

We think that all will be pleased that there is now a good prospect of our having Sister Mary Graybiel to attend our annual meeting in September next. The secretary has written her, asking her to come, and we trust that nothing will prevent our seeing and hearing one who has done such faithful work for the Master in the foreign field.

All who have listened to Sister Darst when here two years ago will be very pleased to hear that she is again thinking of attending our annual this year. During her visit in these provinces she sowed much good seed which is bearing fruit in this foreign work.

A letter received from her contains the following in reference to Sister Graybiel:

"Sister Graybiel is the woman you want. She is a lovely, consecrated Christian woman, has much tact; fine appearance; and pleasing address. She deserves to be heard for the wonderful work she has done for us in India, besides you will find it a personal pleasure to know her. She cannot help but do you good."

Brother Mitchell, a returned missionary from India also says of Sister Graybiel, "She is one of the grandest women I have ever known,"

The following from the *Tidings* will also be of interest:

On the 25th of May 1891, nine years from the month in which her appointment to our work in India was announced, Sister Graybiel reached her mother's home in Buffalo, N. Y. Many invitations to conventions awaited her. She has written us that so far as the times did not conflict she has accepted them. Brethren and Sisters, do we appreciate what devotion to Christ and love for souls that involves? It is grand to be able to say, as can Indiana, Nebraska, Kansas, and I know not how many others, "Sister Mary Graybiel will be at our State Convention, and talk to us about our work in India." How many of us would be willing to leave an aged mother we had not seen for nearly nine years, and who must soon at the latest be called from labor to reward, and be subjected to the fatigue and inconveniences of travelling about and talking constantly to a host of strangers? Will it not be the very least appreciation we can show if we pay her liberally for her time and services, and treasure into good and honest hearts the truths she tells us, and let them incite us to still more steadfast work in our C. W. B. M. ranks?—*Missionary Tidings*.

THE ORIGIN OF CHILDREN'S DAY.

In an address made before the Foreign Society in Louisville, Ky., in 1880, J. H. Garrison spoke as follows:

"Has not the time come for pushing our advance column into some pagan land where the people know not God, nor His Son Jesus Christ whom He has sent? If what we have said of the reflex influence of our foreign missions on our home work be true, it will be true in a much larger sense when we shall have come in direct contact with those who have never before heard the sweet, old story of the cross. Nothing would so touch the hearts, and develop the missionary spirit of our people as to go to them and say, 'We want means to send the gospel to those who have never heard the name of Jesus. Some of them, through the efforts of our missionaries, have learned of Him, and are rejoicing in His love, while many are crying, 'Tell us more about Jesus.' We want you to help us with your dollars and dimes to tell them of the Saviour of sinners.' Such an appeal as this would open hearts and purses that never otherwise would be reached. Even little children would pour out their hoarded pennies in response to such an appeal. The night before I left home, when my little ones learned that I was to leave the next day for the missionary convention, went and brought their little jugs and emptied out all the pennies and nickels, amounting altogether to \$1.13, representing the savings and self-donations of many months, and brought it to me saying: 'We want this to go to the children who know nothing of Jesus.' I accepted with gratitude, and brought it with me, and will turn it over to the secretary of this society, and it must be held sacred for the purpose for which it was given. Need I remind you that, as yet, we have no mission where this little child offering can be applied? God grant that these few pennies may be a precious seed from which may grow a Children's Heathen Mission Fund, that shall carry the gospel

of Him who loved the children so tenderly while here, into many a dark corner of the earth."

The Foreign Society was organized in 1875, but in 1880 we had no missionaries in heathen lands. The work was done in Europe. The suggestion made was referred to a special committee. After duly considering the whole matter, it was recommended to ask the Sunday-schools to contribute funds for work in heathen lands. The first offering was made in 1881, and amounted to \$750. The offerings year by year since are as follows: 1882, \$2,174; 1883, \$3,205; 1884, \$4,125; 1885, \$5,125; 1886, \$3,035; 1887, \$10,513; 1888, \$15,662; 1889, \$19,123.08; 1890, \$17,765; 1891, \$21,411. The present missions in India, Japan and China were started, and in a large measure sustained, by the offerings of the children in Sunday-schools. Work began in India in 1882; in Japan in 1883; in China in 1886. According to the last annual report there are seventy-six missionaries and helpers in these three fields; and the expenditures last year aggregated \$42,444.10. We want to raise \$50,000 this year. We must do this if we are to do the work outlined at the Allegheny convention.

A. McLEAN.

The secretary and treasurer have sent in their reports, also the funds on hand to the O. C. W. B. M. which meets June 2nd at Bowmanville. Less than nine months ago our society was organized, but we were able to report ten churches assisting in the work, the interest deepening, and \$95.00 collected. We feel that we should thank God and take courage. Surely He is blessing our efforts, and using us to spread His name.

Mrs. J. S. FLAGLOR, Secretary.

RECEIPTS.

Previously acknowledged,	\$71 30
Westport—	
Per Miss Howard,	4 77
St. John—	
Per Mrs. Flaglor,	3 30
Maitland, Hants Co.—	
Per Mrs. D McDougall,	2 00
Cornwallis—	
Per Mrs Reid,	1 30
Summerville—	
Per Mr. Hupman,	1 00
Milton—	
Per Miss Kempton,	6 00
Shubonacadie—	
Per Miss Wallace,	4 80
	94 47
	SUSIE B. FORD,
	Treasurer.

News of the Churches.

St. JOHN, N. B.

At the annual business meeting of the church Bro. Stewart was unanimously invited to remain another year. It was also decided to invite the churches of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick to hold the next annual meeting in St. John on the first Lord's day in September next. The reports of the treasurer and secretary were most encouraging, showing a good gain in membership and that the funds are in a healthy state. The following were elected officers of the Young People Mission Band for the coming year: President, J. S. Flaglor; Vice President, J. B. Allan; Treasurer, H. W. Stewart; Secretary, Miss Nellie Johnston. This society has had many interesting and profitable meetings in the past; has contributed a goodly sum to Home Missions, and will continue in the good work.

There was a good attendance at the yearly meeting of the Ladies' Sewing Circle. The treasurer reported the receipts for the year \$50.00, and a balance on hand of about \$50. The Circle has

earned a large amount of money since its organization and is a great help to the church. There is renewed interest now manifested and no doubt a much larger amount will be raised this year than usual. The following were elected to office for this year: President, Mrs. W. A. Barnes; Vice-Presidents, Miss Peabody and Miss E. Christie; Treasurer, Mrs. J. E. Barnes; Secretary, Miss. H. M. Banks.

We were glad to see Bro. Lowe again in his place around the Lord's table after his long and severe illness.

Bro. Stewart made a short visit to Vancoboro this month and reports a good interest. The New England Evangelist should be sent there to hold a meeting.

Bro. Stewart also made a short visit to his home on P. E. Island.

On the evening of the first Sunday in May the Sunday-school children did the singing and Bro. Stewart preached a sermon to them from the text, "Take us the foxes, the little foxes, that spoil the vines; for our vines have tender grapes." Song of Sol. 2-15. He likened sins in the children to the little foxes, and showed how easy it was to kill or drive them away. He told appropriate stories and kept young and old interested. We were reminded of the good service that Bro. Capp conducted some years ago for the Sunday-school scholars.

At the monthly meeting of the Woman's Missionary Aid Society over \$5.00 was collected for Home and \$2.25 for Foreign Missions.

An interesting letter was read from Sister Darst, of Boston, about the foreign missionary meeting at our next annual. She proposes to accompany Sister Graybiel and illustrate her lecture with stereopticon views of persons, places and objects in heathen lands. This kind offer is still under consideration.

One added by letter since last report.

HALIFAX, N. S.

We are here in Halifax yet, up to the 16th of May. We have not accomplished much as yet. We have been trying to find our bearings and measure the strength of our forces, and get in touch, if possible, with the nature of the work required in this city to secure success. The brethren in this city are anxious that an advanced movement might be brought about. If their anxiety ripens into intense faith, deep tone, spiritual devotion, a warm current of life blood of love, and a united effort, that broods no failure, they will see the desire of their hearts. We are confident that when our brethren in our provinces see the brethren here in dead earnest, and that they are determined to build up the cause, at any sacrifice, they will help them to accomplish this much desired work. All depends now upon the faith and works of our city brethren. May they see the necessity of making a strong, united effort to save the cause in this city.

We had a pleasant visit of a day and a night with Bro. and Sister Ford, at Port Williams. The cause is still growing under their labors. Bro. Ford's "stickability" will eventually secure a strong, permanent church in that beautiful valley. If his pocket was as full of the "needful" as his heart is full of faith, he would be able to build up the cause much more rapidly.

H. MURRAY.

THE EDUCATIONAL FUND.

RECEIPTS.

Previously acknowledged,	\$15 85
Hamilton, Ont.—	
George D. Weaver,	5 00
St. John, N. B.—	
C. H. Leonard,	5 00
Total	\$25 85
	H. W. STEWART, Sec.-Treas.
	Box 106. St. John, N. B.