

*Official Notice.*

The Fourteenth Annual Meeting of the Canada Congregational Board of Missions will be held (D.V.) in the Congregational Church, Embro, Ont., on Wednesday and Thursday May 30th and 31st. A large attendance is confidently expected. Let every Branch, and, as far as possible, every Auxiliary, to send at least one delegate. Full particulars will be given in the May LEAFLET.

C. C. NASMITH,  
Secretary

*From Miss Maggie W. Melville.*

CISAMBA, January 17th, 1900

DEAR FRIENDS,—It is pouring rain, and has been for the two hours. The women and girls are at the fields, as this is a busy season there. In almost every field there is a small hut which is built for shelter on just such days. Even so, the clothes are wet, and on returning they feel it much pleasanter to stay beside their fires than to sit in a cold schoolhouse. I think, would feel so under such circumstances.

I was thinking of a few customs here and how much different from American customs they were, only suited to this country:

If a rooster crows in the evening after sunset it must be killed and eaten.

A young girl of about eleven or twelve changes her name if she wishes to, refusing to answer to that of childhood.

When twins are born it is usual for the mother to return to her own people until the children are able to walk well, then she again returns to her husband.

When twins sleep in a strange village, the women of the village will not go to their fields to work until the twins take hold of a hoe a little.

If a mother allows her child to get burnt, even a very small one, the people of her village plunder her, taking her pots, baskets, etc., and even their pigs.

This month is Susu in Umbundu, and if it begins with fair weather, it will be fair weather through the whole month.

When there is a new moon the one who is first to see it is another "okasumbi kange" can demand payment from the other.

The small image seen of oneself in another's eye is called "okamona kiso," i.e., the little child of the eye.

Last week we had another wedding. Kapienje and Nanyemba were married. Nawimbu was intended from childhood.