

the great field of moral reform, there are yet to be found those of considerable intelligence who consider themselves unfitted for the duties of Christian citizenship, and this in the face of the fact that multitudes of the opposite sex, young as well as old, are permitted these privileges, whose indifference to the true welfare of humanity, and whose ignorance of their individual responsibility leave them a ready prey to the political corruptionist.

A METHODIST minister, entertained in the home of a Methodist woman of "good position," whose husband had been a prominent figure in Methodism, makes mention of the fact that a large family, reared in that Methodist home, had all left the Church of their parents and gone to other denominations. We are pained to read this and the inquiry is forced upon us, What could be the reason? Were these children taught to love their church? Were they nurtured in their own Sunday-school? Were they taught to look with respect and affection upon their own ministers and Sunday-school teachers; to be in their own places in church twice a Sabbath, or were they permitted, with a license that is subversive of all church attachments, to wander about wherever they listed—attracted now by some vapid sensationalist, now by some special musical performance, and again by some pompous display of ritual? This practice is a growing one. It is an evil among our people, and is certain to produce a disrelish for the solemn, faithful worship of God and the regular attendance of our young people upon our own ministry.

As we write memory suggests to us some cases in our own experience of life. Parents struggling through poverty are faithful to the requirements of the Methodist Discipline regarding worldly pleasures and amusements. But having attained competency they begin to think that style is an essential to happiness and social importance. *Style* it seems in these cases generally means dancing to acquire "gracefulness," and card-playing to "pass the time," and theatre-going because "everybody that is anybody goes."

WHY do we call attention to this laxness on the part of Christian mothers and fathers in this paper? Plainly because we are supposed to speak to those who are aiming at the best development of Christian character and the spread of true practical Christian principles. To mothers especially this matter appeals. Weak mothers, sometimes with unconverted husbands, may have difficulty in restraining their young people; but, as a rule, we believe the mother who is faithful to God and religious training will preserve her home and family from all encroachments of sinful pleasure.

## ITEMS.

## WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

*Treasurer's Report for Third Quarter:—*

Western Branch .....	\$1,035 15
Central " .....	1,075 00
Eastern " .....	512 21
Nova Scotia .....	429 61
N. B. and P. E. I. ....	121 53
Winnipeg .....	28 00
Total .....	\$3,199 50

MITCHELL, ONT.—Mrs. Flagg, Corresponding Secretary, writes: "We hope to raise \$200 by the Annual Meeting, to which we are looking forward with great interest and pleasure. We have three life members this year."

At a social gathering held in the lecture-room of the Main Street Church on the 24th inst. the ladies of the Mitchell Auxiliary W. M. S. presented their beloved President, Mrs. (Rev.) Swann, with a certificate of life-membership in the Society. The presentation was made, on behalf of the ladies, by Rev. W. Casson, and was accompanied by an address expressive of the love and esteem in which Mrs. Swann is held by all who have the privilege of her acquaintance. The Society has felt her holy life and lovely Christian spirit to be a source of great help and encouragement to them, not only as a society, but as individuals.

M. A. FLAGG, *Cor. Sec.*

VERY kind and appreciative resolutions were presented by the W. M. S. and the "Gleaners" of the First Methodist Church, St. Thomas, respectively, to Mrs. Parker and Miss Parker, on the occasion of their leaving that city for their new home in Toronto.

AUGUST 9TH.—This is the day set apart as Woman's Missionary Day at Grimsby Camp. We hope as many as possible of our workers will make a point to be there. The programme of proceedings will, no doubt, be published in due time.

## EXTRACTS FROM MISS SPENCER'S LETTERS.

AS there is no printed letter for the auxiliaries this month, a few extracts from Miss Spencer's recent letters are furnished for the OUTLOOK.

May 26th.—Did I tell you how much we need S. S. tickets? It takes a great many to supply a school the size of ours, and now that our girls are reading English, they are very good to put into their hands. For those who say Japanese verses we have Japanese tickets, and two or three weeks ago I was pleased to hear one of the little ones in prayer-meeting ask for the verse on hers to be explained.

Last Wednesday we had yet another witness to the presence of God in our school; one of our strongest students was converted in the Bible class. You will remember Dr. Eby referred to one especially fine essay read at our Christmas closing,—this is the writer of