

to every creature," is as much a command to the church of to-day as it was to the Apostolic church.

The closing year has been one of much success to our branch. Numerous efforts have been made, both by personal influence and correspondence, to enlarge and extend our work. The Corresponding Secretary wrote fifty-two letters during the past winter on the subject of the formation of new auxiliaries, and thus attention has been called to our society and our work, and the future will bring forth rich results. Five new auxiliaries and one mission band have been organized outside of Toronto during the year, namely, Lakefield, Belleville (Bridge Street), Port Hope, Streetsville, the Ontario Ladies' College Auxiliary and the "Little Gleaners" Mission Band, in the Newcastle Circuit Auxiliary.

The mite-box system has been introduced into our society during the year, though unhappily, at a somewhat late date, in consequence of a difficulty in obtaining the boxes earlier, so that the proceeds of this year must not be taken as a true standard for the future.

While the past year has been one of gratifying prosperity and sunshine, a heavy cloud has suddenly darkened our horizon, bringing into our ranks vacancy, sorrow and bereavement—we refer to the sudden and almost irreparable loss sustained by our organization in the removal by death of the much-loved, efficient, devoted, zealous and self-sacrificing occupant of our presidential chair, Mrs. T. W. Jeffery. While we deeply mourn her loss, in humble submission to the All Wise, "we bow and bless that sacred name, forever blessed." As a slight tribute of love for and heartfelt appreciation of her precious memory, which is both an inspiration and a benediction, this branch has constituted her infant daughter a life member of this society, praying that the mother's mantle may be permitted to fall upon the child.

The reports from Japan are of a most encouraging character. Our first society missionary, Miss Cartmell, assures us that she begins to see light through the mysterious forms of the difficult Japanese language; her school is opened, her health remains good. The tidings from the Northwest and from British Columbia are hopeful.

At the annual meeting of the Toronto Auxiliary of our branch last year, it was thought the interests of our society would be greatly enhanced and the sympathies of more of our sisters enlisted, by the formation of independent auxiliaries in the different churches of the city, two or more churches uniting to form one auxiliary, where it was thought advisable. In accordance with this resolution, the following auxiliaries and mission bands were organized: The western, comprising Queen street, Spadina avenue and Dundas street. The eastern: Sherbourne street, Berkeley street, Gerrard street mission and Don Mount. The Metropolitan: Elm street and Bloor street auxiliaries, and the Elm street and Queen street mission bands, making in all for this conference, 15 auxiliaries and 5 mission bands. Total amount contributed by this branch is \$2,235.19.

The second annual meeting of the Toronto branch was held in Sherbourne street church, Monday, October 20th, 1884. The attendance was very much larger than at any previous meeting, showing the growing interest felt by members of the church in this society.

The chair was occupied by Mrs. W. S. Finch, first Vice-President, who gave a most impressive address, referring very touchingly to the loss our society had sustained by the removal of our late President, Mrs. T. W. Jeffery, and urging renewed consecration on the part of all the members.

The Secretary's report said that great efforts had been made to extend the work of the society, mainly in the establishment of auxiliaries, a number of which had been organized, some in Toronto and some in adjacent places.

Reports from the various auxiliaries were read, showing that the mite-box system was being generally introduced, that mission bands were being formed, and that the interest in the work was being well sustained.

Reports from a few of the mission bands were read showing an encouraging state of affairs.

The Treasurer's report was read by Mrs. R. Brown, showing total receipts of \$2,234.54 (65 cents from sale of reports the previous year should be added to this).

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