

and in all these various ways the Lord interferes to put things right which have gone wrong and regulate matters which require correction.

"Shall the maker of a paltry watch have power to regulate and correct his watch, while the Maker of heaven and earth has no power to regulate the universe which He has made? Shall any mechanic have power over the machine which he has constructed, to stop it, repair it, improve it, and start it again; and shall not He who made the worlds have power to do what He will with His own?"

"But people do not see how this or that wonderful thing could be done. True, but there are things done all around them every day which are utterly inexplicable to them. They cannot explain a thousand things which they have seen and are seeing every day; and many things which a few years ago would have been called impossible are now the commonplaces of invention and science. The cure for this agnostic unbelief is found in a knowledge of the true God, some faint comprehension of His power and goodness and a watchful eye to see around us the working of His almighty hand, and recognize His eternal power and Godhead in the things which He has made."

Ninth Annual Report of the Woman's Missionary Society of Disciples of Christ.

Dear Friends and Co-workers,—Another year has passed and by our Father's mercy we are again permitted to meet in convention. How can we thank Him sufficiently for all His goodness towards us!

During the year loved ones have passed away, one very dear to us all—Sister Bella Sinclair—who, until ill-health obliged her to lay down her work, was the efficient secretary of our board. She has gone to be with the Saviour, whom on earth she loved and served so well.

The report of the Maritime C. W. B. M. is as follows:

Dear Sisters,—We are sorry to have to report a slight falling off in our receipts for the past year. This is due, I believe, not to a decrease of interest in the work, but to the departure from among us of one or two preachers who kept the needs of our missionary enterprise before their people, and took regular collections for its support.

The consequence has been that some of these churches have not contributed during the year, and some have sent direct to Bro. McLean. About \$60 have thus been sent that had previously been sent to us. Notwithstanding this we had hoped to at least send as much as we did last year, but will be unable to do so. We have gained one new so-

ciety since last report. It is in the church at Liverton, Nova Scotia.

Our children's work is progressing nicely. Another child has been adopted this year, a little girl in India.

The missionary spirit still seems to be increasing, particularly in some of our churches, and we feel that we should thank God and take courage.

With many prayers for the success of your meeting,

I am your sister in Christ,
MRS. J. S. FLAGLOR.

REPORT FROM JAPAN.

TOKIO, April 24, 1896.

Dear Sisters,—Allow me to congratulate you on the privilege of once more meeting in convention to receive spiritual help and comfort from each other, in considering what has been done in the past and what will be done during the coming year for the spread of the Gospel of Christ by your sacrificing efforts for Him.

It is with much pleasure I present my fourth annual report for your consideration. The past year has been one of many trials, depressions, and few triumphs; one in which I have never worked more unceasingly, yet with apparently very little result.

My work this year, as you know, has been almost exclusively among the Christian girls and women in the home with me, helping them to grow daily into the knowledge and grace of Him who lived and died for them, and to prepare them to bring the blessed story to their sisters who are still sitting in darkness and the shadow of death.

The rest of my energies have been devoted to the work among the children and their parents, especially the mothers, in the school on Matsugawa Cho. About the middle of April, 1895, the Bible Training School for women was started. The course of study consists of (1) General study of the Old Testament and its bearing on the New, (2) Life of Christ, (3) Acts of Apostles, (4) Epistles, (5) Ways and means of presenting the Gospel to different classes of hearers, and how to meet objections to Christianity. During the past session was assisted by Messrs. Guy and Stephens one hour each per week; the second session by Mrs. Garst and Miss Johnson. Last month Mrs. Garst being unable to continue her class, Miss Miller consented to take it. Mr. Azbill has been taking the class in the Epistles for the past month.

At the beginning of the second session we found it necessary to open a secular department in a small way for those deficient in this respect. Two hours every morning are given up to this. The subjects taught are reading, writing, arithmetic, geography and history.

The attendance has varied from five to three, the present number, which is the lowest it has been. Two left last month. One to help her father and mother, who had been working hard to keep her in the school, but her conscience would not allow her to see them sacrificing so much for her. She is a good, earnest girl, on whom it would be a pleasure to put a scholarship, were one forthcoming. The other was compelled to leave on account of persecu-

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tion from outside acquaintances, who were no doubt jealous of her. As it involved some of the girls and myself she would not consent to stay, though she wished to do so very much, and told me with tears in her eyes when she left that she would always regard this as her home. They are both studying by themselves, and are helped on occasions with their studies by friends who know their story. The examinations at the close of the completed terms showed hard, conscientious study.

The girls in the home have been pursuing their secular studies in the Government schools. For one hour each evening we study the Life of Christ. On Sunday evenings we read stories in the Old Testament, it being too long and lonesome a road for us to attend evening services at the chapel. All the girls did well in their examinations, all but two received prizes, and one did so well she was put up a class, thus saving a whole year. Their Bible work was also very creditable.

It is with much regret I record the leaving for her own home of one of my girls. She was disobedient and unruly. We never cease to pray for her, and we know that our work for her will not be lost.

Have made self-support a special point this year. The girls have earned 6.71 yen by their own efforts. Two of the women in training have partly supported themselves by doing the housework. One other by assisting in teaching. She is now in the charity school helping Kato San in the mornings.

As you have already heard, the new building for the charity school is completed, and we are very comfortably situated. The attendance has grown considerably. The children come regularly through rain, snow or sunshine. The mothers tell us at the woman's meeting of how every day their children tell those at home of the scripture story learned in school. Just think of it, these little missionaries telling a sweet story of the Saviour's love daily.

The woman's meeting is very encouraging. The attendance has been good, and earnest attention is shown to the teaching. The three women who are already Christians have grown in faith and knowledge. They and their children attend all the meetings regularly. During the year three other women have wished to become Christians, but have been prevented by husbands and relatives. One has been forbidden to attend the meetings. All the families have been visited many times. My helper has done most of the visiting, my time being mostly occupied in the home.

The Sunday-school at this point is always good in attendance and interest. The same faces with a few new ones are always there. In the Sunday-school in our home we have an attendance varying from ten to thirty.

And now just one word concerning the Industrial Department. Have gone slowly about this. Last October I was fortunate enough to secure the services of a competent teacher in knitting, crocheting and embroidery at a reasonable salary. The girls and women immediately began work. We received some Christmas orders from friends for knitting and crocheting. Just as these were about finished the teacher was taken ill with scarlet fever, and as most of the articles had been handled by her the orders had to be cancelled. This month the teacher returned and they are all learning to embroider. After a while we hope to fill out orders for all kinds of embroidery. Am hoping and praying that at this convention you will decide to send out another lady missionary, not only to help me, but that she may be able to carry on the work when it comes my time for furlough.

In conclusion I wish to thank each and all of you for your prayers, comfort and help given so freely during the past year. May God's richest blessings attend you. We are not separated. We meet daily around the common mercy seat.

Your sister in Christ,
MARY M. RIOCH.

Aurora—This Auxiliary has a membership of 15. Contributed \$10 to the work.

Bowmanville—Membership 23. Interest good. Contributed \$25 to the work. The church took a collection of \$2.05, making a total of \$27.05.

Collingwood—Reports interesting meetings and a prospect of having a number of new members, but are sorry that some of the sisters are not interested enough to continue in the work. Membership 16. Contributed \$5.

Erin Village—Membership 17. Contributed \$20. This Auxiliary reports increased interest.

Erin Centre (Hillsburg)—Membership 11. Increase 1. Contributed \$18.50 during the year.

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