

the home. We brought home some little young trees, and planted them at our back yard, to make sun-shade's for the summer. I brought home a prickly little tree; when any of the girls touch it they say, 'What a tree! nobody can touch it!' We all enjoyed our Christmas and New Years very much, except la-grippe was going all around. I am getting along very nicely at present. I did not get sick at all this winter, for which I am very thankful. I hope you are enjoying health too. I was out working in Victoria last summer, and had a very good time, although it was a little hard; but I got used to the work, and got along very nicely, and took care of Mrs. Spencer's two children. Three other girls were working out too. I was very glad to get back to my school companions again, for I had missed them very much. To-day we got all our washing out and the clothes were all dry and brought into the laundry, and have quite a bit ironed and sent up to the sewing room to be mended. I hav'nt been going to school since I came back from Victoria about three months ago. Miss Smith is now giving five of us girls music lessons. She was giving us lessons before she got sick, and now she is able to teach us again. To-morrow night is going to be our class-meeting. Miss Smith is our class leader. We always enjoy our meetings very much. I hope we all may press onward to our loving Master.

I think I will close my letter now; please answer. It is now bed time for me. I am just about sleepy. So good bye. Your little friend,

NELLIE TAFFANDELE.

You will remember that we had a letter in the PALM BRANCH from Nellie about two years ago. We are very glad indeed to hear from her again, and to find that she has so well improved her time. Our thanks are due to Mrs. Gee for her kindness in sending us Nellie's letter, and we hope it will not be the last.

Extract of a Letter from Miss Alcorn.

Two girls came to the Kofu school to ask if some one would teach them Christianity. The younger of the two was a Kofu girl, who had been to church twice, and heard a little about Christianity. The other girl was from Osaka. Over a year ago her father tried to compel her to marry a man she knew nothing of. But she refused, and went from her home to Kioto and lived with a sister. The father came for her, and promised he would not try to marry her where she objected, if she would only return home. This she did, and in five months he again arranged a marriage for her. Then, when her father would not listen to a refusal, she left home by night, and started for Toiko, to her brother's. When near here it dawned upon her that her brother would only help her father. So she went to Kofu, and, having spent her money, went to work in the factory where she met this girl. In some way they were drawn to want to know about Christianity. The 1st, 11th, and 21st of each month is a holiday, and these days they go to the school for Christian teaching, and are so interested. Will you not pray that they may soon find the LIGHT THAT GIVES LIFE?

LEAVES FROM THE BRANCH'S.

N. B. AND P. E. I. BRANCH.

BRANCH REPORT.—In December, Mrs. Wm. Harrison organized a Band of small boys and girls at Hathurst. The name, "Try again," was chosen. Fourteen members have been enrolled, and several more expect to become members soon. Thirteen copies of PALM BRANCH are taken. The officers are: President, Mrs. Harrison; Vice Pres., Miss Ethel Miller; Recording Sec'y, Miss Edna Payne; Cor. Secretary, Celia Gammon; Treasurer, Kathleen Johnson.

"Do What we Can" Mission Band, Moncton, was reorganized in November, with a membership of 32. And under the able presidency of Mrs. Sherrard, the membership is now 67. Much interest is manifested by the members, and they are doing *what they can* to help our Mission cause.

"Help a Little" Mission Band, Moncton, has also been re-organized. 29 names were enrolled, and the membership now is 32.

"Ready Helpers," Sackville, report two new members this quarter. They have also added one new life member. The money to pay the fee was earned by knitting mittens, and selling them for 25 cents per pair. Will not some one else take a lesson from this and do likewise? I. T.

NOVA SCOTIA BAND NOTES.

The "Royal Workers," Berwick, held an entertainment the 1st of January, from which \$5.75 was raised.

"Happy Thought" Band, Yarmouth North, reports eleven new members for quarter ending March 15.

"Coraline Mission Circle" reports the addition of two life members; also, interesting and helpful meetings.

"Reapers Mission Circle," Halifax, "Harbour Hill Band," and "King's Own," of Avondale, are trying to do their best.

Will the Bands that have not sent in their Quarterly Reports please do so at once?

M. E. B., Cor. Sec.

M. E. BROWNE, So. Farmington, N. S.

April 9, 1897.

TORONTO CONFERENCE BRANCH.

Miss May Peaker, Cor. Sec., writes:—"The Sunbeam Mission Band of Grace Church, Brampton, held a Missionary entertainment Friday evening, March 5th, and had the pleasure of enrolling fourteen new members, making a total membership of sixty-six. The programme was new and interesting. A large audience was present, who went away much benefitted by the evening's entertainment. The sum of \$7.65 was realized.

MONTREAL CONFERENCE BRANCH.

"Daybreak Band," Cornwall, is still at its work of teaching and training, using its best endeavors to inculcate a missionary spirit in the minds of its youthful members. Our President, Miss Tennant, has been putting forth special effort to increase our funds and influence, and is just now busy preparing a missionary programme to be rendered by the Band on the evening of April 5th. S. S. B.