FOREIGN CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS.

Dear Brethren,—From the report which we herewith submit to you it will appear that the revenue for the year is largely in excess of that of any previous year. Our work, too, has taken on some features which mark a new epoch in our history. At the same time we can not but regret that our receipts are so small and our results so meagre. Our efforts are not at all commensurate with our numbers and resources. Our outlook, however has in it many signs of promise, for which we thank God and take courage.

PARIS MISSION.

Bro. Delaunay says of his work: "The mission since the beginning, to this date numbers 62 members; of whom 52 have been baptised by me, the ten others have joined us from other churches of Christ or from the Baptists. Of these 7 have died, 14 have been cut off from fellowship, 17 have moved away. Our tri-weekly meetings averages about 110. We have a flourishing Sunday-school with 7 teachers, about 100 children, besides 30 adults in the Bible-class. I have weekly meetings in four different parts of Paris, and many are searching the scriptures daily. Oh! what a rich harvest of souls we could bring to the Lord, were our churches in America putting forth their whole strength and coming to our help against the mighty. It is not by scores or by hundreds that people are ready to join our plea, but by thousands." We have long felt that the support of this mission was inadequate. At a meeting of the Executive Committee, held March 20th the following resolution was passed: "That $2,000 be appropriated for the entire expense and support of the Paris mission for one year, beginning January 1st, 1882, to be divided as follows: personal support of missionary, $1,200; expenses of mission, $800."

DANISH MISSION.

Bro. Holck, of Copenhagen, Denmark, in his report says: "Of all the years spent here, the last has been the most trying to me: first because the additions have been so few; and secondly, because I see more and more that our work must of necessity advance very slowly. There are twelve added during the year. We lost 11 by death, exclusion and removal. As long as I live I am determined to labor in behalf of the truth, but I want the brethren to know that the battle will be a long one. Besides preaching, I have published with the assistance of Bro. Coop, a paper for the past nine months. I have now 2,000 subscribers and 8,000 readers. Our Sunday-school is another good feature of our mission. The average attendance during the past month was 112. I desire a special interest in the prayers of the Convention for myself and for the Danish mission." At his own request, Bro. Holck's salary was reduced to $800. We gave him permission to collect what he could. All over $200 thus collected he is to report to us.

TURKISH MISSION.

Bro. Shishmanian reports that the war in Egypt has thrown serious obstacles in his way. His wife's health too, has been poor for some time. He is carrying on his work successfully, however, in spite of these drawbacks. There have been 36 added since his report a year ago. It is proper to state here, that the brethren in Kentucky have contributed for this mission nearly enough to support it. If all history is prophecy, as Lord Bacon asserts we may safely predict that they who have done so much already will do still more in the future. The earnest and efficient labors of Prof. McCorvey in behalf of this mission are beyond all praise.

ENGLISH MISSIONS.

Bro. Earl writes as follows: "During the year we have had many evidences of divine favor We have enjoyed peace and a steady and increasing prosperity. Our audiences have been large and attentive; and our labors have not been in vain in the Lord We have devoted much time and effort to the edification of the church, and to the development of those graces that adorn the christian character; and have been cheered with the fruit that has appeared. There have been 21 added to our number. The Lord has called 2 to himself. They were rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom. We look forward hopefully, and believe that, with the blessing of God, we shall have, in a few years, a large and influential church in Southampton" The brethren there are trying to pay off the debt on their new building. In order to aid them in this work, we agreed to pay Bro. Earl $1,000 a year for two years from October, 1882, to October, 1884.

Bro. Van Horn, writing Sept 18th, says: "There have been 67 added during the year, all but 6 by baptism I think the fact of so many being added to the church, and that we are all heartily united in the work, and that the good seed of the kingdom has been sown broadcast, that shall bring forth fruit in the future and in distant fields, ought to be sufficient encouragement, not only to us, but to our American brethren who have helped us so nobly in the past." A house of worship has been erected in Chester during the year. Bro. Coop contributed one-half of the required amount, on condition that the church would raise the other. Soon after beginning his work, Bro. Van Horn found that the amount appropriated for his support was insufficient. At a meeting of the Board, Feb. 20, it was resolved, "That the salary of J. M. Van Horn shall be $1,600 per annum, instead of $1,400 as formerly ordered, from the beginning of his services."

We have no report from Bro. Moore. He preached in the Hall until the first of May. He was invited at that time to take the pastoral charge of the West London Tabernacle for a few months. He accepted the invitation, and served in that capacity till the first of Sept. He was then installed as permanent pastor. In addition to preaching, he conducted the *Christian Commonwealth*. This journal is spoken of in the very highest terms by those who are familiar with it. Its circulation is unusually large, and it is doing much to disseminate the truth as it is in Jesus. Bro Moore in this way reaches a large class of persons who are ignorant of our plea. Great and lasting good is expected as the outcome of this enterprise. At the close of his last engagement, Sept. 1st, we offered him $1,500 for the present year, conditionally. This offer he declined.

THE LIVERPOOL MISSION.

Soon after the last Convention, the labors of Bro. Newington, in Liverpool closed. Bro. Todd, who had labored so successfully in Chester, signified his willingness to undertake the work in that city. We did not feel authorized to incur any new obligations in England; but we agreed to give him the proceeds of a special appeal to the brotherhood, in addition to $625 already pledged in England, up to $1,800. We gave him also the control of $500 already appropriated for the expenses of the hall. He accepted our offer and began work January 15. He reports 32 additions since that date. The conditions of success are so different from what they were in Chester that it has taken him some time to understand them. He feels that to be just getting into harness, and is confident that he can do a good work, if properly sustained. He asks that his mission be placed on the regular list. We call the attention of the Convention to this request and ask for counsel.

ADDITIONS.

Our reports are not as full with respect to the number added, as we could desire. We know by our records of 194 baptisms during the year. The exact number is undoubtedly larger than this; but how much larger we cannot say.

THE INDIA MISSION.

Early in the year we received a letter from Albert Norton with reference to India as a mission field, and with reference to his possibly engaging in that field under the direction of the Executive Committee. He was recommended as a suitable man to solicit funds for the Society. At a meeting of the Executive Committee Nov. 11, the following resolution was passed:—"That Albert Norton be employed for two months as solicitor of funds for the treasury of the Society, the time to be extended if necessary; salary to be at the rate of $1,000 per annum and traveling expenses."

The time was extended, and he continued in our employment until within a few weeks of his departure for India. He visited many of our churches, and spoke with great fervor on the theme so near his own heart. He secured considerable money and pledges. Perhaps his most valuable work was in instructing the churches concerning our work, and in enlisting our sympathy and co-operation. We trust that his eloquent words will continue to bear fruit till the knowledge of the glory of the Lord shall cover the earth as the waters cover the sea.

Money kept coming in so rapidly for the support of a heathen mission, that we felt justified in passing this resolution, on the 4th of February: "That we will send Albert Norton and G. L. Wharton to India as missionaries, as soon as sufficient funds are in hand for this work." These brethren were known to be men of God—full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. They were eager to go. They asked no stipulated salary. They go trusting in God, and in their brethren for their support. The Christian Woman's Board of Missions selected four young ladies to accompany them as Bible readers, and defrayed their expenses. On the 16th of September the little band, eight in all, sailed from New York. They have gone to light a candle in that continent of darkness which by God's grace, shall never be put out.

The above is an abstract from Bro. McLean's report at the general missionary meeting in Oct. at Lexington, Ky. This "Foreign Missionary Society" raised twenty five thousand dollars last year. This report will give some idea of the work. You will remember that the Society has only been in existence since 1876. How a true disciple can read this extract without seeing the superiority of those who are working thus to send "the gospel to every creature," over those who have kept their pocket books closed and spent those seven years finding fault, and doing everything in their power to break up this work. But thank God the opposition proved to be no more than a mosquito on the wheel of progress. Professed christians who stand in the way of such work as this, must pass away with this generation. The light is dawning.

HUFFY PEOPLE.

One of the oldest things to witness, if not one of the most disagreeable to encounter, is the faculty some people have of taking offense where none is meant. Huffy people are to be met with of all ages and in every station, neither years nor condition bringing necessary wisdom or unsuspiciousness. Huffiness, what seems to be self-assertion in what may be called the negative term, and which the possessor classify as a high spirit of sensitiveness, according as they are passionate or sullen, is in reality the product of self-distrust. The person who has self-respect and nothing to fear, who is of an assured social status and happy private condition, is never apt to take offense. Many and great are the dangers of action with huffy people, and you are sure to flounder into the fog with them, while you are innocently thinking you are walking on the the soliest esplanade. The dangers of jesting are, above all, great. It may be laid down as an absolute rule which has no exception anywhere, that no huffy person can bear a joke good-humoredly, or take it as it is meant. If you attempt the very simplest form of chaffing, you will soon be made to find out your mistake, and not unfrequently the whole harmony of an evening has been set wrong because a thin-skinned, huffy person has taken a pleasant jest as a personal affront, and either blazed out or gloomed sullenly according to his or her individual disposition, and direction of the wind at the time.

SOUND SENSE.

Some people say, "Oh, we know we are saved because we are so happy." It is by no means a sure evidence, for joy may be carnal, unfounded, unspiritual, Certain Christians are afraid that they cannot be in a saved state because they are not joyous, but we are saved by faith and not by joy. I was struck with the remak of Ebenezer Erskine when he was dying, and some one said to him, "I hope you have now and then a *blink* to bear up your spirit under affliction," he promptly replied, "I know more of words than of blinks;" that is to say, he had rather trust a promise of God than his own glimpses of heaven; and so would I. The word of God is a more sure testimony to the soul than all the raptures a man can feel, I would sooner walk in the dark, and hold hard to a promise of my God, than trust in the light of the brightest day that ever dawned. Precious as the fruit is, do not put the fruit where the root should be. Please to recollect that. Joy is not the root of the grace in the soul; it is the fruit and must not be put out of its proper position.—*Spurgeon.*

TORONTO, Dec. 15th, 1882.

PRESENTATION.—On Thursday evening, the 14th inst., about 40 members of old Pembrooke street church, and intimate friends of Bro. and Sister McDiarmid met at the home of Bro. James Adams unitedly to say good bye; and in order to express our love and appreciation of the labors of Bro. and Sister McDiarmid presented them with a very handsome silver service.

The removal of Bro. McDiarmid is greatly deplored by the churches of Christ in Ontario. He has done much by preaching, writing and debating to remove erroneous impressions respecting our plea, and to place prominently before the public the *primitive* Gospel, rich harvests will be gathered from the seed he has sown.

While we sorrow over our loss, we rejoice over his prosperity, and pray that our kind Father in Heaven may continue to bless Him in his new field of labor.

EDWARD POMEROY.

Mr. Gladstone, in the House of Commons some months ago, said: "We suffer more year by year and every year from intemperance, than from war, pestilence and famine combined—these three great scourges of the human family." Chark Buxton, M. P., Parliament, said: "Through intemperance there are more than five hundred thousand horses in this country (England) whose home happiness is utterly unknown; and the struggle between it and the Church, the library and the school, is one phase of the warfare between heaven and hell."

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