

range, I can but touch upon it. The first and best way in our immediate power, is to double or treble our membership; we can do it, if we put forth the effort, and by so doing we shall accomplish two very worthy objects. The direct influence will be to enrich our treasury, at least from five to ten thousand dollars. At the close of report, on the 15th of September, 1887, we had membership as follows:—

Central Branch,	-	-	-	2106
Western Branch,	-	-	-	1828
Eastern Branch,	-	-	-	733
Nova Scotia Branch,	-	-	-	739
Total,	-	-	-	5406

You see the effect then of doubling the membership, even without their using life members, and this is independent of all Mission Bands. The indirect influence will be of even greater importance. We all know the power that the women of this land exert, and every one that we enrol on our list of membership in the Woman's Missionary Society increases the missionary spirit in the country, and when we have the majority of the ladies in our churches enlisted in this work, giving their efforts and prayers, with the will they are *known to possess*, the difficulty of raising money will, to a large extent, have passed away. The time will be nearer when no other effort will be needed than just to say, such and such a sum is necessary to the carrying on of any kind of soul-saving work, and it will be cheerfully passed out, always providing that those who are the executives, and have the handling of the funds, are known to use them for the objects specified; because, notwithstanding all the infidelity of this age, there is, *to-day, more faith in God than in man*; and here, let me say, it remains for the rising and present generation to *cultivate and practise innate truth* and strict integrity, that the faith which was rife, even when we were children, may return. This is a side issue, but let us *live truth*.

2nd. The next best method we are using. The giving of entertainments, we are getting up to a better standard in this respect. In the past we have used some objectionable means, it is beneath the dignity of the Church of God to stoop in some way in which we have indulged, but the time is passing away in which Christians will tolerate them, and the time will come when we shall give our gold and silver without expecting an equivalent in material things, or even in mental food—but it has not yet come—so there is no reason why we should not give these entertainments of proper class. Lectures I do consider the best. Some will say that in some of our towns and cities, lectures do not take, all the more reason why we should keep bringing speakers of thought and power before the people, and even if we do not, for some time get large crowds, and only make a little money, we shall do mission work at home. Why should not we, as ladies, be doing our foreign and home work at the same time? and all over this land *elevate* the tone of thought and so train the minds of the young people that they will thirst for knowledge, and hail with delight the privilege of listening to an able lecture on either literature or science. We can raise money by this means when we have educated the people up to a higher line of

thought; and we, as ladies can *do much* towards this end. Don't let us be discouraged by one or two failures. Literary entertainments are also a legitimate means of raising money. The talents of church members, young and old, brought out in aid of the spread of the Gospel, always providing that the selections are of first-class order, and not even an *approach* toward *theatricals*.

3rd. There is a simple method of raising a number of small sums, but I do not know whether it would be practical or not. We have large gatherings at each others' homes—we have *socials* but we *are not social*, we forget how to converse. The art of conversation might be cultivated to advantage—could we have little missionary teas, going the rounds, as each lady felt inclined, inviting to her home a small number (never large), say sixteen or twenty of her friends, gentlemen and ladies, to an early tea, have a box in the hall, and as they come in let them drop in a silver offering—not more than ten or fifteen cents, so as not to become a burden. That to be particularly guarded against pleasure, and profitable interchange of thought being the ostensible object—the change thrown in—let them be understood to be missionary teas. As the number would be limited, no one could be hurt when not invited. A number of these little teas could be held at the option of the ladies themselves; no press work nor even asked about, only the change handed in at the next meeting. This is a thought thrown out in a crude way—mature it, or let die, as you think best.

4th. I could say much on the subject of self-denial in many ways. There is need, *positive* need, of *class* reform, both as to health and engagement, as well as to money; but the subject is too large to take up in this paper; it would take hours to just touch on the many evils arising from present modes. O what money we might save, how free we might be, what anxiety we might save those we love, what comfort we might have, could we but emancipate ourselves from the slavery of fashion! It remains for the Christian ladies of this country—perhaps the ladies of the Woman's Missionary Society, with means and hearts consecrated to God—to *set* the fashions, not to follow them, and let England, France, New York, etc., clothe themselves as they think fit. Why should we be weighted down by a lot of superfluous material, and so waste our money and our health, because some silly creature in France imagines such to be graceful, when the entire construction is just as far from grace as possible? The children of God should be as beautiful as they can be—are they not of the household of the King? But it should be, as far as apparel is concerned, the beauty of fit to the figure God has given us; and ten yards of material may do more toward that end than the twenty we now give our dressmakers. Just think of the waste of material to improve on the "image of God." Let us, dear sisters, pray for power to free ourselves from trammels; not to become cranks, but to walk in the liberty wherewith Christ has made us free. Let us attain unto our full stature in Christ Jesus. Let us unite all over this land for more heart consecration—for with self all given up to God, and the heart all consecrated, we can do great things—not in our own strength—O no! but in the strength of God. May He help us to rise to our privileges, so that