

plus the amount which the Missions propose to raise, would equal only seventy per cent. of the basis of salary agreed upon. It had been hoped by some that at least seventy-five per cent. would be reached; but a careful examination of the printed schedules revealed the fact that the Domestic Missions proposed to raise between seven and eight thousand dollars less than last year. Had they kept up to last year's figures, the seventy-five per cent. would have been secured.

Grants to the French Work, and to the Indian Work in Ontario, remain about the same as last year. The Chinese Work shows some advance, as does the Foreign Work, and the Indian Work in the North-West and British Columbia. Most of the Miscellaneous grants are about the same as last year—some of them less. There were pressing requests for extension of the work in some directions, which the Board did not see the way clear to grant, glad as they would have been to do so had the income permitted. It is earnestly hoped that there will be such an advance the coming year that the Board will no longer be compelled to turn a deaf ear to appeals for more teachers and more missionaries.

And this reminds me that for the missionary campaign of the present year, the brethren at large will have to depend upon home resources for help. There are no returned missionaries, as in other years, whose earnest pulpit and platform appeals might arouse the enthusiasm and stimulate the liberality of the people. Even the General Secretary will be obliged to circumscribe his labors at anniversaries, owing to other work of a general kind, growing out of the decisions of the Board. He hopes that our ministers everywhere, whose tried loyalty to the mission work of the Church is beyond all praise, will throw themselves heart and soul into the campaign, and by timely preparation, careful planning, earnest and frequent exhortations, and mutual help at missionary meetings, strike for that "QUARTER OF A MILLION FOR MISSIONS." No less than for "A REVIVAL IN EVERY CONGREGATION." This is still the motto of the Board, and we pray that it may be realized this year.

THE unveiling of Margaret Monument in New Orleans was a notable occasion. Thousands of people were in attendance, and the ceremonies were eminently appropriate. Gen. F. T. Nicholls delivered the oration, in which he paid eloquent tribute to the Christian woman who devoted her life and fortune to charity and especially to the care of the orphan. This is said to be the first monument ever erected to a woman in America; and it is significant that the statue does not signalize mental achievement, queenly display in social life, or aspiration after larger rights, but the wealth and shelter of woman's love.

THE MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF THE METHODIST CHURCH.

ABSTRACT OF ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1887-8.

A YEAR ago the General Board suggested as a motto for the Church, "A REVIVAL IN EVERY CONGREGATION, AND A QUARTER OF A MILLION FOR MISSIONS." That motto has not been completely realized, but a sufficient advance has been made on both the lines indicated to inspire the fullest confidence for the future. Revivals, if not universal, have been very general, and although the goal of a quarter of a million has not been reached, it is clearly in sight, and, we doubt not, will be passed during the present year. For the accomplishment of this desirable object the Board counts upon the cordial and loyal co-operation of the entire Church.

The results of the past year's work call for devout thanksgiving to the Head of the Church. The returns from the various Annual Conferences show an aggregate gain in the membership of the Church of over 10,000, and a fair proportion of this gain has been won on mission fields. On the financial side there is an advance of some \$18,000, sufficient, at least, to show that interest in mission work is by no means on the decline. The religious reports will repay careful reading. Some of them are of deep interest—bulletins from the field of battle, telling of victories won for Christ.

The Reports from Japan are most encouraging, and fully vindicate the policy of the Church in regard to that interesting field. The men who, well-nigh twenty years ago, urged Canadian Methodism to plant a foreign mission, were wise and far-seeing. They saw that the Home Work of the Church would prosper just in proportion as she endeavored to fulfil the Master's command to disciple *all* nations. The results have justified their faith. Since our foreign work was begun, fifteen years ago, the income of the Society has steadily risen from \$108,000 to \$220,000, and such showers of blessing have fallen upon the home churches that there has been an almost continuous revival. The reports this year from Japan will give a further stimulus to missionary liberality and zeal and should lead us to consider whether the time is not near when the Church should turn her eyes towards yet another part of the neglected field of foreign heathendom. Verily, the fields are "white unto harvest," and the demand of the hour is for reapers to gather in the sheaves. The numerical gain in the Japan District is 497, or more than sixty per cent., while the financial gain is fully 100 per cent. A very pleasing feature is the steady movement of the native churches toward self-support. Shidzuoka has, in this respect, declared her independence, and