

all matter sent for publication should only be written on *one* side of the sheet. Address, 238 Huron Street, Toronto. Forward by 18th of month at latest.

SIMCOE.—Our Woman's Missionary Society and Mission Band are growing in interest, and we hope for a corresponding growth in numbers. On the evening of Tuesday, 13th September, a very enjoyable "At Home" was held in the lecture-room of the church. The place was tastefully decorated for the occasion, and the girls of the Band set out a table covered with articles of beauty and utility, which were sold to the guests of the evening at reasonable prices. The programme of music and recitations was highly appreciated by the audience, as were the excellent cake and coffee served during the evening. The Rev. T. S. Howard, of Townsend, contributed largely to the interest of the proceedings by his address and the exhibition of some Indian idols and charms which were surrendered to him by a converted pagan medicine man. All things considered, we have cause to "thank God and take courage."

ANNA E. FALLS, *Cor. Sec.*

PICTON.—A public prayer-meeting in the interest of the Picton Auxiliary of the W. M. S. was held in the lecture-room of the First Methodist Church on Thursday evening, 15th inst., at which there was a very large attendance. The tract on the "Origin and Work of the W. M. S." was read, the mite-boxes were opened and a few remarks made by the Rev. J. F. Ockley. Our last regular meeting was also largely attended and several new members added.

C. V. TOBEY *Cor. Sec.*

PORTAGE DU FORT.—At the annual meeting of the Ross Auxiliary of the Eastern Branch of the W. M. S., on Sept. 13th, Mrs. T. G. Williams, President of Pembroke Auxiliary, was present, and gave an address explaining briefly and clearly the workings of the Society, arousing all who heard it to renewed earnestness in the Missionary cause. The following officers were elected:—*President*, Mrs. S. Rankin; *Vice-President*, Mrs. Dr. Purvis; *Cor. Sec.*, Miss Ross; *Rec. Sec.*, Miss Forrester. Fourteen ladies signified their intention to become members.

SMITHFIELD AUXILIARY.—It is with feelings of thankfulness we look back on the past. Though our financial report does not exceed that of last year, we have gained much in increasing love and zeal for missionary work. In our hearts is an earnest desire to see God's glory advanced in the conversion of our heathen sisters. We praise Him for the glad tidings we are continually hearing from afar. At our first

monthly meeting for the year Mrs. Dr. Carman was present and gave a very interesting and inspiring address, the effects of which have been lasting. In April we had a successful public meeting, at which our friends gave us a liberal collection. Ten dollars was also added to the funds by a strawberry festival. We enter another year with prospects of an increased membership and expectations of God's continued presence.

IDA NEWSON, *Cor. Sec.*

THE "First Methodist Mission Band in connection with the Truro Auxiliary" was organized in October, 1886, with fourteen members, and, with the exception of officers, all under thirteen years of age. Our plan of work has been weekly sewing meetings, the children entering heartily into all our plans. For several reasons it was not advisable to meet during summer months yet we expect to commence again in October with renewed interest and increased membership. Last year our Band sent a number of Christmas cards to Miss Knight, of "Crosby Home," also a parcel of silk scraps. Thus a link has been formed between our Band and some earnest workers in the "Master's Vineyard." At a sale in July we raised \$20, of which \$16 was sent to the Branch in Halifax for General Fund. We are happy in our work, and will pray for God's blessing to attend all future endeavors.

M. A. GRAHAM, *President.*

FROM JAPAN.

USUI YOGI, USUI GORI MACHI, *Gumba Ken.*

DEAR MRS. PARKER,—You will see by the heading of this that we are not in Tôkyô.

Our "closing" entertainment was on the 7th July, and the next day most of the boarders left for their homes. The following two weeks were spent in attending to the house-cleaning of the school; getting the necessary repairs done around the buildings; and in preparing for the country, which last thing means more than it does at home, as we have to take with us nearly all the provisions required during our stay. I have been intending for some time to comply with your request to send something for the OUTLOOK concerning the work of the school; but before the holidays the leisure time never seemed to come. So swiftly have the months passed that I cannot realize that it lacks only two weeks of being one year since we left home for Japan. As I look back over the experiences of this year, I cannot but think how little—comparatively nothing—I knew of the needs and importance of the work before I came, and how many misconceptions I had concerning it.

Day by day I have learned new lessons; and I am sure that the knowledge I myself have received, is tenfold more than what I have imparted to others. Many a time, when some new difficulty has arisen, have I thought of Mrs. Kerr's words to me at the