

growth and progress as the result of the efforts of its diocesan branch on behalf of the education of missionaries' children. Beginning in 1889, when the work was first formally accepted by the Board of D. and F. Missions, and recommended by it to the Woman's Auxiliary as a most desirable channel through which to aid and encourage missionaries, Huron has never been without its little auxiliary daughter. The first child taken was the daughter of an Algoma missionary, whose education was provided for until her father's removal to Toronto allowed of other arrangements being made for her. The vacancy was then filled by another little one, daughter of Rev. G. Gander, of South River, Algoma, who for the last two or more years has been making most satisfactory progress in her studies, and is a good, lovable, obedient child. This year two other children, the daughter of the Rev. F. Frost, of Sheguiandah, Manitoulin Island, and the other a daughter of the Rev. J. A. Young, have become wards of the Huron Auxiliary, the latter having a home and welcome offered her in the family of a widow lady in the parish of St. John the Evangelist, London, Ont., the former being placed under the care of the Misses Penney, who have, in every case, proved most faithful to the trust reposed in them. In addition to the charge of these children, Huron has made grants of \$50 each to the Bishops of Algoma and Mackenzie River; to the former in response to an especial appeal on behalf of the sons of missionaries, and to the latter to assist in the travelling expenses of Annie McDonald, mentioned in the report from Toronto. The Huron committee realize their responsibility as foster parents to their adopted children, and it is with heartfelt gratitude to Almighty God for the signal token of His favor towards this branch of their missionary work that they submit their report to the Central Committee.

GENERAL REMARKS.

In addition to the grateful letters received from time to time by the several dioceses from the parents of these children, similar testimony is not wanting from others, of whom, through their having been helped more indirectly, no regular record can be obtained; but the following words of hearty appreciation from the Bishop of Algoma, whose diocese has received the largest measure of help, may form a fitting pendant to the report of your committee. He desires to place on record the cordial acknowledgments of himself and his clergy "of the untold benefits conferred by this educational movement on the part of the Woman's Auxiliary, as well as to give expression to their gratitude for the lasting life-long blessings which, in God's good providence, are certain to grow out of it. The heart of the Church has been turned to the children and, as a result, young lives

are being moulded and pliant characters formed that will one day repay the loving care and kindness bestowed on them with a rich harvest of influence for the well-being of the Church and the service of their day and generation. Heaven's richest benediction rest on all who participate in it!"

With heartfelt Amen to this prayer of Algoma's Bishop, this report of your committee is respectfully submitted by its convener,

HARRIET A. BOOMER.

AFRICA.

What illustrious names are strewn over Darkest Africa, great search-lights in their day, and which death, so far from quenching, has but made to shine with more vivid brilliancy! We think of Moffat, Livingstone, Sakir, Gordon, Comber, the Coilliards, Mackay, Hannington, Wilnot Brooke, and others, men who knew their God and did exploits, and whose memory lives as an inspiration and legacy to the Church for all time to come. Bitterly as we regret the human blood spilt that the highway of commerce and of military conquest might be prepared, we praise God for the men and women of faith who have poured out their lives as a libation in the endeavor to heal Africa's grievous sore. How open that wound still is, and how pleadingly it calls for Gilead's balm, we can but faintly appreciate! The rule of the strong hand, according to the law of brute ferocity, is general in Africa, save where fear counsels moderation; the native religions are as demons let loose to torture or slay, as caprice may dictate; and so all-persuasive is the spirit of cruelty that the very sports of the people are spiced by its excesses. Thus Dr. William Junker, in his travels in Africa, 1882-86, tells of a savage custom of the Soudanese men, which he himself witnessed on the occasion of the celebration of a marriage—namely, the challenge to a duel with the rhinoceros-hide whip. "Each has to take the same number of blows from his opponent as he gives. Sometimes one man will challenge three or four, to whom he deals in turn savage blows, which are returned afterward by them all in succession." "The pain," says Dr. Junker, "must have been excessive, but I did not see the men move a muscle." To do justice to the horrors of the situation, we have to remember the growing increment of the Arab's sway, and the spread of Islamism over the central regions. The religion of the false prophet has neither pity in its heart nor balm in its hand, and serves but to exacerbate the sore that already exists. How true it is, if we would only believe it and show our faith by our works, that "none but Jesus can do helpless sinners good"!