

REV. J. M. DOUGLAS.—“ Our meetings on the whole were better than those of last year, and we hope for better results. Ministers of the Gospel generally present. Much ignorance abounds among the people. We were startled to hear a high official of a wealthy township make the enquiry, ‘ To what church does the B. S. belong ? ’ We could only reply that in some localities it has no paternity, yet it shares largely in the sympathy, love and liberality of all, and belongs to all. At Campbellford, we had no ministers present—one was holding a missionary meeting, and let us suppose the others were better employed.”

REV. J. J. RICE.—“ As to the time for the operation of collectors, I find that notwithstanding instructions from the executive, for the collectors to begin their canvass immediately *after* the meeting of their respective Branches, in several instances, the collectors have finished their work *before* the annual meeting, thus the intention of making the meeting serve as a stimulus to local effort is entirely frustrated in such cases. . . . I found that the interest or otherwise manifested by the several Branch officials invariably indicated the success or the reverse of Branch operations, and, I may add, very largely contribute to the result. Among the most active Branches I have much pleasure in mentioning Delaware, Tilbury East, and Kingsville, at each of which places I found the Branch officials had on my arrival fully attended to business, and were found in their places at their several meetings

. Mr. Duff, the indefatigable Treasurer of Colchester Branch has given up his trust, intending to remove from the neighbourhood. His services have been long continued and very valuable to the Society. I think that in every case where the official staff has been changed, very suitable men have been put into office I take great pleasure in giving testimony to the deep interest manifested, in all the meetings held, in the great work which this Society has in hand, and I hope from the oft-repeated assurances I heard of re-consecration to the work on the part of Branch officials that future results will prove more satisfactory than the past have been.

REV. W. W. ROSS.—“ The attendance at the public meetings has on the whole been small. This has been owing in part to the many unfavourable nights of the past winter. Those who did attend gave earnest heed to the things which they heard, and gave generously—very generously to the collections. In many instances, I found it very helpful to the meetings to visit the public schools and enlist the sympathy of the scholars. Some of the most successful gatherings were owing not a little to the presence and spirit of the children ; they frequently gave their little all to the Bible Society.

“ The Branches with few exceptions have followed the recommendations of the Board in sending out collectors after the public meetings instead of before as formerly. In every instance these have expressed themselves pleased with the change.

A few in view of long established usage have resolved, for the present at least, not to change. I have found the depositories, with few exceptions, well stocked and well kept. Your agent has found on all hands a marked readiness to do or undo anything for the sake of the oneness and efficiency of the whole work.

Many noble friends of the Society, both ministers and laymen, of all the Christian denominations, and a noble band of collectors—some of them having done service for a generation—are worthy of special mention because of their zeal and liberality. Their record is on high. And I beg to record here also my warm appreciation of their self-sacrificing hearty co-operation in the work of the Lord.”