

After opening the meeting by singing, reading the Scriptures by Mrs. Millard, and prayer by Mrs. Holmes, Mrs. Castle stated the object for which this meeting was called, and the desirability of the women in our churches taking a greater interest in Home and Foreign Missions. Mrs. Rosser and Miss Muir sang a suitable duet; letters from the Circles of the Association were read, and also a paper on Home Missions by Miss Alexander, of Dover Court Road. Miss Hatch then spoke very earnestly on the sufferings of our sisters in heathen countries, and our responsibility as Christians to send them the Gospel and be more earnest in our missionary work. Mrs. Rosser and Mrs. Rand each gave a reading on the same subject: "Help Those Women," both of which made all present feel the necessity of women doing their share in the conversion of the heathen. Miss Muir and Mrs. Rosser closed the programme by singing Dr. Brown's Consecration Hymn.

Mrs. Castle then read the constitution which had been drawn up for the formation of Associational Societies, and asked the ladies present if they were willing to form one in this Association. The vote being in affirmative, Mrs. Holmes was nominated Director of the Associational Society. Declining on account of her health, Miss Alexander was elected to the office for the year.

The ladies of the Stouffville church expressed a desire to form a Circle, which was done at once, Mrs. Millard being elected President, Miss Baker, Secretary, and Mrs. Miller, Treasurer. The ladies of the First Markham church will join the Stouffville Circle.

During the meeting Revs. Messrs. Alexander and Bates arrived as a delegation from the Association then in session in the Baptist church near by, expressing the pleasure of the gentlemen in having the ladies meet during the Association, and wishing them God speed in their missionary efforts.

The meeting closed with singing the missionary hymn, and prayer by Mrs. Baker, of Belleville.

GRAND RIVER.—On Friday concurrently with the Associational meetings, the women held their Mission meetings, of which the *Standard* gives this report:

The vestry was filled to overflowing, chairs having to be brought in to the aisles to accommodate the numerous visitors, these visitors representing not only the various churches of the Association but also the prominent mission workers of different denominations of our own town, and also the gentlemen upstairs, who seemed to find this meeting more interesting than their own. After devotional exercises, conducted by Mrs. Moore, of Waterford, and Mrs. Hallam, of Woodstock, an able address of welcome was given by the President of the Woodstock Circle, Mrs. Timpany, welcoming all as co-laborers in the great work of elevating their sisters in benighted heathen lands. Reports from about twelve Circles were given, showing a total membership of 303 and a sum collected for a year, for Home and Foreign Missions, amounting to \$514.16. A report of the nominating committee brought in recommended that the Circles form themselves into an Association for the purpose of encouraging one another, of forming new Circles, and of enlarging mission work generally. It recommended also that Mrs. J. I. Ball, Woodstock, be director of this Association, and Mrs. Speller, of Ingersoll, the presiding officer of the next annual meeting. The report was adopted, an Association formed and the officers named chosen. A method of combining Home and Foreign work was suggested by Miss Hatch, Woodstock, and after considerable discussion by the ladies the suggestions

were adopted. Very fine papers on "How to make Circles interesting," were then read by Miss Linden, of Burgesville, and Mrs. Haight, of Norwich, one referring to the causes for the lack of interest and the other suggesting plans for increase of interest. Mrs. J. C. Yule of Ingersoll, discussed in her usual excellent and thorough way the present floods of the Foreign work, the need among the heathen of the living gospel of our kind Saviour to save them from the curse of ignorance and superstition, and the need among those at home of willingness rather than ability to give their money, their prayers and themselves to the great work. The paper was a thoroughly stimulating and inspiring one. Mr. Bosworth, at his request, then gave some facts concerning mission work in Muskoka and Parry Sound, and urged upon the Association the necessity of supporting the home mission. During the meeting duets were given by Misses A. Hatch and E. Evans, and Mrs. Kirk and Miss Evans with an organ solo by Mrs. Farmer, which were listened to with great interest. A collection of over eleven dollars was taken up in aid of missions, and after the singing of "From Greenland's icy mountains" as a closing hymn, the visitors and friends had an opportunity of meeting Mr. and Mrs. Hallam and Mrs. Timpany, returned missionaries, and of seeing many valuable curiosities brought home with them from India, together with photographs illustrating native life in India.

MIDDLESEX AND LANARK.—The second annual meeting of the Circles of this Association was held with the church at Mount Bridges Tuesday evening, June 1st, Mrs. W. H. Porter, presiding. Address of welcome by Mrs. Silcox. The President's address. The secretary's report shows an increase of seven new societies during the year: three Home and Foreign Mission Circles; one Home Mission Band; two Home Mission Circles, and one Young People's Missionary Society. We have 20 Foreign Circles in our Association, with 495 members; ten Home Missions Circles, with 259 members; two Home Mission Bands, with 34 members; five Mission Bands, with 171 members. These have contributed during the year, for Foreign Missions, \$586.73; Home Missions, \$345; Mission Bands, \$85.48; total \$1,017.21. For Grand Ligne, \$11. An increase over last year of \$311.36.

Papers were read by Miss Park of Wyoming, on "Giving to the cause of Christ"; and Mrs. Burch of Mount Bridges, on the "Women of India," after which Mr. Porter gave an address on Missions. Miss Leach and the choir gave choice selections of music. Meeting closed with prayer.

A business meeting was held on Wednesday afternoon, at which there was a full attendance. The reports from the Circles were encouraging, and a deeper interest was manifested in Mission work, and a willingness on the part of the sisters to but forth extra efforts. Officers for the ensuing year, Mrs. W. H. Porter, *President*; Mrs. Griffith and Mrs. Baker, *Vice-Presidents*; Miss Wall, *Secretary*.

ELGIN.—The second meeting of the Elgin Association of Circles met on the 3rd of June with the Baptist Church at Aylmer. Representatives of all the Circles in the Association were present. The meeting opened with singing. A short Bible reading by the President of the Association, followed in prayer by Mrs. Dorling. A very earnest address of welcome was given by Mrs. Tapscott, Jr., followed by an address from the President, Mrs. Mc-