

## FORTY-SECOND ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

Madame President and Ladies:

It seems but a very brief season since we met in that enthusiastic gathering at Kenmore, where we prayed that the spirit of eager devotion that seemed to pervade the entire Convention would remain with us throughout the year and carry us through to the high goal we had set ourselves. And it is with hearts overflowing with love and praise that we gather to-day to render thanks to our Heavenly Father, who has brought us out into a large place and established the work of our hands.

"O give thanks unto the Lord, call upon His name, make known His deeds among the people: talk ye of all His wondrous works."

Your Board has most diligently and faithfully triad throughout the year to bear the torch aloft, by frequent and earnest prayer at the regular time appointed; by the messages to the Associations by the representatives chosen; by the steady and consecrated service of the various officers of the Society; and in every way known to us have we endeavored to keep uppermost in the minds and hearts of our women the great work in India and our responsibilities and privileges in sharing it.

The Eastern and the Grande Ligne Associations were very happy in having as a speaker Miss K. M. Marsh, home on her first furlough, and several Circles in the Townships also shared the delight of a visit from this most devoted, and the only, honorary missionary in India. Her message will not soon be forgotten.

The visit of Dr. Allyn to Montreal, under the auspices of the Student Volunteer Movement, gave us an opportunity to meet and hear one who has had a most unique experience in medical work in India.

It is impossible that this world war should continue so long without affecting that remote corner of India where our interest is placed, and so it came to pass that through the scarcity of passenger steamers, there was much delay and anxiety over the home-coming of Miss Murray, and it is with hearts full of gratitude to our Heavenly Father that we welcome our devoted missionary to-day, who finally reached home, two months or so after the appointed time.

The conditions of travel to and from the East are a grave menace to the outgoing missionaries, and we trust matters may improve before the early spring, when Miss Hinman is anticipating, with so much joy, coming home on her first furlough.

Another serious difficulty is the exceedingly high rate of exchange. The Rupee Fund created last year has carried us thus far, but is now almost diminished, while the exchange is increasing rapidly.

At Akidu there has been need for a long time for a permanent wall around the girls' compound, and Miss Hinman this year makes a very strong appeal that we would consider this a real necessity to the work.

May we commend to your loving thoughts and prayers Miss Clara Mason, alone on that isolated field of Narsapatnam, bravely shouldering the entire responsibility of the station, with none but natives to hear her company or to help her with advice and counsel.