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84 GLOUCESTER ST., TORONTO.

For Annual Reports, to the BRANCH SECRETARIES.

## FROM THE MISSION BANDS.

Chatham, (Feb. 15th).—The Gleaners of Park Street Methodist Church, held their first entertainment on Monday evening, Feb. 11th. A few words from the pastor opened the meeting, and then we gave the programme "On Japan," but found the Japanese words hard to pronounce. (Could you send the pronunciation next time?) Then followed a short musical and literary programme, given by the members of the Band, and a good collection was taken up. We had also a sale table at the close. The net profit amounted to \$35. We are glad to tell you our Band is most encouraging; every meeting new members. We now number seventy four, and we hope, and are determined, to raise enough money to support a little orphan girl in the Crosby Home.

Minnie Barfoot, Cor. Sec.

Woodhouse—Our Mission Band was organized about nine months ago. The officers are: President, Miss Lilian Smith; Secretary, Miss Ella Jones; Treasurer, Miss Wyckoff; Corresponding Secretary, Annie Bowlby. We have chosen for a name, "Lights Along the Shore," hoping that some gleam from our small lamps may help to lighten up the darkness. Motto: "Gather up the fragments." There are to be ribbon badges, with name and motto printed on. The Band meets fortnightly, and a quilt is started. The fifteenth meeting was held February the 16th, a very stormy day, but five were present. We purpose holding a public meeting on the 8th of March, with a programme of mission songs, exercises, dialogue, readings and recitations. Our minister, Mr. Trimble, has promised to help, and we hope the meeting will be a success.

Annie Bowlby, Cor. Sec.

CANNING, N.S.—The first public meeting of the "Light-Bearers" Mission Band, of this Circuit. was held on the evening of Thursday, 27th December. The President presided. In the absence of the Secretary, Mrs. F. W. Borden, who has charge of the musical department of our Band work,

reviewed our work from the date of organization, in June, 1888. We started with eleven members; we now number thirty. The programme consisted of singing, readings, recitations, and two dialogues. The one entitled "Young Solicitors" was considered very good. The devotional exercises were conducted by our pastor, and "Words of Welcome" were well spoken by one of our boys. A short catechetical exercise upon our missions and missionaries, conducted by the President, showed that our Band had some practical knowledge of the work of the W. M. S. A very pleasing feature of the entertainment was the rendering of a piece of music called "The Light-Bearers." The children entered the main audience-room from the class-rooms, each bearing a lighted taper, and singing, while others, out of sight, responded, in plaintive tones, to imitate the cry of the heathen for "Words of Life." During the intermission, useful and fancy articles were sold from the Christmas tree, to trim which, youthful hands had been busily employed for six weeks; also refreshments. "The Heathens' Box," as the children call it, into which each had contributed from their own means, and a prize, offered to the highest contributor, was opened, and found to contain \$5.60. We had a good audience, and our receipts for the evening, from all sources, amounted to \$35. S. E. AINLEY.

CHATHAM.—Instead of holding our February meeting in the lecture hall of the church, we held it at Mrs. Marquand's. There were twe ty five present. After the reading of the minutes of the last meeting, Mrs. Marquand read the President's address, given at the last meeting. Mrs. (Rev.) Freeman gave us a very instructive address, "Why Should we Engage in Missionary Work." Our Pastor, Mr. Treleavan, being present, was then called upon, and in a few well-chosen remarks, spoke of the necessity of increasing energy in this field of labor. Miss Carrie Shaw, Secretary of "The Gleaners'" Mission Band, read an encouraging report of their work, giving as their membership, seventy-two. Mrs. Marquand who was elected to solicit subscriptions for Outlook, reported forty-seven more than last year. Tea was then served, and altogether a pleasant and profitable afternoon was spent. Receipts of afternoon, \$10.72.

## FROM THE AUXILIARIES.

St. Thomas First.—Our outlook for another year is most encouraging. Over sixty members are already enrolled, while others follow so steadily that we hope for a large increase over last year. Each month, sixty five (65) copies of the Outlook, with its valuable information, find their way to as many homes, where they cannot fail to awaken interest, by keeping our people informed as to what is being done in our different missionary fields. Its cheapness, clearness of type, spicy editorials, letters, variety of topics, etc., cannot fail to make a powerful factor in any Auxiliary. We, too, have inaugurated a birthday box, with encouraging results so far, trusting it will be another means of educating our ladies to give as they can, without having to resort to entertainments, etc. In December, Miss Cartmell gave an account of the work in Japan, so dear to her heart, and ours also, because of our own Miss Wintemute being there. So many people paint this field in roseate hues only, we were glad Miss Cartmell explained some of the difficulties to be overcome. In concert with others, we pray earnestly this month, that if best, God will permit her to return to her loved work, fully restored in health. Mr. and Mrs. Youmans, of McDougall Orphanage, visited us in January, when, by means of the blackboard, they made us almost see