

# Letter Leaflet of the Woman's Auxiliary

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*"The love of Christ constraineth us."*—2 Cor. v. 14.

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REMEMBER AT NOON TO PRAY FOR MISSIONS.

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Subjects for Prayer and Reading: July—Mackenzie River. The Jews August—Moosonee. Greenland.

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## THE FAMINE IN INDIA.

India is now passing through what threatens to be the most appalling famine of the century. Starvation and death are sweeping over the western and north-western provinces, covering an area of 400,000 square miles, and containing nearly 50,000,000 of people. 6,000,000 only are in receipt of government relief, two cents a day for men, less for women and children. This sum buys one pound of grain, just sufficient to support life. Only one shower in three years; animals and people are dying of hunger and thirst. Think of this ye people at home with gallons of water at your disposal; the trees are bare, for every leaf has been picked for the cattle. Thousands of children are wandering about abandoned by the parents unable to feed them, while thousands of young girls are being sold to Mohomedans at five to thirty cents each. Fully 20,000,000 are dependent upon private charity. As in 1897, the missionaries know more of actual necessities than any other residents, official or unofficial; they are one in the statement that it is practically impossible to exaggerate the present need. After the last famine over 10,000 children were cared for in the mission schools. The Government is keeping registers of deserted children that they may be placed in institutions where they will receive physical and moral care to fit them to provide for themselves in the future. Hindus have no institution for destitute children; therefore the thousands of orphaned and deserted children find their only refuge in the schools and homes established as a very important part of the missionary work in India. A traveller in India says: "One must live with the missionaries of India in order to