

bring increased love for the auxiliary, on the part of her members, and a corresponding devotion to the work in which they are engaged. We hope to notice other reports as they may appear.

MISSIONARY INFLUENCE.

Men are inclined to look for the success of missions among dry figures and statistics. "How many converted?" they demand. But this question, answered by whatever figures may be, will not give the full result of missionary work among a heathen people. Take Japan and India as an example. During the late war Japanese officers gave full permission for the distribution of Bibles among the soldiers, and for the prosecution of missionary work among them. The result that may follow from this cannot be shown by figures. Again, in the general conduct of the war, a humanity was shown in great contrast to the barbarous cruelties of former warfares. It is fair, therefore, to conclude that *some* influence has been at work within the nation for good. May not this have come from a careful study of the ways and methods of Christian countries when engaged in war? We learn, again, that Christian education is exerting a decided influence for good throughout the whole empire of India. This is something which cannot be shown by figures, but those who are on the field tell us that the old religions are becoming modified, and that a change is taking place among the people themselves — though not converts — which, in all fairness, may be attributed to the influence of Christian teaching. Thus may it not be that the way is being paved now for a success in numbers to be gained in the future? The quiet influence of Christianity, even when observed from afar, must produce in these days of rapid transit and quick communication a favorable effect even among people who, as yet, have not embraced it.

THE SECRETARY-TREASURER.

The secretary-treasurer has been asked by the Board of Management to publish in this journal a record of his work since its regular semi-annual meeting in October last. A continuous portion of time is taken up each month in editing this magazine itself, which involves a large amount of reading, correspondence, arranging of manuscripts, procuring of illustrations, writing of articles, correcting proof-sheets, etc. It is a work in itself which ties the secretary-treasurer very much, and gives him no small amount of anxiety and care. This is not a matter which is easy to put on record, but he feels constrained to say that many hours beyond the usual term of an ordinary day's work are consumed by him in prosecuting his editor-

ial duties. Besides this, there is a large amount of office work which has to be done every day, letters to be answered, and entries of all kinds to be made in the books of the society. In dealing with nine dioceses and the Woman's Auxiliaries connected with six of them, this requires much time and care; for, whether the returns are sent in as cash or vouchers, careful disposition has to be made of every item, as to the diocese or auxiliary or individual from which it comes, and the particular missionary field or object to which it is to be devoted. This department of the duties connected with the office, together with the editing of the magazine, is one man's work of honest labor all the year round. But, in addition to this, the secretary-treasurer has ever held himself ready to deliver addresses or preach sermons whenever desired, or whenever an opportunity for doing so might occur. As a matter of record, he has preached or spoken on behalf of missions, in the space of time intervening between the two last meetings of the board, at St. Luke's, Toronto, and at Grace Church, Church of the Messiah, St. Cyprian's, St. Margaret's, and St. Stephen's (Woman's Auxiliary), and Wycliffe College (twice), of the same city; also at the following places in the diocese of Toronto: King, Mimico, Islington, Clairville, Malton, Port Hope (St. John's), Port Hope (Woman's Auxiliary), Thornhill, Richmond Hill, Bradford, with outstation, and Brampton. But these meetings have been, as a rule, only indirectly for the benefit of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society, the collection, in most cases, either entirely or in part, being for diocesan missions. Incumbents inform the secretary-treasurer that they appeal to their people *twice a year* for the funds of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society, either through its own written appeal or otherwise; that, in addition to this, clergymen come down from the Northwest, make appeals, and get money for domestic missions; that the Good Friday collections are given for the conversion of the Jews, classed as foreign missions; that in some cases the Lenten offerings of the children are given to the society; and that the Woman's Auxiliary are also continually raising funds for the very objects for which the society exists; that, consequently, they see little or no room for further appeals, if they are to call for additional collections. This has stood very much in the way of anything like systematic deputation work.

Complaints have been made in newspapers of the cost of managing the Ascensiontide and Epiphanytide missionary money, but this forms but a very small portion of the work of the society.

The present position of affairs has come about through circumstances which could not well be avoided. Owing to the continued and increasing pressure of the work, connected as it