

LEAVES FROM THE BRANCHES.

N. B. AND P. E. ISLAND BAND NOTES.

Mrs. T. P., of Charlottetown, writes: I have charge of the "Earnest Workers" Mission Band, in connection with the auxiliary of the second Methodist church. I thought I would like to tell you about a very enjoyable time spent last summer. I think it nice to have a pic-nic for the children. We were wondering where we should go to have our nice time, so decided to ask Mrs. Wm. Heard to allow us to go on her grounds. She very cheerfully told us we could hold our pic-nic on her beautiful lawn. Feeling a little timid lest the children might do some harm to the trees, I scarcely knew how to accept the offer. Mrs. Heard, however, assured me that there was no danger, so we could not refuse, seeing it would please Mr. and Mrs. Heard. I write this hoping some other ladies will follow her example, now that the beautiful summer is drawing nigh. The day being fixed upon, about thirty children came, and two ladies of the Auxiliary to help me. We arrived on the grounds, and such a hearty welcome we shall never forget. Mrs. Heard amused the children with games brought from the house. Some were singing, some playing ball. The older girls were invited to go into the garden to pick berries for our tea. About 5 o'clock we spread the large table that stood on the lawn, Mrs. Heard kindly lending us dishes and also the use of her cook stove. We had the pleasure of Mr. Heard's company to tea, of which the children and larger folk were very proud. Tea over, dishes washed and packed, we formed a procession and marched to Mrs. Heard's parlors, singing as we went

"Onward Christian soldiers."

Mrs. Heard then played several pieces as the children sang. Mr. Heard led in prayer and we then went out in a very orderly way, shaking hands, and many of the dear children kissing Mrs. Heard and expressing their thankfulness for the pleasant afternoon. Who would not give the dear children such a treat, knowing that not even a cup of cold water shall lose its reward.

On the 7th of April, at Bedford, P. E. I., Mrs. (Rev.) C. H. Manaton met the young people at the home of Mrs. Ed. England and organized a Mission Band, with a membership of 32. Miss Edith England was elected President and Miss Maude Hayes Cor-Sec. The name "Sadie Spencer" was chosen for the Band.

The "Ella Dobson" Band, Woodstock, N. B., held a most successful Birthday Party early in March. Proceeds amounted to \$28.00. J. T.

MONTREAL CONFERENCE BRANCH.

L. Elliott, Cor-Sec. of the Mizpah Mission Band, Winchester, writes: Our Band is still working away as usual. We now have a membership of forty, eleven members being added since January. We hold "At Homes" occasionally, hoping to reach some in that way. We think if the members would rally and take a greater interest, and come to the help of the President, who is very energetic, our Band would make better progress. We hold our meetings once a month, and

besides the regular routine of business take up the "Watch Tower," and have a short programme. The funds raised last year were over \$35, which went to support a Chinese girl. We have not decided how we will dispose of funds this year, but we will try and send them where they are the most needed.

W. S. Cor-Sec. writes: "Daybreak" Band, Cornwall, Ont., celebrated its first anniversary by giving an entertainment Friday evening, April 24th. The programme, which was given entirely by the Band, was a most pleasing one. A collection was taken amounting to \$9.78. This is only the second public meeting we have held, but we feel quite encouraged, as there seems to be a growing interest in the Band work. We started with about 40 members and now have 60 names on the roll. We take 30 copies of the PALM BRANCH and feel that we could not do without it.

This report is a very cheering one. Our Montreal subscription list is not large. Could not our young friend, who has done so well, inspire others with his own enthusiasm? We still lack over 200 of the desired 300!

BAY OF QUINTE BAND NOTES.

Miss Myrtle C. Fitzgerald, Cor-Sec, writes: Dear PALM BRANCH,—As you have never heard from the "Cheerful Workers" Mission Band, Lakefield, I thought I would write to you to let you know what we are doing. As we have only been organized since October last we haven't had much time for work, but we have not been idle. During those few months we have made an autograph quilt, some scrap-books, and some pocket-handkerchiefs, and we also sent some clothes to Hiawatha. We held a very successful open-meeting in March, and we sent \$18.00 to the Branch Treasurer. We have many willing workers in our Band, and with willing hands and prayerful hearts our Master's work will make progress. We remain one with you in that work.

N. S. BAND NOTES.

F. C., Halifax, writes: The Mission Circle of Charles St. church was organized about a year ago with a membership of 14. Since then the interest has steadily deepened; at our February meeting 23 members were present. About 20 copies of the PALM BRANCH are taken, and we find it very helpful. Since October, 1895, we have returned \$29.05 to the treasury. We expect to hold our first public meeting in May, when we will be able to report further. The Circle feel deeply grateful to our pastor's wife, Mrs. A. C. Borden, who is the President, and to Mrs. J. Wesley Smith, for their kindly interest in us.

N. S. Cor-Sec. writes: "Stepping Forward" Band, Gabarous, held a social in the winter, at which they raised \$9.25. They have also organized a sewing circle.

"Parbar Westward" Band, Middleton, writes: At a Fancy Sale held first of the quarter the sum realized was \$13.63. Take 17 copies of PALM BRANCH, find them very helpful and enjoy the paper very much. We are now preparing for a public meeting to be held in May.