomplished. out of that time issued the first of great This, too, is a seed time. A better government, a nobler church, a higher ideal of individual and social life will issue from it. Never was there a time when life was more worth living than now."

Another phase of the topic is suggested by the recent strikes. It is stated on the best authority, that fully seventy per cent. of those connected with the strikes and other revolutionary movements were not born in the United States. A further significant fact is that so many of the strikers are communicants of the Catholic church, in good and regular standing.

It should be set down to the credit of the women of the Presbyterian church that, in addition to the amount which they have given to the work of the Woman's Ex. Com. of Home Missions, they have also given largely to the Board of Home Missions. Besides the sums which they have put into the baskets when the usual church collection for home missions has been taken, and of which no separate accounting can of course be made, there have been received during the past year by the Board of Home Missions the following amounts:

Legacy of Mrs. Stewart .....\$111,500.00 Other legacies from women ... 41,673.47 Contributions from women ... 11,504.45

\$164,677.92

Other amounts which have been given to the Board's treasury where the identity of the donor has been hidden under the signature of "a friend," "well wisher." etc, have, doubtless, in many instances, been from women. But the amount shown above is in itself sufficient answer to any who may inquire if women are helping to support the direct work of the Board as well as providing means for the special educational department of home missions which has been committed to them.

The watchword for the year, given us by our president, Mrs. James, at the annual meeting, was "Advance upon your knees." We should sound this watchword often. Prayer needs to be emphasized as never before. To meet the emergencies of the hour there is need of prayer-given power. It is certainly eminently fitting that as Christian women we should set apart a day of special



## WORDS FROM WORKERS.

Miss Ella M. Brickerstaff, Asheville, N. C.—Our last six weeks in the cooking department were occupied in preparing food for invalids and in more advanced cooking. On Fridays my class consisted of twenty-one girls. This was the day appointed for cooking and serving a meal. Before beginning with this extra work, the class was instructed how to lay the table for different meals (consisting of few or several courses), to act as waitress, host and hostess, also how to care for the table linen.

June 12, 1894, the Normal and Collegiate Institute sent forth its first graduates, numbering five. Besides these there were two who finished the commercial course, also two from the dressmaking department.

Leaving the assembly hall the visitors and pupils passed into the sewing room to see the display of sewing and millinery work. The commercial department was also represented, and there were specimens of pressed flowers prepared by the botany class. On a large table was arranged the exhibit of the cooking class prepared by 25 girls. The dishes were all made by the pupils under the direction of their teacher, and attracted much attention.

The position of a cooking teacher may seem very easy to fill, but in fact it is one that keeps hands and mind engaged, besides keeping one constantly standing or walking during the two hours of class work. My last class at the Home Industrial school appeared very much grieved when they learned their lessons were ended. On the fifth of June there was a display of work here, also, which consisted of kitchengarten, drawing, sewing, etc. There was a cookery class in session at the time of the display, and dishes were prepared during the inspection of the class by visitors.

Mr. A. H. Temple, Locust Level, N. C.— Stanley Hall is surrounded by groves of beautiful forest trees of almost every variety. The school boys have worked diligently in these groves, removing crooked trees, low branches, all undergrowth, and dead leaves, and planting grass, clover and flower seeds in the fresh, moist earth beneath. These seeds have not sprung up and taken root as was expected, but we will try again. Many people have admired the neatness of these groves and have used means to beautify their own premises. We see by this that the work of the Stanley Hall boys, in this particular line, is being imitated and is having a refining influence in the homes of the people.

One boy tells us that the beautiful Scripture verses learned here at school come to him now as he works on his father's farm, and tears of gladness fill his eyes as the memories of school days return.

Another boy writes that he has organized a temperance society since his return to his home in South Carolina. He sent to us for temperance literature.

#### MEXICAN.

Miss M. L. Allison, Santa Fé, New Mexico— The pleasure of vacation, combined with necessary work, has filled each day since the first of June.

The girls had been leaving—a few at a time—for two weeks before the closing day, so that the grand rush and excitement which usually accompanies the breaking up of school, and the arrival of friends in all sorts of vehicles to carry the children to their homes was prevented, and we had a more gradual letting down.

Surely there is not a busier, happier place to be found anywhere than at the Santa Fé Industrial school when we are all at regular work. Our girls are usually pleasant and interesting. Our light, airy school-room, with evergreen mottos on the white wall, and the blackboards decorated with pretty borders in colored crayons by the hand of our artistic classroom teacher, the seats filled with bright girls, all intent on mastering the tasks given them, is an inspiring sight. We see in these girls some of the future home-makers of New Mexico, and as we notice how their minds

are expanding and how deftly they perform their duties in the different departments of housework, we can make no mistake in saying that the character of their homes will be vastly superior to those we see around us to-day. I am gratefully proud of those who have gone out from this school, and are now occupying places of usefulness in different parts of the Territory.

Miss Alice Hyson, El Ranches de Taos, New Mexico, June, 1894.—With this quarter ends my tenth year of mission work in this field.

I have been asked by many: "Do you see any improvement or fruits of your labor?" There is a great deal to encourage a teacher here—not only the improvement and industry of the children but the general improvement working in the parents. I can go to any of the homes now, and they are glad to see me, whereas when I came here they would come to the door and instead of asking me in would see if I wanted anything; one would be obliged to say "I came to visit you," and then do all the talking besides. Now any of them will come to us for medicines for their sick and seem to have confidence in what we give them.

Last Sabbath morning a woman came three miles with her babe. She asked me if I was the teacher that doctored babies. After I had given her the medicine she waited until church time, and of her own will went in to Sabbath school and services. I didn't care to ask her to go, for fear she would think she was under obligations to me to do so. After service she expressed her gratitude.

This is the largest day school in the Territory—135 enrolled during the school year; in the ten years about 500 pupils, at least, have enrolled in this school. I have children whose parents attended the school. I correspond with a great many of my former pupils, and send them literature to read.

El Rancho has improved in appearance also, compared with former times. Our mission building, with its neat fence enclosing the grounds, a few fruit and shade trees growing, presents a homelike appearance.

#### INDIAN.

MISS SUSANNE S. BAKER, Tamaha, Ind. Ter.— The school closed at Little Sans Bois, June 15, 1894. The friends and relatives of the pupils came many miles to attend the closing exercises.

The trustees and patrons built a very commodious platform and hung the walls with Bible texts and pictures, while the children assisted the teacher to prettily decorate the school-room with ferns and flowers. The Choctaw women worked busily preparing the children, especially the orphan boarders, to present a tasteful and attractive appearance. All seemed to enjoy the occasion. The number of whites who attended was thirty-seven, and of Choctaws forty, which gives a total enrollment of seventy-seven. This is a decided increase from the twenty-four who were enrolled the first month. This number is entirely too large for one person to instruct perfectly, especially since it must be borne in mind that a large per cent. of the pupils understand but little or no English.

We earnestly hope for and desire two teachers next year, as we shall have a hundred scholars. I he friends of the school will enlarge the building during the vacation.

MISS KATE C. McBeth, Fort Lapwai, Idaho, June, 1894.—During the quarter I have been in service in the Nez Perce Theological school of Mount Idaho. At the time the pupils went down to plow their fields in the Kamiah Valley, I returned to my old station in the Lapwai Valley. My work here is of a more general character. am permitted to lead the weekly prayer meeting in the Government Training school here at Fort Lapwai. I have regular missionary meetings (Nez Perces women). I often see the pupils from the Mount Idaho school, and while they are here instruct them. The native elders of the church who often lead meetings-need the preparation for which they come to me (given to them in their own language). I have some of the women of the community around me daily; few of them care to study books, so their attention is turned to sewing or the domestic arts.

#### FREEDMEN.

G. M. Elliott, Beaufort, S. C., July 13-We are still struggling with our church debt. We had hoped by this time to have our house of worship free from indebtedness, but the storm and the hard times came and defeated all our plans. The Freedmen's Board generously aided us to the amount of five hundred (\$500) dollars, but we still owe over thirteen hundred (\$1,300 dollars. We are exceedingly anxious to cancel this debt. But we find ourselves almost stalled with the load. We have never found it so hard to raise a dollar. Apart from the effects of the great storm of last August, money has been exceedingly scarce. We are all poor, and with such times on us, it is hard to live. The storm left everybody bare. Following this, is the unprecedented financial panic, which has been almost like taking the life that was left after the storm.

Notwithstanding our financial pressure, our