

prove the impossibility of predicting infallibly the effects of a tropical climate upon a given constitution.

Of prime importance are faith in God and in missions and a firm belief that the promise, "The earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord," will be fulfilled.

But with all that is most desirable in character and attainments without thorough consecration to the work, and a burning desire to engage in it, no one should become a Foreign Missionary.

Unless led into the work from sincere love to Christ and perishing souls, how can we know that the Lord is calling, and how can we expect His blessing?

The consecration should be for life, without the hope that after a few or even many years of service the evening of life may be spent at home among the cherished friends of early days.

A life given to Christ for Foreign Missions should be given freely, fully and forever.

I am very glad, dear sisters, to hear of the Lord's work among you, and to see these tokens of it here to-day.

Mrs. Jesse Harding, of Amherst, spoke warmly of the spirit in which Mrs. Armstrong (formerly Miss Norris) had entered upon her work.

Mrs. Allwood spoke with fervency of the necessity for increased devotedness to this work.

Mrs. W. F. Boggs expressed her continued interest in the work of Christian Missions and rejoiced in being permitted to aid the cause.

Mrs. John F. Masters briefly addressed the meeting on the need of continual effort in the work of sending the gospel to heathen lands.

Mrs. Kelly stated that she was desirous of being wholly engaged in promoting this work, and hoped to be more directly occupied in communicating the way of life and salvation to the women in heathen lands.

Miss Hammond, who also proposes to offer herself for work in the Foreign Mission service, spoke of her anxiety to be actively engaged in making some returns to God for his great love displayed in the gospel of His Son.

Miss Payne, of Halifax, the accepted missionary to Burmah, in connexion with the United States Woman's Missionary Society, said her interest in Foreign Missions would be best expressed by the fact that she was to leave in a few weeks for the foreign field, under appointment of the American Board, to Henthada to take charge of a school in conjunction with Mrs. Baily—Mr. and Mrs. George and Miss Watson having removed further up the country.

Having long had the cause of Foreign Missions at heart, and while doing all of Home Mission work that fell to her hand, she had cherished the hope that some day she might be permitted to go into these far-off lands and carry the Gospel to the perishing heathen.

She felt as though some good thing had been placed in her hand. Some of her friends had asked when she would come back. Her answer she said was, "I do not think of coming back, I desire to spend my life there;" and hoped that the Lord would give her grace, strength and patience, and make her life useful in His service.

Mrs. John March said she fully sympathized with the reference to Miss Norris, and her labor in the first formation of these societies, having been present when the first New Brunswick Society had been formed in Leinster Street Church, St. John.

Mrs. M. here brought forth a number of articles sent to the New Brunswick Central Board by Mrs. Armstrong, shewing how deeply she was still interested in these Societies.

These articles were one after another held up and shewn to the ladies present, and gave indication of the very different condition of the people there from those she had left here, and which shewed by contrast how far our privileges in these Christian countries are beyond what is known in that dark land.

Mrs. Boggs, Sen., offered the closing prayer, and the hymn—

"From Greenland's icy mountains" was sung.

This meeting was regarded as one of the most successful that have been held in connection with the W. M. A. Societies and will be long remembered by all present.

REPORT OF THE CENTRAL BOARD OF THE WOMEN'S MISSION AID SOCIETIES OF NOVA SCOTIA, TO THE FOREIGN MISSION BOARD AT THE CONVENTION, SACKVILLE, 1876.

The Central Board beg to Report that they have received during the past year from the Societies in Nova Scotia the sum of \$1229.51, dating from the 1st of July, 1875 to 30th of June, 1876.

The amount is smaller than that of the previous year, which, though a matter of deep regret, may be accounted for by the scarcity of money, and also by the fact that they have now no missionary either at home or abroad directly under their care, and in whose welfare and labours they are more especially interested.

The married missionaries now in Telugu, do not think that the time has yet come when the services of young women are needed, and till they signify their willingness to receive them, and recognize the necessity for their work, the Board cannot recommend any persons to be sent out.

Out of the money collected this year, the Central Board, in concurrence with the Boards of New Brunswick and P. E. Island, have appropriated \$800.00 for the use of the Missionaries in school work.

\$100.00 of this was designated to Mrs. Armstrong to build a school-house in Kenedy, where they intend to make their future home.

The need of funds remains as urgent as ever, for all will be required, and perhaps shortly. Mrs. Armstrong's Karen assistant Nau Nau is supported from the funds of the first and second Baptist churches in Halifax.

MARIA R. SELDEN, Sec'y.

REPORT OF THE WOMEN'S MISSIONARY AID SOCIETY OF NEW BRUNSWICK, TO THE CONVENTION AT SACKVILLE, AUG. 2ND, 1876.

We have much pleasure in presenting our Sixth Annual Report. We had feared that the fact of our not having a missionary on the field would cause a decrease of interest in our Societies, consequently a falling off in funds.

This, we are happy to state, is not so, as our Report will show an increase in that direction.

It was with many regrets we accepted the resignation of Sister Minnie De Wolfe, as her continued ill health precluded the hope of her ever returning to the Foreign field.

We feel in this, as in other circumstances connected with our missionaries, this is God's way not ours, and we have our dear sister in this land praying that life may be spared and health given to do much service for the Master in the Home field.

We have two sisters who purpose offering themselves as Foreign Missionaries as soon as they are prepared and there is an opening. Let us not be afraid to step out in this matter of missions.

We have three County Secretaries, Miss Carrie A. Hammond for Carleton County, Miss Lizzie Reed for King's County, and Mrs. Sarah A. Kelly for York and Westmorland Counties.

Sister Armstrong called upon us for \$100 for building a School house at Kenedy, which was at once responded to. We must see to it that she as well as the wives of other missionaries are kept sufficiently supplied with funds for carrying on school work according to our Constitution.

The amount of funds received during the last Conventional year has been \$800.84, of which \$751.84 has been paid to the Treasurer of the Foreign Missionary Board. This is over one hundred dollars more than last year.

We have had ten new Societies organized, making in all 45.

We feel that the missionary spirit in our Province is growing, though slowly, yet steadily. We trust that the little leaven thus working in our midst will continue until we are all thoroughly leavened with that spirit which so filled our Lord when he was on the earth; and, if so, we shall carry out that last command, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel." Surely we have enough to stimulate us, for he has said, "Lo I am with you even to the end of the world."

M. E. MARCH, Secretary of Central Board, N. B.

Annual Report of the Foreign Missionary Board.

HOME DEPARTMENT. Immediately after the appointment of the present Board, it was duly organized by the re-election to office of the incumbents of the previous year, viz.:

Hon. A. McL. Seely, Permanent Chairman; Rev. J. M. Cramp, D. D., Foreign Secretary; Rev. W. P. Everett, Home Secretary; T. P. Davies, Esq., Treasurer.

The Board has pursued the usual course of holding stated monthly meetings for the transaction of business.

We are thankful that through the whole year our members have been able to attend these and several special meetings, and that in our deliberations the utmost harmony has prevailed.

The past year has been to us one of

eventful interest, and we have found hope and fear, joy and sadness, frequently alternating and intermingling, but amidst all we have been enabled to constantly trust in the promises of Jehovah.

On the very threshold of the present year we were gratified by the announcement that our missionary corps, after many wanderings and disappointments incident to their previous and unsettled state, had at last found and entered a mission field full of promise, and well adapted to elicit the sympathy and support of our churches at home.

The full particulars of their prospecting tours in the Telugu country, of their labors and successes, of their plans and prospects, are presented in detail in the report of the Foreign Secretary.

RETURN OF MISSIONARIES. Through the inscrutable providence of Him whose thoughts are not as our thoughts, nor His ways as our ways we have been brought at an early period in the history of our Mission to partake in a degree of the painful experience incidental to all Missions, namely, the involuntary yet necessary withdrawal from the field of missionaries broken down in health.

In consequence of the severe illness of our beloved Bro. Boggs, he and his wife were obliged to return home. And though we rejoice in the recent improvement of his health, yet we dare not cherish any expectation of his resuming labor in India.

Soon after his arrival, and at his earnest desire, we commissioned him to visit and address as many churches and Associations on the subject of Foreign Missions as he could consistently with due regard to recruiting his shattered health.

He reports visitations made and addresses delivered before eighteen churches and five Associations. We believe his visits have proved beneficial to the churches, and have awakened a renewed interest in our Mission.

Our esteemed Brother Churchill has also been obliged to temporarily withdraw from his field of labor in search of health.

Miss M. B. DeWolfe, returned missionary, after spending several years at home in the hope of regaining health sufficient to warrant her return to the foreign field, finally decided to resign her connection with the Board and the W. M. A. Societies, as missionary, and in June last her resignation was accepted, not without regret.

FINANCES. The statement of the gross receipts of our Treasury and of our expenditures are presented in the Treasurer's Annual Report, and there appears a balance on hand of about \$9,500.

The amount received from donations, either through contributions paid directly to our Treasurer, or through the medium of the Central Boards of the W. M. A. Societies as reported by their respective Treasurers, as well as received from Legacies, and Interest on Bank Deposits and Legacy Funds is now presented in the following extract.

A detailed statement of the donations of each church has been prepared and will be published in the Year Book. These contributions and legacies were derived as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes 'FROM NEW BRUNSWICK' and 'FROM NOVA SCOTIA' sections.

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Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes 'FROM PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND' and 'UNITED STATES OF AMERICA'.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes 'INTEREST' and 'ON BANK DEPOSITS TO DEC.'.

Total of \$6,038.86. In view of the unusual depression in business circles which has prevailed throughout the land, rendering it exceedingly difficult for the churches to pay even their current expenses, we have reason for devout thanksgiving that the receipts of our Treasurer have been as large as now reported.

THE FUTURE. The Board, in view of our history, feel confident that our churches in these Maritime Provinces are abundantly able to sustain a Mission, of moderate dimensions, among the Telugus, and with a fair prospect of its speedy enlargement, provided we exercise due caution in our movements, are liberal in our donations, and moderately economical in our expenditures.

It could scarcely have been expected of our churches to organize and sustain a Mission of so grand and imposing proportions as have a people whose wealth is great and the number of their membership vastly superior; but if we are faithful according to our ability God will crown our efforts with ample success.

SALARIES OF MISSIONARIES. The Board have for some time past been considering the question of deciding what constitutes a proper and equitable compensation for services performed by our missionaries.

Up to the present period, in paying salaries, we have proceeded on the basis which had been adopted by the American Baptist Union, and was in practice when our missionaries were commissioned by our Board.

We have paid each male missionary at the rate of \$800 per annum and house rent, travelling expenses and medical attendance. This was the rate to be paid for the first three years after their arrival on the field, and after that period the salary was to be advanced \$200, thus making the salary thereafter \$1,000 a year, exclusive of house rent and other expenses just mentioned.

But during the year 1875 we were informed, through our Missionaries that the American Union had proposed to make a change in the method of paying their missionaries' salaries, and in correspondence with the officials of that Society we ascertained that they had adopted the following resolution:

"The salaries of the missionaries shall be made to embrace all the expenses of themselves and families, including household furniture and utensils, medical attendance, books and travel for health, but not house rent. In all the Asiatic Missions, the salaries of missionaries, excepting those appointed previously to 1858, shall be hereafter during the first three years on the field, \$1,000 a year, and after that period during the whole term of their service abroad, \$1,200 a year.

The salaries of female assistants now in the field shall include medical attendance and travel, and shall be one hundred in excess of the Schedule of 1873-4; and those who may hereafter be sent out shall be provided for at the same rate. This rule is adopted subject to the approval of the new missionaries now in the field."

We have purposely deferred presenting the salary question to the Convention, until the precise location of our respective missionaries should be decided, so that we might be able to judge of the probable cost of living in the field of our operation.

Having consulted Bro. Boggs' opinion, and having also considered the amount of salaries paid to our pastors at home, we have decided, if the Convention approve, to propose to our missionaries to pay them at the rate of 2,200 rupees, or its equivalent, \$1,000 a year, exclusive of house rent.

Through arrangements to be perfected with the Bank of India, in London, we expect to be able to pay each missionary promptly and directly his or her salary in quarterly payments.

W. M. A. SOCIETIES. Our zealous and devoted female helpers, notwithstanding the existing monetary depression, and despite the fact that they do not possess the stimulating influence exerted by the presence and appeals of laborers engaged in their special department of labor in the foreign field, have nevertheless persevered in their laudable work, and their efforts have been crowned with success, as may be seen by reference to the accompanying reports of the Central Boards of the W. M. A. Societies.

The Board feel deeply grateful to our sisters for the material aid rendered, and the sympathy expressed, and especially for the generous resolve to aid us in purchasing property and building schools for the Mission.

PERMANENT FUNDS. These consist of the W. S. Jacobs Fund of £400 sterling, and of the C. R. Bill fund of \$1,000, the latter bearing interest at the rate of 7 per cent.

WAYS AND MEANS. In reference to our future method of raising funds, we believe that some plan should be matured and adopted which would result in the enlisting of the sympathy and substantial support of all our churches.

What that scheme should be, the wisdom of the Convention should be able to dictate, and our successors on the Board will be able to carry it into effect, if sustained by the pastors and officers of our churches.

W. P. EVERETT, Sec. Home Department. St. John N. B., 23rd Aug., 1876.

For the Christian Messenger. Rev. G. Churchill. WOLFVILLE, Sept. 1876.

My Dear Sir,— I received a letter this week from our missionary, Rev. G. Churchill, dated "Gisborne, Victoria, July 22nd."

He was staying at W. George Woodworth's (formerly of Lower Steviacke.) Mrs. Churchill's cousin. Mr. Woodworth has a fine farm of 500 acres, on which he keeps 400 sheep and sixty head of cattle.

Mr. Churchill was a fortnight in Melbourne without experiencing any improvement in his health; but the removal into the country proved very salutary. Gisborne is forty miles from Melbourne.

The Australian climate seems to be a delightful one. It was midwinter there when Mr. C's letter was written, but roses, fuschias, verbenas, and geraniums, were blossoming in the gardens. There is seldom any frost. The cattle feed themselves in the fields all the year round.

Mr. C. says, "I consider myself almost well now; have had no symptoms of my complaint for ten or twelve days, and have gained in strength very much." He thinks that a winter in Australia would be a salutary change for worn-down missionaries in India, and would be more useful than a voyage home.

I have also heard this week from Mrs. Churchill, who writes from Madras, where she was busily engaged in perfecting her medical studies, and in acquiring useful information bearing on missionary work.

Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong are at Kimedy preparing for permanent occupation of that station.

Yours truly, J. M. CRAMP.

For the Christian Messenger. Acadia College Endowment.

The Governors of Acadia College reported to the Convention, at Sackville, that, in order to maintain the College in the independent position which the denomination so manifestly desired it to occupy, and to prepare it to fulfil the increasing obligations which will press upon it, they will need an additional endowment of \$100,000.

The Convention unanimously adopted this Report, and subsequently passed a resolution instructing the Governors to take steps at once to put into operation an efficient agency among the churches for securing the required addition to the Endowment Fund.

After the passage of this resolution, no opportunity occurred for a meeting of the Board in Sackville, and consequently the Governors took no steps for carrying out the instructions of the Convention. All the friends of the College will agree that it would be exceedingly undesirable, that all efforts in the direction contemplated by the Convention, should be delayed until after the next meeting of the Board.

In view of these facts, the Executive Committee of the College, though they feel that a strict interpretation of their duties would not call them to any official