

mission, to which the two ladies mentioned above are going :—

In 1886-7, when the Woman's Auxiliary was first begun, the Parkdale Branch had prepared a bale of clothing, and their Secretary, Mrs. Thorne, was asked to write to various missionaries to ascertain where such help was most needed. This she did, and received answers from all promptly, except from Rev. J. W. Tims, whose answer did not reach her for a length of time. This delay was explained by Mr. Tims, who also told her he had made several ineffectual attempts to make friends with one of the minor chiefs—"White Pup," for the sake of beginning work in his camp—but had always failed. One day he determined to try once more, and as he rode down to his camp he prayed earnestly that some way might be shown him whereby he might accomplish his purpose.

Shortly afterwards an Indian rode up to him and handed him a letter—very dirty and weather stained. This proved to be Mrs. Thorne's letter, which she had addressed incorrectly (for Mr. Tim's Mission was almost unknown then) to "Blackfoot Crossing." It had been thrown off the train at the nearest point, and had been picked up, sometime afterward, by a railway employee, who sent it, by this Indian, to Mr. Tims.

Taking the offer of the bale, as made in this letter, to be an answer to his prayer, Mr. Tims went on and told "White Pup" that if he was allowed to open a school in his camp some warm clothes would be given to his people—to which the chief consented, provided he saw the clothes first.

This letter led to a correspondence, which very soon proved to the Woman's Auxiliary the great need of the lady missionary, for, whom Mr. Tims appealed—"one who, for the love of Christ, would go and teach and help the poor heathen women and children, whose miserable lives were little better than slavery." As soon as the necessary salary was guaranteed by the various branches, Miss Brown was sent out. In 1889 Miss Brown took six girls to live with her in a tiny log house—the beginning of the "Blackfoot Home." It was very difficult to get the Indians to allow their girls to stay in the "Home," as they expected to be *paid* for them, and any attempt at necessary punishment, for running away or insubordination, would have been resented by the parents. Miss Brown's health failed from overwork, and in the Autumn of 1890 Miss Perkes went out to take her place. Two of Mr. Tim's assistant teachers, Mr.

Wainson and Mr. Haynes, had previously taken some boys to live with them in the mission house, six boys and Mr. Haynes sleeping in a loft over the kitchen. That Autumn a building was erected for the "Home," which was a decided improvement on Miss Brown's shanty, but

was still very small. The Indians have begun, at last, to realize the importance of the home training for their children and are now anxious to have them taken in, and so Mr. Tims applied last year for a grant from the Government for a building. Having received it, and also some help from English friends, he enlarged and improved the Home until it will hold about 40 children. Mr. and Mrs. Haynes and the boys will occupy one wing, and Miss Garlick and Miss Symonds and the girls the other, while the centre will be devoted to kitchen, dining room, etc., etc.

Miss Perkes was married to Rev. G. Holmes, of Lesser Slave Lake, last Summer, and these two ladies are now going up to take her place.

The difficulties of the work are very great, and are rendered more so by insufficiency of funds, but the importance of receiving these young souls from the degrading surroundings of heathen camp life, and training them in a Christian home cannot be overestimated.

The Blackfoot Reserve is 18 miles long and 10 broad. It is the Home of 1800 *heathen* Indians. The Church of England alone, with the exception of a small school under a Roman Catholic priest, is caring for these people.

The Indians are not only heathen but are quite uncivilized, and have no idea of how to do the simplest household duties—such as cooking, sewing, nursing, etc. The sick are made worse by the noise of the medicine man's drum, and their flesh is cut to let out the evil spirit, which is causing their illness.

Miss Garlick and Miss Symonds will not only have charge of the girls in the home, but will also do what they can to help and teach the women in the camps.

Woman's Auxiliary Department.

"The love of Christ constraineth us."—2 Cor. v., 14.
Communications relating to this Department should be addressed
Mrs. A. E. Williamson, 83 Wellesley St., Toronto.



CORRESPONDENT writes to us from Caledonia, Ont., as follows :—

Will you kindly allow me space in your valuable magazine to insert a few lines at this most opportune moment, when our beloved Bishop of Algoma is suffering mentally and physically from his inability to meet the just demands of many good and noble men who have left all to come and work in the Lord's vineyard; but who, at the end of the day, cannot receive their justly earned penny, for there are no funds.

May I make this appeal to the loving sisters of the Woman's Auxiliary throughout Canada, and ask their kind help for Algoma to pay this debt of \$4,000? If the members of each branch would, at their last meeting in December, take