

The Christian Visitor.

"HOLD FAST THE FORM OF SOUND WORDS"—2d Timothy, i. 13.

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Rev. J. E. HOPPER, A.M.,
Editor and Proprietor.

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Poetry.

Rest in God.
BY HUBERT BOWER.

Ocean of rest, Eternal God,
Oh let me rest in Thee,
As rest the sea-weeds in the depths
Of the tempestuous sea,
Calm in the boundless mightiness
Of Thine immensity.

Lord, let me rest as sleeps the child
A mother sings to rest,
Safe in its utter helplessness
Upon her sheltering breast;
Then shall this restless heart of mine
In Thee be fully blest.

Lay Thou thy hand of tender love
Upon my feverish brow,
And as the Master healed of old
So heal the suffering now:
Speak, and the deep unrest shall flee,
And I in reverence bow.

Lord, let me rest remembering this,
That Thou art God alone:
'Tis not for me to rule the powers
That circle round Thy Throne;
'Tis not for me to guide the spheres,
The world, and worlds unknown.

Woman's Mission Aid Societies.

NINTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CENTRAL BOARD OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

Once more it becomes our duty to review the work of the year and report thereon, and in so doing we have nothing but pleasant and encouraging things of which to speak. From expressions contained in communications received from Branch Societies, from the new Societies organized, and from the intense interest manifested in our meetings held during the Convention at Fredericton, the earnest prayers there breathed to heaven for blessings upon our Societies, accompanied with thanksgivings for the personal blessings coming through those Societies,—one could not fail to see the Aid Societies are deeply rooted in the hearts of the sisters of our Province; and while praying and laboring that our Telooogo sisters may have a knowledge of our living, loving Saviour, we are learning more of Him and being drawn more closely to Him, proving the truth of the word that by watering others our own souls are also watered.

At the beginning of last March, Miss Carrie A. Hammond sent an application to our Board, desiring to be sent out as a missionary to the Telooogos, which application was duly received, and she was recommended to the F. M. Board for appointment; and, after having been thoroughly examined in reference to qualifications spiritual, mental, and physical, was received and enrolled our missionary-elect, and on the 7th September, left St. John on her way to her foreign home. She went carrying the prayers and best wishes of many sympathizing hearts. We trust ere this she has safely reached Bimlipatam, to which place early last spring our Board had forwarded the sum of \$500 for the purpose of building a school house, which is now in course of erection, and in which Miss Hammond will doubtless teach.

Miss Hammond will have her home with Mr. and Mrs. Sanford—will have her own apartments, but still be under their care.

Mrs. Sanford has been teaching and laboring at this place for two years, with many tokens of God's approval. While she has often to speak of discouraging things, yet her heart has been lifted in gratitude that she has had the privilege of telling so many anxious listeners about Jesus and His love. She is looking forward with much pleasure for Miss Hammond's arrival, for her work has grown so extensive that she cannot take charge of it herself.

Mrs. Churchill has also been at Bimlipatam doing good work for her Master, but has doubtless removed to Bobilly by this time, as at last accounts from Mr. Churchill he was preparing to build at that place, and expected to go as soon as the next rainy season was over.

Mrs. Armstrong has a very interesting school at Chicacole. She says she has little girls of all casts from Brahmin down, and also a good number of boys. She says the field for labor is large here and urges upon the Board to send out a young lady to her assistance at once. We have none to send but would here re-echo her call. Are there not young ladies in our Province, who for the love of him who left the glory of the Father and came down to earth and suffered and died that they might have life everlasting, would make this little sacrifice?

There is one who has felt for a long time that her Master called her in this direction, but her father is not willing to part with her. May she or some one else whom the Lord would have, hear his voice now saying: "Whosoever loveth Father or mother more than me is not worthy of me."

At a special meeting held in August, the sum of \$120 was granted for the support of six orphans in Mrs. Armstrong's school in Chicacole. At the same meeting \$16 were granted to purchase articles for Mrs. Churchill and Mrs. Sanford, which articles were purchased and taken out by Miss Hammond. Also at the same meeting \$1000 were granted to aid in building the Mission house at Bimlipatam.

On October 21st five pounds sterling were granted to purchase a globe and maps for Mrs. Churchill's school, which globe and maps were purchased by Rev. W. B. Boggs in London and taken out by him at the end of November to be forwarded from Madras.

And now in summing up we see that eleven new societies have been formed.

For Miss Hammond's outfit and travelling expenses and one quarter's salary \$752.19; and for building at Bimlipatam, school apparatus etc, \$1,672.32. This amount has been expended from the general fund, which is composed of contributions from Nova Scotia, P. E. I., and New Brunswick.

The Treasurer's report will show the amount raised in New Brunswick for 1878.

M. E. MARCH,
Sec. of C. B.

LEINSTER ST., SAINT JOHN.

Another year in our Mission work has come to a close. In our unsettled state as a Church, it has passed imperceptibly. Unlike last year of desolation and consequent inability to do aught but reflect upon what we had once been and done, we have this year been in a perfect state of confusion and turmoil. So eager have we been in rebuilding the walls of our Jerusalem Temple, that like those who lived in the days of Nehemiah, you could almost hear the clatter of the stone and mortar on the Lord's Day. Yet notwithstanding our home zeal, we trust we have not lost sight of those far away, who are building up the waste places also in a far higher and nobler sense, and who are looking to us for encouragement and support. Our prayers in their behalf, both public and private have never been hindered, and we trust our alms will not be found wanting. We have an efficient set of collectors who have never yet failed to bring in our full share of the means needed in this work. We are glad at least to record that our hearts are right in this matter, and although our meetings have necessarily been greatly interrupted for want of a suitable place of meeting, yet we have not failed to keep ourselves familiar with the working of the Mission, and had any business been required of us, it would have received immediate attention. We enter upon this year full of hope that the coming year may be one of increased usefulness at home and abroad. To this end, O Lord, give us strength both spiritual and temporal.

GERMAIN ST.

We have but a brief report to present to you, as the workings of our society during the past year have been limited; very little having occurred worthy of note.

We have not yet rallied from the effects of the fire, for our forces which were then scattered, have not as yet regained their former strength. Still there are a few left who feel a deep interest in the welfare of the society, and while they are among us, the work will not fail to go on.

As you will observe by the report of the Treasurer, the amount contributed by us for the past year—although not reaching what it should—far exceeds that of the previous year, which, as there have been no collectors at work, we consider a matter for congratulation, as it shows a willingness on the part of the ladies to aid in this way the noble cause; and we feel that were their offerings—though ever so small—ever prompted by love for the Master and his work, they could be accepted by him as priceless gems, and treasured as only offerings of the heart can be.

I will here mention two incidents which are worthy of notice.

A widow, blind, and in humble circumstances, enclosed to us a half-sovereign, the last earnings of her only son. Who can doubt but the earnest prayer of a heart-broken mother followed this precious offering hence, none can count its value.

We also received one dollar from an inmate of "The Old Ladies' Home," an aged widow, helpless and suffering. It was given her by some kind friend, with a view no doubt of its furnishing some little comfort or luxury. But it was carefully laid aside, not with the thought of what it should afford herself, but how she could best use it for the glory of God. She kept it for some time before she could determine to which of the many causes so dear to her heart it should be given. Finally deciding that none was more worthy than that of Missions, and none in which she felt a deeper interest. "She hath done what she could."

"The Lord loveth a cheerful giver."
Our monthly prayer meetings have not been sustained as they ought, showing a lack of spiritual life and consecration to our Lord, a matter to be deeply regretted. But we trust that the year upon which we have just entered, may have rich blessings in store for us, and that our record at its close may be one worthy of a band of christian workers.

BRUSSELS ST.

The old year, with all its labors and blessings, has passed by, and the accounts are closed for eternity, never to be recalled. Have we redeemed the promises made in the beginning of it? I trow not, or else we would have brought more treasure into the storehouse of our God.

Our hearts were gladdened at the commencement of the year, by our pastor's wife taking the Presidency, which she has so ably filled. Let us help her to reach those who do not come within the influence of these meetings, and consequently feel no interest in mission work at home or abroad.

Is there any way by which we can arouse them to the necessity of earnest, prayerful effort, to show them that they will be called to account for the means God lends them, and to use the talents He has endowed them with to His service. Such consecrated effort as history affords, given in the *Mission Link* for December by Mrs. Timpany, ought to arouse our sisters to the fact of the greater privilege we enjoy, and the consequences attending our not employing our means and time to the advancement of Christ's cause.

Do you think that if we realized immortal souls were perishing for lack of knowledge of the way of Life that God has so freely bestowed upon us, that we could stand so idly by?

God is a jealous God. "Freely ye have received, freely give," will be exacted from us, you may depend upon it. God help us to discharge our duties in his fear and love. Our meetings have been pleasant and profitable seasons to those who attended; the Master heard our calls, and imbued our own souls with blessings from on High. What the seed scattered is we do not know, but He has said, "Cast thy bread upon the waters, and it shall return after many days." Oh Lord, is not the full time come for a refreshing shower, for an ingathering of precious souls to the Shiloh of our God. May we be more active, earnest and useful in his service, is the prayer of our hearts. The volume of the New Year opens up to us. What is written here is most kindly concealed from us; new duties, new trials it will bring, but new joys also perhaps. Our Heavenly Father will surprise us with wonderful tokens of his love. The *Missionary Link*, will I trust be a source of interest and usefulness. We, as a Society, take Twenty copies. \$31.50 have been paid into the Treasury.

PORTLAND.

In presenting our Annual Report, it gives us much pleasure to state that we are still doing what we can for Foreign Missions.

Our meetings are not so interesting as we could wish, but we are trusting for more interest among the members in the coming year. Amount paid the Treasurer C. B., for the year, \$32.50.

MONCTON.

The Society in this place is still trying to do a little in the great field of missions.

The monthly meetings have been kept up during the year, with I think three exceptions, and in some instances have been of marked interest. The attendance was not as large as we could have desired, yet we have felt thankful for the interest of the few, and have been praying and trusting that more of our sisters might be aroused to earnest action in this vast wide reaching field of usefulness. What money we had in our Treasury we remitted to Mrs. Allwood, before the Convention in August last, and have nothing more to send at the present time. We trust that next year we shall be able to report a greater interest in this good work, and to send you more money to assist in carrying it on. Let us not be discouraged, but persevere in our efforts to do something for the Master. What little things are oft-times attended with great results. In looking over the past and dwelling upon the noble and heroic character of our early missionaries, who labored so faithfully and well, and with such patience and trust, that God would, in his own good time, bless their efforts made amid sufferings and difficulties, and in comparing that past with the wonderful results of the present, are we not incited to great deeds, that the future may be glorious, that all nations and people may learn the way of salvation.

Let us pray on, and labor on, hoping for grand results.

FREDERICTON.

It would be very gratifying if we could, in this report, tell you of an increased membership during the year, that would bespeak an extended interest in the cause of Missions, which we think ought to be manifest now that there has been such an awakening among the heathens, for it seems that the tidings of so many conversions should so arouse an interest in every christian heart, as to make them feel that their efforts bestowed on the heathen for their conversion are not going to be fruitless, for He who has said, "Cast thy bread upon the waters, for thou shalt find it after many days," will surely see that it comes to pass.

Though our membership this year has been only 27, we have been able to send your Treasurer \$30.00, the same as last year. One of our members, Mrs. Kelly, has been engaged by the Americans as a missionary, to the West, in the Indian Territory, where she finds darkness in the extreme, yet cheerfully yields to the loss of society, and other privations, that she may do what she can to enlighten and instruct those less favored.

Our monthly meetings have been regularly observed, and to some of us, a sacred interest gathers around the "hour once a month," which is devoted to prayer for our missionaries and their work.

The schools are an object of interest to us, for in them the children of heathen parents are under Christian influence, and in many cases, thus drawn to their Saviour.

We hope that favorable reports will come in from all the Societies, and that the coming year may be one of prosperity in our missions.

Another year has gone. While many have passed away, we have been spared to meet again in our Annual Missionary meeting. Our monthly meetings have been kept up; they have not been largely attended; let us in faith hope that some good has been accomplished by our prayers and contributions. We trust in coming year our Master will bless us as a Society, and we shall be able to do more to assist our sisters in the glorious work of converting the heathen.

NEW CANAAN.

Our meetings have been regularly attended, nearly all taking part. Three new members have been added since May. One esteemed member was removed by death in June.

We have forwarded to the Treasurer of C. B. \$15.00. We will not be able to send a delegate to represent us this year, but our prayers and best wishes go with this.

COLLENA BRANCH.

Enclosed please find ten dollars from the First Studholm Branch. We can scarcely be called a Society; we have been almost a dead branch. We have held no prayer meeting, and only four business meetings, but still a few claim the privilege of forwarding their dues.

HILLSBORO.

Our Society was reorganized last March, by the assistance of Mrs. Boggs. Since then our meetings have been generally observed, and we trust not without the blessing of God attending our efforts. Being a newly organized Society, and having but small experience in matters pertaining to Missionary work, we have had some discouragements, and have not made such progress as we had desired, our membership only numbering twenty-six. Yet we are enabled to thank God and take courage, remembering the blessed promise of Christ—Lo I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Our interest in the Gospel Mission to the Telooogos has been deepened, since we have met as a Society to consider the importance and pray for the prosperity of the Foreign Missionary cause.

We realize the greatness of the undertaking, and have cause to rejoice that we are honored with a call to work so directly for the evangelization of our own sex in heathen lands.

The *Missionary Link* is our paper, from which we have received useful information concerning our foreign mission field, and hope

its pages may be filled with glad tidings from idolatrous countries, and well supplied with interesting accounts of the workings of our Aid Society. We watch with feelings of interest for news of the safe arrival of our sister, Miss Hammond, from our own Province to Bimlipatam. She has requested the prayers of the sisters in the different Aid Societies, that she may prove a faithful missionary.

O that we may not fail to remember her at a Throne of Grace in our private and public devotions. The work of sustaining Missionaries in heathen countries we feel assured is acceptable in the sight of our Divine Master, and hope to see this new year an increase of funds, and an enlargement of membership in our Society, whose influence and co-operation may accompany their offerings.

SURREY.

Our Society was organized in March with twenty-six members, out of which the officers were chosen, and Rev. S. C. Moore consented to act as auditor. Our first meeting was held on the ninth of March, and after a few meetings we decided to meet on the first Monday after the first Sabbath in each month.

Our meetings have been rather poorly attended, and a few of the members who gave their names have failed to pay anything, but perhaps they will before the year expires. We held a public meeting on the evening of the fourth of November, but it was not very successful on account of a very small congregation, and some of the speakers being absent.

We have sent seven dollars to the Treasurer of the Central Board, and we have five dollars to send now. The year will expire in March, and I cannot say whether it will be possible to still continue our meetings or not, for very little interest is taken by many. I think I have stated all that I can about our Society.

CUMBERLAND BAY.

Membership 21; meetings held 6; Amount of money contributed \$23.15.

This Society was organized October 30, 1876, and has been in existence two years, but no report was handed in last year on account of the absence of the Secretary. Since the Society was organized we have endeavored to meet once a month to pray and labour for the cause of Missions.

This year we have not been permitted to meet as often as the previous year, nor have our meetings been as interesting, but we desire to press on and do what we can for our Master.

And we hope that our interest in the suffering heathen will be deepened, and while we work and pray for them we hope that our own hearts may be refreshed.

HAMMOND.

Our branch is still living. We have some difficulties to contend with. The depression of the times and consequent scarcity of money is against us; but by the help of Him who rules all things, we are determined to struggle on in the path of right and duty. Our members are so scattered that it is difficult to keep up our prayer meetings, yet we try, when the weather permits, to meet together for prayer. We are sorry to say one member has left our Society, but we hope at our annual meeting to receive some reinforcements. Our prayers and sympathies are with our dear sisters in India, and we wish to do all we can to support and encourage them in their labours of love among among the poor heathen. Our branch was organized June 1876, with eleven members, it now numbers twenty-six.

PETITODIAC.

In reviewing the past year we find that we have little of importance to report. We have had some pleasant meetings, and throughout the year the attendance has been as good as when our Society was first formed. The interest is pretty well kept up, and on the whole we trust that we have no cause for discouragement, but rather for thankfulness. While we hope that with us each succeeding year may be better than the last, we wish also God speed to sister Societies everywhere.

CALEDONIA.

Mrs. W. B. Boggs organized a Society here in March last, with fourteen members, and although several have been added our number is not increased, as some have left and moved into other localities. The sum forwarded by our Treasurer for this year is \$8.00. We are sorry it is no larger, but some of our members have not paid their quarterly dues. We have kept up our monthly prayer meetings, although very small, when the weather would permit, and we hope the ensuing year may be more favorable.

JACKSONVILLE.

According to request I send you the account of the state of our Society. We have discontinued meeting for the present but hope to be permitted to meet again when the weather gets warmer. We are very few in number, and our church is small and scattered, but we are looking forward to the time when we shall be able to do more for the cause that lies near many of our hearts. Enclosed you will find a P. O. Order. Hoping this little note may reach its destination safely, and accomplish that for which it is sent.