

Woman's Work.

Address of Welcome.

My DEAR FRIENDS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST.—In rising to tender you a welcome, I cannot but wish I had more experience in this kind of work.

We hope the organized effort of these Auxiliary Bands, which have made, I think, a fair beginning, may be abundantly blessed in aiding the spread of the Gospel.

Our Band, though few in number and weak financially, meet with commendable regularity and enjoy the meetings which are both pleasant and profitable.

There are, I am sorry to say, some sisters in this church who disapprove of women organizing in this way—seem to look upon it as an innovation, a new fashion,—but there is an old prophecy, which you will find in the sixty eighth Psalm (R. V.), to this effect, "The Lord gave the Word, the women who published it were a great host, and she who tarried at home divided the spoil."

This is often quoted as referring to the Temperance movement, but it appears to be applicable more pointedly to missions. However, the Word of the Lord is sufficiently comprehensive to include woman's work as a whole.

This writer, who is now out of date upon the subject, seemed to think the women were stepping out of their proper sphere and might become unmanageable. This dread is an old one and may have had its origin in Shushan the Palace.

I must venture to hope that our sisters who have held aloof will be convinced of our meetings close that it is their duty to join us in this most important work of the Lord.

Before concluding, I wish to thank the Board for the very generous subscription which they sent towards the building of our new church, which assistance I can assure you was appreciated by every member of the congregation.

Permit me to add, that though we may take different views upon some of the subjects submitted for our consideration at this Convention, in discussing them let us hope that all may be done in a spirit of forbearance and love, so that at the close we may each respond to the beautiful sentiment, "Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

Mrs. T. C. STEPHENS, Pres. Owen Sound Band.

Annual Report of the Ontario Christian Woman's Board of Missions.

DEAR SISTERS.—Time passes. It does seem only a very little while since we met in St. Thomas, but the milestone marks off another year. The summer has come, the sunshine is warm and invigorating, the verdure of spring is inviting, the flowers are bright and sweet, but better than all else is the grand army of soldiers

gathered together here to do homage to our exalted King. There is something implanted in the human breast that loves association, and when we meet with those of kindred sympathies, and whose bosoms grow with the love of Christ, we are assured that it is a foretaste of the good things God has in store for us, in the heavenly courts above.

The work in the North-West was begun under the direction of Bros. Darroch and Finch. Minnedosa was selected for the field and Bro. Lemon for the laborer, at a salary of \$500, they agreeing to pay \$200 and we to pay \$350, to be applied thus: \$300 on salary and \$50 for incidentals.

The sum of \$116 that lay in the hands of the Co-operation, which was collected some years ago for the work in the North-West, was handed over to our treasurer for the work in Minnedosa, leaving \$294 of our present year's money to be paid, which has been duly fulfilled. They rented a hall at a cost of \$1.75 per service. Their attendance was about thirty two. Their midweek meetings were held from house to house to save expenses.

They desire us to send them a man at once, and have decided to give the same amount on salary as last year, (providing the Ontario brethren and sisters do as well as they expect toward their building). Hamilton.—The work is moving on. They expect to have their house finished in two months. Their lot is paid for, and have \$1,400 in the bank to go toward paying for their house, beside \$200 in pledges. The house will cost about \$2,100; our pledge of \$100 has been paid. Their next consideration will be to enlarge their congregation, and to this end they will ask our assistance to procure an able speaker for one year. They have over \$800 pledged towards a preacher's salary and expect to be able to get more.

Owen Sound was also helped. Our little \$150 helped in this magnificent building that has been so tastefully arranged for the services of God's house.

Guelf.—I am sorry to say we have not been able to fulfil our pledge with them, but hope to do so in the near future. Have paid \$25; a balance of \$75 yet unpaid.

Erin Centre has a membership of thirty. They conduct their meetings according to the order of Constitution. They pledged \$30 last year, have exceeded this by \$5 and will pledge at least \$30 for next year.

Erin has twenty-two members, quite an increase over 1888, when they organized with ten. They have sent \$20.50 to the treasurer, and will pledge \$21 for next year.

Ererton.—Membership thirty. Several new members added during the year, but some have been lost by removals. The Auxiliary is in a

BRIEF REPORT OF AUXILIARIES

flourishing condition; \$15 has been raised, \$30 has been sent to our treasurer, the remaining \$15 will be applied on the Minnedosa building fund. Their minister, J. A. Brennstuhl, gave a lecture. Subject, "Johnstown disaster," from which they realized a goodly sum. After all expenses were paid, \$7 was added to their fund.

St. Thomas.—The sisters there have fulfilled their pledge, and have a surplus, besides sending \$5 for the Minnedosa house. They hold an Anniversary service which usually goes off well. Rodney organized Dec. 3, 1889, with seven members; three more have united. They raised and remitted \$7, will pledge \$12 for next year.

West Lorne is enjoying the work, have raised during the year \$21, remitted to treasurer \$15 which was their pledge. The balance they reserve to help get an evangelist to hold a meeting. This and Lobo are the only Auxiliaries that report using our envelopes. Their special collection amounted to \$5. They will pledge \$15 for next year.

Toronto.—As theirs is considerably the largest pledge, and having fulfilled it, we ought to have the benefit of their experience. I do not like to think that the Toronto people are so much richer in pocket, than the rest of us, but they are richer in activity. They set out to raise \$60 last year, and have succeeded, I will give you in their own words their plan of work: (1) We aim to keep our own hearts warm (which is all important) by reading missionary news, making note of the advancement of the cause and telling one another; (2) Striving to let our practice go beyond our theory by giving as liberally to the cause of our missions as lies in our power, remembering that no one can by any possible sophistry lessen the fact that the command "Go ye—and preach the Gospel" is an imperative command; (3) Soliciting aid from those with whom we may come in contact, even though they may not be members of the Auxiliary; (4) To make our monthly meetings interesting with Bible readings, clippings from missionary papers, poetry, song and prayer.

Downsville has fallen into line this year, Feb. 4, they organized with ten members but have added six in the three months. If they keep that up they will have the whole church interested in a short time. They follow the program given in the Missionary Tidings, which is taken by nearly all the members, (they are missionary). Reported their contribution as being \$8.75.

Wainfleet has paid their pledge of \$20 with a balance in their treasury. Walkerton keeps up the interest fully, having their twelve regular meetings under some disadvantages. Twenty-three members have forwarded \$25 to treasurer.

Warton.—Present number not so large as last year on account of removals not more than ten or twelve; yet the decrease in numbers did not lessen their contribution but increased it; I think those sisters have excelled themselves: having remitted \$20. Here is a problem I would like some one to solve, how can twelve sisters give as much or nearly so as eighteen, twenty or even thirty can?

Owen Sound has reported fully, I find they have taken up questions of vital importance, such as "Union of work with our American sisters," "Ways and means of doing good at home," "The North-West as a mission field." After all these subjects have been discussed among the sisters of Owen Sound, it seems rather selfish to keep their decision to themselves. The Editor of the CANADIAN EVANGELIST has kindly given space, and the sisters everywhere are calling for help in this direction. They have paid their pledge with an additional \$5.

Lobo is still holding forth. This year again one of our faithful has been called up higher. Her voice is hushed and we hear her no more, but we feel it an incentive to live nearer the

throne. A few new names have been added to the roll, and we work on. At our last meeting we adopted the motto "For His sake." We usually follow the program given in Tidings. The work in the North-West was talked over, children's work was also looked at from different stand points, and essays written on the same. In all we feel we are blessed by Auxiliary meetings. It awakens in us thought of our Blessed Master, and rekindles our love for the work we adore. Our special collection the first Lord's Day in the New Year, amounted to \$10; also cleaned church-house for which we received \$6, and our regular fees \$21; making a total of \$36.

Aurora has reported the work done. They organized Jan. 14, 1889; nearly all the sisters of the church were present (that's saying a good deal). They commenced with a membership of eleven, which increased to twenty. Loss by removals four. The first quarter's contribution which was \$10 was sent to Bro. Crewson; second quarter's \$12 was devoted to work at home; third quarter's \$12 was sent to Miss Graybill, Bilaspur, India. The last quarter's \$11 was spent at home.

Kilsyth organized with five members; had four meetings. Their contribution was \$9.85.

Acton.—A little over a year ago, they organized with thirteen members. Since then one withdrew, and three were laid away to await the morning of the resurrection. They promised \$10 for the work last year, but are giving \$12.

Selkirk organized in September with a membership of fifteen, and are doing efficient work; paid treasurer \$9.60.

Galt.—This little church, which has faith enough to believe that they will exist, and battle alone till such time as they will get help, have organized an Auxiliary to the O. C. W. B. M. Have only five sisters in the church; have remitted \$7.80 to treasurer. This is enough to put some of us to shame.

Ridgetown is renewing their strength, as many of their present membership (19) have joined this year, average attendance being eight. They have remitted on pledge for 1888, \$2.35, and fulfilled their pledge of \$25 for this year, in all \$27.35, and will pledge \$25 for the coming year.

Guelf had a membership of thirty, removals five; had their twelve regular meetings during the year; fulfilled their pledge of \$30. They use the program from Missionary Tidings, and find it a great blessing. Three sisters in Vaughan contributed \$5 to our fund. We welcome all such hearty contributions. They have also organized an Auxiliary in West Toronto Junction, from whom we may expect to hear good things next year.

We have twenty-three Auxiliaries. There is a membership of about four hundred. The Auxiliaries have sent in their annual reports promptly with a few exceptions and always with a cheering word, yet some have neglected to report quarterly, which makes it impossible for the secretary and treasurer to keep accounts. However, we will hope all will fall into line next year. You remember that old adage "order is heaven's first law." While the work in our chosen fields has prospered beyond all expectation, some of them will need our continued help. The needs of Minnedosa seem imperative, and, while we hope to sustain this place, we should be able to reach beyond. The hallowed memories which so delicately and tenderly bind us to the work of the past, and aspirations which inspire us for the future, and every joy and gladness that comes to us in our commingling together should prompt us to strive to have others share the same great boom. Every one of us can do something for the Master, and if it is done in the right spirit, it will be accepted. It is not so much what we do as how we do it. Let us—

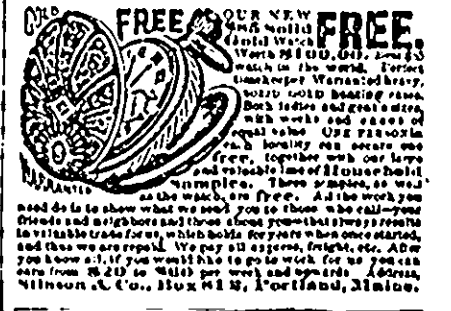
Build up heroic lives, and all be like a shrothen sabre, ready to flash out at God's call, O chivalry of labor.

Mrs. McClure Cor. Secy.

Always learn to think and ask for yourself. Learn to say No, it will be of more service to you than to be able to read Latin.—Johnson.



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