

but my wife is far from being so owing to over work and worry. The doctor says that she is quite broken up and needs rest and change. He recommended California, but that was too expensive for us. Some friends, members of my congregation at 'Union Colliery Home,' invited her for a few weeks, she is there now enjoying complete rest, meanwhile I keep house with the help of my second daughter, 12 years. Of course she can't do much and most of the work falls on me, and what we cannot do is left undone, as it would take nearly half my salary to keep a servant. We have never had any help, for servants are an expensive luxury out here. I wrote last year to Mrs. Joly de Lotbiniere about the needs of my new church at Union. In her answer she stated that she had put the case before the meeting of our Society and that the ladies fully admitted that it was a case for help, but that they could not do anything that year, perhaps they might be able to do something next year, that is what Mrs. Joly de Lotbiniere said. I hope you will not take it amiss, my mentioning the subject to you. The whole of this country has gone mad over the Klondike gold mines, all the ships and boats going there pass this way, coaling at the wharf of the 'Union Colliery.' I pity the poor men who go, for thousands of them are camping on the beach at Skayung and Dyea, where a fatal epidemic has broken out amongst them, and from 15 to 20 die daily after a few hours illness. The men who come down give a horrible account of the state of things there hardly to be believed. So many people are going that there are not enough ships on this coast to carry them, so as fast as they come, any kind of craft is pressed into service, some never reach, having to come back unable to face the storms of northern seas. Three crafts have gone down this winter with all on board, and they were crowded with men and animals: but nothing stops the rush, though not one in twenty ever finds anything. Thousands will return broken in health and pocket, many actually starving. I would not advise any friend of mine to go there, even if he were to make his pile. For 5 months the thermometer is never higher than 40, and often down to 60 and 70. In the heat of the summer the ground is always frozen below the moss. Provisions are scarce and dear. Flour \$40 a sack. Excuse this long rambling letter, and believe me dear madam,

Your humble servant, JULES WILLEMAR.

NOTICE.

Mrs. Von Iffland, Bergerville, P.Q., Treasurer LETTER LEAFLET, Quebec Branch of the Woman's Auxilia., regrets that she has received notice of subscription from so few Branches that the list for 1898-99 cannot be sent to the printer in time for the April issue. The old list will have to be used.