

reading was given by Mrs. E. Walker, which was very touching and well received. Mrs. Jackson, of Newmarket, then gave a splendid selection, entitled "Stirring up the Gifts," after which Miss Craig, of Pennville, gave an essay on "Woman's Influence," which was very encouraging and also appealing to the hearts of mothers. The sessions throughout were enlivened with music and singing. At the close, a testimony meeting was held, led by Mrs. Savage, of Bondhead, when many of the ladies bore testimony of the benefits, intellectually and spiritually, which they had received from connection with the Woman's Missionary Society. Miss Crosthwaite, the returned Chinese missionary, was introduced to the meeting. She spoke for a time of her early life, and gave testimony of God's great goodness to her. This brought the afternoon session to a close. In the evening, Mr. Bedford (pastor) opened the meeting with singing, reading and prayer. Then followed a quartette, entitled "Lo! I am with you always," which was well rendered. Miss Crosthwaite was called upon for her address. She gave us a very interesting and thrilling account of some of her work in China, and showed the great need of increased labor in this part of the Master's vineyard. I must here mention a little incident which occurred, and shows how the Lord does answer prayer. Miss Crosthwaite, in speaking of the power of prayer in the afternoon, and how her prayers had been answered, said she was now praying for means to get a small organ to take to China with her, if it was the Lord's will. At the close of the evening meeting, Mr. Bedford alluded to it, and said he would like to see the organ fund started in Schomberg, and if any felt like giving, could do so at the close of the meeting. Several responded, and then, in the morning before Miss C. had risen, word was sent in that a dear old lady belonging to our Auxiliary had a small organ, same as Miss C. wanted, and she would gladly donate it to her, if it suited. Words fail to express Miss C.'s delight and thankfulness. Suffice it to say, the organ was all that could be desired, and is now in Toronto awaiting the journey to China. The Lord is indeed good. Our convention closed, all feeling it had been a decided success in every way.

A. BRERETON, *Cor. Sec.*

FROM THE BANDS.

CHATHAM (Sept. 2).—On the 28th of July an afternoon excursion was given to the mouth of the river, under the auspices of the "Gleaners," the proceeds to be donated to the General Hospital Fund. The expenses were very heavy, but \$59 was cleared, which was duly handed over to the Treasurer of the General Hospital Board. The last Saturday in June the regular fortnightly meetings were adjourned until the first Saturday in September, so that the girls would be all ready to begin work again as soon as the schools open for the Fall term.

EFFIE LAFFERTY, *Cor. Sec.*

ST. THOMAS (Sept. 17).—The Light Bearers' Mission Band, of the First Methodist Church, held their second annual meeting September 5th, when the following officers were elected:—President, Winnie Graham; Recording Secretary, Bessie Morford; Corresponding Secretary, Alice Brown; Treasurer, Mary McBrayne; Lookout Committee, Lou Martin and Lettie Stockton; Editress, Elsie Martin. We have a large increase of members over last year, the membership now numbering twenty-five. Our meetings are held fortnightly, and interest is well sustained. Our special work during the year has been the making of a quilt to send to the French mission school, at Montreal. This year we have raised \$40.39, by means of a bazaar, a concert,

mite-box contributions and membership fees. Our earnest hope is that we may "bear light" in deed as well as in name.

WINNIE GRAHAM, *Cor. Sec.*

TINTERN (Sept. 11).—It is with deep regret we chronicle the death of our sister, Mrs. Nathan Comfort, which took place at her home at Gainsborough, on September 2nd. After a long and severe illness, which she bore with patience and cheerfulness, although she was never able to meet with us, she gave us her sympathy, and always prayed for us during our meetings. Who can tell how much of our success is owing to those prayers of faith. We would tender to her bereaved family our heartfelt sympathy.

MRS. LOVELAND, *Cor. Sec.*

ST. STEPHEN, N.B.—The Torch Bearers' Mission Band of St. Stephen gave a very successful "Missionary Evening" on Tuesday, September 1st. The vestry of the Methodist church was tastefully trimmed with flowers for the occasion. After a short opening recitation, and the singing of the hymn, "Onward, Christian Soldiers," the 146th Psalm was read alternatively by the leader and the Band in concert. This was followed by a hymn, entitled "The Lord's Prayer," sung by the Band. Then came "The Plea of the Nations," the representatives of the heathen nations each pleading their cause in turn, and at the close kneeling in a semicircle, with uplifted banners bearing the names of their countries, while one of the members recited the lines commencing "See heathen nations kneeling." Next was a clock exercise by twelve little boys, followed by a solo and chorus. The dialogue by five young ladies, which came next, showed how the members of a Mission Band are themselves benefited while trying to benefit others. After the dialogue was a violin solo, followed by an exercise on India, by six girls, and a hymn sung by the little girls of the Band. A paper on "Mission Bands" was then read by one of the members, after which a recitation was given, and the closing hymn, "The whole wide world for Jesus," sung. This ended the literary part of the entertainment. Refreshments, in the form of ice-cream and cake, were then served, and to judge from the manner in which both articles disappeared, were thoroughly appreciated. The proceeds of the entertainment amounted to \$38, and the Band handed over to the Woman's Missionary Society as the result of the year's work, the sum of \$73.75. The annual election of officers for the Band resulted in the following persons being chosen:—President, Miss Janet Stevenson; Vice-President, Miss Edith Boyd; 2nd Vice-President, Miss Ethel Johnston; Treasurer, Miss Minnie Stevenson; Recording Secretary, Miss Clara Thornton; Corresponding Secretary, Miss Emma Veazey.

EMMA VEAZEY,

Cor. Sec.

Correspondence.

THE following letter has been received by the Treasurer of Central Branch, and, upon request, it is allowed to be published, guarded by the proviso, "Let God be glorified, not us; we have given the Lord but of His own, and we have no desire that our giving should be seen of men, only so far as it may be our privilege to let our 'light so shine before men, that they, seeing our good works, may glorify our Father which is in heaven,' and also the possibility of 'provoking one another to love and good works.'" It is of interest to know that Mrs. C. is a sister of Miss Munro, one of our missionaries in Japan:—