

enced. Music, and addresses from local ministers, and a sumptuous tea served by the ladies. During the year God has removed by death our oldest deacon, who at a ripe age was taken to the service above. The congregations have continued good, and the spiritual interest encouraging; but the conversions have not been as many as we could have desired. Our duty is to work—it is the Lord's to save. One circumstance has occurred, we might name, that may encourage others. A man over seventy years of age, for many years an avowed sceptic, for whom much prayer has been offered to God, has openly confessed that through the simple preaching of the Gospel of God's love in Christ, he has renounced his errors and accepted Jesus as his personal Saviour, and feels his mission now is to tell of God's love to his former associates.

TORONTO MOUNT ZION.—At the first quarterly Sabbath school teachers' meeting this year the secretary presented a report, comprising the seven years of his stewardship, which shows the progress the Sabbath school has made during that period. The school is on the eve of celebrating its tenth anniversary. The records of the first three years were unfortunately lost, so that we have no record from the commencement, but the progress of the Sabbath school during the remaining years shows that the hand of God has been leading and blessing them. The average attendance in 1880 was 186; in 1886, 313. The number attending regularly was, in 1880, 311; in 1886, 414. The finances of the school were in 1880, \$86.44; in 1886, \$256.91. The work here has been truly blessed.

YORKVILLE.—The Hazleton Avenue Sunday school held their annual festival on Tuesday, February 15, 1887. About 230 scholars and teachers sat down to tea; in the evening a public service was held in the church, which was packed by parents and friends. A pleasant evening was spent; the children fairly delighted all by their singing, recitations, etc. The superintendent, Mr. Geo. Scott, made a few short remarks, showing that the school increases both in numbers and loving work, and a happy year is looked forward to by all. The school is also making arrangements for the annual meeting of the Sunday school teachers of Toronto, of which due notice will be given, it being decided at the last meeting in Zion Church, 1886, that the next meeting be in this church.

#### OBITUARY.

On January 10 there passed away, after a short illness only, Mary Jane Burnham, wife of Mr. William Toms, jun., accountant, Cobourg. Mrs. Toms was born in the township of Hamilton, Ont., on February 4, 1847, and was the only daughter of the late

Andrew Jackson Burnham. She was blessed with a good home, and was always a great favourite with her father. When a child she attended Sabbath school at the court house, conducted by the late Mrs. Rutan, of whose class she was a member. To the time of her decease she constantly referred to her teacher's kindness and earnestness. About 1871 she was laid aside on her couch for some months with congestion of the spine, from which she recovered. About this time her father was stricken down with a paralytic stroke, and the two invalids became closer companions. Mr. Burnham died in the summer of 1872. Miss Burnham had by this time become nearly restored to her usual health. Her long sickness and severe suffering developed her naturally sympathetic and kind disposition. She was a woman of strong nerve, of a quiet and gentle disposition, always ready to do a kind act, especially to the suffering. In May, 1876, Miss Burnham was married to Mr. Toms, and her married life was a very happy one. She was always ready to assist in advancing the cause of Christ in every department of His work, was active in all her duties, and often performed them at great sacrifice. The funeral took place on Wednesday, the 12th Jan. After a short service at her late residence, the body was taken to the Congregational Church, where a very impressive service was held, conducted by the Rev. Messrs. Pedley and McCrae. The church was appropriately draped, and the large congregation and funeral cortege testified their sympathy with the bereaved ones. Mrs. Toms was the active secretary of the Ladies' Aid of the Congregational Church. The members of this society promptly forwarded to Mr. Toms a memorial, condoling with him in his irreparable loss. A beautiful floral wreath accompanied the same.

#### Literary Notices.

QUEEN VICTORIA. Her Life and Reign. (Toronto: Willard Tract Depository.)—This is a well printed volume with more than average illustrations, and a pretty cover. Published as a jubilee volume, it is not so much a biography as a series of chapters on characteristic incidents in her Majesty's life, and presents to our view a much more charming picture of the Queen, the woman and the mother than any formal history could present. The likenesses and views profusely scattered throughout the volume of 244 pp. give a pleasing variety to the whole. It is sold for \$1. This house has also issued a cabinet sized jubilee photograph, with miniature likenesses and views. We learn too that at the recent semi-annual meeting of the directors of this depository, the following resolution was adopted: "Realizing the vast importance to be attached to the dissemination of pure literature, and desiring that every possible incentive be given to the work of tract distribution, the depository shall hereafter supply tracts at an advance on cost, simply sufficient to cover expenses