

ing and sanctifying influence of the Holy Spirit, through the instrumentality of Mr. Rainsford's ministrations that they delight to meet together in each other's houses for social prayer 'twice a week,' or oftener; or that some 'full dress' evening party has, without premeditation assumed this delightful character, we can easily understand; but that the correspondent of *The Christian at Work* is, in the paragraph above quoted, telling 'the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth,' from our knowledge of the Cathedral people, *we don't believe*. We like the idea, however, of social gatherings, where cake, conversation, and prayer can go together; but we are not careful to see kid gloves, white ties and swallow tails prevail at such gatherings.

ASSOCIATION STATISTICS.—Last month we were able to place before our readers the figures indicating the increase by baptism, during the year, of the churches included in the Western, Elgin and Brant Associations, the total number of baptisms being 610. Since then ten other associations have held their annual meetings, the statistics of which are before us, with the exception of the Danville, (Que.) Association.

In the Niagara Association, the baptisms reported were 172, being 70 less than last year; in the Middlesex & Lambton, 139, being 173 less; in the Grand River, 455, or 17 less; in the Toronto, 310, an increase of 37 over last year; in the Midland counties, 172, an increase of 89; in the East Ontario, 189, or an increase of 8; in the Huron 284, or 19 less than last year. In the Ottawa Association, 149 were baptized, being 155 less than reported in 1876; while the Central Canada Association bemoans the fact that only 24 persons were baptized into the fellowship of its churches during the last 12 months, as against 125 similar additions the previous year. The total number baptized in these nine Associations amounts to 1,896, to which add 610, the total reported last month, and we have reason to thank God, that though the increase does not come up to last year's figures, yet 2,504 souls have been baptized on a profession of their faith in the Lord Jesus,—with the Danville and Amherstburg Associations yet to report.

HANDSOME ENTERTAINMENT.—On Thursday Evening, the 5th instant, the teachers and officers of the Jarvis Street and Brock Street (Mission) Sunday Schools, enjoyed a delightful reunion and strawberry and ice cream entertainment, at the invitation and expense of one who is a "pillar in the church," and his noble christian wife, both of whose dispositions find employment in a pleasurable solicitude for the happiness of the young people and the active workers of the church. The company consisted of the generous host and hostess, the pastor and lady, Rev. Dr. MOES, President of Indiana State University, (who, by the way, preached a grand Foreign Mission sermon on Sunday, A.M.), and the officers and teachers of the schools, to the number of about 60. The Superintendent of Jarvis Street School occupied the chair, and what with stirring speeches, sweet music, long intermissions for social conversation, and the strawberries and cream, a most delightful and profitable evening was passed with almost incredible swiftness.

A VALUABLE PUBLICATION.—Through the kindness of our esteemed pastor, Rev. Dr. Castle, we have been presented with a copy of "The Addresses, Sermons, and Discussions of the Third National Baptist Sunday School Convention," held at Boston, May 17th to 20th, 1877. The volume is a mine of wealth to Sunday School workers, and the *Christian Helper* will take pleasure in digging out some of its treasures for those who cannot obtain access to the mine itself.

SENSIBLE.—We were very pleased to notice in an account in the *Christian Messenger*, of the public exhibition in connection with the closing exercises at Horton Collegiate Academy, Nova Scotia, the very excellent taste displayed by all the young ladies in the important matter of dress. They were all clothed alike, in cotton material, without any attempt on the part of the more wealthy to create a disparity in their favour; and every thing was plain, chaste and exceedingly neat. In fact the editor of the *Messenger* seems to have been charmed with all the young ladies, as much as the poet Horace was with one when he rapturously described the Roman beauty, Pyrrha, as "simplex munditiis."

A GOOD EXAMPLE.—On Sunday, July 1st, the scholars of Jarvis Street Baptist Sunday School, made their usual missionary contribution special, and devoted it to the assistance of those Baptist Sunday Schools of St. Johns, that have lost all their school appurtenances by the great fire. The amount of this collection was \$30.00. A general movement in this direction on the part of all the Baptist Sunday Schools of Ontario and Quebec would replace the libraries, maps, hymn books, &c., destroyed so utterly, and create a sympathy and nearness of feeling in the minds of our eastern brethren and their children, that perhaps has not been always manifest in times past. The offerings of the scholars of Jarvis Street School were their own spontaneous, free-will offerings; and one very little fellow's heart went out so warmly towards the little sufferers in St. Johns, that he could not keep a *gold dollar* that he had been saving for himself for a long time back. We are glad to learn that the scholars of some of our other city Sunday Schools are moving in this matter.

## Contributed Articles.

The Fourth International Conference of Women's Christian Associations, held in Montreal.

"Blessed are ye that sow beside all waters."

The above text seems to indicate the work for Women's Christian Associations, and the reward of that work: In meeting with the Convention at Montreal, the ever changing variety of work performed by our sisters in the different Associations to which they belonged; the varied, instructive, and deeply interesting accounts of the numerous classes of that work; the encouragements, and the discouragements by the way, were calculated to cheer and stimulate us to renewed and vigorous exertions to "sow beside all waters." Not only in the rich and fertile fields, where, "already ripe unto harvest," we see the successful fruits of our labours; but also in the dank, marshy soil, where the "pestilence walks by noonday," and the rank weeds of sin cause the sheaves to be few and spare; yet, where the Master's blessing will still follow us as He welcomes the few sheaves in. Still more should we be cheered on when we climb the hill of difficulty, and scatter our grain on its rugged sides, praying for refreshing showers from the Master to water and make it bring forth a hundred fold; or when we go into