

Woman's Work.

"The Lord hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad."
—Ps. 126: v. 3.

THE winter season, with its long evenings, will bring to many a home the question of popular amusements, and possibly among the readers of the *OUTLOOK* will be found some mothers who will be asked to sanction some form of entertainment condemned alike by our beloved Methodism and all truly Christian men and women. The spectacle of a member of our Woman's Missionary Society permitting practices at her parties, or at her children's parties, that would dishonor the Church would, indeed, be a pitiable one. Sometimes, in lieu of dancing, romping games are substituted, which more properly belong to nurserydom, and which in their familiarities and vulgarities are quite as low as dancing. We have a strong hope that the women of our Missionary Society, with their hearts set on the noble object of elevating the women of heathen countries, will also determine a higher standard of "society" amusements at home.

Nothing can exist as a society custom which the women decide to abolish. Women are the "queens of society," and in all that pertains to the social life have more than "queenly power." That the custom of wine drinking has fallen from its once proud position in the highest drawing-rooms in the land, is entirely owing to the decree of women brought to realize its debasing influences. So may it be with all unhallowed amusements. Why should not the Woman's Missionary Society, with its membership in the best homes in the country, aim to exert a purifying, ennobling, exalting influence on the social life of Methodism, which shall do credit to the education and culture our young people have opportunities to acquire, and relegate to the ignorant and uncultured the vulgar barbarisms of so-called modern society, which really require no adaptation of brains or education or refinement to practise.

A SIGNAL victory has been won in the chief city of Ontario. A man fearless for Prohibition, making constant war on the saloon, the brothel, and the gambling hell; a Christian man, a Bible teacher, and the uncompromising foe of every work of darkness has been a second time called to the Mayor's chair. Christians all over the Dominion echo the glad reverent song of the victors, "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow." Alas, that every election cannot be so celebrated! On this Woman's Missionary page I gratefully record the power exercised by Christian women as voters in this question of municipal politics. The emancipation of our country from many of the vices and sins which degrade our civilization, and the advent of those con-

ditions which all missionary agencies are working for, viz., the hastening of the kingdom of Christ, are no doubt to be largely assisted in this common-sense practical manner.

THE Annual Report is just to hand, and we congratulate the Society on its thorough get-up and the evident growth of the work which it displays. It is quite apparent that the workers also are growing in knowledge of their work, and how best to do it. Why should not our quarterly public meetings present this report, or extracts from it, that the members and friends of our congregations may be made familiar with the work of the Society?

TREASURER'S REPORT

For First Quarter ending December 15, 1886.

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| Western Branch | \$557 32 |
| Central Branch | 533 63 |
| Eastern Branch | 273 76 |
| Nova Scotia Branch | 250 98 |
| N. B. and P. E. I. Branch | 82 26 |
| Newfoundland—St. John's West | 42 00 |
| Winnipeg Branch | 32 00 |
| Interest for the year | 145 24 |

\$1,917 19

Through an oversight of the Corresponding Secretary of the Niagara Falls South Auxiliary, the members' names of last year were omitted in the report. The following are the names of the officers:—President, Mrs. G. A. Mitchell; Vice-President, Mrs. W. Kerr; Recording Secretary, Miss P. Biggar; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Z. B. Lewis; Treasurer, Miss Doane. Number of members nineteen, and one life member. On the first Sunday in December the services in our Church were devoted to the interests of the Woman's Missionary Society. In the morning Mrs. Osborne, of Wesley Park, preached in her usually interesting style. The people sat in rapt attention. In the evening, our minister being absent, Rev. Mr. Lavel kindly acted as chairman, and the young ladies and gentlemen from Mrs. Osborne's training school, eight in number, gave short addresses, each taking a heathen country and showing the necessity for prompt and earnest work in sending missionaries to "rescue the perishing." With music by the choir at intervals, the service was one of profit and interest. The results of the day's efforts were very satisfactory, realizing an increased and extended interest in the missionary cause. The collections amounted to nearly \$24. The ladies gave \$10 to Mrs. Osborne for her valuable services, and deposited the remainder in the treasury. At our last monthly meeting we received a donation of \$5 from Rev. C. Lavel, which was very gratefully accepted. With faith and courage we are resolved to do what we can in this glorious work.

E. P. LEWIS, *Cor. Secy.*