

anonymous friend has since forwarded a *donation* of \$100, thus making the receipts from Claremont Branch \$195.81. I was here favoured with the cordial hospitality of Mr. Eldon, the interested Secretary of the Branch.

On the 22nd March I had the pleasure of attending the excellent anniversary of the London Auxiliary. Our readers will find a notice of this meeting in the *Bible Recorder* for March.

The last meeting, connected with the current Bible year, in which I had the privilege of taking part, was at Scarboro', on the 8th April. Severe weather on two former occasions, compelled a postponement of the anniversary of this Branch. The following facts will show that you need not travel far for variety of climate in "this Canada of ours." The stage forgot to call for me on the afternoon of the foregoing day. Just in time, I got on board a waggon that was starting for Scarboro'. When we left the city, the dust was flying in the streets. Nine miles of rough locomotion brought us to "Scarboro' Heights," where we found *not dust, but four feet of snow*. Here our waggon was exchanged for the owner's sleigh. Five miles brought us to cross roads, at which my friend must proceed in a straight course; I must take the road to the right, and a mile or more would bring me to the Presbyterian Church, in which the meeting was being held. At 8 P.M., I received this information; he further informing me that the flood had carried away the bridge, or he would drive me up to the Church.

I turned to the right, as directed, and in a few moments saw—by the light of the moon—that the bridge was completely gone, and a broad and rapid stream occupied its place. Some rails, which had floated down, were arrested by blocks of ice grounded in the stream. I could see the lights in the church, and was *determined* to get there if possible. I was alone. I could swim. I prayed, and then made the effort to cross. I selected the best rail I could find. Placing this on two pieces of ice, I made my way over to the ice on the further end of my rail. Having accomplished this, and then pulled my frail bridge after me, and extending it to the next piece of grounded ice, I got along. But alas, my *fragile abutments* at last gave way, and I was plunged into the deepest part of the stream, nearly up to my waist. I waded out, walked briskly to the church, was welcomed, made a speech, went home with the Rev. Mr. Fletcher, who promptly furnished me with a change of raiment; was treated to an invigorating cup of tea by his very kind sister; slept soundly in a comfortable bed in the manse; and returned by rail from Scarboro' station the next day, only a little the worse for my adventure, but still firm in my principle that nothing but an impossibility should prevent a minister from meeting an engagement. Donations from Scarboro', \$130.00.

The total amount furnished by these Branches, as nearly as I can ascertain, including the Cities of Kingston and London, irrespective of their Branches, but not including Ottawa, which is beyond the limits of the Upper Canada Bible Society, is in excess of \$3000.00.

Some of the collections at the public meetings exhibited handsome advance. Georgetown and St. Mary's trebled. Port Hope nearly quadrupled; and all, with scarcely an exception, presented improvement. I think we should attach importance to the financial results of the public meetings.

Many reflections arise in connection with my first experience in this department of duty. But I have not space to impress them. I may, however, say—1. The people are true to the great Bible cause.

2. That the times demand fidelity to it, and greater exertion, in order to the world-wide dissemination of God's own word.

3. The wars of the old world should stimulate the new world to give the Book to all, that in it they may learn that the great message of its pages is "On Earth Peace."

4. The Union of the Churches is to be accomplished by the Bible and Bible Societies.

I am, gentlemen, very faithfully yours,

JOHN GEMLEY.