

How has it fared, since last we met, with our fellow-workers beyond the continents and the oceans?

Our ever kind and loving Heavenly Father, in His infinite wisdom, has permitted the Angel of Death to enter the new Mission Home at Akidu, and to remove, "with a stroke," from our young brother Craig, "the desire of his eyes." But sustaining grace has graciously been bestowed, and like Ezekiel of old, the sorrowing husband has been enabled, with fresh consecration of life and purpose, to arise and "do as the Lord had commanded him."

At Tuni, Mr. and Mrs. Currie are beginning to reap the fruit of their labours—souls are being brought to Jesus, and, as you will learn from the Corresponding Secretary's report, Mrs. Currie has made a most encouraging beginning in Bible Women's work.

A sore bereavement has befallen the Cocanada field. Josiah Burder, the trusted and the true, the devoted, earnest, native preacher of the Word has been taken to his rest. Suddenly the call came. While performing a marriage ceremony his faculties became clouded, his trembling fingers forgot how to trace his own name, "Josiah Burder," but wrote instead, twice over, "Jesus, Jesus." The name he loved so well. The name above every name. A few short hours more and Josiah was with his Master—Jesus.

We fear that our energetic, self-sacrificing brother and sister Timpany are again suffering from the baneful climate combined with overwork, but God is blessing the work, especially the Girls' School. Of this Mr. Timpany writes: "I do not think since the school started that there has been a girl who has passed fifteen years of age without coming to Christ." Is not that encouragement for us, my sisters? Who can estimate the influence for good these Christian Telugu girls may wield?

During the year just closed, your Central, or Executive Board, have earnestly striven to discharge with faithfulness, the important duties laid upon them. They again thank the Circles for their confidence and support, manifested by an increase in the amount of money committed for its disposal, to their judgment.

The reports of the year's work, to be presented this afternoon, will show exactly what has been done; and the present condition of the Society. With the exception of the boy's school at Cocanada, all the money the missionaries have asked for schools, Bible women, and books in the three fields has been furnished by us. To Cocanada we have sent \$650; to Tuni, \$100; and to Akidu, \$150; altogether \$900. This seems a small sum compared with what we expended in 1879 and 1880; but is owing to the fact that the \$500 voted for Mrs. McLaurin's return journey has not yet been required and is still in our treasurer's hands. Had that amount been paid, we would have expended \$1400, an increase of \$100 over last year.

It has been our practice, and God helping us we hope it ever will be, to send our money to India, half yearly in advance, so that the missionaries have it on hand as they require it; and your Board are very grateful, under God, to you dear sisters of the various circles, for your prompt and regular remittances, thus enabling them to meet their obligations without any difficulty.

Bear with me if I here utter one word of caution; you know we are an auxiliary of the Baptist Foreign Missionary Society of Ontario and Quebec. We organized to help that Society, by undertaking a special branch of work, for which it was unable to provide. It is a noble Society, doing a grand work. Now, let us be very careful never, on any account, to take for our women's work any money which otherwise would go directly into the

general treasury. Let our ten-cents-a-month-over-be-an extra offering, saved from some personal indulgence or gratification. How easy it is to do this we do not realize until we try.

One of the chief objects of our organization is the dissemination of missionary intelligence. Many of us are engaged in Sunday Schools, and we have there a splendid opportunity for interesting the young people of our churches, and persuading them to give regularly and systematically for the spread of the Gospel in heathen lands. Let but Mr. McLaurin's scheme be faithfully and efficiently carried out, and not \$1,000, but \$2,000 a year could easily be gathered from the Sunday Schools alone.

I want to say a word or two now about the MISSIONARY LINK, our little means of intercommunication between the Women's Societies of the different provinces of our Dominion. Perhaps you are not all aware that though conducted strictly in the interest of *all*, it is quite independent of the funds of *any* of our societies.

When, soon after the formation of the Ontario Society, Mr. Timpany came to a meeting of the Central Board, and strongly urged the publication of such a little missionary sheet, the members of the Board, while agreeing that it would be a great advantage to have something of the kind, did not think it would be right to risk money sent to them by the circles, in an undertaking which might prove a financial failure. So the matter was indefinitely deferred. But the spirit of our brother burned within him; he was convinced that the women's work could not be efficiently carried on without such a means of disseminating information; and all who know Mr. Timpany, know that he is not easily turned aside from any purpose upon which his heart is set. He felt that he could not go back to his work in India without making another attempt. So one day he came to some of us in Toronto, with a proposal to issue a tentative number at his own expense, if only we would try to carry it on whenever 1,000 subscribers had been secured. This promise was at length tremblingly and reluctantly given. We would undertake it as a private enterprise; do the best we could; if it turned out a failure we alone would be the losers—if it were successful enough to yield anything beyond the bare expenses of publication, then—so long as it remained in our hands—this surplus should all be given to foreign missions.

By the good hand of our God upon us, and under Him to our kind helpers in every circle, and in many churches, where as yet no circles exist, the LINK has not been a financial failure. God has blessed it. At the close of the first volume, \$60 as you may remember were divided. At the termination of the second, the necessity for improvement in the appearance and size of the paper became so manifest that it was deemed wise to reserve our funds to meet the increased expense. At the beginning of this fourth volume there was found to be a sufficient amount in the bank not only to carry it on to the close, but \$100 over, which we have just had the great pleasure of dividing among the Women's Societies in proportion to the number of subscribers from each; to Ontario, \$53 40; Montreal, or Eastern Society, \$11 50; Nova Scotia, \$24 75; New Brunswick, \$6 35; Prince Edward Island, \$1 10; and Manitoba, \$2 90.

It is a cause for devout thanksgiving that God has answered prayer, in that the General Society again closes the year free from debt. In July, Mr. Timpany wrote: "Our prayer daily is, that our Society may come out free from debt this year." Thus from India and from Canada, prayers for this same special object have mingled at the Throne of Grace.