

The Woman's Missionary Society.

[This Department is in the interests of the W. M. Society. All communications for it should be addressed to Mrs. Jos. McLeod, Fredericton.]

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J. N. BARNES' REPORT.

To the Corresponding Secretary of the Woman's Mission Society:

Dear Sisters: The following is my report for the month of March. This month has a new beginning in the work among the children,—we mean a special work with them. The first Sabbath was spent at Shannon Settlement and Bald Hill; the second Sabbath at St. John North and Carleton. Thence we went to Grand Harbor, Grand Manan. At Grand Harbor we spent two weeks. I attended twenty-five meetings, eight of them were with the children. The first meeting something over twenty were in attendance; but as the meetings went on, the number kept increasing until we had forty or more attending. It was a most blessed opportunity to speak the Word of Life to the dear ones, to look into those upturned eager faces and appeal to their tender hearts to shun sin and look unto the blessed Lord Jesus who so tenderly loves the little lambs and carry them in his bosom. I firmly believe there were deep impressions made on their hearts, the fruits of which will be seen in other days, and will be lasting as eternity. The Mission Band at the Harbor is progressing well under the faithful care of the two superintendents, Sister I. L. Newton and Sister Ordan Green. The Band numbers 53. In the last meeting 40 stood up requesting me to pray for them in my absence. It was a deeply solemn moment as I parted with them there. May God bless them in very deed. Eternity only will reveal what was done in those meetings. I desire the prayers of all our sisters for blessing on this special work.

I went next to White Head. Had four meetings there. A Mission Band was organized there last August of ten members. It now has fifty-seven active and associate members, and is doing excellent work under the direction of Sister Lowren Cosseboone.

The Woman's Societies at the Harbor and White Head are actively at work, and have monthly meetings.

Seal Cove was next visited. The society there is not in so prosperous condition as could be desired; has had only a few meetings this year. The Mission Band is in a healthy condition, and is well cared for by Sister Maker.

This month has been one of the best, if not the best, since I began work. The money granted by the sisters last fall to get literature is about all spent. I do most earnestly appeal to the friends of the mission to send us help as soon as possible.

Summary of work in the month: Families visited, 60; families prayed with 52; meetings held and attended, 33; sermons preached, 17; cradle rolls organized, 2; miles travelled, 266; cash collected, \$20.69.

J. N. BARNES.

April 7, 1903.

MISSION NEWS AND NOTES.

—The Missionary Society of the United Brethren church is laboring under a \$30,000 debt which the denomination is called on to pay this year.

—The Southern Baptists are trying to raise \$200,000 for foreign missions this year, about \$150,000 having been their average for five years past.

—During the last seven months of 1902 the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions sent out 130 missionaries, the largest number it ever sent in a like period, and probably a larger number than any board in the United States ever sent in any year.

—The Protestant foreign missionary statistics of the world, annually compiled by Dr. D. L. Leonard, give for the beginning of 1903 4,697 ordained missionaries, 4,337 ordained native ministers, and a total of 84,740 salaried agents of all kinds; 1,315,000 communicants, 4,056,503 native adherents, and more than 972,181 pupils in the schools. The 29 American Foreign Missionary Societies occupy 10,328 stations and outstations, and return 560,000 communicants. The British societies, with 600 more missionaries than the American, have 9,820 stations and 424,000 church members.

—The marvelous work accomplished in East India within the past 200 years through the agencies of the British Government is strikingly indicated by a phrase in the address of Lord Curzon, the Viceroy, at the great Delhi Durbar, in which King Edward of India was recognized as Emperor of India. He said: "What Alexander never dreamed of, what Akbar never performed—namely, pacify, unify, and consolidate the great mass into a single homogeneous whole, is, in my judgment, the most impossible phenomenon in history, and the greatest wonder of the modern world."

—There is a society of Christian Endeavor in Fen-cho-fu, where so many missionaries were martyred 2 years ago, consisting of 16 members. The society has 7 committees—not so many as most Endeavor societies in America have. Their names show how different are the surroundings in which these Chinese Endeavorers are placed from those in this favored land. These are the committees: (1) On preaching the Gospel; (2) On cheerful giving; (3) Anti-footbinding; (4) Anti-opium; (5) On temperance; (6) On Bible study; (7) On charity. There are no committees on flowers, or entertainments; no "sunshine" or "whatsoever" committees.

—It is significant of the change in the attitude of the Chinese authorities towards foreigners, and particularly toward missionaries, that advice recently received by the Mission Rooms from Chentu state that, for a college which the Chinese Government purposes to establish in that great city, the officials are seeking a

foreign teacher of science, "preferably a missionary." Evidently the "foreign devil" is not now so obnoxious to the official mind as he was some time ago. Certainly it is remarkable that for a college in a city from which the missionaries were, only a few years ago, driven out in peril of their lives, the science teacher asked for should be "preferably a missionary."

—The *Missionary Review of the World* says: Here is one illustration of what is accomplished by medical missions. A wealthy and influential man at Swatow became interested in the medical missionaries' labors and got in the habit of giving them rice tickets for the poor patients. Then, his wife became very sick, and the missionaries treated her. The man said, "I should like other women to be treated as my wife has been," and he gave \$2,000 to start a women's hospital. Next he came to see the advantages of a western education, and offered the missionaries \$10,000 to start a Chinese school where western learning could be taught. His last step was to destroy his idols and apply for Christian baptism.

THE GIDEONS.

A movement started two years ago in Wisconsin by some travelling salesmen has been remarkably successful in carrying out the object of its founders. The "Gideons" is an organization of Christian travelling men, whose motto is, "the hotel bar must go," and it is going. In the State of Wisconsin alone seventy-five hotels have been compelled to discontinue their bars during the last year on account of the tremendous influence exercised by the Gideons. Already 2,707 have joined the movement.

Among the Gideons the whiskey bottle has been thrown aside to give place to the Bible; the proverbial pack of cards has been replaced by the hymn book and their place of amusement and resort changed from the bar room to the church and prayer meeting.

The edict of this organization of drummers is: No hotel in America supporting a bar in its establishment will receive the patronage of the Gideons of this country.

As there are 350,000 drummers in the United States, the influence of such a body of men permeated with the Gideon spirit and enthused with the Gideon spirit would be tremendous in solving the liquor problem.—*Nat. Advocate*.

The tomb of Mohammed is covered with diamonds, sapphires and rubies valued at \$12,500,000.

The German Empress gave 176 female servants the golden servants' cross last year for having remained forty years in the same family.

More than 20,000 miles, or nearly the circumference of the earth at the equator, is the distance the average London busman drives in the course of a year.

The late surveys of the English coast show a loss of 40,000 acres since 1867, although in some places, as at New Romney, the solid ground has been pushed out two miles or more into the sea.

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