

—distant from the station. Having no tent, and being dependent on travellers' Bungalows for accommodation, it was impossible to make protracted tours; had such been desirable. But the amount of time spent in touring is no indication of the amount of labor performed, as most of our work lies near at hand. The whole region is new ground in a missionary point of view, and the near villages thus far afford as good a prospect of success as the more distant. In Tuni itself bazaar-preaching has been regularly kept up at the weekly fair, except when we have been prevented by sickness or absence from the station. So far as we have been able to give ourselves to direct gospel work we have had no small amount of enjoyment and encouragement. An awakening interest in the truth has been observed in certain sections of our field; and we hope the Spirit has been at work in the hearts of a few persons. But desiring further evidence of conversion, we have not thus far urged any such to receive baptism. Great patience is needed. There must be "first the blade, then the ear, &c." In due time we hope to be permitted to gather in the ripened harvest.

Bobbili.

Mrs. Churchill writing under date Dec. 31st, to the Secretary of the Central Board, N.B. says:

"My health is so far restored that I am able to go about the house—this is a great comfort to me. I have not yet had the opportunity of consulting a doctor who could tell with any certainty the cause of my illness, so I do not know whether I may expect my health to be established without further trouble or not."

THE WORK AT HOME.

Nova Scotia.

The tenth annual meeting of the Central Board, and W. M. A. Societies was held on the evening of the 15th of January, in the vestry of the North Baptist Church, Halifax. Mrs. Selden, the Secretary, read the annual report of the Central Board for Nova Scotia, which states that:—

"It is a matter of some difficulty to find items of sufficient importance to present in a report, when the actual work accomplished both at home and abroad is so small in comparison to the magnitude of the cause represented. This appears to be especially the case this year, when we have not any great news to give, but simply a record of quiet work performed in the Master's service; the every day routine broken by no startling events, though filled with patient toil in schools, or in visiting from house to house, as our missionary, Miss Hammond, has found the way opened up before her.

"Although Miss Hammond is our only representative in India, supported by our funds, and working under our care, still we know that friends all over the Province feel deeply interested in the work carried on by our sisters, Mrs. Armstrong, Mrs. Churchill and Mrs. Sanford, and several large donations have been sent by the Central Boards to assist in building operations, or to help in school work.

"We grieve to hear that Mrs. Armstrong's health has failed very much during the past year, and we hope soon to welcome her home, when she can have the rest she so much needs, and which she has so nobly earned."

After reviewing the work done by the lady missionaries during the year, the report speaks thus of the Home work:—"Only forty-four Societies have corresponded with us this year, being eleven less than the number heard from at our last annual meeting. But this smaller number have sent in to the treasury a sum exceeding that of last year by \$29.82. The donations are but one cent behind, but the point where we fall short is from Mission Bands and Sunday Schools. They have not been heard from, while last year the sum of \$40.59 was received, to be used for the education of the heathen children. Perhaps it is not our place to show the reason of this, but we respectfully request the Pastors of the churches, the Superintendents of the Sunday Schools, and the teachers working with them, to take this matter under their serious consideration, and to endeavour to keep up the interest in missionary work among the young people under their care. This year is the first break in the chain of contributions from Sunday Schools. In 1874 they sent \$70.23, which is also the highest sum reached. It is not fair perhaps to suppose that nothing has been done, because the money has not passed through our hands, for we know of one S. School (Wolfville) which sends funds direct, for the education of two native children in India. There may be similar cases of which we have not heard.

The Society at Amherst takes the lead once more as the largest in point of members and money sent in. No new Societies have been organized, but one has been revived—at Freeport, Digby Co. One Life Member has been added to our list from the church at Hammond's Plains.

From the funds at the disposal of the three Central Boards of the Maritime Provinces, there has been donated this year the following sums:—

Salary of our missionary, Miss Hammond	\$ 400 00
Towards building missionary premises at Bobbili	1,000 00
For school buildings at Bobbili	500 00
To enable Miss Hammond to carry on school work at Bimlipatam	122 00
For the support of three orphan children under Mrs. Armstrong's care	75 00

In addition to this, the Central Board of Nova Scotia agreed to present Miss Hammond with a means of conveyance used in India, and which was a necessity for her work, living as she did at a distance from the schools. The cost was \$100.00, and the receipt of the money was gratefully acknowledged by Miss Hammond.

We are glad to know that the Canadian *Missionary Link*, published in Toronto, is becoming better known, and more widely circulated. We congratulate the lady editors of the paper on the success which has attended their enterprise, as shown by the distribution of the profits, which have been divided between the Central Boards, in proportion to the number of subscribers, our own share amounting to \$8.81."

The treasurer's report showed the total receipts for 1879 to have been \$901.44; of which \$833.68 was contributed by the W. M. A. Societies; \$64.09 was from special donations, and \$3.67 was the balance of bank interest after deducting the remarkably small item of \$2.08 for the working expenses of the Society.

Reports were read from the W. M. A. Societies, good speeches were made by the gentlemen present, much excellent music added to the enjoyment of the evening, and in response to an appeal from E. G. W. Greenwood, Esq., several friends gave their names for donations of \$5 to the funds of the Societies.

LAKE GEORGE, N.S.:—Mrs A. Cogswell writes For some time I have felt desirous of having a Women's Aid Society in connection with our church, but times have been hard here for several years, owing to the scarcity of employment, and I felt not the courage to undertake the work though I sometimes spoke of it. A letter to Mr. Cogswell from Mrs. H. M. N. Armstrong, prompted us to new endeavours. We shall have a "Society" but not wholly on the full membership system. We have obtained six subscribers for the *Link* and hope to get more. Also hope to have a visit from Mrs. Armstrong when she returns to her native land.

New Brunswick.

The annual meeting of the Central Board of the Woman's Missionary Aid Societies of N. B., was held in Germain Street Church on Jan. 29th 1880.

The President, Mrs. G. M. W. Carey occupied the chair. Meeting was opened by singing 109th hymn in Gospel Hymns of Sacred Song. Miss Myra Thompson presided at the organ. After reading the scripture prayer was offered by Mrs. William Scott; then followed the singing of the hymn "Hark the voice of Jesus cryeth." Address of welcome was given by Mrs. Capt. Masters.

The reports of the Central Board were read by the Secretary and Treasurer. These reports showed that less money had been received this year than last, all giving as the reason, scarcity of money, hard times. There has been over \$2,000 granted from the general fund during the year, for building and school purposes together with Miss Hammond's salary. The Missionaries are all doing grand work, with many marks of encouragement. Mrs. Churchill is now very very ill, Miss Hammond was sent for, and went to Bobbili to attend her. An account of Miss Hammond's journey from Bimlipatam to Bobbili is given in the Secretary's report.

Reports from local Societies were then read as follows:—Brussels street, by Mrs Allwood; Portland, by Miss Cowan; Leinster street, by Mrs James Masters; Germain street, by Miss Lizzie Phillips. A large number of other reports were read by the Sec. of the C. B. We were greatly disappointed in not having Rev. Mr. George and wife with us, they had been invited and would have been present but were prevented by illness in their family. The Rev. Messrs Carey, Everett, Hickson, and Willcox, were present and added much to the interest of the meeting by their prayers and kindly remarks.

A very interesting letter was read from Mrs. Churchill; she was bolstered up in an easy chair while she

wrote. An extract from a letter from Miss Hammond dated a week later, was given as follows:—Last Wednesday I started for Bimlipatam by native bandy; was more than half way home when I saw Mr. Churchill's servant man coming rapidly. I knew before he produced the letter what was wanted, in five minutes I was on my way back to Bobbili, Mrs Churchill was worse. I made the greater part of my journey by palkee and reached her on Friday about three o'clock. Mrs. C. was much weaker than when I left.

Then the President asked earnest prayer for the restoration of Mrs Churchill's health.

After the collection which amounted to nearly \$6, the meeting closed by singing the doxology.

M. A. SKINNER.
Sec. of the Central Board N. B.

Letter to Mrs. Armstrong, of Chicacole.

MY DEAR MRS. ARMSTRONG,—I have just returned from our Conference, where I had the pleasure of reading your interesting and most welcome letter, dated Chicacole, October, 1879. In accordance with your suggestion, I will reply through the columns of the *MISSIONARY LINK*.

What a flood of happy memories that letter brings to my mind! I am carried back to the time when we first met, nine years ago, on board the boat on our way to the Convention at Fredericton, N.B. Well do I remember the little incident related by you, which led to the investigation of the subject of infant baptism, resulting in your entire change of sentiment on that subject; and having much to do with your subsequent determination to become a foreign missionary.

I regret exceedingly to learn that your failing health compels you to leave your loved employment among the benighted Telugus. I know from your letters, which are always looked for and read with great interest, that you are deeply interested in your work; and much as your friends in N.S. would like to have you with them again, yet their desire for the advancement of the cause of missions rather leads them to pray for your speedy restoration; that your valuable labours may long be continued in the mission.

Your touching appeals to the sisters at home impressed me deeply with the importance of doing more for foreign missions. I was much pained while reading of the many privations experienced by our missionaries—the privations of which they knew nothing in their native land, and to which we ourselves are entire strangers. In view of these great sacrifices, I am led to ask, What are we doing at home? what sacrifices are we making in order to hold up the hands of those who have left home and friends, to tell the "Old, old story of Jesus and His love"? Well may we fear that the heathen will rise up in judgment and condemn us for our neglect and abuse of the many privileges we enjoy.

I am doing what I can for the circulation of the *MISSIONARY LINK*, believing it will serve as a stimulus to greater efforts in this glorious work. I would like to see a copy of it in every family.

Hoping that you and your associates in the mission may be long spared to lead benighted souls to the cross, and that an abundant ingathering may be the reward of your labours, believe me, yours most sincerely.

M. A. F. SKINNER.

Chester, N.S.

THE ROMANISTS are sending missionaries promptly into Afghanistan, three having left the Roman Catholic college near London, for this "arduous and untried field of apostolic labor."

THE SCRIPTURES have already been translated into no less than two hundred and fifty tongues. One of the latest has been made by the Rev. John Ross into the language of the Corea, a country to which the new native church at Japan has resolved to send a missionary.

REV. H. CORBETT, a Presbyterian missionary in China, writes that "the native pastor in connection with the English Baptist Church has lately received one hundred and thirty members, of whom sixty-five are women."

REV. MR. MARSHALL, a Baptist missionary, writes to the Lucknow *Witness* that in Orissa 400 Hindus have renounced caste and become Christians. There are among the 400 many of the highest caste, and of considerable wealth.

THE *Missionary Herald* counts up over \$3,000,000 given to the missionary enterprise of the Presbyterians, Episcopal, Baptist, Wesleyan and Congregational churches by only a dozen givers within the past year.