

tee, who decided that the M. Band River Herbert, Cum. Co. N. S.; was entitled to hold it for this year, they while only numbering seventeen raised \$40.00.

Friday afternoon the Treasurer's Report was read and adopted.

It showed that while we had not succeeded in raising the full amount pledged last August, yet that more money had come into the Treasury this year than ever before.

Balance on hand at beginning of year, \$2,335.67; from N. S. \$3,684.90; from N. B. \$1,916.41; from P. E. I., \$399.06; M. Bands N. S., \$479.63; S. Schools N. S. \$50.58; Y.P.S., N. S., \$3.75; M. Bands N. B., \$326.41; S. Schools N. B., \$149.05; Y.P.S., N. B., \$70.00; Donations, \$98.86; Annual Collection, \$20.12; Association Collections, \$34.78, Dividends on LINK, \$28.75, interest, \$55.95 Retrospects sold, \$2.95; Games Mission Pioneers, \$62.78.

Paid J. W. Manning, Treas. F. M. B., \$6,700.00; Rev. A. C. Cahoon, \$500.00; Mr. Sharpe, for N.W., \$460; Mr. Richards, G. L., \$200.00; Home Literature, \$100; Prov. Sec. N. S., travelling expenses, \$28.55; Prov. Sec. N. S., postage, \$14.59; Printing Games, \$50.00; Printing Reports, \$68.65; Prov. Sec., N. B., travelling expenses, \$4.70; Prov. Sec. N. B., postage, stationery, \$8.00; Postage discounts, \$18.13; Balance on hand, \$1,546.68.

ESTIMATES FOR THE COMING YEAR.

are as follows:

Miss Wright's salary, \$500.00; Miss Wright's Bible Women, \$150.00; Miss Wright's touring and travelling, \$75.00; Miss Gray's salary, \$500.00; Miss Gray's Bible Women, \$75.00; Miss Gray's touring and travelling, \$35.00; Miss Gray's boarders, \$75.00; Miss MacNeil's salary, \$500.00; Miss MacNeil's Bible Women, \$50.00; Miss MacNeil's touring, \$35.00; Miss MacNeil's school, \$60.00; Bobbilli, \$100.00; Kimediy, \$100.00; Palcondah, \$100.00; books and tracts, \$25.00; seminary, \$245.00; Mr. Morse's salary, \$1,000.00; Colportage, \$200.00; native helpers, \$500.00; home literature, \$100.00; Contingent fund, \$200.00; Tent for Mr. Higgins, \$100.00; missionaries salaries, \$2,035.00.

HOME MISSIONS.

North West, \$700.00; Grande Ligne, \$200.00; Indian work, \$100.00; Maritime H.M., \$500.00.—To be continued.

N.B. Will all Mission Bands send their money this year direct to Mrs. Mary Smith, Treasurer W.B. M. U. Amherst, N. S.

WORK AMONG THE ABORIGINES OF INDIA.

[Mr. Craig sends us an article giving description of a work among these interesting people. We give some extracts, and his note as introductory.

"I am sending you a little paper which gives many interesting particulars about the Kois in the native state of Bastar, and part of the Nizam's Dominions. Mr. C. B. Ward, of the Methodist Episcopal Mission, has been carrying on a semi-independent work at Yellanhu near Singareni, which can be found on our map of the Telugu country 17½ degrees north latitude and 80½ east longitude. Now he is planning an attack on the heathenism of the whole Bastar-state. As his field of operations is nearly all shown in our map and as most of the people know Telugu, we should take

a special interest in this work. Then too our interest is called forth by the fact that these people are aborigines and also by the fact that missionaries have not been allowed to work in Bastar in the past. I remember an expedition into that country some years ago. Some German Lutheran missionaries tried to settle there. They started from Rajahmundry with some experienced missionaries to help them, but the Rajah of Bastar told them that they had better move on as he was afraid somebody might poison them. The new missionaries finally settled in the neighbouring Jeypur Zemindary and have since then occupied Sabur and Parvatipuram near Bobbilli.

When we were coming from the conference at Bombay Mr. Ward was our companion part of the way to Hyderabad. Mrs. Craig and I enjoyed his conversation very much. In some ways he reminded me of Mr. Timpany."

When in 1886 we went out to the very end of the extension of the Nizam's State Railway, 150 miles east of Hyderabad, near Singareni, we found about us a strange people speaking Telugu with a very peculiar accentuation. They differed much from the Hindus in physical appearance and dress. They were smaller in stature for the most part, with rounder faces, and contrasted strikingly with their Aryan neighbors in the matter of honesty, and poor indeed, sticking closely to the jungle recesses, in the midst of which one by one they actually hewed out their humble villages.

Who were these people of whom we had not so much as heard in our seven years in the Dominions? We were told they were Koivars. Their docility, the simplicity of their lives, the absence of priests, temples or caste among them, soon attracted our attention.

But it was not till three years later, when settled at Yellanda, and the idea of especially laying ourselves out for this people seized us, and we began to work out around Yellanda. We found more of them than other people, and they were more accessible, readier listeners, and presented the most hopeful class of people we had ever worked among. It did not take us long to learn that the *sua patria* of the Kois was beyond the Godavery River in the hills and jungles of Bastar, a Native State.

When they spread out and filtered themselves through the dense jungles of Telingana, Nizam's Dominions, is by no means certain. They utterly shun open country and seem most content where their axes can find trees, and the women's hands jungle fruit. We have, we think, compassed the borders of the habitation of this most interesting people. Stretching from about 20 miles south of Yellandu, north-east 300 miles on a due line, by an average of 100 miles in width, these people are found, the population in number over 400,000.

Jagdapur is the Capital of Bastar, a town of 7,000 population mostly Hindu, though all the surrounding population is aboriginal.

The whole State has come under British administration for perhaps fifteen years to come. The late Rajah Byram Deo died in 1861 and left a little son who is now eight years of age. This little king is a descendant of the Kshatriya prince who fled from Warungal over 500 years ago. His name is Rudra Pratap Deo.

The deceased Rajah was never willing missionaries should enter his State, and until Commissioner Frazer last year gave us official permission to enter, the door of Bastar was shut against the Gospel.