

The Annual Conventions of our brethren in the States held this year in Springfield, Ill., appear to have been more than usually interesting...

The gathering—for it was one gathering for all the Societies—was held in Springfield, Ill., where the magnificent hall of the Representatives in the Capitol was thrown open to us...

As one who studied the proceedings mainly with a view to accurate observation for report, the writer desires to pronounce his unqualified conviction that in both the spirit and the results of its proceedings this gathering marks a period in our organized work...

[The report referred to in this note is crowded out this month.—Editors.]

Celia Thaxter's fine face and striking autograph illuminate the first page of Alden's illustrated magazine LITERATURE, bearing date Aug. 11. The entire number is devoted to a biographical sketch, literary criticisms, and extracts from her writings...

MANIFOLD KNOWLEDGE.

John Calvin, the first title in Vol. VII. of Alden's Manifold Cyclopaedia, occupies seven pages, and Ceynes, the last title, the name of the chief mountain range in the South of France, is given nearly one page. Between these there are over 600 pages, including considerably more than 100 illustrations, devoted to topics in every department of human knowledge...

CHURCH NEWS.

LOBO.—We are very glad to learn that Brother Lediard has been engaged by the church in Lobo, and will begin his labors there at once.

SELKIRK.—We have to report two additions to the congregation last Lord's Day at our hour of worship. J. FRY.

ST. THOMAS.—We are informed that the church in St. Thomas has been fortunate enough to secure the services of Brother T. B. Knowles, of Newark, Delaware. We welcome Brother Knowles to our Province, and hope he may find St. Thomas a pleasant field in which to labor.

OWEN SOUND.—The contract has been let for the new house of worship in Owen Sound; and the stone is now being quarried preparatory to building in the spring. We are pleased to hear that the church is full of zeal and enthusiasm. Bro. C. J. Lister labors for them in word and doctrine.

GRAND VALLEY.—We are very glad to learn that Brother Samuel Woolner preaches in Grand Valley, every other Lord's Day, at three o'clock. The church there will doubtless be greatly benefited by his sound Scriptural teaching. It would be a good thing for the cause if Brother Woolner would devote his whole time to the ministry of the Word.

GARAFRANA.—We understand the new meeting house at Marsville, will be completed shortly.

"We were passing through Marsville yesterday and have been puzzled ever since to account for the reason why one chimney on the new Disciple Church is higher than the other. One man we asked about it said he thought it was because Bro. Woolner held up that side. Any how the church is a credit to the society that built it.—Hillsburg Beaver.

ST. THOMAS.—There will be a formal re-opening of the meeting-house in St. Thomas the third Lord's Day in November. Bro. T. B. Knowles their new preacher will be the principal speaker. The improvements are all now nearly completed, and include, in addition to those mentioned heretofore in this paper, a new carpet and new improved seats. The EVANGELIST cordially greets Bro. Knowles as a fellow-laborer in Ontario and extends to him a hearty welcome to our goodly Province and trusts that together with the brethren in the Railway City he will accomplish a great work for the Master.

MIMOSA.—I just closed a meeting at this place with 24 additions,—21 by confession and baptism and 3 restored. The church is greatly strengthened by these accessions and is in a better condition now than at any time in the history of the church. A short time ago the cause was very low at this place but is now on the up-grade. Repairs have recently been made about the fence and stable, and will be extended to the meeting house soon we hope.

T. L. FOWLER.

TORONTO, DENISON AVE.—Since last report to EVANGELIST, we have added eight names to our roll, four of them by baptism, two young men and two young women. Our work is growing encouragingly. Our Sunday audiences are fine. Our young people are enlarging in numbers and developing in zeal and ability. On looking over our Sunday meetings we observe that a large majority is composed of young people, that is of less than middle age downward. The pressing want of the church here is a house of its own, which it will have in the near future. J. R. GAFF, 250 St. Patrick Street, Oct. 24th.

GALT.—On behalf of our small Sunday School here, it has been suggested that I write a few lines to come before the notice of the brethren, through your columns, in order to give those who may desire, an opportunity to assist us in getting together a suitable library. If any of the brethren or Sunday Schools, have spare volumes, which they can recommend for the purpose, they will be thankfully received, as, in our peculiar circumstances, we can do little in this direction ourselves. Having for some time past had no public meeting place, we find progress in Church and Sunday School work in a private house well nigh impossible to us. Walking, however, not by sight but by faith, we hope to see a suitable public meeting place at our command in the near future, and to have it properly occupied. I am

Fraternally yours,

R. W. McDONNELL, Secy.-Treas.

PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE, MAN., Oct. 28, 1888.—Had a very pleasant visit—twas all too short, only one day—from Brother D. L. Layton, of Meaford. We were all disappointed that he could not stop over Lord's Day, or at least for a prayer meeting. On Oct. 3rd we were called to Carman Man., to officiate at the marriage of sister Martha E. Mallory, niece of Brother and Sister Saunders, all late of Meaford, Ont. The bridegroom Mr. J. A. Dunn, sometime lived in Meaford, then later in Tara, Ont., now of Carman. Among the some fifty invited guests, a goodly number were old Ontario acquaintances. 'Twas pleasant to greet familiar faces in a strange land. There are six Disciples in Carman, and six more in the regions round about. Brother George A. Campbell, youngest son of Brother Peter Campbell, late of Ridgeway, Ont., now of this place, an educated and talented young man, who was baptised by the writer on August 1st, 1887, left on Wednesday last, Oct. 17th, for Drake University, Des Moines, Iowa, to prepare himself more fully for the preaching of the Gospel. He will be under the special tuition of D. R. Dungan, author of "Chang Foo," "On the Rock," "Modern Phases of Skepticism," and "Rum Ruin and the Remedy." A glance at the Year Book reveals the fact that the Disciples have in the U. S. forty-one institutions of learning; five "Universities," thirty-one "Colleges," and five "Institutes." In the thirty-one that report their students for 1887, there were 269 studying for the Christian Ministry. "Hold the Fort" brethren in weak places, help is coming. A. H. FINCH.

MARRIED.

McKINLAY—STUART.—In Toronto, in the Church on Denison Ave., Oct. 7th, by J. R. Gaff, Charles McKinlay, and Janet B. Stuart, both of Brampton, Ont.

HYATT—PLATT.—In Toronto, by the same, at the residence of Peter L. Weeks, 219 Euclid Ave., Oct. 16th, Byron Hyatt, and Mrs. Miriam Platt, both of West Lake.

MUSKOKA MISSION MATTERS.

W. M. C.

Eight additions since last report, 3 last week at McNornice, 2 baptiz'd and one from the Baptists, and 5 this week in Brunel, 4 baptiz'd and 1 from the Baptists. Nearly all heads of families. Could not the churches all over Ontario take up a collection for the building fund here, and forward the same. We will make the money go as far as possible. I work at the finishing out of the building when I am not holding meetings, and can get funds to buy material with. I have three preaching places in Brunel and am requested to star in a fourth. If I only had help. Bracebridge has to be neglected, it is a promising field too. Other places too are saying "Come over into Macedonia and help us." The harvest truly is great but the laborers are few. "Pray ye the Lord &c., &c."

Huntsville, Oct. 24th, 1888.

RECEIPTS.

The following sums were received during last month for Mission Work in the Province:—

Table with 2 columns: Name, Amount. Includes George Mot, Rosedene \$2.00; Church, Nessagaweya 6.68; Church, Pickering 5.00; John Matheson, Elm Centre 1.00; Church, Oshawa 20.00; Church, Aurora 3.00.

The good work is going on, but can be continued only upon the condition that the brethren in the Province contribute of their means for that purpose. Please send in your contributions and pledges freely that the work of the Lord be not hindered. There is no evangelist this year in the general field to visit you for this purpose. You all know well your duty. Send in your contributions, and one hundred cents of every dollar will go to the mission points.

T. L. FOWLER, Cor. Secy., Everton.

ONTARIO CHRISTIAN WOMAN'S BOARD OF MISSIONS.

The following sums have been received and paid, for Mission Work, by the O. C. W. B. M., since the annual meeting in June.

RECEIPTS.

Table with 2 columns: Name, Amount. Includes Dr. Jenny K. Trout, Toronto \$10.00; Aux. at Ridgeway 25.00; Helenheim 16.00; Wainfleet 7.20; Collingwood 3.50; Warton 5.00; Guelph 8.25; Lobo 13.00; Toronto, (Denison Ave) 15.00; Owen Sound 3.00; Mrs. A. Kinchen, Kilsyth 1.00; Mrs. Geo. Munro, Erin, Interest on Deposit 0.21.

PAYMENTS.

Table with 2 columns: Name, Amount. Includes John B. Lister, Evangelistic Work in Muskoka \$67.50; P. Baker, Evangelistic Work in Muskoka 11.00; Church in Collingwood, Mission Work 25.00; Mrs. E. McClurg, postage, stationery, &c. 3.12; Mrs. Burgess 5.00.

To the many sisters who have not given us help, I would say, we need your prayers and your money, to carry on the work in Muskoka and elsewhere.

JENNIE FLEMING, Treas., Kilsyth, Ont.

FOREIGN CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

THIRTIETH ANNUAL REPORT.

DEAR BRETHREN OF THE CONVENTION:—We gather here to-day to recount the mercies of the past and to devise liberal things for the future. Standing at the close of the thirtieth year of the Society's history we can say, "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us." His good hand has been upon us for good from the first. He has done more for us than we ever dared to ask, or even think. He has fostered our faith when it was weak and ready to perish, and encouraged us to go forward when we faltered. We rejoice to know that we are authorized to hope in his mercy in the years to come. The future is as bright as his promises can make it. Blessed be his glorious name for ever, and let the whole earth be filled with his glory.

SUMMARY OF THE WORK AND WORKERS.

Number of missions, 6; stations, 24; missionaries, 22; whole number of paid workers, 59; additions during the year, 798; net gain, \$83; number under the care of the Society, 2,473; children in Sunday-school, 2,689 in day-school, 380. Most of those reported lost have been lost by removal. They are lost to the local congregation simply, and not to the cause. Many of them will carry the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ wherever they go. No statistics can show all the results. Much has been accomplished that will be recognized only at the judgment day.

FINANCES.

The total receipts for the year amount to \$62,767.59. Of this sum \$2,670.40 was received from the sale of securities, and \$2,100 was returned on investments. Deducting these amounts leaves \$57,997.19 as the contributions of churches, Sunday-schools and individuals. This is an increase of \$17,437.84. Aside from bequests the increase is \$10,035.74. The total expenditure amounts to \$60,092.66. The Treasurer's report will give the receipts and disbursements in detail. With a single exception there has been an increase in the receipts each year

from the first. In the last six years the increase has been five-fold. Hundreds of churches and schools are falling into line each year. Some are making handsome offerings. There has been a marked improvement in this respect recently. While we have every reason for encouragement, we have none for boasting. We can not say that we have done what we could. The truth is, we have not done and are not doing, a tithe of what we are able to do. The majority of the churches and schools do not touch this burden with the tips of their fingers. Many of those that give something give what they never miss and never feel. The growth in the past has been constant, but it has been all too slow in view of the wealth in our hands, and in view of the needs of a perishing world.

THE NEEDS OF THE SOCIETY.

We need, most of all, a sufficient number of cultured and consecrated missionaries. Men are needed in Turkey, in India, in Japan, and in China, but such men as are needed are not to be had. It is thought by some that any one will do for this work, provided he is pious. Piety is indispensable, but it is not the only indispensable qualification. The people of China and India and Japan were civilized long before our ancestors were called from savagery and superstition to civilization and Christianity. A missionary who is not able to compel the respect of these people will become a laughing-stock and will accomplish nothing. Christlieb well says: "We who are to be the spiritual conquerors of the world, should send, not our mediocre men, BUT OUR VERY BEST MEN. Those who, not only in faith and self-denial, in courage and meekness, but also in linguistic abilities, in capacity for organization, in many-sided practical resources, far surpass the ministry at home. We want more men and women, and we want the best. There is work in the mission field for all who are possessed of consecration and good sense. But there is great need of wise master-builders to lay foundations and to start the work-aster.

Moreover, we need more money. We need subscriptions and collections on a scale much larger than now prevails. The Christian people of America give one-sixteenth of one per cent of the wealth in their hands for missions. Of all money raised for religious purposes only two per cent goes into the foreign field. The followers of Christ give only one cent a year for the conversion of each one of the countless myriads in heathendom. It goes with the saying that this is a paltry sum for full-grown Christians living in this luxurious land of the free to contribute for this worthy cause. One dollar each is the very least sum any church ought to be satisfied with. Many can give much more than this. There are congregations and individuals who ought to undertake the support of one or more missionaries. What is needed is not more money, but an entire consecration of the money that the Lord has committed to us in trust for the furtherance of the gospel.

CONCLUSION.

The eternal purpose of God is that the whole world should be evangelized. Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer, and rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all the nations. We have his promise that every valley shall be filled; and every mountain and hill shall be brought low; and the crooked shall become straight; and the rough way smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God. This promise is being fulfilled. Barriers that once seemed insuperable have been taken out of the way. Doors that have been closed for centuries are now open. Nations that sat in darkness, and solemnly and stubbornly rejected the gospel are now calling for it. God has honored us in inviting us to have fellowship with himself in the accomplishment of this grand design. We are doing something, but we have not begun to put forth our strength. We are playing at missions while a thousand millions are stumbling on the dark mountains and going down to the pit with none to deliver. From every field the cry comes for more men and more means. We ought to be able to respond with something better than apologies for our inability to supply what is needed. We must increase the efficiency of those in the field by thoroughly equipping them for the work. We must strengthen their hearts and hands by sending them the necessary reinforcements. We are all well able to do ten-fold more than we are doing. Our offerings ought to increase by leaps and bounds, and not by the slow growth of past years. This is the hour of destiny; this is the nick of time. The harvest of the ear is over-ripe. It is for us to cast in the sickle and reaper. May God help us to act up to the full measure of our opportunities and ability, that when the redeemed of every nation and tribe, and tongue and people shall cast upon the jasper pavement their crowns of ananarah and gold we may be found among them sharing in the universal joy. Respectfully submitted, ISAAC ERBERT, Pres.

A. McLEARN, Cor. Sec.

[The above paragraphs are but a part of the lengthy, but very interesting annual report of the Foreign Christian Missionary Society; we regret that our limited space prevents us from presenting it entire.—Editor.]

OBITUARIES.

ON THE DEATH OF SISTER MARY MCDIARMID.

One less to cheer the home she loved below, One more to dwell in Paradise above; One less in fellowship on earth to know, One more to tangle with the saints in love. One less to sigh and weep with fleeting breath, One more to feel the bliss not known before; One less to pass the painful road to death, One more above to live for evermore. One less to clothe in black for death of friends, One more to wear white robes by Jesus given; One less to live where ev'ry pleasure ends, One more to meet us at the gates of heaven.

Ridgeway.

L. SHEPHERD.

Grandmother Fleming, of Kilsyth, was quietly laid away in the Owen Sound Cemetery, on the 23rd of August. A native of Perthshire, Scotland, many of her 85 years were spent in Canada. Sister F. was the Christian character without ostentation, or empty show. She followed after the things which make for peace. She was devout, generous, hospitable; loved the Bible and the Saviour, a worshipper of God, "in Spirit and in Truth." Children, grandchildren, and great-grand children, "rise up to call her blessed." Thus we go, "crossing the river, one by one."

C. J. L.

BROADBENT.—On the 31st Oct., at her residence at Seely, in the township of Brunel, Muskoka, in the 70th year of her age, Sister Martha Heywood, beloved wife of Mr. Wm Broadbent, Post Master. Sister B. was almost an invalid for many years, was very pious, and loved to read the Scriptures, was, I think, a Congregationalist while in England. When I commenced meeting in Brunel, more than two years ago, her only daughter was the first convert; and through her good influence, the reading of the Bible, and the general agitation of the subject of religion, with some discussion on Lapsism, led the old lady to desire membership with us. I visited her, and baptized her, on a profession of faith in Christ. I saw her several times afterwards, and she was always happy, and for a time appeared to be better in health; but when the cold damp weather set in about the 1st of October, she sank perceptibly and died about 4 or 5 weeks after her baptism. She has left the dear ones behind. But they sorrow not as those who have hope, for she has left an example worthy of imitation, and even at the eleventh hour went to work for the Master.

W. M. CREWSON.