

1896, been nominally in charge. About a week was spent at Vizianagram station dealing with an interesting case, and the baptistry was kept filled in daily expectation, but through the machinations of relatives, the candidate was outwitted and, for the present at least, effectually intimidated. Plans were laid to make more tours on this large field, but events which will be related further on led us to concentrate our forces upon the town of Bimlipatam for four months. During this period no touring was done on either field.

The daily Bible Class with the native helpers, which is always held on tour, was kept also at the station during the hot season. The course consisted of Bible readings, following the outline of Booth's Reign of Grace. The Word of God revealed to us how grace, and grace alone, reigned in our election, in our calling, in our justification and pardon, in our sanctification and in every step of our salvation. The alpha and omega of our redemption is the sovereign grace of God.

From the last of July to the last of November, thanks to the persistent opposition of a Mohammeda, we had four months of most interesting work in the town. His blasphemous and unrelenting denunciations of Christianity called out the towns and the inhabitants of Bimli surged around the clock tower like the waves of the sea. From the beginning God taught us that "It is not me that speaks but the spirit of your Father that speaketh in you." Every slander was quashed and used as a black background upon which to display the inimitable glory of the gospel before the awakened multitudes. The whole campaign ended with three public discussions in the mission chapel. The sub-magistrate was chairman. The house was crowded every evening. Each public victory for Christianity was more signal than the last. Four meetings had been agreed upon, but after the third, the Sahib backed out and would not meet us again. I have no hesitation in saying that the gospel was more widely published and understood in Bimlipatam during these four months than during all the rest of the four years since we landed on this shore. Thus it is that God maketh the wrath of man to praise Him. It would be a great blessing if we could have such a battle every year.

We cannot lay our hand on one convert as the result of the discussion, but believe it will have much to do yet, with the eternal life of many. It has not yet changed our statistics, but it has changed our status and our prestige. We walk the streets of Bimli to-day more than conquerors.

While the health of others has been failing, our at Bimli has been graciously preserved. We wish to record our debt of gratitude to God for all His mercies.

Number of church members reported, last year, 24; excluded, 2; restored, 1; baptized, 1; present number, 24.—L. D. MORSE.

## Young People's Department.

### MISSION BAND REPORT—EASTERN ONTARIO AND QUEBEC.

It is with regret that this report has to record a slight decrease in both membership and contributions during the past year. Some Bands have not sent reports, although they are still at work. Carleton Place Band has ceased to exist, but the members are working for mis-

sions through the Sunday School. New Bands have been formed at Smith's Falls and Westport, and the one at Osnabruk Centre re-organized. Your Secretary would be glad if she could report a faithful, active, earnest Mission Band in connection with every Sunday School within the bounds of our Convention.

### CANADA CENTRAL ASSOCIATION.

*Allan's Mills.*—The Band here has lost three of their senior members this year. The collections and attendance is encouraging. A student at Samulcott is being supported. Membership 17. Sent to Foreign Missions \$15.

*Brookville.*—This Band supports a student in Cocanada, formerly of Tuni. Membership 60. Sent to Foreign Missions \$15; Home Missions \$25; Grande Ligne \$10; North-West \$10.

*Della.*—This Band supports a student at Akidu. Membership 23. Sent to Foreign Missions \$18.97.

*Kingston.*—First Church Band supports a student at Samulcott. Membership 20. Sent to Foreign Missions \$17.

*Kingston.*—Union Street Band meets after Sunday School, and some of the senior members meet during the week for sewing. Membership 40. Sent to Foreign Missions \$10; North-West \$5.

*Perth.*—This Band supports a student in Cocanada, formerly of Tuni. Membership 45. Sent to Foreign Missions \$17.

*Smith's Falls Band.*—Membership 30. Organized last May.

*Westport.*—A Band was organized last December, and the members have chosen to support a boy at Akidu. Membership 29. Sent to Foreign Missions \$11.

### EASTERN ASSOCIATION.

*Montreal.*—Grace Church Band reports a smaller membership, because some of the older girls have joined the Circle. A good interest is maintained in their meetings. At Christmas, a large photo. of the Band, with the church as background, was sent to Lydia, of Akidu, their pupil. The Band also had a share in the Home Mission Box sent by the Circle. Membership 39. Sent to Foreign Missions \$29.14; Home Missions \$7.79; Grande Ligne \$1.41.

*Montreal.*—Olivet Band reports the interest not abated. Meetings are held once a month, before Sunday School. Three parties have been given during the year, for the purpose of making the members acquainted with each other. A concert was also very successful. The children were given five cents each as "talent money." This was multiplied ten, twenty, and in one