

Principal MacVicar made a terse, powerful and effective vindication. The decision reached—the transmission of the overture to the General Assembly, while expressing entire confidence in the present management of the French Evangelization work by the Montreal Board—seemed to give very general satisfaction.

There is a manifest improvement in the style of debate. The old-time oratory has well-nigh disappeared. The speakers, realizing that time is precious, have acquired the commendable habit of condensation. Only once, towards the close of the French Evangelization debate, was there anything approaching warmth of feeling, when there was a brief fusillade of sharp cross-firing, happily, without seriously wounding anyone. The general feeling was, as the last good-byes were said, that the meeting of the Synod of Hamilton and London for 1885 was a very profitable and a very happy gathering.

#### AUGMENTATION.

It is very much to be regretted that the receipts for the Augmentation Fund for the year ending on the 30th inst. are likely to fall considerably short of the amount required to provide the minimum salary of \$750 and manse. The Home Mission Committee asked \$60,000 in all, viz., \$30,000 each for Home Mission work proper and for Augmentation. The \$60,000 will be got, but not in accordance with the requirements of the respective funds, for while about \$34,000 have been received thus far for Home Missions, only about \$22,000 have been received for Augmentation.

Up to this year there was but the one fund for the two departments of the work. In June last, however, the General Assembly resolved to separate the funds so that the Committee cannot use any unexpended balance in the Home Mission treasury to make good a deficit in the Augmentation Fund. It is well that this should be clearly understood. Accustomed as our congregations have all along been to contribute for both branches of the work under the one general name of Home Missions, it is altogether probable that many have this year forgotten the action of last Assembly, and have sent in their contributions for Home Missions as formerly, without dividing these between the two funds, though a portion of the money sent was really intended for Augmentation. Where this is the case it is a matter of very great importance that intimation be at once sent to the Treasurer, so that the amount designed for Augmentation may be transferred to that fund.

In accordance with the regulations of the General Assembly the Sub-Committee on Augmentation meet in a few days to divide the money then on hand among the ministers of the congregations on the Augmented list. From the success of the Scheme last year there will be very great disappointment and discouragement on the part of these ministers if the state of the fund does not permit of the Committee making grants up to \$750 and manse, and it is earnestly hoped that every congregation that has not yet forwarded a contribution to the fund will do so before the 30th inst.

The claims upon the fund this year are somewhat greater than was expected, owing to the large number of congregations in Manitoba and the North-West that have been settled during the year. As our readers are aware, whenever congregations call ministers, and these are duly inducted, they at once cease to derive any help from the Home Mission Fund and are put on the Augmentation list. During the past year quite a number of congregations in the North-West that formerly enjoyed the services of ordained missionaries have formally called these missionaries as their pastors, and have thus been transferred from the Home Mission to the Augmentation list. This is the case with such important congregations as those of Prince Albert and Edmonton. It will be very discouraging to the ministers of these congregations, and may have a disastrous effect should the Committee be unable to give them the minimum salary, because the Augmentation Fund will not admit of it, while there is an unexpended balance in the Home Mission treasury from which they were wont to receive their supplements up to the time that they accepted the call of the people and were inducted by the Presbytery as pastors. Assuredly, the Church or the General Assembly never contemplated such a result from the formation of the pastoral tie. It is of the utmost importance that a result so very undesirable should not be reached, and

we earnestly commend the claims of the Augmentation Fund to all the congregations of the Church, in the hope that when the Committee meet next week they will have sufficient money at their disposal to pay in full to every minister the stipend aimed at by the General Assembly.

#### PRESBYTERIAN WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The ninth annual meeting of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Presbyterian Church in Canada (western section), was convened in St. Andrew's Church, Ottawa, on the 14th inst. There was a large attendance of ladies, including 150 delegates from the various auxiliaries and Presbyterian Societies. The meeting was opened by the President, Mrs. Ewart; Mrs. Gordon, of Harrington, and Mrs. MacLaren, of Toronto, conducting devotional exercises.

Earnest and eloquent words of welcome were given by Miss Harmon, of Ottawa. Mrs. Ball, of Vanneck, responded most appropriately in behalf of the Society. The President then addressed the meeting in words of cheer and encouragement.

Mrs. John Harvie, who acted as Recording-Secretary in the absence of Mrs. MacMurchy, read letters of greeting from Mrs. Ross, of the Indore Society, Quebec; Mrs. Chisholm, St. John's, Newfoundland, and Mrs. Youdall, Harbour Grace, Newfoundland; Mrs. Laflin, Woman's Presbyterian Board of Missions for the North-Western United States, and from Mrs. Smith, of the Philadelphia Woman's Foreign Missionary Society. The reception of delegates followed, and was a most interesting part of the programme. Mrs. McDougall and Mrs. Leys, Montreal, represented the Woman's Canadian Board of Missions; Miss McMaster represented the Woman's Presbyterian Missionary Society, Montreal; Mrs. Halkett, Ottawa, conveyed the greetings of the Baptist Society, and Mrs. Longley, Ottawa, of the Methodist Church; Mrs. Grant, of Pictou, N. S., represented the Societies of Halifax and Pictou; and Mrs. Leys, of Montreal, engaged in prayer, when the morning meeting was closed.

The afternoon session was opened with devotional exercises, conducted by Mrs. Mowat, Kingston.

The annual reports of the Society were then presented. The report of the Foreign Secretary was made by Mrs. Harvie; of Home Secretary, by Mrs. Campbell; of Treasurer, by Mrs. MacLennan; of the Board of Management, by Mrs. Steele, of Hamilton; Reports of Presbyterian Societies by Mrs. Campbell, Chatham; Mrs. McRae, Glengarry; Mrs. Steele, Hamilton; Mrs. Campbell, Huron; Mrs. Gunn, Kingston; Miss Wylie, Lanark and Renfrew; Mrs. Ross, Lindsay; Mrs. Ball, Vanneck; Mrs. Harvie, Maitland; Mrs. Campbell, Paris; Mrs. Craick, Peterborough; Mrs. Gordon, Stratford; Mrs. McMurrich, Toronto; Mrs. Campbell, Whitby.

The following is a synopsis of reports of the work accomplished: One girls' school in Formosa; three schools for our own Indians in the North-West; six schools, under the care of our ladies, in Central India, six native teachers assisting in these schools; two Bible women doing general missionary work in Zenanas, villages and hospitals; one medical missionary, Miss Elizabeth Beatty, M.L.; three lady missionary teachers—Miss Rodger, Miss McGregor and Miss Ross—Indore, Central India; one lady ready for the work now in North Germany, and one lady in Canada receiving a medical education. Home work: Life members, sixty-one, of whom seventeen were added this year, ordinary members, 3,729; 1,214 added this year; 1,419 are members of the General Society.

Contributions reported: From auxiliaries, \$7,910.20; from mission bands, \$1,745.99; revenue, \$10,028.36; balance from last year, \$21.88; balance in the hands of the Foreign Missionary Committee from last year, \$300; total, \$10,386.54.

Mrs. Alexander, of Ottawa, moved, seconded by Mrs. Larmouth, of Ottawa, that the reports be adopted, and that 6,000 copies be printed for circulation among the auxiliaries; carried.

Mrs. MacLennan, of Toronto, moved, seconded by Miss Hopkirk, of Ottawa: That as the society had raised more than the amount estimated by the Foreign Missionary Committee for our work, \$600 additional be contributed to the work in the North-West, and \$300 to the schools in Trinidad, subject to the approval of the Foreign Missionary Committee; carried.

The money contributed was then solemnly dedicated to God by Mrs. Thorburn, of Ottawa, in prayer.

The Nominating Committee then reported, through Mrs. Gordon, of Harrington, the names of the committee for the ensuing year: Mrs. Blaikie, Mrs. Breckenridge, Mrs. Bryce, Mrs. Cameron, Mrs. H. Campbell, Mrs. H. Cassels, Mrs. Mortimer Clarke, Mrs. Crombie, Mrs. Ewart, Mrs. Frizzell, Mrs. Gilray, Mrs. Gregg, Mrs. Gunther, Mrs. W. Harris, Mrs. Harvie, Mrs. A. Jeffrey, Mrs. Kirkland, Mrs. Macdonnell, Mrs. McLaren, Mrs. MacLennan, Mrs. MacMurchy, Mrs. McCracken, Mrs. McHardy, Mrs. H. H. McLaughlan, Mrs. McLachlan, Mrs. McMurrich, Mrs. Milligan, Mrs. Mutell, Mrs. J. V. Reid, Mrs. Richardson, Mrs. R. Smellie, Mrs. John Smith, Mrs. Staunton, Mrs. Telfer, Mrs. Thom, Mrs. Wallace, all of Toronto. Also the Presidents of the Presbyterian Societies, Auxiliaries and Mission Bands. Mrs. Watson then closed the meeting with devotional exercises.

A social was held in the basement of the church in the evening, and afterwards a public meeting was convened. Dr. Wardrope, Convener of the Assembly's Foreign Mission Committee, presided, and Rev. Principal Grant, of Kingston, delivered a stirring address, pointing out the excellent work that was being done by the Woman's Missionary Society. Dr. MacLaren, and Rev. W. T. Herridge also delivered addresses.

#### SECOND DAY.

The meeting of the General Board of the Presbyterian Women's Missionary Society, was resumed next morning. There was a large attendance from the Presbyterian Society and various auxiliaries. The following officers of the General Board were elected:

President, Mrs. Ewart; Vice-Presidents—Mrs. MacLaren, Mrs. Macdonald, Mrs. MacMurrich, Mrs. Cameron; and the Presidents of Presbyterian Societies, Auxiliaries, and Mission Boards; Secretaries—Recording Secretary, Mrs. MacMurchy; Home Secretary, Mrs. Campbell; Foreign Secretary, Mrs. Harvie; Treasurer, Mrs. MacLennan.

In the afternoon, after devotional exercises—which were conducted by the President, assisted by Mrs. Mackenzie, of Almonte—Mrs. Harvie presented a memorial from the Provincial Women's Christian Union, setting forth the claims of the Temperance Unions of the Province, and asking the sympathy, the prayers, and the co-operation of the Woman's Missionary Society.

Mrs. J. Tilton of Ottawa, President of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, and Miss Johnson, President of the Young Woman's Union, then addressed a few words of greeting and congratulation to the Society in behalf of the temperance ladies of Ottawa, to which the President responded, assuring both the Provincial Union and the local Union of Ottawa of the sympathy of the Woman's Missionary Society with the work in which they were engaged.

Mrs. C. C. A. Fraser of St. Elmo, Glengarry, read an interesting and instructive paper on The Progress of Mission Work.

The Secretary read a letter from Lady Lansdowne, assuring the Society of her interest in the work in which they were engaged.

A most cordial invitation from Principal Woods, Ottawa Ladies' College, was given to the delegates and friends of the Society to attend a concert on Wednesday evening in the College. Telegrams from the Halifax Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, then in session in Halifax, also from the auxiliary of the Central Church, Toronto, were received.

Invitations to hold the next annual meeting at London or at Cuelph were then presented. After consideration, it was decided to appoint the next annual meeting in the city of London.

After the appointment of the nominating committee and other general business, Mrs. Harvie, Foreign Secretary, addressed the Society in earnest, encouraging and searching words.

Cordial votes of thanks were tendered to all who had by their endeavours promoted the comfort and success of the meetings, said to be the most interesting and delightful the Society has ever held.

THE work of City Missions, which have been in such successful operation in Berlin and London, has been prosecuted with vigour in other European capitals. Notably is this the case in Copenhagen. The present movement began in 1881. During the past winter over 300 Bibles, 20,000 tracts, 2,000 copies of the Gospel lessons and 20,000 illustrated children's papers were distributed by the City Mission Society, which has been organized and is now systematically prosecuting the work.