

Foreign Missions.

Contributions.

Table with 2 columns: Location and Amount. Includes Manitoba (S. S. Portago la Prairie \$6 30) and Ontario (S. S. Toronto (Denison Ave.) 1 01, Bowmanville 81 24, Selkirk 3 00, Ontario Children's Mission Bands 20 00).

Foreign Missionary Notes.

Aside from bequests, the receipts of the Foreign Society exceed those for the corresponding months last year. If we take the bequests into the account, they fall below those of last year. Bequests are a very precarious source of supply. It is gratifying to know that there is an increase in the offerings of the churches and Sunday schools, even though the increase is slight. It goes with the saying that the increase ought to be by leaps and bounds.

A group of missionaries are preparing to start for China in September. It is not certain how many will go. Dr. Butchart may go then, or he may go later. He is in New York taking some special courses. Such an increase in the forces in the field calls for a marked increase in the contributions to the Society.

It should be borne in mind that only one collection is called for from the churches this year. For years it was said that there were too many collections, and that better results would be secured by reducing the number of appeals. The number has been reduced from two to one. The Society asks an offering from every church and from every Christian. Those who have not responded should arrange to do so before the close of the missionary year, October 15. Let it be as generous as your means will admit.

A. McLAN, Cor. Sec., Cincinnati, Ohio.

Letter from China.

DEAR BRO. MUNRO.—We had a grand conference in Shanghai, and I should think it was almost worth a year of one's life to have been there. There was a beautiful spirit manifested all through the conference, and it was no less than God's Spirit with us. One hardly heard the names Methodist, Presbyterian, Baptist, etc., but all seemed to be one body in Christ while at conference. About fifty papers were read on the most important subjects to us as missionaries. We are to have a standard or standard versions of the Bible instead of the many versions at present in use, and in these standard versions those who immerse are to be allowed to translate immerse. This is one of the greatest concessions yet made by Pedobaptists. I say standard versions for these must be a translation in high book form, one in easy book form of language, and one in the mandarin, to suit different classes of readers, but the version is really one. The various colloquial dialects will be a translation of this standard version. An effort is also to be made to secure from the Bible Societies summaries, chapter headings, and brief explanations for the Bible. Again, the Bible, or part of the Bible, is to be translated with notes.

A resolution was passed by the conference protesting against the growth and sale of opium.

A committee was appointed to enquire into the use of alcoholic liquors by Chinese and native Christians, and report at next conference. An Educational Association was organized for the promotion of educational interests. A permanent committee was appointed

to unify, classify and store for sale standard books at large centres.

A committee was elected to present a statement to the Chinese Government, telling what Christianity is and what it aims at; thanking the Government for protection in the past, and asking for the suppression of libellous charges against Christian missions.

An appeal was made for 1,000 workers in the next five years. An appeal was made for more lady missionaries. Statistics were collected of missions in China. There are 42 missionary organizations in China. There are 1,205 workers. There are 61 hospitals and 48 dispensaries, in which were treated during 1889 about 850,000 cases. There are 520 organized churches. There are 87,287 communicants, who gave \$801,881.54 as contributions in 1889; that is about \$1 per Christian. A committee was appointed to report upon division of the field, and upon comity between missions.

A permanent committee of correspondence was elected to serve as a medium of communication on subjects of common interest between missionaries in China, and to make provision for the next conference. This is as near to union as could be attained, and the missionaries in China will form henceforth one body, which must in time become more compact. A delightful hour or more of prayer and song closed the conference, and the Lord was present with us, and no outsider could think that there was any division.

The Quakers have started a mission in Nankin, and it consists of two young ladies. One of these has requested Bro. Williams to baptize her next Lord's day. My oldest medical student desires to be baptized also.

Pray for us. Yours in our hope, W. E. MACLEIN, Nankin, June 10, 1890.

Temperance.

Playing Saloon.

"I hear that Smith has sold out his saloon," said one of a couple of middle-aged men, who sat sipping their beer and eating a bit of cheese in a Smithfield street saloon last Friday night.

"Yes," responded the other, rather slowly.

"What was the reason? I thought he was just coining money there."

"It's rather a funny story. Smith, you know, lives right near me, where he has an excellent wife, a nice home, and three as pretty children as ever played out-doors. All boys, you know, the oldest not over nine, and all about the same size. Smith is a pretty respectable sort of a citizen, never drinks and thinks a world of his family.

"Well, he went home one afternoon last week, and found his wife out shopping or something of that sort. He went on through the house into the backyard, and there, under an apple-tree, were the little fellows playing. They had a bench and some bottles and tumblers, and were playing 'keep saloon.' He noticed that they were drinking something out of a pail, and that they acted tipsy. The youngest, who was behind the bar, had a towel tied round his waist, and was setting the drinks up pretty free. Smith walked over and looked in the pail. It was beer, and two of the boys were so drunk that they staggered. A neighbor's boy, a couple of years older, lay asleep behind the tree.

"My boys, you must not drink that," he said, as he lifted the six-year-old from behind the bench.

"We's playin' 'sloon, papa, an' I was a sellin' it just like you," said the

little fellow. Smith poured out the beer, carried the drunken boy home, and then took his own boys in and put them to bed. When his wife came back she found him crying like a child. He came back down town that night, gave up his business, and says he will never sell or drink another drop of liquor. His wife told mine about it, and she broke down crying while she told it."—Christian at Work.

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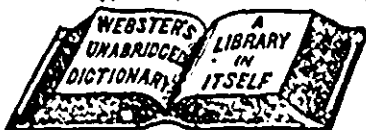
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