

so successful and satisfactory. We can stand hard work so long as we are inspired by success.

With truest regards and kind remembrance to yourself and the Society you represent,

Yours faithfully,

W. HODNETT.

NOTE.—Birtle is situated on the Bird Tail Creek, Manitoba, a few miles south of the Manitoba & North-Western R.R. The Bird Tail Creek Reserve is on the Assiniboine River, a short distance south of Birtle, in the neighbourhood of Fort Ellice. Elkhorn is the nearest station on the Canada Pacific R.R.

AN EXPLANATION.

A request sometimes comes from an auxiliary that its contributions may be devoted to a special field, and the Board desires to give a general explanation why this is inadvisable.

The Society, as a whole, being itself auxiliary to the General Assembly's Foreign Mission committee, undertakes, annually, to do its best to raise the necessary money for certain objects indicated to it by the Committee, and this undertaking can only be carried out by the loyal co-operation of the auxiliaries. It will easily be seen that if one and another Branch Society allocates its money to objects other than those named, there will be a danger of the Society falling short of its engagements; or a larger sum than necessary may be sent in some year for one portion of the work, and not enough for another. It has been the experience of sister societies in the United States, that grave difficulties have arisen in this way. Certain responsibilities have been incurred, and, owing to the change of interests in some quarters, while the liberality of members has not been less, there has been a deficiency in the funds needed to meet these obligations.

The Board is aware that, at first, it seems to create a deeper interest in a branch society to have its particular representative in the field, or to know exactly to which field its contributions go; but it is hoped that members will see the reasonableness of their being asked to send in their money to the general fund