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## PREFACE.

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THIS is a very busy age we live in. Everybody seems to be busy now. Old people and young people—fathers and mothers—brothers and sisters—wise folks, and some that are not very wise—rich folks, and some that are not very rich—all are very busy. Amongst the young people, some are busy doing nothing, or next to nothing. They are idlers. Some are busy doing mischief, and that's worse than doing nothing. They are wicked. Others are planning, and wishing to do good. They mean well. Others are busy doing good with all their might. They are like the angels. Now, dear young friends, which class are *you* in? I have mentioned four classes. Do not belong to the first or second on any account. If you are in the third, that is *well* for a time; but try and get into the fourth as soon as you can, and keep in it as long as you live. Perhaps you are saying, We *wish* to do something that is good, but *what* can we do?—I will tell you a plan.

The young people collected two years ago money to buy the Missionary Ship. And it really was a delightful work, and done so easily and so cheerfully. Think of the "*John Williams.*" Now, the time has come to collect money to *pay its expenses*. About enough was collected at first to buy the ship and to pay its ordinary expenses

for the first year; but as it costs nearly Two thousand Pounds every year, of course a very large sum is wanted to pay for the year 1845, and so again in each future year. Cannot you do something for that object in the Christmas holidays, and especially on the 1st of January, 1846? You might do it either by a collecting card, and give or obtain *at once* what will do for all the year; or you may have a nice little book or card to collect something in *every month through the year*, and often pay it to the treasurer of your Auxiliary. The truth is, that if all who buy this little Magazine would give or get only *one farthing each every month*, that would be *one thousand seven hundred and fifty pounds in the year*. Almost as much as would pay the expenses.

Now, that would be glorious. Yes—and very natural and proper. It would be delightful to say, not only that the children of England *bought* the ship, but that they keep the ship sailing. Only let this be in *addition* to all your other contributions to the Missionary Society. Will you not then try? Let us see what can be done. If all our well-disposed and intelligent youth—boys and girls in our Sunday-schools, day-schools, boarding-schools—only say “Yes,” it will be done. Think—pray—resolve—act.

Your affectionate friend,

THE EDITOR.