

year, and to make mention of "His loving kindnesses, for they have been ever of old."

How much we have received in comparison with the little we have deserved. How manifold and rich the blessings coming to us through the "unspeakable gift," our blessed Redeemer, how precious the privileges of His house, and His day; how edifying the instruction, given in His Word, and how many our opportunities for service! Into our individual lives much of brightness and sunshine have entered, and with gratitude we recognize the "many pleasant little things" which, by his grace, have cheered us from day to day. At times "clouds and darkness have been round about Him," and as God's hand has rested heavily upon us the temptation to murmur has arisen. But the difficult lesson of patience has been learned, and, through the grace of the Lord Jesus, even heavy chastisements have been borne with meekness, as we have remembered that "these light afflictions, which are but for a moment, are working out for us a far more exceeding, and eternal right of glory."

Wondrously has the God of Missions dealt with us as a Society. At the close of our first year we numbered eighteen Auxiliaries and Mission Bands. Our report this year records six hundred and thirteen branches. The increase of the Home Work has made the extension of the Foreign Work possible, and now, instead of being represented by one solitary lady missionary, we have many educational, medical and zenana workers in the various fields. In view of these facts we are led to exclaim: "What hath God wrought!"

In Bible times God's ancient people coupled with their public thanksgiving, the "thanks-offering." They presented their "first fruits," their "wave," "heave" and "free-will offerings." According to the Levitical law, these offerings must be without "blemish," or perfect, in order to be acceptable. The blind, broken or maimed might not be offered to the Lord. Following the spirit of this suggestive and beautiful example, our Auxiliaries and Mission Bands now, almost universally, arrange for a "Thanks-offering service" in connection with the October meeting. With sorrow and humiliation we confess that, in the past, we have not given to God our *best* gifts. We have robbed God in tithes and offerings. From our "abundance" we have "cast in" to the Lord's treasury, not from our self-denial and