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The Canadian Missionary Link

ANADA

NDIA

The Gentles Shall Come To Thy Light

And Kings To The Brightness Of Thy Rising

JUNE, 1898.

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TORONTO, JUNE, 1898.

| No. 10.

Editorial.

ATTENTION is called to the item in report of Board meeting re *Special Needs*. The conference in India has sent an urgent request for two lady missionaries to be sent out this year. The Board could not respond to this appeal on account of lack of funds. Some one has offered \$500 for salary of one lady, and the Board makes an appeal for \$350, passage out. Also it is felt that a new house for our young ladies to live in, should be built as soon as possible, in Cocanada. The one now occupied is an old house, built of mud walls with thatched roof, and it is feared will not be healthy. The Board asks for contributions toward this object. Estimated cost \$2,500.

We have just received word from the Corresponding Secretary that Mrs. T. M. Harris, of Toronto, has offered \$2,500, the whole amount needed for the house for lady missionaries in Cocanada. Surely the promise is fulfilled "before they call I will answer." We praise God for Baptist women who have means, and above all, consecration which leads them to give.

REPORT OF BOARD MEETINGS.

The annual meeting of the Board was held in Bloor Street Baptist church, Wednesday, May 11th, at 10 o'clock, Mrs. Booker presiding. Thirty members were present.

The Board had hoped to have the pleasure of sending Miss Rogers out to India this fall, but after very prayerful consideration she had decided not to return to the work there. After giving her decision to the committee, Miss Rogers had applied for and been appointed to the position of "Superintendent" of the Young Woman's Christian Association of Toronto. There will be from 80 to 100 girls and young women under her care. The Rec. Sec. was instructed to write Miss Rogers, expressing the appreciation of the Board of her faithfulness while their missionary, assuring her of their continued sympathy and prayer for her in her new and very responsible position.

On Friday the first meeting of the newly appointed Board was held in the same place.

An invitation was accepted from the church at Ingersoll for the Convention to meet there in 1898.

It was decided that the salary of a Bible woman should remain the same as at present—\$25 for a trained Bible-woman.

The Cor. Sec. read the following appeal from the Conference in India:—

"Miss Stovel's furlough is due and her important work cannot be left without a successor. We now ask the home churches, through the Board, to send out two single ladies in '98 and that one of them be a qualified teacher."

Miss Elliot stated that the sum of \$500 had been offered towards the expenses of a young lady, but that the total expense for the year would be \$850 (passage and salary). Also that the sum of \$2,500 would be required to build a bungalow for the use of the single lady missionaries at Cocanada.

That the Circles at their regular meetings and the Association gatherings are requested to make it a special subject of prayer, that the regular income may be increased and these special needs provided for.

APPROPRIATIONS FOR 1898-99.

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Miss Stovel and her work | \$ 700 00 |
| Miss Baskerville (for 9 months) | 375 00 |
| Cocanada School | 700 00 |
| Zenana Work (our share) | 250 00 |
| Miss Hatch and her work | 575 00 |
| (\$100 is otherwise provided for) | |
| Miss Priest and her work | 668 00 |
| Miss McLeod and her work | 600 00 |
| Miss Folsom's salary | 500 00 |
| Miss Baskerville's passage money | 300 00 |
| Miss Simpson and her work | 487 43 |
| Bible-women on other fields | 50 00 |
| Grant to Samulcotta Seminary | 275 00 |
| Village Schools | 628 00 |
| Home Expenses | 65 00 |
| | \$6173 43 |

SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS.

| | |
|--|-----------|
| For Mrs. Chute's Medical Work | \$ 50 00 |
| (to be provided out of "Medical Lady Fund") | |
| Miss Simpson's passage back to India | 350 00 |
| (from the fund for sending out Missionaries) | |
| | \$6573 43 |

REQUIRED:—A bungalow for our lady missionaries on the new Compound, will cost about \$2,500,

Also \$350 more for the fund for the new missionary this autumn.

ANNA MOYLE, Rec Sec.

ASSOCIATIONAL MEETINGS.

TORONTO ASSOCIATION meets at Aurora June the 8th, in the afternoon.

GUELPH.—At Berlin, June 7th, afternoon and evening.

NORTHERN.—At Burks' Falls, June 16th, afternoon and evening.

MIDDLESEX AND LAMPTON.—At Poplar Hill, June 7th, afternoon and evening.

OWEN SOUND.—At Paisley, June 15th.

NORFOLK.—At Boston, June 7th, afternoon and evening.

OXFORD AND BRANTFORD.—At Park Church, Brantford, June 8th, at 2.30 p.m.

WHITBY AND LINDSAY.—At Stouffville, June 22.

THE PETERBORO' ASSOCIATION of Circles and Bands will meet at the Haldimand church on 22nd June, a good programme is being arranged, and Miss Armstrong returned missionary from Burns, will speak in the afternoon and evening. All Circles and Bands are requested to send delegates.

A. WALTON.

OFFICERS ELECTED AT THE CONVENTION.

President, Mrs. Booker; 1st Vice-Pres., Mrs. Free-land; 2nd Vice-Pres., Mrs. T. M. Harris, to take the place of Mrs. Wm. Davies, Sr., resigned; Rec.-Sec., Miss Moyle.

Miss Alexander, Miss Nichols, Mrs. Chas. Raymond, and Mrs. A. H. Newman, were re-elected on the Board.

Miss Rogers was elected in the place of Mrs. Barker—resigned.

Mrs. S. W. Barber, St. George, in the place of Mrs. Laidlaw, Jr., of Sparta.

Mrs. P. A. McEwen, Berlin, in place of Miss Scofield. The two latter changes were made on account of non-attendance, according to Article 6 of Constitution.

Mrs. Wm. Davies, Sr., was appointed a member of the Board in place of Mrs. T. M. Harris who was elected Second Vice-President.

TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL REPORT OF THE RECORDING SECRETARY OF THE W. B. F. M. SOCIETY OF ONTARIO (WEST).

Five meetings of the Board and three meetings of the Executive Committee have been held during the year, with an average attendance of twenty at the Quarterly Meetings.

At the first meeting of the newly appointed Board in May appropriations were passed for regular work amounting to \$8141.00. In view of the serious decrease in our regular appropriations and the large balance on hand the Board felt justified in making special grants from our balance; namely, two hundred dollars for the extra building at Pedapuram for the use of the lady mission-

ary and five hundred dollars additional grant to Samulcotta Seminary. Miss Elliot was appointed with Mrs. Newman and Miss Buchan to meet with the Executive Committee of the General Board. Miss Tapscott was appointed Secretary of Bands in place of Mrs. C. T. Stark, whose resignation had been reluctantly accepted at a previous meeting.

A Code of Revised Rules for the use of missionaries and missionary candidates having been prepared by the Executive Committee of the General Board, those relating to the Woman's Board were read and adopted. At the November meeting the Treasurer stated that Miss Baskerville's school buildings had exceeded by several hundred dollars the amount appropriated and there was no money on hand which could be used for that purpose. This was due to the permanent closing of the Tunj Girls' School and the extra children to be provided for because of the famine making necessary much larger buildings than had been first planned for. At the suggestion of the President some time was spent in very earnest prayer that the money might be provided. The answer came in gifts amounting to \$575.00, including \$50.00 specially designated for the "sick room," which Miss Baskerville had omitted from the plans on account of lack of funds.

In response to the united appeal of the Home and Foreign Mission Boards seventy-seven Circles held Thank-offering meetings. These Circles contributed \$565.72. Seven Bands held Thank-offering meetings; these contributed \$35.40. Total for Circles and Bands raised through the Thank-offering meetings, \$601.12. An increase over last year of \$40.72.

In May, 1897, a request came from a young lady to be sent to India. Though the application came from one who was exceedingly well fitted for the work, owing to lack of funds the Board could not consider the matter.

At the Feb. Board meeting the Cor. Sec. stated that an urgent request had come from our workers in India for two single ladies to be sent out this fall. With an almost empty treasury staring us in the face and the cry of hard times on every hand the need was so pressing the Board felt compelled to respond to the call if possible.

Ten life-members have been added during the year: —Mrs. Thos. Stovel, Mount Forest; Miss Margaret Maud Whiteside, Lindsay; Mrs. George Matthews, Lindsay; Miss Amelia S. Ellis, Toronto; Miss Lizzie Tilley, Toronto; Mrs. John Hutchinson, Aylmer; Mrs. E. W. Grove, Galt; Mrs. Wm. Somerville, sr., Hamilton; Mrs. G. W. Mann, Gilmour Memorial Church; Miss McColl, Hamilton.

One life-membership cancelled during the year, leaving the total list now 192.

Again the angel of death has entered our ranks and we feel the loss sustained by the Society in the death of our sister, Mrs. Welter, of St. Thomas, Director of the Elgin Association from its formation.

Mrs. Welter was one of those quiet workers always to be depended upon because "the love of Christ constrained her."

We miss her familiar presence in our Convention this year, still we rejoice that as those in the front of the battle against sin and idolatry in distant India lay down their work another steps forward to fill the vacant place.

Respectfully submitted,

ANNA MOYLE, Rec. Sec.

TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COR-
RESPONDING SECRETARY OF THE WOMEN'S
BAPTIST FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY
OF ONTARIO (WEST).

Twenty-two years ago the Baptist women of this province banded themselves together to carry the Gospel of salvation to the women and children of heathendom, especially to the women of our own mission among the Telugus. Their enthusiasm was great, and their work steadfast. Success crowned their efforts. Year after year the Board was able to report at the Annual Meeting additional interest in the work, increased offerings and new work on the field undertaken. The growth was steady until 1894, when the circles reached the number of 213, and the income of the Society amounted to the sum of \$8,421.72. Since that time, although God has wonderfully blessed the work in India, no advance has been made by us in the home land. This year, however, we are thankful to say that things are becoming more hopeful, 200 Circles having reported to the Treasurer as against 191 last year, while 18 Circles that gave nothing to Foreign Missions last year have made returns this year, and of 9 Circles that did not report during this year 2 have sent offerings since the Treasurer's books were closed.

The Associational statistics are still in several cases at variance with the amounts sent to the Treasurer, Guelph being the only Association in which the monies credited to each Circle tally with the Treasurer's statement. In six Associations every Circle has reported. We hope that next year complete returns will be sent from every Circle and Band to the Associational Director by the first week in April, so that she in turn may have her report in the hands of the Secretaries before the close of April.

Fifteen Circles have been organized, or re-organized, during the year. Seventy-nine Circles have increased their offerings, but about 80 have fallen off. We are yet far from the penny-a-week from every Baptist woman for Foreign Missions; only 4 Circles have reached that standard. There are 12,735 women in Church fellowship reported this year, and only 3,823 contributors; but in four of the small churches there are more contributors than women in the church. The question of how to gain these women in our churches who are half-hearted or utterly indifferent is still a problem. Paul says, "In every thing, by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God." We know that the hearts of all are in God's hands; so let us bring these women to Him in earnest believing prayer.

The returns from many of the Associations show that the Director has, "with all her might," done her work "as unto the Lord."

For the first time in our history we are called upon to record the removal by death of one of our Directors, Mrs. Emily Welter, of Elgin Association. Long after her frail body was weakened by disease she continued the loved work, which she had carried on ever since the formation of the Association, and only gave it up a little while before Jesus took her to be with Him, where there "shall be no more pain," but loving, unwearied service for ever more.

Prayer Union.—"Without Me ye can do nothing." A few members of the Board have met on the last Thursday afternoon of each month during the year for prayer and conference. As in these busy times one is in danger

of forgetting the pledge proposed by Miss Hatch on October 16th, 1894, just as she was departing for India, and adopted at that time by many, we here repeat it:—"We, the undersigned, do band ourselves together to pray for missions, and we agree to endeavor to remember each day at 12 o'clock, to offer up a prayer, silent or expressed, to Him who hath said, 'Ask of Me and I will give thee the heathen for thine inheritance and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession.' We also agree to endeavor to induce others to join our Union."

Miss Marion Clevesha, Port Hope, who is Secretary of the Union, reports that there are now 432 members, 12 of whom have joined the Union during the past year.

"The fields are white already to harvest, PRAY ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that He will send forth laborers into His harvest."

Volunteers.—One young lady has during the year offered herself to the Board for service in India. She has taken a course of training in Boston, Mass. Others have written for information as to the preparation necessary for a single lady missionary. Hitherto the funds of the Society have not warranted the Board in taking any decisive action in regard to these cases.

OUR MISSIONARIES.

Miss Rogers has done good service in visiting and speaking to many Circles during the year.

Miss Simpson expects to return soon to her loved work among the Zenanas of Cocanada. We hope she will be able to meet with a number of our Circles before she leaves for India.

INDIA.

Miss Hatch has been laid aside by sickness more than once during the year. When we remember that for several months she was the only resident missionary on that large field, that there was an outbreak of cholera, and in her loneliness the anxiety of caring for the sufferers was added to the already too great strain upon her, can we wonder that her strength gave way? Rather let us thank God that He allowed no worse "evil to befall her."

While attending Conference in December, Miss Priest was stricken with fever, which laid her aside for several weeks. During her convalescence a period of rest at Akidu was of much benefit to her. Last March Miss Baskerville was seized with fever, and for a short time was unable to attend to her duties. At last accounts she was recovering.

CHANGES.

Miss Murray, the missionary of the Women's Board of East Ontario and Quebec, has taken the oversight, during Miss Simpson's furlough, of the work for women and girls in Cocanada.

At last the school buildings in the new compound are occupied by the Cocanada Girls' School, and Miss Baskerville is rejoicing in the more convenient and commodious rooms which have been completed; but there is a good deal more yet to be done. The sick room as well as the widows quarters for which the money has been provided are to be built. Illness, and the overseer having been busy with repairs on the old compound have caused the delay in these. A wall around the girls' yard and houses for the teachers have yet to be provided for. We hope the money for these will very soon be forthcoming.

The Board has accepted the support of Miss Folsom.

the devoted Principal of the Timpany Memorial School. In order to do this it was necessary to deduct \$500 from the grant to Samulcotta Seminary.

Ever since Zenana visiting was commenced in Cocanada, Mrs. De Beaux has been one of our faithful workers, but it became necessary to reduce expenses, and not being at all strong, she retired from the work.

The Manitoba and North-West Mission Board having assumed the support of Mr. and Mrs. Davis, our Board has now the pleasure of numbering Miss Priest among its missionaries. To undertake her support a further reduction of \$500 was made on the grant to Samulcotta.

Last July Miss McLeod entered upon her work at Paddapuram.

Miss McLaurin has been appointed to the work at Vuyyuru, left vacant by Miss Murray's removal to Cocanada. This leaves the important fields of Yollamanchili and Narsapatnam without any single lady missionary.

COCANADA FIELD.

Population, 125,000 ; Villages, 61.

WORK AMONG THE WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

Miss Murray writes : After spending the first five and a half months of the year in Vuyyuru, I came to this part of the vineyard in June. Here I found a band of workers " whose hearts God had touched," and for whom I have thanked Him more than once.

Of these, my fellow laborers, Miss Gibson and Miss Beggs have worked on uninterruptedly throughout the year. I value them highly as co-laborers and as sisters in Christ. Miss Beggs has a peculiar gift for work among children, her great love for them enabling her to be patient with their trying ways, while the girls of the "Caste Girls' School" speak enthusiastically of what the "Sunday Missamma," as they call Miss Gibson teaches. I am the every day "Missamma." Mrs. De Beaux, whose connection with the work was severed in June, still maintains an interest in it, and being possessed of a true missionary spirit, often visits her former houses, where she is always welcomed.

(Of her Bible women Miss Murray writes : Miriam has, as heretofore, accompanied Miss Beggs in her visiting. Together they have made weekly visits to a neighboring village, where good results have followed, and a children's meeting has been regularly conducted.)

Mahalakshmi has worked throughout the year with but few interruptions, and has the privilege of attending one of Miss Baskerville's morning Bible classes. She gives evidence of being led by the Spirit into fullness of blessing.

Cassie. — Family cares have, during the past few months, more or less interrupted her visiting, nevertheless she has done faithful work near her own home.

Chinamma is a new Bible-woman. An account of her call to the work will appear in an early number of the LINK.

CASTE GIRLS' SCHOOL.

The number of names on the roll at the end of 1897 was 60. The average attendance for the year has been 35. During the cholera epidemic many of the children were not permitted to attend the school, as the sight of corpses being carried to the burning ground frightened them. As usual the children were examined at the end of the

year by Mr. Kasrakao, and twenty-one promotions were made. The Scripture lessons have been full of interest, and I have no doubt that some of the children are trusting in Christ. Some of these girls are exhibiting a bold missionary spirit, even inquiring of those whom they meet on the street if they love Jesus. The Sunday School, under Miss Gibson's superintendence, has been carried on as usual. Miss Murray has found Sara an intelligent and capable woman. In Lakshamma's school the number on the roll is 25, and the average attendance 13.

On Sunday School day these two schools, together with the other five schools of the town met in the chapel, where an interesting service was conducted by Mr. Lafamme, who delivered an address from the words, "I am the Door," illustrating it by pictures from rolls sent from Canada. A variation in the exercises was made by the recitation in unison of a text and the singing of a hymn by each school. Miss Murray writes : The impression made upon the Caste children will, I trust, be lasting. I was delighted to find that a number of them could afterward repeat all the texts, remember all the hymns and much of the address.

The Sunday Schools which have been kept up throughout the year are the two Caste Girls' Sunday Schools, the others having been discontinued before my coming here.

A Children's meeting in one part of the town has been started, and kept up during the past six months.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|------|
| Number of visits during the year..... | 1863 |
| " " " listeners..... | 6354 |
| " " " houses visited..... | 292 |
| " " " visits made to villages..... | 92 |
| " " " listeners in villages..... | 1663 |

Many of the women enquire eagerly for Miss Simpson and her return.

Pray much for me and also for my workers.

ZENANA VISITING.

Mrs. De Beaux reports the first four months of '97, and mentions several interesting cases. The old blind woman of whom she often wrote, and who for four years had always given her a glad welcome, was after many weeks of intense suffering, laid to rest. Her trust in Christ was never very bright, but she loved to listen to the singing of hymns, and her cry was "Lord, save, I perish!" "Son of God, have mercy!"

Miss Gibson. — During the first half of the year Miss Gibson visited 58 out of 62 houses opened to her in Cocanada, and reached with the Gospel 400 different women. In the latter half year she visited 64 houses, 3 of which are new, and reached 200 women.

Early in the year a great bathing festival near Cocanada gave Miss Gibson a grand opportunity to preach the Gospel. The women attending this festival made it their business to visit the town, and on being asked why they bathed in the Godavary, said it was only an excuse to visit Cocanada, see the missionaries, and hear their good words, for, with the exception of one village, no lady missionary had ever visited them. These women listened most attentively to the Gospel message. The subject of reconciliation to God having a special interest, because they thought that the famine was a token of God's anger on account of their sins. So earnest did they become that after talking amongst

themselves they agreed in the wish that the government would abolish idol worship, and the temples might be destroyed, for then, they said, all the people would turn to worship the true God, and God would bless the land.

Miss Gibson writes that in most of the houses in Cocanada the women have listened well. The very first house opened, in Miss Frith's time, 1884, is still visited by Miss Gibson. The inmates have changed; but the former one, who is fairly well educated, and who lives with her husband in a distant home, where her cruel mother-in-law often makes life a burden to her, can still find comfort in reading her Bible and in corresponding with Miss Gibson. Occasionally she visits her old home, her chief pleasure being in meeting Miss Gibson once more.

The present inmates of this house were at first opposed to hearing the Gospel, but have been won through a girl of the family who attends the Caste Girls' School.

Miss Beggs visited during the first half year, 55 houses, and during the second half year, 56 houses. She reports the past year one of great blessing, "blessings beyond what was expected or hoped for," for which she returns thanks to God. She writes, "We can see in many cases a real interest in the Word of God, we do believe that the Spirit of the Lord is working in the hearts of many of the women, and we are trusting that some will soon confess the Lord openly.

Seven young women are studying the "Life of Christ," in which they are very much interested, and often with tears in their eyes speak of His love to sinners. Some have found the Saviour. Three have memorized the 5th of Matthew, and are now learning the 6th Chapter. Some of the women have bought their own New Testaments, so that they may learn about Christ. One bought one for her daughter, and asked Miss Beggs to give her regular lessons.

Miss Beggs finds village visiting interesting and very encouraging. Here she has a class for the little ones. Thirty to forty ragged children attend. They are trying to learn Telugu hymns. "All put on such bright faces and sing these hymns most heartily, without paying any attention to time or tune." They are also memorizing portions of the Telugu 1st catechism.

Miss Beggs concludes with the prayer that in the coming year the Lord may be with and bless them even more; making them more faithful, more useful and more full of peace.

COCANADA GIRLS' BOARDING SCHOOL.

Miss Baskerville reports a very busy year. A rest of some weeks in Ooty forming, a very pleasant and necessary break. On her return journey the heat was the most intense she ever experienced, and lasted until it began to rain about the middle of July. Regarding her work she writes, "The famine prices had been pinching us for a full year, but the pinch grew tighter when the number of girls increased by twenty or so. People in the northern fields who had never cared for education, wanted to send their girls to be fed and clothed, and under the circumstances it didn't seem right to refuse to take them. It seemed to be one way of helping to bear the burden of the famine, and there was a prospect of getting into the new buildings where the space for accommodation would be sufficient. Had there been no other financial embarrassments—caused by the building work—it wouldn't have been so hard. But there were times when there was no money and no

rice, and for the first time in my life I bought paddy on credit in the bazaar." In her extremity some of the other missionaries, from private funds, others from famine funds, sent help amounting to over seventy dollars. "But," she continues, "help from home is needed too, for we have been doing without a good many things. You may be sure that when we were hard pressed for money for food, we did not spend money for any thing that could possibly be done without. Brass water pots are leaking, some of the lamp stands are past any further repairing, the supply of blankets and carpets for sleeping has run very low, and some of the older girls have mended their quakas over and over again until they are past mending too.

The most joyous event of the year was our moving up here early in December. India and the work look different ever since. It is such a comfort to have proper class-rooms, and so much more room for the girls! The one "fly in our pot" is that the appropriations have not covered the cost, but the generous way in which friends at home have contributed to clear off the deficit has gladdened my heart. God answered prayer. Praise His name!

This year one little orphan girl died—always delicate—she had a long tedious illness, followed by convalescence and the hope of going to Sunday school and church the next day; but God had a greater joy for her. After an hour or two of very severe illness, at midnight on Saturday He took her to be with Him. Miss Baskerville says, "Those who supported little Matti Grace will be glad to know that she is safe with Jesus now. She loved to sit in my lap when I went to see her, and her testimony was bright and clear from the first; she wasn't afraid to die, and the sweet smile on her little dead face was beautiful to see."

The statistics are:—In the Boarding Department at the beginning of the year, 70; admitted during the year, 27; number in the Boarding Department in December, 84. The day scholars on the rolls numbered 41—boys 25, girls 16. Out of 62 who tried 38 passed at the annual examination, and of the 12 who tried the Primary Examination one passed the complete test, eight others passed in the compulsory subjects, and one passed in the compulsory subjects and one optional.

"Nalli Sarah (known to her supporters in Canada as Lillie Grimshy) was married on New Year's Day, '97."

"Four girls professed conversion and were baptized."

"All the classes have been carried on as usual; one morning Bible class had an attendance of six outsiders during the greater part of the year."

"The Sunday School work, especially the class for women, has been very encouraging."

TIMPANY MEMORIAL SCHOOL.

Miss Folsom.—Until July, '97, the bulk of Miss Folsom's time was devoted to literary work or secular teaching. This she regretted, but says, "There was a life to be lived daily in the boarding school under my care, especially the girls', so that although I did sometimes mourn that so much time had to be given to secular work, still I could see that there was much in it all that would tell for eternity for weal or for woe." In July and August the staff was strengthened by more and better qualified teachers, thus enabling Miss Folsom to give twice as much time to Bible work. Ten days of special meetings were held, God's blessing rested on the effort. Many

professed conversion, among whom were five of the school girls and one day pupil. Miss Folsom writes: "These have by their change of life and growth in grace, proved that they were 'born again.' The girls hold daily noon-prayer meetings among themselves, and have been faithful in distributing tracts and leaflets, both Telugu and English. They have organized a Mission Band of sixteen members, and are quite interested in studying up mission work all over the world, and in gathering money for the Band. This they earn by doing odd jobs of work for any one who will give them any thing to do. Nearly all our girls and boys are members of our Total Abstinence Society, and they keep their pledge though often tempted to break it."

From the beginning of the year Miss Folsom has given almost the whole of her time to Bible work and now teaches the whole school daily, dividing it into five classes. "Two of the girls, who have passed the highest standard in the school, are taking a special course of instruction to fit them to do mission work. They study the Bible, Telugu, Method, and Missionary Literature. They will also accompany the Zenana workers occasionally as they go to visit zenanas and villages."

Miss Folsom asks our prayers for these girls and for all the Christians, that they may shine very brightly into the darkness by which they are surrounded, and in conclusion says: "I feel most grateful to those who made it possible for me to give my time to the teaching of God's word. It is a continual feast to me."

Seminary Students.—Mr. Latham writes: "These are the potential factors in the war, the raw materials out of which the Lord is working up men for the enterprises of His kingdom. The Woman's Board has helped five of the eight young men and boys from this field at the Samulcotta Seminary during the past year. One of these has graduated honorably from the Theological department and is now stationed at Coringa, a small town 10 miles south of Cocanada—a Christless and Christless region."

Books and Tracts.—Old and New Testaments, Gospel portions and books and tracts have been sold during the past year. 5000 handbills have been distributed, 1200 Messengers of Truth, 370 copies of the White Ribbon (the organ of the W. C. T. U. for all India), and 120 sermons of the Spurgeon Memorial Sermon Society have been circulated. One Hindu gentleman was found who had read 200 of Mr. Spurgeon's publications. He gave these sermons a hearty welcome.

Village Schools.—These number six. Four of the teachers were the wives of preachers, who for 70 cents a month taught a class of eight or nine little ones from four to five hours a day, the three R's, the word of God and some simple Christian lyrics. These little schools form the nucleus of as many little Sunday schools. They are such a power for good that now the very best class of young men coming into our church are from the very boys who, 12 or 15 years ago, were little naked students in the veranda schools in different parts of the town.

AKIDU FIELD.

Population 100,000; Villages in which the Gospel is preached, 131.

Miss Stovel writes:—"It is a pleasure to-day to take a backward glance over the work of the year, that others may be led to glorify the Lord with us."

Through her Bible women—Sota Maryamma, Lizzie,

Shantamma, Annamma, Deborah and Ellamma (the account of whose work was published in the May number of the LINK)—in village after village the 'old, old story' has been told to the heathen women, some of whose hearts have been so enlightened by passages of Scripture which they have been taught that they have openly confessed Christ in baptism. The Christian women have been well grounded in the Word. Miss Stovel reports: "In Akidu every house of every caste except the Komatis and the Brahmins is open to us and we have now a larger number of Brahmin houses than ever before. The features of the year's work worthy of special mention are:

1. The daily meeting (all through the hot season) of the Christian women of Akidu, for studies in the Epistles.

2. The prominence given to sale and distribution of Scripture portions. With the thought of making them attractive to Telugu eyes, the Gospels were gotten out in the brightest of bright red, yellow and green covers. Three hundred copies of these sold rapidly and 400 copies, this time of Luke and Acts of Apostles only, are now on the way. The ten commandments were gotten out in handbill form, in red ink, and several other portions of scripture in handbill and pamphlet style were secured and distributed, and in distributing these there is great satisfaction. One feels that one is indeed sowing the seed.

3. The new Sunday-school in a little village near to Akidu, the expenses of which is paid by a member of the Akidu church. There are now four Sunday-schools for heathen children, with an average weekly attendance of 170. At the next quarterly meeting the Akidu church will probably assume the support of the three Akidu schools.

4. The temperance charts. Mrs. Chute and I together secured these and they have been a great help in the temperance meetings.

5. The Kollair Lake trip. This was a long one—42 days—and was what this missionary counts a successful tour. The eighteen days spent in the Gannanapudi region will not soon be forgotten. Never were women's meetings better attended; never did Christian women seem more in earnest in their desire to go deeper into the blessed Word. And we felt that we really knew our Telugu sisters in those villages as never before. The remainder of the trip was spent among the fisher folk on the islands in the lake, and everywhere, without exception, good hearings were the order of the day. In one village the women bade us teach them to pray. Two years ago these same women would simply have none of us or our message, and had gone so far as to throw mud over us.

In other villages the women begged us to come again in the evening, and we found that after the evening meal was over they would sit for hours in the moonlight, listening. In a village on the edge of the lake we found Sudra women so familiar with the Word that they would ask for the passages they wished to hear—the birth of Jesus, His crucifixion, the raising of Jairus' daughter. And as we read they commented on its being word for word the same as the Christian teacher and his wife read from their book. Altogether the trip was a happy one.

Number of visits made during year, 3934.

" " Women's meetings, . . . 130.

" " Children's " . . . 99.

Seminary Students.—One good fellow from Akidu has graduated and entered upon regular work in a village on Colair Lake where he was working during vacation. His wife has taught school and done good work. Another graduate is among Mr. Chute's most helpful men. The best of the theological students from this field died the day before Christmas.

Village Schools.—Mr. Chute reports twelve village schools, with an attendance of about 124 boys and 33 girls.

The teacher is expected to shepherd the Christians of his own and generally of another village, and to conduct the Sunday worship. The dense ignorance and poverty of the people is a serious obstruction to the school-work. A boy of 8 or 10 years old will, if a chance offers, of earning 35 cents a month, be taken from school to attend cattle.

Books and Tracts.—1250 books and tracts, 6 Bibles, 2 Old Testaments, 3 New Testaments, and 147 Bible portions have been sold. The colporteur, although sick a part of the year, has distributed a large number of leaflets and done some evangelistic work. Mr. Chute has not had money enough to push this work as he would like.

TUNI FIELD.

Population, 132,000 ; Villages, 250.

Miss Priest writes:—In looking back over the work of the year, there have been many things to encourage. Each year the deep need becomes more apparent, and at the same time one's own utter inability to accomplish anything apart from Him.

There has been increasing interest in the message, and our hearts are encouraged to believe that there are those whose hearts are being opened to attend to the word spoken.

Quite a number of villages new to me were visited during the touring season, and in every one we found those who showed special interest. How one longs to be able to visit such hearers often. In several instances they bought a Gospel and will get their little boys to read them to them. That is encouraging, as the Holy Spirit can use the printed page.

In one small village, nearly all the women gathered quickly out of curiosity, but almost as quickly scattered to their work, quarrelling, etc., except two or three. One woman sat down close in front of us, and how she listened! After talking about 1½ hours, she said, "It's just as if I had eaten a good meal." We left, praying that God would cause the good seed to grow in her heart, and glad to find such a hearer. So many listen, hoping that in some way they may gain some earthly good, and there are times when the heart grows weary. But one woman who listens as though she is heart hungry, more than repays.

Work amongst the Children.—Only two Sunday-schools besides the station-school were kept up regularly, but quite a number of children's meetings have been held.

The Christian women's weekly prayer-meeting has been a time of blessing to us. Also, the monthly meeting of our Women's Society promises to prove helpful in leading our Telugu sisters to realize more than they have, that they also have a share in the growth and prosperity of the church, and that Jesus expects each one to be helpful to those about them. Days on tour, 61.

Miss Priest's Bible women are: *Martha, Atchamma, Ma Laksmi, Krupavarti, Susie.*

Seminary Students.—During vacation Mr. Priest had two students employed, one in evangelistic work and one in school work. The latter succeeded in gathering a very fair school.

Village Schools.—This has been perhaps the least encouraging feature of the Tunji work. The cause may be lack of suitable buildings, in some cases absence of buildings of any kind; the poverty of the people, especially during the past year of famine when school was out of the question if the opportunity of earning a dub or two was offered; besides, village schools are not yet properly appreciated on the Tunji field, and there is a lack of efficient teachers.

Books and Tracts.—Mr. Priest says these messengers of truth are silently yet surely accomplishing their mission. They often enter where neither missionary nor preacher may. During the past year there has been a marked increase of interest in this branch of the work.

A gratifying number of gospel portions have been sold.

RAMACHANDRAPURAM FIELD.

Population, 250,000 ; Villages, 200.

Miss Hatch writes: "In the beginning of '97 Miss MacLeod and I made two tours, the last of which was abruptly terminated by an attack of muscular rheumatism which seized me suddenly on March 22nd, the day we took possession of our new and beautiful boat, the "Elizabeth," and which did not leave me altogether until about the middle of May after I had been in Coonoor about a month. On these tours we were accompanied by Sarah and Miriam, two of our Bible-women, and by D. L. Josiah, my student, and one trained for over a year in the use of simple medicines and in dentistry by Dr. Smith. Much work was done, for we generally went off in three directions. Miss MacLeod taking one Bible-woman and I another, while a neighboring preacher or teacher would join Josiah, who, with his medicine chest and forceps, won his way by his uniform kindness to high and low, and by relieving pain in so many ways.

Our pictures, too, were a great attraction. These are illustrations of the S. S. lessons used at home, which I have mounted on cloth and sewn together in sets of five or six, each set generally illustrating some special subject. For instance one set illustrates "The Birth and Childhood of Jesus," another "The Miracles," another "His Humility and Passion," another "His Trial and Resurrection." The Bible-women have learned thoroughly the stories of these pictures and tell them with wonderful effect. Many hyans, too, recount these stories and are sung at appropriate times.

On Sundays, and occasionally, on the evenings of the week, we would all meet with the Christians in some central place, and have stirring and enthusiastic times which we believe were blessed to us of the Holy Spirit. During the first three months also the women's training school was being carried on, but Lydia the teacher was not proving very satisfactory, and the school has since being closed. However, *Veeramma*, who was in the school for the time it was open, is now one of my best Bible-women. *Kantamma* who has gone to her own village, has become very active there in Christian work, being now able to read her Bible and to teach the other women Bible verses. Another day pupil, a poor woman, learned how to sew and is able to save much because she

can make up the few clothes she has for herself and children and can mend and patch them. Two other women went to their own villages, and though not in the school long enough to learn how to read, they have been much helped, I believe, by the little stimulus they received while here. Lydia, the teacher, has now opened a school among the Panchaneas in a village where there are no Christians, and she and her husband, who used to be my boat-puller, have gathered together a school of thirty pupils. They are now waiting for Government recognition, which, if they receive, they will be well paid. Not only this, but Lydia has made friends with some of the caste people of the town and on my visit there this year, '98, I was delighted with the reception they gave me, the women of the Zemindar's court and of other well enclosed houses, having called us and treated us in a royal fashion.

The boat "Elizabeth" was floated on the 22nd of March 1897. Of this "floating palace," as it has been called, I must write a separate account, but I wish here to express my thankfulness to the Giver of all Good, who prompted one of His own to make such a liberal grant for the carrying on of His work, and for the comfort and joy of all those who may ever enjoy the privilege of touring with her.

On June 19th, after being in Coonoor for a season of rest, Miss MacLeod and I returned to our work here, and after about a month spent in visiting the houses of Ramachandrapuram and near villages, in giving Bible lessons, and in carrying on our two Sunday schools and weekly women's prayer-meeting, the time came for me to part with Miss MacLeod, who had been my loved companion and co-worker for upwards of a year. The work at Peddapuram seemed to cry so loudly for a helper that I felt I would only be selfish if I kept her any longer, and though she would have been quite willing to stay with me until I should find relief, I feel sure she was glad to take up her own appointed work at Peddapuram. To this place I accompanied her on July 22nd, and started from there on tour. From this time until the middle of September, I suffered many reverses both from waiting on others who were ill and from being ill myself. I never knew a time when sickness prevailed so generally. During those two months the Hospital Assistant's visits to the Compound were very frequent, and he is only called, in very serious cases. My Bible women during this time reported scarcely any work done and it was during this time that two of the school-boys in Peddapuram were carried away by cholera and when cholera attacked some in both Cocanada and Samulcotta boarding schools. God mercifully preserved our lives and the lives of the workers on this field, so that although many suffered from various illnesses, none were removed.

The last three months of the year were months of glad service. On one tour Miss Priest accompanied me, and on another, Mrs. Debeaux, while the third was made alone with my Bible-women. We had blessed times in many places, found open houses in new villages, and felt that the Lord was with us to bless us and do us good.

The Conference, meeting on December 12th, after much prayer and seeking of special guidance from Him, the One who set apart Paul and Barnabas for their special work, recommended to the Board the appointment of Mr. and Mrs. Davis to the work in Ramachandrapuram. Good-byes were then said to Mr. Walker, who had been to me in all respects like a brother, considerate, thoughtful and kind, and welcomes were given to the new and yet old friends, Mr. and Mrs. Davis. So my time of probation was over. To God be all the praise!

Seminary Students.—There are quite a number of lads from this field in the Seminary. Their vacations have been spent in teaching, and in one or two cases in preaching. Their work has been generally satisfactory. From a humble beginning, the boys are expected to work up, proving themselves step by step and gaining practise and knowledge for more responsible work.

Village Schools.—These constitute one of the strongest parts of the work on this field. Here the parents take a degree of interest in the education of their children, with an excellent staff of teachers a compact field and an interested class of Christians, the schools flourish.

At the Christmas examinations, conducted by Miss Hatch, 65 per cent. of the children in the nine principal schools passed. In some cases all the children were successful. A number of the teachers are devout and enthusiastic workers, whose teaching of spiritual things is taking hold of the hearts of their pupils. It is hoped that such schools will soon prove to be centres of spiritual power and blessing.

Books and Tracts.—This field contains a much larger reading population than Peddapuram, and has a very good colporteur, through whose agency most of the sales are made. Through the missionary, the colporteur, and other workers, thousands of tracts have been disposed of, no doubt the promise accompanying the sowing beside all waters, will find due fulfilment in the blessed results for which we hope and pray.

PEDDAPURAM FIELD.

Population, 240,000—Villages, 200.

Miss MacLeod entered upon her work on this field in the latter part of July, "since then," she writes: "I have been in Peddapuram with the exception of twenty-three days spent on tour to the surrounding Christian villages. Have made about one hundred and fifty visits in Peddapuram, going often to some houses, and only once or occasionally to others. Many have heard and seemed to understand the message given, but as yet the only harvest has been words—poor satisfaction—when deeds are hoped for, and particularly so with a people who so easily say, 'Our gods are empty things, our worship in vain, and who so readily yield to their superstitions when the impulse which prompted them to speak in that way is past, and again bow down and worship 'the gods which see not, neither understand.'"

Having no trained helper in her work, Miss MacLeod has taken as her assistant Achamma, who has been with her ever since she came to India.

Miss MacLeod further reports: "When on tour I saw eighteen Christian villages, and visited about forty caste houses. Usually I went in the morning to some Christian village from two to six miles from the bungalow or my tent, as the case might be, saw the Christians there, made their acquaintance, learned their names, and what other facts I could in a short time, and then talked about Jesus to them, and the people who usually gather around in crowds.

This done I came back to my tent for food and rest, and in the afternoon went into the village where the tent was pitched, to tell any one who would listen, the message of truth.

There is only one Bible-woman, *Nayamma*, on all the Peddapuram field, and she cannot read, so her power of helping others is very limited, but she has used her one talent and has been the means of bringing several to a knowledge of the one true God and our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Pray that our need in this regard may be supplied speedily, for there are many here who have not heard, or hearing have not understood the way of life."

Seminary Students.—These, although few in number, give promise of making useful workers. One has done evangelistic work with a preacher. Two lads have taught school, and one student has for the present, in order to support his father who was formerly one of the best preachers but is now laid aside, been obliged to leave his studies and teach school.

Village Schools.—The school in Kandrakota, taught by Ratnamma, formerly one of the best Bible-women, and the school in Jagampetta, taught by Peter, have done fairly well. The others have not been satisfactory. The parents are not interested, the field is so scattered, and the villages containing more than half a dozen Christians are so few and far between.

Books and Tracts.—Mr. Walker says: "These silent messengers go forth on their errand freighted with our prayers. They are distributed by the missionary, the teachers, preachers and colporteurs. The weekly market held in Peddapuram on Sunday, affords a grand opportunity for such work. A few English reading Hindus have subscribed for a monthly paper called *Progress*."

YELLAMANCHILI AND NARASAPATNAM.

Population, 150,000.

Villages, 250.

Population, 175,000.

Villages, 300.

These fields are without any lady missionary.—Dr. Smith's report.

Bible Women.—*Sarah*, of Narasapatnam, is a very faithful and efficient worker. In August she fell ill and 'for a time it was feared her earthly career was finished,' but after several weeks she recovered sufficiently to resume her work. She reports unusually good hearings, and one conversion.

Anamma, who is just as faithful but not so intelligent, works away in Darnasagam; she wields a large influence for good in her neighborhood.

Minnie has, owing to the dismissal of her husband, been 'lost to the work, so *Salome* is working alone, but we hope will soon be joined by *Elizabeth*, the wife of the new preacher.

Seminary Students.—During vacation two have been of use, both are very earnest though comparatively ignorant men; they are taught of the Spirit, so that their words have a power which commands attention.

Village Schools are still in their infancy on these fields.

Books and Tracts.—25 Bibles or New Testaments, 322 Bible portions have been sold; 377 booklets and over 4000 tracts have been distributed, and there has been a monthly circulation of 64 religious papers.

VUYURU FIELD.

Population, 150,000. Villages, 300.

The work for women on this field is supported by the Women's Board of East Ontario and Quebec, Miss McLaurin being in charge. The following items of the general work have been undertaken by our Board and are reported by Mr. H. E. Stillwell:

Seminary Students.—Four were employed. One greatly revived a lukewarm congregation over which the missionary was almost in despair. A second wrought so well that a village which heretofore has had the vacation service only, asked for a permanent teacher, saying they would support him. They have kept their promise. A third started so great a work that it was thought inadvisable to send him back to the Seminary when vacation expired. Forty-four have been baptized since his coming. The fourth man was also a blessing.

Village Schools.—There are fifteen on this field. In

one school eight out of eleven children and in another twenty out of twenty-five recently passed the Government examinations; other schools are expected to do equally well. In villages having schools the most intelligent Christians are found. These schools also furnish the basis for the very best Sunday school work, and there is probably no greater agency for uprooting caste.

Books and Tracts.—Having no colporteur, very few sales have been made. Some 1500 tracts and 800 copies of Messengers of Truth have been distributed. All over the field there is a growing demand for literature. Of the value of this work Mr. Stillwell testifies: "Where the human messenger of God is met with idle argument and sometimes scorn, the silent paper messenger wins its way unsuspected."

BANLUCCOTTA SEMINARY.

Mr. Stillwell reports the past year better than any year since he has had charge. Six students graduated: three were sent out with partial courses, and six from the Literary department. Several or all of these latter may return for theological training. In all, some fifteen students have gone out from the school, nearly all characterized for great earnestness and showing real spiritual growth and equipment.

The men in the graduating class were a pleasure to teach. They manifested a steady desire that their spiritual appropriation should keep pace with their mental apprehension of the truth.

Two of those sent out from the Literary department were markedly separate from their fellows in their very manifest spiritual growth and development. They will leave their impress upon their own people and be leaving influences for good.

These fifteen were distributed as follows: Two to Vuyuru, two to Akidu, four to Ramachandrapuram, three to Cocanada, two to Tuni, one to Narasapatnam, and one to Anakapilli.

God has been very graciously present with us and has richly blessed us during the year. This is in answer to the prayers of those who are supporting this very important work. Will it not also induce still more earnest, persevering and importunate prayer that God will pour out His Spirit in ever increasing measure and power upon all the Seminary that from this place may go out in continually larger numbers, evangelists, teachers and pastors to this needy Telugu people.

The present senior Theological class numbers seven, and gives promise of splendid work. The entire school is in good condition and all, teaching and taught, are giving satisfaction.

CALL FOR MORE WORKERS.

A call has come from the Conference held in Cocanada last December, for two new ladies to be sent out this year. More than a year ago Miss Stovel requested that a lady be sent out at once, so that she might learn the language, become familiar with the Akidu field, and be ready when Miss Stovel has to come home, to take her place. What shall we do with these requests? It is ours to decide. The time has come when we must *Go forward*—God claims our help. The call comes to us as it did to the women of Israel long ago,

"God's Tabernacle, by His pattern made,
Shall fail of finish, though in order laid,
Unless ye women lift your hands to aid.

Yours is the very skill for which I call;
So bring your cunning needle-work, though small
Your gifts may seem; the Lord hath need of them."

"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

JANE BUCHAN.

THE WOMEN'S BAPTIST FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF ONTARIO (WEST).

Treasurer's Twenty-Second Report, from April 30th, 1897, to April 30th, 1898.

ELGIN ASSOCIATION.

| Name. | Circle. | Band. | Other Orgaz'n. | Total. |
|---------------------------|----------|----------|----------------|---------|
| Aylmer..... | \$ 66 00 | \$ 17 00 | | \$83 00 |
| Calton | 24 25 | | | 24 25 |
| Gladstone | 28 40 | | | 28 40 |
| Lakeshore Calvary | 53 75 | | | 53 75 |
| Malahide and Bayham | 19 50 | | | 19 50 |
| New Sarum | 16 05 | 13 00 | | 29 05 |
| Port Burwell | 19 09 | | | 19 09 |
| Shedden | 12 60 | 1 20 | | 13 80 |
| Sparta..... | 9 84 | | | 9 84 |

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------|---------|--------------------------------|----------|
| St. Thomas..... | 69 54 | | { Junior Y.P.S.C.E. } 27 00 | 96 54 |
| Association Collection..... | | | | 2 50 |
| 10 Circles. 3 Bands. | \$319 02 | \$31 20 | \$27 00 | \$379 72 |

GUELPH ASSOCIATION.

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------|---------------------|--------------------------------|----------|
| Acton..... | \$ 4 00 | | | \$ 4 00 |
| Brampton..... | 10 00 | 12 50 | | 22 50 |
| Cheltenham..... | 26 97 | 3 60 | | 30 57 |
| Galt..... | 33 63 | B.Y.P.U. | 15 50 | 49 13 |
| Georgetown..... | 7 40 | 4 00 | | 11 40 |
| Guelph, First Ch..... | 38 23 | | { Junior Y.P.S.C.E. } 17 00 | 55 23 |
| " Trinity Ch..... | 25 00 | 17 00 | | 42 00 |
| Hespeler..... | 14 92 | | | 14 92 |
| Hillsburgh..... | 10 85 | | | 10 85 |
| Nissouri, East..... | 5 55 | | | 5 55 |
| Preston..... | 6 30 | | | 6 30 |
| St. Mary's..... | 11 00 | { Girls' } 17 00 | | 28 00 |
| Stratford..... | 19 00 | | | 19 00 |
| Association Collection..... | | | | 80 |
| 13 Circles. 5 Bands. | \$212 85 | \$54 10 | \$32 50 | \$300 25 |

HAMILTON ASSOCIATION.

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------|--|---------|----------|
| Freelton..... | \$ 1 75 | | | \$ 1 75 |
| Hamilton, Herkimer St..... | 6 00 | | | 6 00 |
| " James St..... | 73 90 | { W. B. Class, } { B.Y.P.U., } 8 50 } 17 00 } | | 99 40 |
| " Victoria Avenue..... | 27 50 | | | 27 50 |
| " Wentworth St..... | 17 35 | 12 00 | | 29 35 |
| Westover..... | 15 25 | 5 00 | | 20 25 |
| Association Collection..... | | | | 2 54 |
| 6 Circles. 2 Bands | \$141 75 | \$17 00 | \$25 50 | \$186 70 |

MIDDLESEX AND LAMETON ASSOCIATION.

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|---|----------|
| Ailsa Craig..... | \$ 16 50 | | | \$ 16 50 |
| Bridgen..... | | \$ 5 64 | | 5 64 |
| Brooke..... | 22 10 | | | 22 10 |
| Brooke and Enniskillen..... | 5 10 | | | 5 10 |
| Calvary..... | 17 50 | | | 17 50 |
| Courtright and Moore Centre..... | 8 00 | | | 8 00 |
| Denfield..... | 14 50 | 2 50 | | 17 00 |
| Forest..... | 8 62 | { Sen. 3 10 } { Jun. 2 30 } | | 14 02 |
| Lobo..... | | 13 46 | { Ladies of } { Ch. & } { Con. 5 00 } | 18 46 |
| London, Adelaide St..... | { 76 52 Y.P. 22 50 } { 25 00 Jun. 7 82 } | | | 131 84 |
| " " Y'g Ladies..... | 7 25 | 5 50 | | 12 75 |
| " Egerton St. Y'g Ladies..... | 21 58 | { Sen. 8 00 } { Jun. 2 40 } | | 31 96 |
| " Maitland St..... | 32 20 | 11 00 | | 43 20 |
| " South..... | { 81 90 } { 1 46 } | 12 53 | Y.P.S.C.E. } 2 50 } | 98 39 |
| " Talbot St..... | 4 00 | | | 4 00 |
| Mount Brydges..... | 7 95 | | | 7 95 |
| Park Hill..... | 36 40 | 8 50 | | 44 90 |
| Petrolas..... | 8 00 | | | 8 00 |
| Plympton..... | 4 00 | | | 4 00 |
| Poplar Hill..... | { 37 80 } { 1 00 } | 7 29 | | 46 09 |
| Sarnia..... | 12 50 | | | 12 50 |
| Sarnia Township..... | 24 50 | | | 24 50 |
| Strathroy..... | 15 16 | { Sen. 3 69 } { Jun. 2 53 } | | 21 38 |
| Wyoming..... | | | | 4 13 |
| Association Collection..... | | | | 4 13 |
| 24 Circles. 16 Bands | \$489 52 | \$118 76 | \$7 50 | \$619 91 |

NIAGARA ASSOCIATION.

| Name. | Circle. | Band. | Other Orgaz'n. | Total. |
|-------------------------------|----------|---------|-----------------------------|----------|
| Beamsville..... | \$17 50 | | | \$ 17 50 |
| Binbrook..... | | | { Ladies' } { Aid 3 00 } | 3 00 |
| Cayuga, North..... | 3 50 | | | 3 50 |
| Dundas..... | 13 00 | \$ 8 50 | | 21 50 |
| Fonthill..... | 3 50 | | | 3 50 |
| Grimsby..... | 18 00 | | | 18 00 |
| Port Colborne..... | 12 00 | | | 12 00 |
| St. Catharines, Lyman St..... | 16 95 | | | 16 95 |
| " " Queen St..... | 38 00 | | | 38 00 |
| Thorold..... | 3 00 | | | 3 00 |
| Windecker..... | 2 00 | | | 2 00 |
| Association Collection..... | | | | 2 35 |
| 10 Circles. 1 Band. | \$127 45 | \$8 50 | \$3 00 | \$141 30 |

NORFOLK ASSOCIATION.

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|----------|--------------------------------|----------|
| Bloomsburg..... | \$ 13 00 | | | \$ 13 00 |
| Boston..... | 40 00 | \$ 14 00 | { S.S. Class } { 4 50 } | 58 56 |
| Charlottesville Centre..... | | 2 00 | | 2 00 |
| Cheapside..... | 5 65 | | | 5 65 |
| Decewsville..... | 7 25 | 50 | | 7 75 |
| Delhi..... | 8 75 | 17 50 | | 26 25 |
| Hagersville..... | 5 00 | | | 5 00 |
| Hartford..... | 13 00 | 2 00 | | 15 00 |
| Houghton, First..... | 12 10 | 5 00 | | 17 10 |
| Langton..... | 4 00 | 1 00 | | 5 00 |
| Pine Grove..... | 7 25 | | | 7 25 |
| Port Rowan..... | 5 25 | | | 5 25 |
| Round Plains..... | 9 75 | | | 9 75 |
| Selkirk..... | 2 75 | | | 2 75 |
| Simcoe..... | { 17 00 } { 6 50 } | { 6 00 } | | 19 50 |
| " Young Ladies..... | | 6 00 | | 6 00 |
| Townsend Centre..... | | 6 00 | | 6 00 |
| Villa Nova..... | 14 92 | | | 14 92 |
| Victoria..... | 4 00 | | | 4 00 |
| Waterford..... | 27 70 | | { Jun. B.Y.P.U. } { 19 00 } | 46 70 |
| Association Collection..... | | | | 3 00 |
| 18 Circles. 9 Bands. | \$193 87 | \$54 00 | \$23 56 | \$274 43 |

NORTHERN ASSOCIATION.

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|---------------------------------|--|----------|
| Barrie..... | \$ 22 83 | \$ 17 00 | | \$ 39 83 |
| Bracebridge..... | 5 00 | { Y'g Ladies' } { Jr. 6 00 } | | 21 00 |
| Burk's Falls..... | 5 15 | | | 5 15 |
| Doe Lake..... | 2 00 | | | 2 00 |
| Fort William..... | 20 00 | | | 20 00 |
| Midland..... | 2 00 | | | 2 00 |
| Parry Sound..... | 2 30 | | | 2 30 |
| Port Arthur..... | 8 00 | 17 00 | | 25 00 |
| Sault Ste. Marie, First Church..... | 7 00 | | | 7 00 |
| Stayner..... | 6 26 | | | 6 26 |
| Stroud..... | 3 55 | | | 3 55 |
| Association Collection..... | | | | 3 05 |
| 11 Circles. 4 Bands | \$84 00 | \$50 00 | | \$137 14 |

OWEN SOUND ASSOCIATION.

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------|--|----------|
| Bay View..... | \$ 1 00 | | | \$ 1 00 |
| Burgoyne..... | 3 00 | | | 3 00 |
| Daywood..... | 14 00 | | | 14 00 |
| Durham..... | 5 00 | | | 5 00 |
| Elderslie..... | 5 00 | | | 5 00 |
| Flesherton..... | 2 70 | 1 57 | | 4 27 |
| Keady..... | 5 00 | | | 5 00 |
| Meaford..... | 3 00 | | | 3 00 |
| Owen Sound..... | 30 00 | 26 00 | | 46 00 |
| Paisley..... | 21 75 | 17 00 | | 38 75 |
| Sullivan..... | 3 85 | | | 3 85 |
| Warton..... | 5 00 | | | 5 00 |
| Association Collection..... | | | | 4 50 |
| 12 Circles. 3 Bands. | \$89 30 | \$44 57 | | \$138 37 |

OXFORD-BRANT ASSOCIATION.

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|---|----------|
| Beachville..... | \$ 10 38 | | | \$ 10 38 |
| Brantford, Calvary Ch..... | 29 75 | \$11 50 | | 41 25 |
| " " First Ch..... | 500 00 | | { Junior } { B.Y.P.U. } { 25 00 } | 538 50 |
| " " Young Ladies..... | 13 50 | | | 13 50 |
| " " North Star..... | 7 50 | 5 25 | | 12 75 |
| " " Park Church..... | 78 00 | 12 50 | | 90 50 |
| Brownsville..... | 8 00 | | | 8 00 |
| Burford..... | 29 54 | | | 29 54 |
| Burgessville..... | 13 25 | | | 13 25 |
| Burtch..... | { 22 15 } { 17 00 } | { 13 25 } { 3 04 } | { 13 50 } | 48 90 |
| Gobles..... | 17 00 | | | 20 94 |
| Ingersoll..... | 17 02 | 2 45 | | 19 47 |

Work at Home.

THE WOMEN'S BAPTIST FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF ONTARIO (WEST.)

Receipts from April 16th, to April 30th, 1898, inclusive.

FROM CIRCLES.—Hagersville, \$3; Preston, \$1.05; Port Burwell, \$3.00; Onondaga First, \$5; Bloomsburg, \$13; Grimsby, \$6; Selkirk, 50c; Toronto, (Immanuel Ch) \$19; Bailieboro, \$3.70; Brantford, First Ch., Y. L., \$13.50; Glamis, \$5.24; Ridgetown, \$7.18; Wheatley, \$4.11; Bethel, \$5.59; Bracebridge, \$3; Bleenheim, \$5.50; Guelph, First Ch., \$11.09; Sparta, (95c. Thank-offering) \$4.84; St. Thomas, (\$4.28 completing the life-membership fee for Miss McColl) \$16.00; Plympton, \$1; London, Adelaide St., 92c.; Strathroy, \$10.50; Toronto, First ave., \$4.25; Thamesville, \$2; Dundas, \$8; Dresden, \$1.60; Parry Sound, \$2.30; Poplar Hill, \$4; Kincardine, \$4. Total \$170.25.

FROM BANDS.—Peterboro', Murray St., (\$21.12 for Totu Mary Ann) \$21.82; Toronto, Immanuel Ch., \$2.37; Bailieboro, \$1.60; Brantford, Calvary Ch., \$11.50; Hartford, \$2; Toronto, Beverly Ch., \$2.30; Goodwood, for Nedimalli Subhamma, \$2; Houghton, First, \$5; Langton, \$1; Clinton, \$1.50; Sheddin, \$1.20; Ingersoll, \$2.45. Total \$54.74.

Galt B.Y.P.U., for Garikemukkula May \$8.50; Mrs. D. G. Barbour, Dodge Center, Minn., \$2.25. Total \$10.75.

Total Receipts during the 15 days, \$235.74

DISBURSEMENTS.—To General Treasurer, Extras from Mount Forest Circle, Dr. Smith's Hospital, \$2.65; Bolivia Mission, \$6.35. Total Disbursements, \$9.

Total Receipts during the year, \$7,129.13. Total Disbursements during the year, \$7,525.25.

77 Circles and 7 Bands reported Thank-offerings to the amount of \$401.12.

VIOLET ELLIOT,
Treasurer.

109 Pembroke St., Toronto.

(CORRECTIONS.—In the last list the item from "Toronto (Jarvis St.) M. C. \$20.75," should read \$20.78; "Toronto (Maitland St.) \$4.93," should be \$4.98; West Toronto Junction M. C., \$3.52," should read \$3.82.

V. E.

Work Abroad.

CHINNAMMA'S CALL AND WORK.

Miss Murray writes, "One of the most re-assuring experiences of the past six months has been in connection with Chinnamma, a widow of the Madiga caste, whom Miss Simpson placed in the Boarding School some years ago to be trained as a worker. That Miss Simpson was spirit led in this matter is now manifest.

David prayed, "Let Thy work appear unto Thy servants," and God certainly has done so in the case of Chinnamma, the relation of which properly belongs to Miss Baskerville, as she has certainly been instrumental in preparing for service one who bids fair to be a useful worker.

A few days after my arrival in June and before the

opening of the Boarding School, Chinnamma came to me and so tremulously and earnestly begged to be permitted to enter active service for the Master. "Why should I remain longer in the Boarding School? I can read, and I am so afraid that if I do not commence work soon I shall receive no reward. (She had accompanied Miss Simpson to the Zenanas once or twice a week previous to this.) My holidays have been spent in preaching the gospel in the Poddapuram field, where, in company with Larshimiah, (the man converted through the tract, of whom Mr. Walker has written,) I visited thirteen villages. In one village when the "Munsiff," or head man, heard that I had come, he sent for me and seated me upon his verandah where I preached to a number of caste women." This was her plea, and it was so evidently at the prompting of the Spirit that I dared not refuse, so that at the end of six months, though not at mission expense, she has been engaged in proclaiming the gospel for a half of each day only, as Miss Baskerville wished her to continue her attendance at the morning Bible classes until the course upon which she was entered was completed. She has during this time lived in her brother's family where she has daily conducted family worship. Matthew and a part of Luke have been read. On one occasion a niece who was visiting in the house positively refused to bow at prayer or take any part whatever in the exercises and remained lying on her cot. Strangely enough she was that day attacked by cholera, which was interpreted by all to be the direct judgment of God upon her for her conduct in the morning.

Only last Sunday Chinnamma with shining face headed a procession of three to the table at the front of the church where the monthly contributions were being deposited. The other two were this once refractory niece, who, by the way, recovered from the cholera a wise young woman, and her sister-in-law who had that day made her appearance at church. The brother also was present, and all three are for the first time showing deep interest.

"God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; and base things of the world and things which are despised hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not to bring to nought things that are; that no flesh should glory in His presence."

This has been, and is being literally fulfilled in this dear woman's case, for she now accompanies me to the zenana inmates of which are of high social standing, as Hindoo society goes. She had told me frequently of a "new house" and wishes me very much to see it. An opportunity presented itself and I went. I found Chinnamma's pupil to be a little Komite girl of perhaps ten years of age, a former pupil in our Caste Girls' School

where she had learned to read, but who had been removed by her parents upon the occasion of her marriage. Whether at the child's request or not I cannot tell, but the relatives had one day called Chinnamma to the house and committed to her this child to be taught and even requested her to begin with prayer. There and then in that heathen home prayer ascended to God for the dear girl.

Upon the occasion of my visit soon after our entrance, teacher and pupil were seated upon the same mat, their garments almost touching!! This lovely sight thrilled me through and through. The teacher, formerly an outcast, and now a despised Christian and a widow—truly the weak, base and despised—, the pupil, a sweet graceful maiden of one of the highest castes; one engaged in teaching, the other in learning of the Christ. I was pleasantly surprised to find that six stanzas of a hymn had been mastered. The mother and grandmother looked on with the greatest interest encouraging the child to persevere.

Just a word to illustrate the quickening of conscience which takes place when the spirit of truth dwells within. Chinnamma came to me one day and with troubled face asked for an interview. Some caste women in one of our houses had one day teased her to tell what her caste had been before she became a Christian. Being ashamed to say, she in a moment of weakness said her parents had been Christians which was false and which did not satisfy her questioners who insisted that they belonged to some caste before they became Christians. Again heeding the voice of the tempter she replied that they had belonged to the "Telugalu" one of the great middle castes and considered respectable. Her peace had left her and she wished my advice. There was nothing to be done but to go to the women and confess, which she did.

THE LIGHT BEARER'S HYMN.

BY MRS. DANIEL LOTHROP.

(Written for the Children's Missionary May Festival).

Tune, "Ring out the Bells of Heaven."

High above the world of sin, and fear and woe,
Shines the blessed, holy light divine;
On each earthly path it falleth here below,
Light and life to daily intertwine.

Chorus.

Savior! in this light we walk with Thee,
Savior! till Thy glory we shall see.
Shine through us, Thy children, into many a heart,
Showing forth to all, the love Thou art.

Far beyond the seas, in regions dark and drear,
Hidden from the light and joy of day,
Little children live in darkness, sin and fear,
Seeing not one happy golden ray.

Chorus.—Savior! in the light, etc.

We would send, O Savior, rays of blessed light
To these darkened, helpless lauds of sin;
Light that burst asunder bars of blackest night,
Letting life, and hope, and glory in.

Chorus.—Savior! in this light, etc.

In Thy name we send the Holy Book for Thee,
That children there its heavenly beams may greet
To shine upon the darkness that lies across the sea.
A glowing, golden lamp unto the feet.

Chorus.—Savior! in the light, etc.

W. B. M. U.

MOTTO FOR THE YEAR: "We are laborers together with God"

PRAYER TOPIC FOR JUNE. For our young ladies on the mission field, that the power of the Holy Spirit may accompany their labors.

For our Associations; that the blessing of the Lord may attend every session.

By the time this issue of the LINK reaches our readers, preparations for our Associational gatherings will all have been made.

The N. S. Western meets in Milton, Yarmouth County, on Saturday, June 18th; our meeting of the W. B. M. U. on the afternoon of that day.

The N. S. Central meets in Hantsport, our W. B. M. U. on Saturday afternoon, June 25th.

Dates of the N. B. meetings have not reached us. But Sisters, let us come to these gatherings in the spirit of prayer and true consecration.

The "St. John City" which reached Halifax on Monday morning from London, G. B., had as passengers our veteran missionary, Rev. G. F. Churchill and wife.

A telephone message reached us too late to allow of being on the wharf to greet them, but they were found at that rendezvous for Baptists—the "Book Room."

The voyage had been unpleasant and Brother and Sister Churchill were pretty well wearied. Let us hope this homecoming may be a rest to them in every sense of the word. Eleven years have passed since Mr. Churchill returned to India. Twenty-three years in all he has spent on the Foreign fields, engaged in that hardest of all work, pioneer work.

But bright days are coming, the seed sown is springing up, and the harvest to be reaped will be a glorious one.

The Evangelical Church has the following extracts from a speech by the Hon. S. H. Blake delivered before the Woman's Auxiliary of the Dioceses of Toronto. The words apply to all workers.

"Let all such work be considered as a privilege, for in it, they who take part are co-workers with the Master. Let everything be done for His glory, and in dependence upon His strength. Let this be a working principle, an ever present reality, consecrating the work and controlling all its methods." Most timely was Mr. Blake's protest against the shows and entertainments by which money is extorted from unwilling pockets, and people are deluded into the belief that these worldly expedients constitute the grace of liberality. The Christian Church ought to take a decided stand against all such unworthy ways of obtaining money by which worldliness is brought into the Church and people are educated into a self-loving and selfish life. Let the true principle be insisted upon—"freely as ye have received, freely give." The only genuine liberality is that which is prompted and sustained by the spirit of self-sacrifice.

Mr. Blake urged that one important duty of the Auxillary was to collect the facts to set forth the actual necessities which have to be met. People want to know the real condition of things in the diocese, as well as in the foreign field. They will not give blindly not knowing to what objects their gifts are to be devoted. They cannot be interested without abundance of information, accurately and invitingly set forth. Let us beware of the optimism of ignorance, the self-satisfaction of selfishness which is blind to the great and crying needs of men. Compare the vast sum spent on useless luxuries or hurtful indulgence with what is given to missions. Compare the drink bill with the income of our missionary societies. Think of five hundred millions voted for the Cuban war. What untold blessing would even a tenth of that sum have brought to those spiritually destitute and to the needy and suffering! In our own diocese the Auxillary has raised \$10,000, a paltry seven or eight cents from each member of our Church. It ought to make us blush for very shame. Surely, there is need of more reality, more intensity of purpose, greater devotion in our work.

A MISSIONARY PLEA.

"You have never stood in the darkness."—Words used by a Red Indian chief as he pleaded that to him and his people might be sent the "white man's Book."

"You have never stood in the darkness,"
And reached out a trembling hand,
If, haply, someone might find it
In the awe of a lonely land,
Where the shadows shift so strangely,
And the quick heart-beat is stirred,
If only the leaf be rustled
By the wing of a passing bird.

"You have never stood in the darkness,
And said good-bye to the wife,
The little child, or the mother,
Who have sat in your house of life,
And knew not where they were going,
As birds who cross our sight,
Flitting within from the darkness,
Flitting without to the night.

"You have never stood in the darkness,"
When soul after soul went by
In the mighty rush of a battle,
Where kinsman and comrade die;
And something says they are living,
Although we behold them prone,
With eyes that stare out blindly,
As yet shall do our own.

"You have never stood in the darkness,
You do not know its awe;
On your land a great light shineth,
Which long ago you saw.
For the light of the world we ask you,
We plead for the Book which shows
The way to win to His footstool,
Which only the white man knows."

Oh, voice from out the darkness!
Oh, cry of a soul in pain!
May it ring as the blast of clarion,
Nor call God's host in vain!
By the pierced hand which saved us
Let ours do their work to-day.
Till from those who tremble in darkness
The shadows are swept away.

VIRIANAGRAM.

[Many readers who do not take our monthly visitor, "Tidings," will yet be glad to read the letter we republish from Mrs. Gullison in the May number.]

My Dear Sisters,—Again the privilege comes to me of addressing a few words to you through *Tidings*. Would that I could meet you all in your monthly gathering. Then you could freely question me in regard to such subjects as are of most interest to you, and I could as freely answer. How much more satisfactory it would be! However, through letters received from members of different Societies—I have an idea of what questions you would ask.

Perhaps the first would be, "How are all the Missionaries?" I think, generally speaking, we are enjoying better health than last year at this time. The Lord has graciously spared Mrs. Corey to us. Although she is not yet strong, her health has wonderfully improved. We cannot be thankful enough for this. Mrs. Archibald is also feeling better than she did last year. However, the condition of her health, even now, will not warrant her staying on the plains during the hot season. The others, with the exception of Mr. and Mrs. Churchill, are well. The time is drawing near when we must bid these veteran workers farewell. We are sorry that they must go from us. But it is best that they should. We pray that their health may be so restored after a year or two spent in the home land, that they may be enabled to return to us, and their much loved work again.

We have had a delightfully cool season; better than has been experienced for years. But now there is a change. The weather is getting very warm. Soon we will be sighing for a good Nova Scotia breeze. We hope to escape some of the intense heat this year. There is a hill, not far from Parlikimedy, which the missionaries have named "Nova Scotia." Mr. Corey and Mr. Gullison are uniting in erecting a little house there, for a shelter during a few of the hottest weeks of the season. So, if all goes well, by the time this letter reaches you, we will probably not be in need of as much of your sympathy as those who are living 4,000 feet below us.

Another question a great many ask, is, "What does India look like?" Well, sisters, I haven't seen a great deal of the country, not even all of our own field. But what I have seen is pretty. The trees are rich in foliage, even when the ground is parched and dry, and not a green blade of grass is to be seen. The stately palm, the wide spreading banyan, the shady mango, and many other trees, the names of which I do not know, beautify the land the whole year through. But when the rainy season comes, the whole country is a charming picture.

The far stretching fields with their varied shades of green; the fresh water, filling the rivers, overflowing the tanks, and flooding the paddy patches; the beautiful flowers and plants; the sharp peaked hills dotting the landscape, are so many touches of the Divine Artist, all uniting to remind us of His love, wisdom and power.

Then again this question comes to us: "How do you like the people?" We can thank the Lord for giving us some love in our hearts for them, although many are very unlovable. Sometimes I think if our feelings were analyzed it would be found that we had more pity than love. The people seem to have so little to live for. The lower classes work hard from morning until night—and if at the beginning and close of the day, they have enough food of the coarsest kind—no rice, for that would be too expensive—to satisfy the pangs of hunger, they lie down on the bare mud floors of their stived up little huts, and sleep until it is time for them to go to work again. Not even one little ray of sunshine, brightens their wretched lives. Of the God of Grace the Saviour of Love, the Spirit of Comfort, they are woefully ignorant. And the saddest fact is they are willingly ignorant. The great majority seem satisfied with idolatry. They do

not want to be disturbed from their sleep of death. Yet Christ died for them. And we believe it to be His will that the comfort of the gospel be unto them, as well as unto us. Oh how it would take away the bitterness from their cheerless lives, if they knew a real, living sympathizing God. It certainly is not God's fault that their life and death is thus hopeless. Dare we say, sisters, it is not ours.

But what are the higher classes like? There is no class of people on the face of the earth as conceited as the Brahmins. They seem to say with each step they take "We are the people." Our munchis are Brahmins. They come to the Mission House to teach us in the morning. After they take leave they go to the tank and bathe. Then putting on different clothing, they are prepared to enter their homes. The clothes they wore at the Mission House are put away where no one need touch them. And why do they do this? Simply because they think by coming in contact with us they are defiled. One day I made some cookies. Thinking Mr. Gullison would like to sample them, I put a few on a plate and took them to his study. Wishing to be polite, I offered them to the munchi. He laughed and said, "I cannot touch them." I asked why. He answered, "Oh your cook made them, and we don't eat anything made by outcast people." I informed him that my cook had nothing to do with them, and that I made them myself. "But," says he, "I cannot eat them," and upon my inquiry as to the reason, he informed me that though my cook had not made these, he had made other things that I had eaten, and therefore it would defile him as much to eat what I had made as it would if the cook had made it. Don't you pity your poor unclean missionaries, sisters! Ah! the Brahmins are a haughty, proud lot. But their pride must have a fall. The day is coming when Brahminism, the mighty bulwark of Hinduism, must come to the ground. My munchi told me, not long ago, that government positions are now given to Christians in preference to Brahmins, even though the Brahmins are better educated. A cheer for the progress of Christianity, sisters.

Now I think this is a good place to close my letter. If I have written too much please write and let me know. We would be glad to get letters from you all. Praying Heaven's richest blessing upon you as you labor together with Him, I remain
Yours and His,

NETTIE B. GULLISON.

March, 1898.

STATEMENT OF MONEYS RECEIVED BY THE TREASURER,

During Quarter ending April 30th, 1898.

| | F.M. | H.M. | Total. |
|---------------------------------------|----------|---------|----------|
| Received from Nova Scotia W. M. A. S. | \$103 76 | 8174 69 | \$738 45 |
| " " " " Mission Bands | 78 77 | | 78 77 |
| " " " " Sunday Schools | 84 57 | 12 25 | 46 82 |
| " " " " New Brunswick W. M. A. S. | 359 38 | 100 84 | 550 37 |
| " " " " Mission Bands | 16 39 | 4 00 | 20 39 |
| " " " " Sunday Schools | 25 72 | | 25 72 |
| " " " " P. E. Island W. M. A. S. | 02 09 | 21 60 | 118 69 |
| " " " " Mission Bands | 22 39 | | 22 39 |
| " " " " B. Y. P. U., Nova Scotia | 9 00 | | 9 00 |
| " " " " Junior Union | 5 60 | | 5 60 |
| " " " " Donations | 6 00 | | 6 00 |
| " " " " Tidings | 11 71 | | 11 71 |
| " " " " Annual Reports | 8 85 | | 8 85 |

Dr.

\$1037 00

| | |
|---|---------|
| Paid Cor. Sec., postage from Sept., 1895. | \$ 7 58 |
| " Printing Bur. Lit. Catalogues | 2 59 |
| " Pro Sec., New Brunswick | 15 00 |
| " " Nova Scotia (postage) | 5 00 |
| " County Secretaries | 1 75 |
| " Printing Tidings | 7 25 |
| " J. W. Manning, Treas. P. M. B. | 1300 25 |
| " J. Richards, " G. L. M. | 102 11 |
| " J. B. Titus, " N. B. H. M. | 121 60 |
| " H. E. Sharpe, " N. W. M. | 101 19 |
| " A. Cohoon, " N. S. & P. E. I. | 104 05 |

\$1864 28

MARY SMITH,

Treas. W. M. A. U.

May 4th, 1898.

FROM OUR AID SOCIETIES AND MISSION BANDS.

THE W. M. A. Society of Mount Hanley, Ann Co., N. S., organized a Mission Band on Nov. 19, 1897. The number enrolled is seventeen. President, Miss C. I. Rumsey. Secretary, Miss Edith D. Armstrong.

MRS. KINLEY writes that a Mission Band was formed at Wine Harbour, Guys Co., in March, with nine members. President, Mrs. John Kennedy; Secretary, Miss Maggie Kennedy.

WE welcome all these new members to a share in the privilege of learning about the promised Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ, and also to the privilege of winning souls for that Kingdom.
Prof. S.

SYDNEY, C. B.—A letter from Mrs. Arnold Severance a few weeks ago brought the good news that a Mission Band had been organized at Fourchu, on the 15th of March, with thirteen members. A nice letter from their Secretary yesterday gives me some further particulars. The Band has chosen the name of "Cheerful Givers." Officers: President, Mary L. Severance; Vice-Pres., Laura B. Cann. Secretary, Frances M. Severance; Treasurer, Mary T. Severance. The membership has increased to seventeen, and more are expected to join at the next meeting. Both boys and girls belong to the Band. The meetings are held once a month, and they say they like them so well they wish they came oftener. The children have chosen as their Leader, Mrs. Arnold Severance, through whose efforts, I believe, the Band was organized, and who is entering very heartily into the work. May the Master's richest blessing be upon her and all the officers and members of the Cheerful Givers Mission Band.
SADIE HARRINGTON.

GASPÉREAU.—I am sorry that your very interesting letter has remained so long unanswered. Our Superintendent read it to the Mission Band, and our hearts rejoiced to hear of so many coming to Jesus in poor benighted India. How encouraging this must be to the missionaries there. Our Band progresses favorably. We meet the 2nd Sunday in every month, and our meetings are usually very interesting. Membership seventy-one, about forty of these are children. Quite a number of the parents are members, and frequently encourage us by their presence. I fear that we do not contribute as freely as we might to the cause of missions, and think we must devise some way of doing better. During the year we have contributed to Foreign Missions, \$8.22. Our present Superintendent is Mrs. Freeman Coldwell.
ETHEL HUNTER, Sec.

NORTH BROOKFIELD.—I notice by Tidings your request to "Mission Bands," and as we have made a change in our officers, will send the addresses. Pres., Mrs. G. C. Crable; Sec. Treas., Miss Maud Freeman. Name of Society "Hopeful." Our Band seems to be doing good work, all are deeply interested in the work, and we hope to show our interest by sending more into the Treasury this year than ever before. We hold our meetings on the 1st Thursday afternoon in each month. At our last meeting we told in rhyme how we earned our dues, it was very helpful to the children, giving them an idea of what they could do by a little self-denial and push. We would like to hear from other Bands. I think it would be a good plan for Bands to correspond; tell each other our modes of work, and thereby increasing our zeal. We are trying to realize the importance of the work, and to impress upon their youthful minds this thought, that God wants the children to work for Him, for they are the hope of the future.

MRS. A. G. MORTON.

Mr. HANLEY.—On November 19, 1897, the Mt. Hanley Mission Band was organized by members of the W. M. A. S. of the Mt. Hanley Baptist Church, a branch of the Middle-town Church. The number of members enrolled is at present seventeen. The Pres., Miss C. I. Rumsey; Sec., Miss Edith D. Armstrong.

EDITH D. ARMSTRONG, Sec.

Port Greville Mission Band writes that they were glad to hear from the Secretary. Their meetings are held every two weeks. The youngest member of this Band is not a year old. God bless the baby! Why should we not have a number of such members?

I was so glad to hear from South Farmington, Ann Co. In this Band the children are also very young—from six to thirteen years. And their Leader feels grieved that they are able to send in so little money. The children are learning to be workers, which is the best thing now. By and bye, the money will come.

The W. M. A. S. in New Glasgow is prospering. The Secretary writes:—"We feel that we are growing stronger in love for the cause, and in zeal for its advancement. Among our encouragements are an increased interest in our meetings and an occasional addition to the membership."

The Secretary of the Band in Pugwash writes:—"I am glad to say our Band was never in a better condition. It is now in connection with the Sunday School. Our President, Mrs. Haverstock, gives us map exercises on India which are very interesting and instructive. Last Sunday being 'Missionary Sunday,' (the day appointed by our F. M. Board) we had a special meeting, the ladies of the W. M. A. Society contributing to the programme. On our Anniversary we shall have a Tea for the Band. We use the Barrels, which are opened every three months."

Mrs. Clark, P. E. I., writes:—"Not more than one-fourth of our sisters are interested in this work! What can we do? We do need so many more missionaries to tell the glad tidings. Just now, too, when so many seem to be listening so well. Martha (Miss Clark) says they seem to be more interested than they have ever been. She says it is so sad to see them dying; so many who have never had an opportunity of hearing of Jesus the Saviour of sinners. What can we do? Surely we must try to do something more."

Miss Jackson writes from Cavendish, P. E. I.:—"The children seem to be so interested in this work, and we hope to grow stronger in numbers and knowledge, and of course there must follow deeper interest. We are sending to Mrs. Smith a quarterly payment of what we have in the Treasury at present. We want to send \$25 this year to be used toward the support of Miss Clark's Bible Woman. (Cavendish is Miss Clark's home). But I want to tell you of little Ray Clark and his missionary pig. He and his mother have fed and cared for this 'missionary pig,' until it was sold last week, when it brought \$11. Half of this amount was for Ray, and the little fellow's face fairly beamed with pleasure as he handed in his \$5. He had really earned it, for Mrs. Clark says he was always so thoughtful in feeding and caring for the animal. Ray is an adopted brother of 'our' Miss Clark."

Two weeks ago at the close of the Band meeting in Dartmouth, the Leader was asked to wait a moment as there was a "s'prise" for her. Sure enough she found it in the hands of two little girls, members of the Band, who each handed her a very heavy mite box. The boxes each contained fifty-four cents. And best of all was the news given by the girls themselves. "We earned it all ourselves; we had a concert in the barn." We doubt if any money in all their after lives will give Edna Wallace and Vera Dares as much real pleasure as this money "earned all by themselves" to send the story of Jesus to the children in India. (The children are between seven and eight years of age).

WHAT WILL YOU DO FOR OTHERS!

A Missionary Exercise, Requiring Six Scholars and a Chorus.)

NUMBER ONE.

What would you do if you had bread,
Yes, plenty of bread to spare,
And some poor children, ready to starve,
Should ask for a little share?

CLASS SINGING TOGETHER.

Chorus.—We would give, gladly give, unto those in need,
And the poor and the hungry would haste to feed.

NUMBER TWO.

What would you do if in your hand
You carried a healing cup,
And all around you the sick and sad
In pitiful pain looked up?

Chorus.—We would give, gladly give, unto those in need,
If the sick and suffering for help should plead.

NUMBER THREE.

What would you do if you were rich,
And if you were strong and wise,
While others near you were weak and poor,
With no one to help them rise?

Chorus.—We would give, gladly give, unto those in need,
We would help all the lowly, the weak would lead.

NUMBER FOUR.

What will you do? For you have bread—
The Bread of Life, and to spare.
There are millions who need what you have now;
How much for them do you care?

NUMBER FIVE.

What will you do? You have each a chance,
Though not very rich or great;
There are heathen at home and heathen abroad;
For what you can give they wait.

NUMBER SIX.

What will you do? Will you give what you have,
And do what you can, to-day?
What will you do? For they die so fast.
You must not, dare not, delay.

Chorus.—We will give, freely give, unto those in need,
The command of the Saviour we'll gladly heed.

The six then repeat in concert: "Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive."—Julia H. Johnston, in Westminster Quarterly.

Young People's Department.

MISSION BANDS.

DO WE NEED THEM? HOW TO CONDUCT THEM SUCCESSFULLY.

(By Mrs. Graham, Montreal.)

If all Christians did their duty towards their fellow-men there would be no necessity of this Women's Missionary Convention being held.

But no one here needs to be reminded of the fact that all do not live up to the precious privilege of lending a helping hand to our heathen brothers.

Women a few years ago gave little thought to their down-trodden sisters in distant lands until a few earnest souls whose eyes had seen and ears heard wrote and spoke of the things they had seen and heard till consecrated women everywhere are saying, Lord, what wilt Thou have me do?

To mothers the answer comes swiftly back, Train up your little ones for My service. This is clearly our first duty. You plead lack of time, talents or information. God may accept your excuses, He alone knows the heart; but as you do not train your children up with a missionary spirit something must be done to supply the omission, and I know of nothing better than the Mission Band.

The cry goes up from many hearts. If I had only known sooner the great need of my money, prayers or personal service how gladly would the prayer of faith have been offered and how many more sheaves might have been garnered for the Master. Many here echo that cry. Do not then let your little ones grow up to manhood and womanhood without giving them that knowledge which will fill their young hearts with missionary zeal and inculcate habits of giving which will make them by and by valuable Christian workers.

Would you not like soon to hear that all men have had the glad message of salvation carried to them? Then train the coming generation for Jesus.

Do you wish to be relieved from reading about deficits in our Treasuries? Teach the children to give.

Are you anxious for more missionaries and more money to send them. Remember "To train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it."

Physical, intellectual and moral training begin in childhood. Temperance reformers have recognized this vantage ground and begin with the young. Can anyone then after careful thought decide otherwise than that the best and surest way to raise an army of faithful missionary laborers is to begin with the children.

Some may say, True, but cannot they be trained in the home and Sunday-school and by the pulpit? Yes, they may, but are they? If not, then Mission Bands must supply this deficiency until all S. S. workers wake

up to see and discharge their responsibilities in this particular.

Having said this much to settle the necessity of Mission Bands, I will try to give a few practical hints concerning carrying them on which may be helpful to those interested in this work. The most important thing is the selection of the President or Leader. First, she must be one who has consecrated her time and talents to the Lord's service. The little ones require so much time, patience and information that we must sow plentifully if we would reap bountifully.

Then she must love Missions. Do not be deceived, no one will detect quicker than a child whether you are in earnest about this matter. If you are full of enthusiasm and zeal for the conversion of the heathen world you can easily inspire the children. None so easily aroused and led as the boys and girls, but your interest must be genuine and your zeal unflagging if you would succeed for any length of time. But you must not only love missions, you must love the children.

You remember how Jesus asked Peter, "Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these, and he said unto Him, Yes, Lord, thou knowest that I love thee, and He answered, Feed my lambs." You have the whole secret of success in that one verse in John's gospel. Do we love the Lord? If so we will feed the lambs. The lambs of the flock gather closely around the Shepherd; they nestle in His arms when danger is near, because with an instinct which is as strong as our reason they feel that the Shepherd loves them. The Saviour said, "Suffer the little ones to come unto me and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of heaven." How infinitely tender He was to the lambs. If you love them they feel and know it from your every word and look. You will not harshly command or unthinkingly reprimand, but ruling by love will never weary or be out of patience.

Thus before all other things I would place these three qualifications: 1st, A consecrated life; 2nd, A love for missions; 3rd, A love for children. There are no doubt many here this afternoon who wish to be useful Christians. You love mission work and you have always felt more at home with the children and they were always happy with you. Have you a Mission Band in your church? If not, then go back and in the strength of God born of faith and prayer gather the little ones together and teach them the great need of the heathen, contrast their happy homes with those places which we cannot dignify by that sacred name. Lead them to see how precious the privilege to send of their pennies and dimes that others may hear the glad tidings that "Jesus saves." Believe me no Christian work holds grander possibilities for the future, no work brings a richer or a surer harvest. Others here might go home to help with their sympathy and prayers the oft perplexed and discouraged leader of your Band.

There is after all only a few here who will actually be Mission Band workers, but there is not one but may help on indirectly this good work.

The Leader of the Band may have all the qualifications mentioned and many more and yet without your helping hand may faint and fall by the way. You love your boys and girls, and your highest ambition for them is to see them grow up men and women "after God's own heart." Recognize in this work the fact that your children are being taught early to love Jesus and His work, to give of their means to the spread of the Gospel and trained to habits of usefulness and loving thought for others. Do not then think your duty done when you allow the children to join. Take an interest in the meetings and in the Leader. See that the children are started off to every meeting in time; question them on what they have learned and what they are doing. Discuss with them the best way by which they can earn money for their barrels, and you will help more than words can tell the Band President.

The next of importance is the time of meeting. For eight years I have held our meeting before the S. S., and though as an experiment I have tried week days for a short time I have always gladly returned to Sunday. When the Circle is getting ready a box for India, our Home Missionaries or the Indians, we have additional meetings on Saturday to sew, make scrap-books, etc. Each member is furnished with a barrel which has to be returned every three months. We have arranged to have these days fall as nearly as possible on the S. S., Home Mission, G. L. and T. M. Days, for which good programmes are always provided. As aids to making the meetings interesting a map and a scrap-book are useful, also missionary books in the Library. A missionary paper should be distributed at each meeting. It is a matter of regret that there are so few missionary papers adapted for the young. The only one I know being *The King's Messenger*. A box of cards, books, toys, etc., may be collected to send with the first chance to India, or to help with the Home Missionary boxes or for the Indians.

If there are any here who have tried to conduct a Mission Band and it seemed a failure, will you not try again by holding your meetings on Sunday in connection with the S. S. if possible. God will bless your efforts and "the bread cast upon the waters shall return after many days." What a wide and mighty field for labor stretches before us as we look into the faces of our boys and girls. What possibilities lie wrapt up in them time will reveal. What a glorious privilege to be the honored instrument in God's hand of leading the little ones to work for Him.

Every mother in the U. S., it is said, looks on her boy as the possible future President. How much higher and nobler our aspirations if we look forward to our boys and

girls being worthy successors to a Carey, a Judson or a Madam Toller.

Sisters, if we do our duty ere many generations pass away the world will be won for Christ.

Though we may never go to distant lands we may train the little ones up for this work and a kind Heavenly Father will look down into the mother's heart and say, "She hath done what she could."

MISSION BAND REPORT.

BY MISS TAINSCOTT.

The reports from our Bands this year, are on the whole, very encouraging, notwithstanding the statement not infrequently made of late, that "Bands are on the decrease." The Directors have evidently been doing faithful work, the results of which will be more apparent in days to come.

In the Peterborough Association there are ten Bands, and each one has sent a gratifying report.

In the Middlesex and Lambton Association fifteen out of seventeen reported.

Last year the number of Bands on the Secretary's books was one hundred and forty-six. This year the number is one hundred and seventy-one. One hundred and twenty-one of these have reported to the Secretary. There are twenty-one new or re-organized Bands.

In several instances the Band has been divided, the older members forming a Senior Band, Y. P. S. or B. Y. P. U., as the case may be. The special work of these Bands is the support of students in India, and a French missionary in Quebec. Fifty-eight students are thus maintained and trained in the Seminaries in Samulcotta and Cunanada.

Unfortunately our income has not increased with our membership. The total amount received by our H. M. Treasurer is \$388.74, a decrease of \$12.04. The total amount received by the F. M. Treasurer is \$907.20, a decrease of \$132.95. Then, too, the number of Bands sending contributions is reduced. It is, however, questionable whether we should regard a report as discouraging, simply because the Band has not raised as much money as in former years. In several cases where the Band has reported a falling off, the President has expressed such regret and determination to put forth renewed efforts, that we can but hope for better things next year. Band Leader too, as of old, have their own difficulties and anxieties. For example, one says, "We have a good membership, but a hard Band to manage; many are behind with their fees; we are trying to get them to pay up."

One Leader finds it "almost impossible to keep up a Band in the country."

Of three Bands, and only three, it is reported that "the Leaders take no interest whatever in the work."

Still, in looking over the returns for the year, the Secretary has been particularly encouraged.

Let me quote to you the remarks of a few of the Leaders.

- I. "Prosperous condition, good attendance."
- II. "In as good working order as could be wished."
- III. "Encouraging, increasing in interest."
- IV. "The most encouraging part is hearing the earnest prayers of the young people for God's blessing on the work."

V. "The President lives six miles from town, yet the children are interested in missions."

VI. "More interest, meetings better attended, more money raised, but no new members, as there are none to get."

During the year, the following have been constituted Life-members of Bands. Of the H. M. Society, Mrs. Minnie, of Toronto, by the Maitland St. Band, London; Miss Ada Louise Firatbrook, of Jarvis St. Band, Toronto, by her father; Miss Annie Hutchinson, by Murray St. Band, Peterborough.

And of the F. M. Society, Miss Ada W. Aldridge and Miss Annie Croley, also by Murray St. Band, Peterborough.

A number of Bands have sent money and boxes of clothing to H. M. churches. Dolls, picture dolls, toys and quilts have been sent to India. One Band raised twenty-three dollars through the mite boxes, and strongly recommends their use to others. The funds of more than one Band found their way to other missionary organizations; the officers not knowing the importance of loyalty to our own Treasurers.

Special mention might be made of the work of several Bands. The Mt. Forest Band shows an increase of ten dollars, and Baillieboro', five dollars and forty cents, for the H. M. Society; while Port Hope and many others have done nobly for the F. M. Society. Let us look forward with still greater confidence that our Bands will increase in every good word and work, and praying earnestly for the conversion of our boys and girls, and their consecration to that work so near the heart of our Lord, the work of missions.

LEAN HARD ON JESUS.

Lean hard, sad heart, on Jesus, He knows thy secret grief,
And swift He is to succour, so swift to give relief.
Then let come cloud or sunshine, or skies be dull or clear,
Lean hard, sad heart, on Jesus, for thou hast nought to fear.

With Him 'tis ever sunshine, and clouds are far away,
With Him there is no darkness, but fall meridian day.
Tho' winter's blast or summer's balm, or life, or death,
Should come,

Lean hard on Him, dear troubled heart, He's pledged to bring thee home.

Oh, trust Him, heart: cast all thy care on Him who cares for thee,

The clouds must break, at "evening time" thou His "clear light" shalt see:

The setting sun in richer beams shall make thy evening best,
With all thy weight then lean on Him, and in His purpose rest.

Thou dost not see thy morning joys amidst thy evening fears,
Thou dost not see that morning songs result from evening tears,

'Tis when the darkness blackest hangs, like pall of deepest night,
That morning breaks, and ushers in the longed-for orient light.

The dimness of those doubting eyes shall soon have passed away,

And fulness of Divine surprise shall be your joy for aye,
And trials, crosses, sufferings past, now hard to understand,
Shall be explained, where darkness dies, in our Immanuel's land.

THE LATE W. H. BURTON (of Dalston).

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On Furlough.—Rev. W. V. Higgins, B.A., and wife; Mrs. R. Sanford; Miss Greig.

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