

ANNUAL REPORT.

Your Secretary begs to intimate that she labors under many serious disadvantages in the compilation of this report. On looking over the reports received many Societies were found to have neglected to forward any account of their year's work. Although we regret the indifference on the part of many, still we rejoice that there are those who take a lively interest in "Home Missions," which cannot fail to be a blessing to themselves as well as others. In the reports that follow we find much encouragement. Having carefully watched the progress and beneficial results of the workings of many of our Societies, we would strongly urge upon every church of our denomination to organize and support a branch of the Ladies' Home Missionary Society.

There is need of earnest personal effort in this department of Christ's vineyard. Let each member in our different Societies feel that it is a privilege to be able to do something, however small, for the cause of missions, and they would find that in helping others they would be better fitted for the other duties which devolve upon every professing Christian. We must diligently perform what the Lord points out, trying to rouse others to do all in their power to help on such a noble work as this, feeling our own responsibility, and alone seeking strength from the Lord to go forward to discharge every duty to which the Master calls us. If we are moderately successful let us not think we are doing all that is required, but, remembering that others are going far beyond us in missionary enterprises, let us strive to be more in earnest.

May the Lord give us grace to enquire, "What wilt Thou have me to do?" for in due season we shall "reap if we faint not." Let no one think that a Society, once formed, will run of itself. Officers, gifts of money, will not suffice: time and labor must be given. We cannot expect a Society to live without the interest, prayers and sacrifices of its members. May our giving be more and more generous. Let us give from principle, not from impulse. Whatever we give, may it be given with cheerfulness; "Only so can we make it our gift." There is no giving that pleases God unless it is in a hearty, open-handed spirit, for "The Lord loveth a cheerful giver."