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Editors and Correspondents

INTELLIGENCE OF FEMALE MISSIONS.

LETTER FROM A LADY ASSISTING MISS PIGOT AT CALCUTTA.

During the past year I have visited eight or ten different houses, out of which seven have given up owing to illness, after which the often happens they get too lazy to get up again. I am able always to get them to take their place. At present I am teaching eleven houses, and have altogether twenty-eight pupils on my list.

In one house I have a very intelligent girl, she is about ten years old, and has a pretty face. Often she runs down to bring me up; the last time I went, she came down and told me she was not able to prepare all her lessons, but had made her mother believe she knew them. I was obliged to hear her tell a story, and told her there was One who knows everything, and we can hide nothing from him. She said she was afraid of her mother. Although an only child, she is not allowed to play with the other children. Her mother was very angry with her, and was going to look her up, and keep her bread and water for telling a story. It was so glad to see she was sorry for her death, and looked quite ashamed when I spoke seriously. Besides my regular pupils, I visit the houses taught by our native Christian Teachers. In entering one of these houses the first time last week, half a dozen women came round me to hear the Bible. One being far advanced, I made her read. They are married to four brothers, and all seemed very unhappy. One of the women said to me, "You are all good, but we are animals, our religion and education quite different from yours," then she began saying, "what quarrel we had and various dispositions natives had, let them speak on, and then told them the same Jesus who died for us, died for them also, and if they felt they were such great sinners Jesus was the more willing to pardon and love them. I spoke a long time with them, and promised to go again. (Signed), LAVINIA FROST.

LETTER FROM A LADY ASSISTING MRS. DRURY AT MADRAS.

Thank you for your kind letter, which I received with much pleasure, and also for your kind welcome you give to me to share your work. Ever since I first heard anything of the work among native ladies I have had a great interest in it, and I have endeavored to develop their intellects by regular instruction, or to give them a less dull and monotonous and pleasant employment for their fingers, but above all to give them knowledge of the one true God, and the only way of salvation through the blood and favor of Jesus Christ, and to confess I have met with many great disappointments in what I have seen of missionary life and work in this country, I cannot believe that where earnest and loving efforts are prayerfully made in dependence on the Holy Spirit for the conversion of individual souls, the labor can really be lost, though it may require long patience and watching before we see any direct results, and very often the labourer may not be permitted to see the fruit reaped from the seed she has sown.

It is a great pleasure to me to have joined Mrs. Drury in her work, and many of the native ladies whom she visits are very interesting; but I am sorry to say that she, herself, is not at all well; nothing I can say or do will prevent her from working far beyond her strength, and she is not really so strong as she appears to be to those who do not live with her and know her as I do.

You would have been much pleased could you have seen the pleasure with which the girls and ladies you met out were received by the children in the schools. All came up to receive their books so eagerly, and they were so glad at Triplicane, that not one of them had a good case, and they were so glad to have the Bible, and they have now been able to have a good preparation of Christian knowledge, and we cannot but be glad to see them so well.

OTTA A VALLEY NOTES.

Mr. Editor,—Perhaps a chatty letter about one thing and another in this part of the world may not be unacceptable to your readers, by way of variety if nothing more, to the more grave, formal, and most useful contributions with which your columns abound. First, then, let me say that we have very lately had another addition to the number of ministers in the Ottawa, whose ministry till now has been mainly confined to the west of Ontario. On the 11th inst. the Presbytery of Ottawa met at Beachburg, for the purpose of inducting the Rev. W. M. Christie into the pastoral oversight of that congregation and Westmeath. Your correspondent preached and presided, and in the absence of the brother appointed to do so, addressed the minister. The Rev. Mr. Gaudier, of Coulange, Que., addressed the people. Unfortunately owing to the weather the attendance was not so large as it otherwise would have been. The call, however, was very hearty and entirely unanimous. At the close of the services Mr. Christie received a most cordial welcome, and enters with every prospect of success upon an important field of labor.

As conventions of one sort and another are now in season, we have also had our convention. In the first week of this month the Ottawa Valley Sunday School Association comprising the Counties of Ottawa, Pontiac, Renfrew, Lanark, Carleton, Russell, and Grenville, held its annual convention in this place, the first thing of the kind we have ever been favored with. A large number of delegates, both rural and urban, lay and clerical, male and female, from the districts named, were present. No similar body ever wrought more diligently and energetically at their work than did this convention. The meetings lasted two days, began with a young people's prayer meeting at eight o'clock a.m., and from that time till past ten p.m., with only time to eat, it was meetings, meetings, till all were glad to get a rest. The routine business of the Association was transacted, a mass meeting of Sunday school scholars held, two specimens given of teaching, seven subjects pretty fully discussed, resolutions and votes of thanks passed, and so ended our convention, pronounced by all to be a great success, as the meetings throughout were largely attended. I need not say that the Presbyterian element was largely represented and took an active part in all the proceedings. One subject discussed with a result very welcome to us as Presbyterians was, "The use of the Catechism in the Sunday school." This subject was introduced by a very excellent essay, and it was pleasing to note as an indication of public opinion that there was scarcely a difference of sentiment in the convention with respect to the utility in the Sunday school as a means for instructing the young of a good epitome of Christian doctrine such as is our Shorter Catechism.

The Protestant churches in this place, it is noticed by almost every visitor, are quite out of keeping with the many large and elegant residences owned and occupied by those who attend them; and the unfavorable contrast they make with the large, costly and substantial Roman Catholic establishments in the town is not very creditable. In common with many in all parts of the country, the Presbyterians here are bestirring themselves in this matter, and steps are being taken for the erection of a new, more commodious, and more imposing edifice than that in which we now worship, which has already been twice enlarged, and is now again too small for our requirements. If building is not proceeded with in Spring, it will only be because of the stringency of the times, on account of the still depressed lumber business by which, in this part, financially speaking, we live, move and have our being; and whether people will buy our lumber or not we mean very soon to have a new church anyway.

In this connection permit me to put in a word in favor of your Madoc correspondent's proposal for a church building scheme in connection with our Church. I have not the least doubt that in all the poorer and more thinly settled districts, such help as might be thereby afforded would do a great deal both to extend the conquests of our Church, and to hold them more firmly. A shrewd district minister of the American Presbytery of the Western States once said, "I have never established an independent church until they had obtained a place of worship." No one can doubt that we have sustained not a few losses for the want of a little timely help in a struggling cause in the erection of a church. If our American brethren have found such a scheme necessary and merely helpful, we could not but be in circumstances to do the same.

Let me say with what deep interest I have read the account of the missionary deputation of the Ottawa Presbytery up the Desert, contained in your last issue. Had not this letter already reached too great a length, I had intended to add a few supplementary and confirmatory facts gleaned from my own experience, to strengthen the impression left by that letter of the peculiar character to some extent of our work in this region, and of the pressing necessity for systematic, laborious, faithful work, and for men able and willing to do it. That can be done another time. Meanwhile I confess to have had my heart touched and my eyes opened, by residence here, to the needs of this district, to a degree that not even our well-informed and zealous representative on the Home Mission Committee could ever have effected by any description without actually seeing for myself. Let me conclude with expressing the hope that men of the right stamp for this work may from time to time be forthcoming. W. D. BALLANTYNE. Pembroke, Oct. 15, 1877.

THE LATE D. O. MCKENZIE, B.A.

Mr. Editor,—Permit me to occupy a small space in THE PRESBYTERIAN, to pen a few words as a tribute to the memory of the late Donald Cameron McKenzie, student of Divinity, who died recently in Knox College, and who has been laboring in the Presbyterian congregation of Georgina for the last four months of his existence. Mr. McKenzie was born of Scotch parents in the township of Puslinch, where he leaves a widowed mother, five brothers and three sisters to mourn the loss of a kind brother and dutiful son—his father having died six months before him. The congregation of Georgina would embrace this opportunity of expressing their deep and heartfelt sympathy with the family under their severe affliction, and hope that they will be sustained and comforted by Him who is the orphan's Shield and widow's Stay. Mr. McKenzie by his Christian bearing and kind and gentlemanly manners endeared himself to all with whom he was acquainted. He was unwearied in his efforts to do good, "instant in season and out of season." He was eloquent and faithful as a preacher; diligent in doing the work of a pastor, firm and unflinching in his attachment as a friend. None had a better opportunity to discern the latter quality, and feel the effects of it, than the writer of these lines, with whom he lived while laboring in this congregation. Mr. McKenzie came to this congregation at a time when there was a great want of harmony existing amongst us. He had many contending elements to deal with as well as to listen to a great many conflicting statements; but his wisdom and tact seemed to be always equal to the occasion. His lips were sealed to all he heard and he was never known to reflect on the actions of any. He accomplished more in the way of healing differences and stirring up new life in our congregation than the most sanguine had anticipated could have been accomplished in so short a time. He more than doubled the attendance on Sabbath, started two Sabbath Schools, taught one himself and taught a Bible Class in the other, as well as preached two and sometimes three sermons each Sabbath, and drove eighteen miles to the different places. He studied his sermons with great care and delivered them in a manner which made his pulpit ministrations very attractive. He was also unceasing in his labors in visiting the congregation. He spent a portion of every week in visiting the people, until he made himself universally beloved by all who came in contact with him, even those outside of our own communion; and when the time of his departure arrived, the request on every lip was for his speedy return amongst us, which we all anticipated with feelings of pleasure. But when the melancholy news of his death arrived all were filled with sorrow, and to my own personal knowledge there never has been a death in this section of country which has caused such a wide-spread feeling of sorrow among the community. I have seen the child shedding tears, as well as those over eighty years of age. All seemed to feel as if they had lost a friend, and we are assured that the Rev. Mr. Innes and the Church at home, and there-fore, I am sure, the Providence who has so mercifully provided for the comfort of the bereaved, will be for-ward to grant the request I pray for.

door and knock; if any man hear my voice and open the door I will come in and sup with him and he with me." DONALD McDONALD. Georgina, 19th Oct. 1877.

WHO IS 'SIGMA'?

Mr. Editor,—A letter in your last week's paper signed "Sigma" has been read by many with pain because of its unchristian and untruthful insinuations against an honored minister and one holding a high position in our Church. This gentleman is there classified with "small men," and characterized as "a certain dictator," "a man who at the instance of a clique and to serve a purpose," etc., moved a certain resolution in the Assembly, and who in so doing is declared by this same writer to have "evidently had an axe to grind." Who is this traducer of the brethren? A certain New Brunswick minister, who has ere this got himself and others into trouble by his pen, is blamed by many, and to give him an opportunity of clearing himself I think it well to let him know what is said. "Sigmas," and "Leumas" are supposed to be the same person. Indeed, no doubt as to this can exist in the mind of any one who reads the letter signed "Sigma" in your paper of 28th September and the one signed "Leumas," in the Halifax Presbyterian Witness of the same week. In the latter paper the following extract is taken from "Leumas" letter:—"The Committee that was appointed to consider the College Reports and recommend a deliverance there-ant was largely composed of Principals and Professors. An unsophisticated person feels like asking why a Principal or Professor should be on such a Committee at all. Professors should leave to others the task of passing an opinion on their work. It is said that if Professors had been left off, and in all delicacy that should have been the case, less time and argument would have served in the work assigned." It is said that the writer of the above appears in the minutes of last Assembly as seconding a motion to do the very thing to which in these sentences he takes exception, viz.: To send the Knox College Reports to a Committee on which were the names of Principals and Professors. In short, incredible as it may seem, it is said that "Erigena," "Sigma," "Leumas," and the seconder of the motion referred to, are all one and the same person. It is to be hoped that such is not the case. X. Y. Z.

REVIVAL IN LONDON, ONT.

A blessed work of revival is at present going on in St. Andrew's Church, London. The meetings are conducted by the Rev. Mr. Paynter, of Chicago, in the absence of our pastor, Rev. Mr. Murray, who is at present absent on his holidays. Enquiry meetings every morning at nine o'clock. Daily prayer meetings in the rooms of the Y.M.C.A. at noon. Bible readings from three to four, and at half past seven o'clock in the lecture room of the church. These meetings have been precious and solemn seasons to God's own dear children, and many sinners have accepted Jesus as their precious Saviour.

The meetings are crowded and have increased in interest during the past week—The Holy spirit is manifestly dealing lovingly with the wandering ones; and many have found peace in believing. Mr. Paynter's address on the Prodigal was earnest, solemn, encouraging, joyous, showing not so much the joy of the returning lost son, as the joy of the Father. "Let us rejoice." Many requests for prayer are read every evening before the services.

We invite Christians everywhere to pray more, and labour more abundantly, to agonize for the blessing, and the promise is sure. "Whatever thing ye shall ask, it shall be done."

We want our prayer meetings everywhere to be more interesting, and inviting; we want our Sabbath Schools to be more efficient and successful. We want—God wants—every Christian to work in the vineyard. It was only the workers that were commanded,—it was only the workers that received any pay—first receive Christ in the heart, then work. Believers are called upon to walk before God—not behind; so that he may not only see them, but may direct and keep them in the way.

The Rev. Canon Innes, of St. Paul's Church, addressed the meeting last evening, and although it was wet and raining, there was a large attendance. The interesting address was founded on Psalm xlii. Reference specially was made to two points, viz.: "The supply promise—The keep promises of our Heavenly Father, as indicated in the Psalm." We sincerely trust that the work will go on, and that all who are present will be a revival of true

To the Friends of Prohibition.

The Conference of Prohibitionists, held in Toronto, September 18th and 19th, after fully considering the present position of the various Prohibitory organizations in Canada, agreed to recommend a union of the previously existing Alliance with the several Provincial Leagues, and the formation of a new Dominion Alliance. It was felt that more sympathy and support than have hitherto been given to the Societies named could be secured for a general Prohibitory organization, and, consequently, more practical work performed.

The recommendations of the Conference having been accepted, the Alliance as now constituted is a thoroughly National Society, with which Prohibitionists in all parts of the Dominion are invited to co-operate.

The Constitution of the new Alliance is framed to meet the circumstances arising out of the dissimilarity of laws in the several Provinces and the vast extent of territory embraced in the sphere of its operations.

To the end that the work of the Alliance might be under the immediate direction and supervision of an Executive, whose members could readily consult with each other, it was deemed necessary that some city should be made the centre of operations, and Toronto was accordingly selected for the present year.

The Executive Committee, in order to be as soon as practicable, to enter upon vigorous and systematic work in all parts of the Dominion, and whilst never losing sight of the great aim, "Total Prohibition," they will endeavor to promote Prohibition or Dominion legislation in harmony with the objects and principles of the Alliance.

The first great duty devolving upon the Executive is to put the Alliance upon a sound financial basis, and to ensure a regular income for a term of years, that end in view they have concluded to appeal to the friends of prohibition for subscriptions to a fund of \$100,000 in five equal annual instalments. The sum may appear large, but it means out of proportion to the magnitude of the cause, the magnitude of the evil, the number of persons that are engaged to aid, or the strength and bona fide ability of our opponents. Those who are blessed with wealth, influence, and a disposition to promote the cause of the society will, doubtless, contribute to it; but its success will be secured without the cordial assistance of all classes according to their means. Also trust that all Temperance Societies throughout the Dominion will give hearty co-operation to this undertaking.

To indicate the practical nature of the sum named, let it be

10 persons give each \$100
20 " " " 50
30 " " " 33 1/3
50 " " " 20
100 " " " 10
200 " " " 5
500 " " " 2
1,000 " " " 1
2,000 " " " 1/2

Should this appeal meet a response anticipated, there is every duty in educating and directing them so as to secure, at no distant date, enactment and enforcement of a Prohibitory Law, and the consequent redemption of our fair Dominion from the resulting from the Liquor Traffic.

Signed by order of the Executive Committee,
ALEXANDER VIDAL, Treasurer.

Persons willing to aid the Alliance in any way are requested to send their names to the Secretary, H. GALE, Toronto, stating under the foregoing Schedule they names placed.
Toronto, October, 4th, 1877.

Reverence Paid to a White Elephant.

Among the animals which in various countries have been the objects of veneration, few have ever attracted the attention accorded in the kingdom of Siam and Burmah to a white elephant. Such an animal, when he makes his appearance in the forest, is regarded as a prodigy, and no effort is spared to capture him when caught he is housed in regal state, long train of attendants being allotted to his service. "King of the White Elephants" is considered one of the proudest titles of which the monarchs of these countries can boast; and fierce wars have been waged for the possession of one of the beasts. They are looked upon as a symbol of all kingly authority, without one would be taken as a sign of the displeasure of heaven, or a certain omen of disaster.

On the rocks by the sea were seen marine creatures, but on the day when they were seen they were withering away. They lived, but they were withering away. The foaming tide covered the rocks, and they were opened their eyes, and they drank in water, and the tide was the same. We saw them, and we saw them, and we saw them.