

### The Children's Record.

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THE CHILDREN OF THE

Presbyterian Church in Canada.

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#### LETTER FROM MISS GRAHAM.

SAN FERNANDO, TRINIDAD.  
May 30th, 1890.

*My Dear Children:*

It seems that the little friends to whom my last letter was written did not notice in it a request for letters from them, as I have received *only one* in reply, and that not from a *little friend*, but from a Nova Scotia lady now living in Massachusetts. Perhaps those of you whom I have not had the pleasure of meeting, make this excuse. "Oh! I don't want to write to a person whom I've never seen." But if you have not met me, then certainly I cannot have met you, so I am writing to "*friends unknown*," and why can't you? Now, you say that is quite enough about letter writing. So say I. But I want to convince you that we mission teachers are very ordinary mortals who make a fuss when our letters are unanswered; just as our home friends do when they don't hear from us often.

You may remember I mentioned several things I was going to do. Now it is time you heard of something that *has been done*. During January we enrolled 211 pupils; February 232; March 231; average for the quarter, 141. In April the average was 151. So you see our school has been very well attended. The average would have been much better were it not that since the first of the year measles and fever have prevailed in San Fernando; and even yet several of our scholars are at home, owing to the effects of these diseases.

On January 15th I organized a little band of "The King's Daughters," under the name of "The Loving Circle of Susannah Church," with a membership of fifteen. We meet on Friday afternoon, just after I dismiss school, and spend some time in studying the Sabbath School Lesson. A number of the girls are just beginning to teach infant classes in the Sabbath School, so I study the lesson with them, and sometimes read a story suitable for them to tell their scholars. We use the Westminster Teacher and S. S. Times, so you know what our lessons are. At our Circle meetings, too, I tell the members about any of our scholars whom I have visited during the week, and found sick or needing help in any way, and they generally visit the children as I ask them to do. One Sunday, when out visiting, I went into a poor, little, dingy room to see one of my little boys, and I cannot tell you how glad I felt to see in a corner a large paper snow-ball, which one of the girls had taken to him the day previous. At some of our meetings I had taught them to make paper flowers, and suggested that each of them would use the flowers to make some poor little child happy, so you can understand how thankful I was. It was only a little thing, but it is so good to get people interested in work for others. But I fear my letter is growing rather long, so I must hasten to finish it.

Mr. Grant and family sail in the Steamer Riga Monica to-morrow, and how I am to endure life without them for the next six months remains to be seen. If two of their family remain in Nova Scotia I will not likely spend such a merry Xmas as that of '89, so if you do not hear from me again before next Xmas, please expect the most gloomy letter you ever read—the one I will write on Xmas 1890.

We have had a great deal of rain lately, and I find the heat very intense, and the school work especially trying, but my health is very good, for which I am grateful.

your sincere friend,

MAGGIE J. GRAHAM.