

CORNWALL.—Our annual thank-offering meeting was held April 6th, the occasion being a very enjoyable one. Another life-member has been enrolled, giving us five in all since we organized, two of whom have been made life-members by our esteemed honorary member, Mr. Hulet, and one by our life-member, Mrs. Hulet. By the wise suggestion of Mrs. Hulet, we, as members, pledged ourselves to earn \$1 each to be paid at our annual tea, which made a very interesting part of our programme—each telling how she earned it—and aided very largely in bringing up our finances, which footed the handsome sum of \$84.57; \$29 was the members' extra \$1 (and have prospects of more, as all were not ready). Ten dollars was raised by our devoted sister, Mrs. Wilber (who is an invalid), by the means of a mite-box and love for God and His cause. Her earnest, zealous spirit has fired us all with greater enthusiasm for the Master's work. We also gleaned one new member, which made our receipts for the evening \$85.57. Our past has been blessed; our future is hopeful if our consecration and concentration be thorough and complete.

E. G. FARLINGER, *Cor. Sec.*

MILL GROVE.—In November of 1893, the ladies of this place met in the Methodist Church, when we organized a W.M.S. One was organized at the Rock Chapel church, of this Circuit, since 1890. Though not strong, it has been doing a good work, and has sent over 200 to the Branch, besides clothing to the Indians. It was decided that, instead of having two Auxiliaries on the Circuit, we unite and call it the Mill Grove Circuit Auxiliary, thus uniting our forces in this grand work. Since meeting here we have added new members each month. Our officers are as follows: Pres., Mrs. Hockey; 1st Vice-Pres., Mrs. Green; 2nd Vice-Pres., Mrs. A. Smith; Rec. Sec., Miss S. Boner; Assist. Cor. Sec., Miss K. Flatt; Treas., Mrs. Boner; Assistant, Mrs. T. Millar. Our membership is over thirty. Thirty-two subscribers to the *OUTLOOK*, and thirty for *Monthly Letter*. We are trying to help and be helped in this noble work, and God has kindly owned and blessed our meetings. To Him be all the praise. We take courage and labor on.

CELIA HOCKEY.

Our Young Folk.

Dwarf Races.

ACCORDING to Dr. T. H. Parke, the genuine pigmy races, about whom we possess reliable information, are the Batwas, discovered in 1886 by Dr. Ludwig Wolf, occupying the Sankuru region in the mid-Congo basin; the Mkaba tribe, near Lake N'gami; and the Akkas of Central Africa, with whom Emin Pasha's people would connect the dwarfs of the Central Forest. Of these, the average height has been respectively reported to be—the Mkaba, 4 feet 1 inch; the Batwas, 4 feet 3 inches; and the Akkas, 4 feet 10 inches. Related to them in shortness of stature are the Bushmen of Southern Africa, averaging about 4 feet 7 inches in height; the Andaman Islanders, whose stature is under 5 feet; the Javan Kalangs, the Malayan Samangs, and the Aetas of the Philippine Islands. The Lapps are also notoriously of diminutive stature, so are the Fuegians, the Ainos, and the Veddahs, although a little taller.

Dr. Parke's experiences of the forest dwarfs of Africa during his travels were very varied. He had many narrow escapes from their archers, and certainly owed his life to one of their women. He purchased the latter from a slave-owner for a handful of beans, twelve cups of rice, and six cups of Indian corn. But, of course, he did not buy her into but out of slavery. Dr. Parke was obliged to be very marked in his kindness to her at first, to prevent her running away, but when she ceased to be afraid of cruelty, her devotion knew no bounds. Had it not been for her unwearying attention and care, Dr. Parke would have endured absolute starvation through months of forest life.

The first of the forest dwarfs measured was exactly 4 feet high.

In marked opposition to giants, dwarfs are very often strong in proportion to their size, active, well-proportioned,

and very intelligent. In regard to his own experience, Dr. Parke says: "The intellectual inferiority of the dwarf specimens who I have myself met with was not at all in proportion to their relative bulk. I would rather try to teach a pigmy than a Nubian any day, and feel certain that after a few months' intimacy I could turn him out as reliable in intelligence and in honesty as his overgrown negro brother."

—*III. Miss. News.*

Little "Bob," the African Boy.

BY RENORA OSVER.

LITTLE "Bob" was born in Cape Palmas. When Mrs. Amanda Smith, the colored evangelist, who has done so much good by her labors, was in Africa (where she made an eight years' evangelistic tour), a man belonging to one of the native tribes came to her, and begged her to take his little boy.

"Mammy," he said, "I want you to take that pick'n and teach him God palaver. Myself, I be fool, I no sabe God. I don't want my pick'n to be fool all same like myself. I want you to take him all that place you live to come when you catch England and big America. You teach him, so he can sabe God proper."

Now, Mrs. Smith had seen how much good a native Christian physician could do amongst his people, and she had prayed much to God to open the way that she might take a little boy to train him "for a missionary and a doctor as well." Surely this was in answer to her prayers. She had an agreement drawn up and duly signed, of which the following is a copy:

"CAPE PALMAS, February 16, 1888.

"We, Jack Smart, or Na We, his father, and We a de, his mother, do give our son Bob to Mrs. Amanda Smith, to raise and educate as her own child. And we relinquish all claim to him from this time forth.

"JACK SMART (his X mark).

"WE A DE (her X mark).

"WM. TAYLOR, *Bishop,* }
"ELIZABETH TUBMAN, } *Witnesses.*"

The man and his wife brought their little boy; but we will let Mrs. Smith tell about it: "There was Bob, a little naked heathen; but he was as happy as a prince. I had always admired him so much. He was so black, and his skin was so soft and smooth, like a kid glove. He was short and fat, and very strong. All the English words he knew were, 'Good morning, mammy,' and 'Mammy, drink water.' (All foreigners and Liberians are called mammy and daddy. It is as Mr. and Mrs. with us.) His mother had given him his bath in the river; so I gave him a nice red kerchief to put on around his loins, and he was dressed! A day or two more, and I had made his first pants out of a half-yard of calico. When he got them on, O if you had seen him strut!"

Right away, Mrs. Smith began to teach him his letters; and, at the end of two weeks he had learned them all; "and," says Mrs. Smith, "in six months he had learned to read a little and spell most of the words." He learned English remarkably fast; so that, months before I left for England (November, 1889), he could read in the Testament, and at family prayers he and I would read verse about.

Mrs. Smith remained in England until September, 1890, and while engaged in her public labors felt that it was best to put Bob in school, though she felt she "could hardly live without him."

"But," she says, "I was anxious that he should be converted. I had taught him all about the way, simply as I could, and he and I often prayed together. Dear little fellow! Sometimes when I would be so weak, he would pray for me earnestly, and say: 'O God, bless my ma; make her well, so she can be strong, so she can walk about!' And then he loved to hear Bible stories. He would sit for hours and listen to anything you would say about Jesus. Before he could speak English at all, he seemed to have such a love for the words God and Jesus! At family prayers he used to kneel beside me; and he would pound on the chair with his little hand, and say: 'O God! O Jesus! O God! O Jesus!'"