

tion to accept the hospitality of the ladies of the church, in the name of the God of Grace, who had welcomed us to be co-workers with Him.

Our President, Mrs. Davis, Simeoe, then gave a very interesting address, speaking particularly of the many blessings, both temporal and spiritual, which God is daily bestowing on his people, and of the many beautiful things He has given us in this world to enjoy, while we render Him so little in return. The speaker urged us to be faithful in the little things, and the greater things would more easily and more often be accomplished, as God is always pleased with our most feeble efforts. The Misses Haviland and Cline, of Boston, then rendered a duet, "Abide With Me," very effectively.

Mrs. P. Geo. Pearce, Waterford, our Director, gave a very full report of the work done during the past year by the Circles and Bands. A very interesting feature was the reading from the minutes of the first annual meeting of the Norfolk Association, held in Simeoe, in June, 1888. Her report showed an increase of thirty women in Circles, \$90 more to missions, 40 more "Links," but 45 fewer "Visitors." The need is felt for more literature, which, if well studied, would arouse more enthusiasm among the Circles and Bands. One new Circle has been organized at Lynnville. To Round Plains goes the honor of the highest proportionate membership—20 out of 23 ladies of the church being members of the Circle. Villa Nova Circle stands first in contribution, having given nearly \$140 during the past year to missions. Waterford stands first in increased membership, having added 20 to their number this year. There is a decrease of 52 members from Bands. Director reported visiting seven Circles, and regretted not being able to visit more in this Association. She left with us, in closing, the motto: "Co-operation," for the coming year.

Mrs. John Lillie, Toronto, gave a very instructive talk on the "Importance and Methods of Circle and Band Work." She gave many helpful suggestions for increasing the interest of our meetings, and urged greater effort among the Bands. What we need is more personal work. She suggested the organization of a Laywoman's Missionary Movement; to lie in wait for new members, and lay

in their hands the "Link" and the "Visitor;" strongly advocated the equal division of our contributions between Home and Foreign Missions. She also touched on the great work being done in the Northwest.

The cause of Grand Ligne was most ably presented by Rev. E. Bosworth, of Montreal. He showed a wonderful grasp of the history of the people he represents. He said that two-fifths of the population of the Dominion speak French and practise another religion, and showed us some of the idols that were worshipped by 1,800,000 Roman Catholics in Quebec. It saddened our hearts to hear of the many superstitions and customs practised among those people, but are encouraged to know that 62 young people in our schools there professed conversion, 22 of whom were baptized. His address was a great blessing to the gathering, and an inspiration to greater effort in this great work.

Mrs. John Lillie gave the opening address on Home Missions. She took us "en tour" through New Ontario, visiting many towns. It was very interesting to hear the description of these pretty towns, and to learn of the great work being done in these places, which are under the Women's Home Mission Board. Mrs. Lillie was successful in organizing several Circles and Bands. The W. H. M. Board helped to build the church at New Liskeard and the parsonage was an answer to prayer. At North Bay a Circle was organized with 18 members. Total amount raised in the Northern Association was \$51,000, an average of \$19.64 per member.

We then listened to Miss Ryerse, from India, who is home on furlough. She gave us a very interesting description of the Girls' School at Cocanada, which was started by Mrs. McLaurin. Here Miss Ryerse has had the supervision of 100 girls, who are taught all the subjects that are taught here, besides having a Bible lesson and a sewing lesson every day. The girls do exceedingly well in learning the gospels, and after a while they become Bible teachers. Invest five dollars and buy a share in the school, and God will pay the dividends through all eternity. The speaker made a strong appeal for greater efforts on our part.

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