

We look forward with hope to the coming year's work, and trust that much more may be accomplished than during the year that has gone. The receipts have been about \$14. The Little Earners' Mission Band now has about twenty five names on the roll. The meetings have been well attended. Last Fall, after a short and severe illness, one of our most active workers, Jennie Bayne, the Secretary of the Band, was called home to be with Christ. Among her last words, she said: "Tell the Mission Band I die happy. I want them all to meet me; I shall know them when they come." She was deeply interested in the Mission at Cisamba, Africa. Last Spring, five cents was given to each of the children of the Band, to invest. Many of them expended it in seeds, and made gardens, selling the products. The result of investing one dollar was *eight* brought in by the children. The young girl who died had a bed of citrons. These were sold for \$1.25; a memorial fund to go towards buying something useful for the school at Cisamba, Africa. About \$16 has been raised by this Band during the year.

At Garafraxa, the meetings have been small, but full of interest. The letters sent to us by Miss Currie are read. Papers on mission work in India, Africa, Hudson Taylor's Mission in China, and our work in the North West, have been read and talked over; but the most precious season to me is when, on bended knee, each one petitions our Father for a deeper consecration of purpose, more personal self-sacrifice, and hearts filled with sympathy for the erring and neglected everywhere, for a continual out-pouring of the Spirit upon the work and workers, at home and abroad. We are taking *Life and Light* and *Mission Studies*. Receipts for the year have been about \$18. The Little Light Bearers' Mission Band has about thirty members on the roll, with an average attendance of twenty. We have some very active workers among the boys here, as well as in the Belwood Society. Twenty-five of the children had a dollar divided amongst them last Spring. Some invested their money in potatoes; one boy planted a bed of onions, and sold them for 50 cents; a little girl bought a spool of thread and crocheted lace, which she sold for 25 cents. Two little boys put their money together and bought a dozen eggs, which were set. They took good care of the

chickens till they were fit to sell; this brought them in 60 cents each. Some raised ducks, some picked weeds, and one little boy washed the tea-dishes for a month, earning 30 cents. Little muslin bags were given to each child to put the result of their investment in, with an account of how they had raised the money. A meeting was held in each of the churches. The entertainment consisted in singing hymns from the Missionary Hymnal, a concert exercise on Africa, and one on "Giving," and suitable recitations. Two very pleasant evenings were spent, and when the bags were being opened great interest prevailed amongst the children. The total result was about \$19 in money, and, I think, a deeper interest than ever in mission work. The Light Bearers have raised about \$23 during 1888.

MANCHESTER, N.S.

We have here an auxiliary beset with difficulties, yet holding on. One of their number writes: "We organized as a Missionary Band of four members the first night, and the membership gradually increased to twenty. Since, five have gone to the United States, and three resigned. It is a country place; the houses are scattered, and we have to walk two miles sometimes to hold our meetings. At times we have felt almost discouraged; but by God's help the work is still continuing, and we have been greatly encouraged by the letters received from the C. C. W. B. M.

Missions.

WEST CENTRAL AFRICA.

THE annual report of the American Board, just published, says this of Mr. Currie's field in Africa, and of the people among whom he labors;—

Evidence accumulates to show that this mission is providentially in possession of exceptional advantages for the building up of Christ's kingdom in Central Africa. The stations already established occupy healthy sites in the midst of a large accessible population, and lying directly on the line of readiest and most frequent communication between the coast and the interior. The language spoken by this people, and made the medium of our missionary work and the basis of a Christian literature, is widely diffused throughout the in-