

not first, a very close second. He comes from the Gannanapudi region, and with Mr. Craig's permission, I have asked him to come back in July, to assist in Bible teaching. I hope you may hear of him and his work later.

J. R. STILLWELL.

AKIDU, INDIA, March, 1893.

My Dear Miss Newman.—I wish to thank you for the share of the cards that came to Akidu. They made a great many people happy, and I am sure you will feel well repaid for all your trouble in collecting them and getting them ready to send. You must have sent a great many, for each station received some, and I thought that our share was a large one. We gave the girls their presents from Canada, one evening when the Club met, and one of your cards was given to each person there—man, woman or child, whether preacher, teacher, Bible-woman, school-girl or baby—and we have plenty left for Christmas too, I think. Some of the very large pictures or texts were given to the preachers and others, to tack upon the walls of their houses. They were very much pleased with them, and would I know, send you many salaams if they knew that I was writing to you. The school-girls were delighted with their presents from the Beamsville Band, and some others. There were scrap-books, dolls, needle-books, pencils, jackets, pen-wipers, advertising fans, bags and pin-cushions, but, of course each one did not receive one of each kind. They were divided according to their classes. The 1st and 2nd standards, received dolls, and I think perhaps they were the happiest of all. However, I do not believe they ever play with them as English children do, but send them home to be kept as curiosities and precious treasures.

I was very sorry I did not have enough to give to the Infant Standard also. We have 33 girls in the school now, and most of them are small—between eight and twelve years of age—so they require a good deal of looking after. Usually they are pretty good though, so that I am not obliged to punish them very often.

ADAH S. CRAIG.

NEWS FROM BANDS.

VILLA NOVA.—A Mission Band was organized April 15th, with thirty-eight members. Officers, Pres., Mrs. D. D. Burch; Vice-Pres., Mrs. W. W. Smith; Sec'y., Jennie Robertson; Treasurer, Ruth Barber.—**JENNIE ROBERTSON.**

HAGERSVILLE.—An open meeting was held on the evening of April 24th, the Superintendent, Miss Ida Husband presiding. The programme which was furnished by the children of the Band, consisted of music, dialogues, recitations, etc., and was much appreciated by the audience. As a result of this meeting we received a collection amounting to \$6.50.—**ESTELLA NOBBS.**

“DO WITHOUT” M. B., TRINITY CHURCH, GUELPH
—The Mission barrels were opened at the regular

meeting at the close of the Sunday school, April 23rd. The sum of \$8.50 was realized and has been sent to the Treasurer towards the support of our student in India. Our meetings are well attended, and are very interesting. We have a Roll Call and the attendance is marked at each meeting, also a “Lookout” committee which has done good work during the past years.—**CHAS. R. EVANS, Sec'y.**

BRAMPTON.—Our “Willing Workers” Mission Band is still trying to merit its name. Although of late we have had much to discourage through removals, etc., we have not failed to support our students and raise quite a little for other missions. A brief account of a very profitable and interesting public meeting we held a short time ago may be helpful to your readers. At one of our regular meetings two Captains Miss Joyce and Miss Harris were appointed and they chose sides for a Missionary Contest, on India. Judges were chosen by the Captains and a Question Committee by the Band. The sides spent about a month, under the teaching and direction of the Captains, searching for, and learning facts, about India and Baptist Missions there, giving special attention to our own Missionaries and their work. We then invited the friends of the Band to a public meeting. The first half of the programme was filled with the singing and recitation of Missionary pieces, by those who were either too small or not prepared to take part in the contest. The remainder of the time was taken up with the contest, which was a grand success. As in many other cases it would have been much better if some of the contestants had spoken much louder. After one hundred questions were asked, and nearly all answered correctly, there was a second contest of volunteered information. Each contestant was allowed one half minute in which to give as many facts as possible, that had not been given in the first contest. The latter was exceedingly interesting, sometimes as many as six facts being given in one half minute. About twenty minutes were spent in this, and then the Judges, who had each kept record, gave their decision. It was really wonderful how much information had been gained, and it gave the leader great satisfaction, not to receive one incorrect answer, as to who our own Missionaries are, and where stationed. We are indebted to the *Northern Messenger* and other papers for the suggestions that we have thus carried out.—**MRS. R. R. MCKAY.**

MONTREAL.—We organized a Mission Band in connection with the S. S. of Grace Baptist church the second Sunday in January. We started with a membership of fifty-five which has increased to fifty-eight. Ten of this number were young ladies in the Bible class and members of the church. These withdraw from the Band and join the Circle this month. Our prospects are very hopeful. Our name is Sunshine Band, and our aim to send a few bright rays to lighten up the dark places in far off India. We meet at half-past two o'clock, Sunday afternoon, once a month. After the opening exercises and business, the teacher of each S. S. class, teaches a short missionary lesson. After singing and a brief prayer, usual S. S. lesson is taught. We furnish each member with a mission barrel which is opened quarterly. The children give a programme that day. At our first opening we found \$18.63. Our funds are to support Lydia Kolagani in the school at Akidu. We also hope to give something towards the boat for Miss Stovel. The officers are Pres., Mrs. Graham; Vice-Pres., Miss Ryan; Sec'y, Albert Williams; Treas., Marjory Pros-