

their regular monthly meetings. By means of a weekly fee collected from the members, a garden party held in the summer at the house of the president, Mrs. D. P. McArthur, and a special collection for a charitable purpose, \$51.50 have been collected by the society for home and foreign missions, a very fair showing we think for the first year. If we add to this the collection of \$15.75 taken up at the meeting, the amount of \$67.25 will show financially the work accomplished. But the success of the society cannot be thus measured, for much information on mission work has been gathered only to be scattered again and bear more fruit. During the year our Sunday school has prospered well. At the suggestion of the pastor a collection is taken up each Sunday in his Bible class and has surprised all parties concerned by showing a total of \$25.00, \$13.00 of which has been sent to our C. C. F. M. S. treasurer for Mr. Currie, the balance being now on hand. It might be well here to mention that \$3.00 were collected by two of the smaller classes and sent away to Boston for the Morning Star Mission. Though we have long been silent we hope soon to send further evidences of our life and work for the Master. A.

SPEEDSIDE AND FERGUS.—These churches have called Mr. C. S. Pedley, B. A., of New Durham; we believe Mr. Pedley has accepted the call and has entered upon his new field of labour. May he be abundantly blessed.

TORONTO, NORTHERN.—The Sunday school held its anniversary services on the 14th of last month, when the Rev. Mr. Cuthbertson, of Woodstock, preached to good congregations with his usual ability and acceptance. We were pleased to note that his lameness, which at one time threatened to be serious, is passing away. In the afternoon he addressed the scholars, the school room being crowded with the children and their friends. Mr. Alfred Day also gave an interesting address on that occasion. In the evening the children and choir sang appropriate hymns, and Mr. Cuthbertson's sermon was on the ministry of children. The Sunday school is looking forward to and preparing for a sale of work, (commonly called a bazaar,) to be held about the 10th of this month, from which it hopes to realize a handsome sum. The attendance at the Wednesday evening prayer meeting has been much better lately, and still there is room for improvement. On Sundays it seems impossible for our people to turn out strong more than once a day. Full congregation in the morning, comparatively thin in the evening, and vice versa. We should like to see the church full at both services. The Young Men's Association has been branching out into green fields and pastures new. It has commenced a magazine entitled "The Portfolio,"

the initial number of which appeared in October. The members seem to take a lively interest in it and we feel sure it will be a success. The Rev. Joseph Cook, of Boston, the great thinker, writer and lecturer delivered two lectures on the 15th and 16th November in Shaftesbury hall under the auspices of the Association. It seemed rather a bold stroke to risk such a heavy expense, but God blessed the effort, and the result was a handsome balance on the right side. The subjects were, "Seven modern wonders of the world, or the political and religious signs of the times," and "Does death end all?" It is scarcely necessary to say that the great lecturer carried his audience with him in enthusiastic sympathy and admiration, for the sound of his powerful voice has been heard in eloquent and majestic appeals on behalf of Christianity in every quarter of the globe. The result of these lectures may inspire our young men to further efforts, and if they only throw into them equal vim and enthusiasm they are certain of additional successes. On Sunday, 21st ult., in the morning, the pulpit being draped in black, the pastor made reference to the late Dr. Wilkes, giving a brief resume of his life and work, and paying a loving tribute to his memory. The hymn "Churches of Christ by God's right hand," which Mr. Condor composed when Mr. Wilkes was designated for Canada, was sung during the service, and called up many memories.

WIARTON.—THE INDEPENDENT has long been a welcome visitor to our home, and one of the greatest pleasures in its reading, to me, is the news of the churches. I find myself helped in many ways, and seem to become better acquainted with our people from reading their news. I have often looked for our own little church to speak, but looked in vain, and wondered, because we have had many reasons for rejoicing, and many things to be thankful for. The thought came to me on reading your invitation to send news, that perhaps I should take the matter in hand myself, so now I will tell you of some of the encouraging features of our work here. Our church is growing, our congregation is growing, our village is growing, our field for work widening, but above all, our people are growing in grace, in giving, and in everything that is good. We no longer wait until the end of the year to take up our missionary collection, but have a quarterly missionary service, which has met with success, and has more than doubled our offerings, our last quarterly collection was something over \$13. Some of our members have taken with the idea of setting aside a certain sum every week. And when missionary Sunday comes it is not a question as to how much can I afford, but they say, here, this is the Lord's money, what portion of it is to go into the collection to-day. My own experience has been blessed