

cordially entertained us, to the choir and the trustees of the church, was carried by a standing vote.

The meeting was then closed with the benediction by the President.

J. ATKINSON, *Rec.-Sec.*

THE NOVA SCOTIA BRANCH.

THE tenth annual meeting of the Nova Scotia Branch convened at Amherst, Oct. 6. A pleasant preliminary was a reception given on the evening of Tuesday, 5th inst., by the ladies of the congregation. Brightly lighted rooms, expected and unexpected greetings, flowers, music and dainty refreshments, are a memory of the guests of the occasion. A cordial address of welcome given by Miss Travis, and supplemented by pleasant remarks from the pastor, Rev. J. Strothard, was responded to by the Branch President, Mrs. D. F. MacCoy.

On behalf of the Branch, Mrs. (Rev.) T. D. Hart presented Miss Cunningham, our Missionary on furlough from Japan, with a framed and illuminated expression of esteem, as a souvenir of her home coming.

On Wednesday, Oct. 6th, fifty-four officers and delegates responded to the roll call, at the closing session the entire number reported present.

Deep regret was felt at the absence of our beloved and efficient Branch Treasurer, Miss Mary Ray. Touching expressions of sympathy in her recent bereavement through the death of her honoured father shewed that "if one member suffers all the members suffer."

There was throughout the sessions a close attention to business, with a rich spiritual influence. Reports from Auxiliaries shewed regular and systematic effort. A noticeable feature of the year's reports, was the character of those from the Mission Bands. A strong and intelligent interest in Missions is being developed in the young people of the church, while in many instances the Bands are centres of spiritual power.

On Wednesday afternoon the President's address gave a comprehensive survey of the year, with its lights and shades, both at home and on the Mission field.

The Corresponding Secretary's statement was as follows: Auxiliaries 52, increase 5; Mission Bands 37, increase 7; annual members 1,119, increase 45; life members 77, increase 9; Mission Band members 634; total income \$4,048.68, an increase of \$278 over last year; copies of *OUTLOOK* taken 401; mite boxes used 389.

Easter offerings had been a success. The adoption of Easter services of a Missionary character was recommended to all the Auxiliaries. Mrs. Whiston reported an improvement in the character of Auxiliary work generally.

An original paper on methods of Auxiliary work was brought before the Branch by Mrs. (Rev.) R. B. Mack. By request this paper will be printed for circulation.

The annual public meeting was held on Thursday evening, the President of the Branch in the chair. Mrs. MacCoy's address told what Christian women have done in spreading the knowledge of Jesus, and what they have neglected to do. It is *not* "my people do not *know*," but "my people do not *consider*." She gave a broad view of the condition of women throughout the world, from the millions of child-widows in India, to the toiling mothers in the red man's wigwam, and shewed in telling words what it is *not* to be interested in the Saviour's plan for the world's redemption. The Corresponding Secretary gave a rapid sketch of the work from her standpoint.

Each year has its individuality. This year had brought reverses and fears, yet the summary shewed advance. Touching at the various points of interest, the climax thought was

that of the new French Institute, with its four hundred students; a beacon light in a desert of darkness. Miss Cunningham gave graphic experience of her five years' work and intense interest was shewn by the audience, as her narrative made apparant how much remains to be done in the closely populated cities of Japan.

Thursday evening was "Mission Band evening." A very interesting meeting under the auspices of the Bands was conducted by Mrs. J. W. Smith, Mission Band Secretary. Her address contained a strong plea for the children. This is the children's age. We were urged in the words of Carey to "attempt great things for God, to expect great things from God." This was followed by a suggestive paper prepared by Miss Bell, of Reaper's M. Circle, Halifax North, founded on clause 2 of constitution: "The object of Mission Bands shall be primarily to develop a Missionary spirit, and secondly to raise money for the heathen." Miss Cunningham again talked of Japan, appearing in native costume.

On both occasions excellent music was furnished by the choir. The pastor and other ministerial brethren were present, and both at public meetings and afternoon sessions rendered assistance.

Election of officers, etc., resulted as follows: President, Mrs. W. F. MacCoy; 1st Vice-President, Mrs. (Rev.) A. S. Tuttle; 2nd Vice-President, Mrs. (Rev.) J. Gee; 3rd Vice-President, Mrs. (Rev.) R. B. Mack; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. S. E. Whiston; Recording Secretary, Miss Belle Wiswell; Treasurer, Miss Mary Ray; Auditor, Miss Louisa Ray; Band Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. J. W. Smith; Superintendent of District Convention for Cape Breton, Miss Mary Burns; Conference Representative, Mrs. C. H. Whitman; Delegate to Board Meeting, Mrs. Mack; Alternate, Mrs. Gee.

The consecration service led by Mrs. (Rev.) J. Rodgers, was an hour rich in blessing. Youth and age testified to the sweetness of the gift of God in Christ Jesus. All hearts were touched when one of the delegates who had heard the Master's call responded at this service, "send me." Her name will be placed on the list of reserve. Thus closed one of the most inspiring and helpful meetings of the Nova Scotia Branch. Four invitations for next year were considered. Decision given for Hillsburg.

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FROM THE AUXILIARIES.

FREELTON.—Our Auxiliary is trying, as a means of missionary instruction, the holding of public meetings about once a quarter. In June, 1891, in Freelton church, Rev. W. H. Harvey, of Guelph; in November, at Mountsberg, Mrs. Dickson, of London; in February, 1892, at Brock Road, Mrs. McMechan, of London; and last July, at Freelton, Miss Annie Whitfield, of Dundas, lately returned from Africa, gave earnest and interesting addresses on different phases of the subject, to large audiences, except in the February meeting, which took place at a cold, stormy time, with bad roads. Miss Whitfield had the additional influence of personal contact with the work. Other exercises were added on different occasions.

MRS. J. S. COLEMAN, *Cor. Sec.*

HAMILTON (Zion Tabernacle).—The past year has not been a prosperous year in our Auxiliary financially, or in regard to members. During the winter so much sickness prevailed in our midst, and we have not been able to hold our meetings in the church, but at the parsonage, principally, that we have found it difficult to get our members out. We are building a new school room and comfortable class rooms, and in another month we expect to be more settled