

in leaving home and loved ones, and will have difficulties to contend with in that heathen land that we know but little of. When those now on the way reach India our work will be well provided for, as, in addition to Misses Hatch, McLaurin and Murray, we have Miss Robinson, a new lady, sent to our field and supported by the W's.M.Bd., of the North West. This was an unexpected boon, and we are grateful for the encouragement and additional strength Miss Robinson will bring to the work. This has been a year of unusual blessing to India while we at home have realized God's loving care and guidance. We praise Him to-day for all that has been accomplished through the prayers and efforts of the many earnest and faithful members of the Mission Circles, and not the least for the funds that seemed so much needed. Your Board are grateful to one and all for their earnest interest and prayers and efforts.

The late Census shows an increase of 7 per cent. in the total population of India for 10 years, while the Christian population has increased 30 per cent. "Dr. Chamberlain has shown that—1st, The Christian community is a power to be considered in the affairs of the empire; 2nd, The influence of the Christian community is out of all proportion to other factors in India; 3rd, It is bound to continue and increase; 4th, It has its ideals in fruit, and unlike Hinduism and Mohammedanism it has a future greater than the past." In education also great progress has been made and a marked improvement in self support. In our own Mission the Native churches, numbering 41, contributed last year 4,758 rupees, which means nearly \$2,000. Three of the churches are self-supporting. One of these, the church in Gunnanapudi, sustains a Native Missionary on the Anakapally field. Will you allow a reference to our General Society. You know how they are hindered with debt, causing our Missionaries to suffer both for men and money.

When their work suffers ours suffers also. We would like to help them, but our own work has kept pace with our income, so we have asked the Circles to give a special collection for this debt. Our Missions are filled with hope for the future if the churches at home will but loyally support them. But is it not hard for them to be hopeful with a worse than empty treasury burdening our General Society. As one of them said in a recent letter, "the Lord was showing us that it is not by might nor by power, but by His

Spirit," and in answer to the prayers of Christian people that so many have been converted last year in India. Almost every letter from the field contain request for prayer. Are we remembering them thus and while they toil do we pray? Howard Taylor says, "While we need funds to carry on this work, there is a greater need, and that is prayer." Our own Miss McLaurin's request, in a recent LINK, that we unite in prayer with them in India, for the hastening of a revival, which they believe is very near, should be heeded by us all. In the 4th chap. of the Epistle of James we read, "Ye have not, because ye ask not." With increased faith let us wait upon God, till both here and in distant lands, abundant answers of grace are showered upon us. If we pray we'll give, if we give we'll pray.

O woman, look! Behold your mission fields;
The ripening grain invites your sickles keen;
The morn has faded, and the noon is past;
There is no time to dally or to dream.
Haste to the task a Saviour's will appoints,
To bind, or glean, or garner, "till he come;"
And you shall find inscribed on cross and crown
Love's benediction set in stars—"Well done!"

Now, while the needs are pressing,
And waving fields are white,
Let gifts flow forth in blessing,
And speed the Gospel flight.

Stay not the truth's ongoing
Till lands invite no more,
And hands shall cease from sowing
To gather in the store.—Selected.

J. T. BOOKER.

Aylmer, 1903.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S REPORT OF THE HOME DEPARTMENT.

With feelings of deep thankfulness and gratitude to God for permitting us to labor for Him for another year, we present this our third annual statement. We realize fully how much more might have been done in the way of correspondence if we had more time to devote to it, but He knoweth all things and can sympathize with us in our busy lives and bless the few words hastily written in the midst of household cares, as richly and abundantly as the more carefully worded epistle of greater strength.

The year which closed, Oct. 15th, has been one of changes in our Directorate. Mesdames Mullock, Haines and Pense, have, for various reasons, been called to give up their beloved work, and their places have been filled, either