

in the United States and of Canada, telling them about the projected conference and asking for their sympathy and support. I was disappointed at getting no reply in the case of Canada, and we regretted it much. So it is an additional pleasure now to hear from you, in such a friendly way. I think, however, on referring to your list of officers, that the reason must have been that I got hold of a wrong address, as I see no such name connected with your work. How very good it would be if some way could be found of establishing closer relations between our woman's work and workers for foreign missions in England and Canada! It would, I am sure, be a blessing and help in many ways. With best wishes for your W.A.'s work, and warm thanks for your letter," etc.

DEAR MISS MONTIZAMBERT,—At the request of our Bishop I beg to place before you a few facts concerning this mission, and also to ask your assistance in procuring money to build a new church and procure clothing for (1) destitute Indians; (2) for school children, both boys and girls.

This land has been under Christian influence for many years. As early as 1857, we find that C.M.S. missionaries visited here occasionally. There has been nominally a resident priest here since 1864, but the C.M.S. changed the men so often that not half the good that ought to be done was accomplished. In those days the band was much more numerous, and there were many here then that have since joined other bands, but who were Christianized here. The ever-watchful Romans have proselytized about fifty to sixty of them from time to time.

In 1886 (January 12th) I came here, and opened school in the old "mission house," February 1st, 1886. It was a day school, and such a place! and such children! and such clothing! or rather lack of clothing. Although it was winter, many little boys and girls came to school in nothing but apologies for cotton dresses—nothing else, plus some sort of blankets, all far older than the wearers by the look of them. We have since then seen great advance in their condition. But I need hardly say that the W.A. is to be thanked for a very great deal of the good work, especially among the boys and girls. Good warm clothing here means teaching cleanliness, and a first step upwards. The effect of seeing their children cleanly and warmly clad is far-reaching. It tells upon their homes very markedly. Then we have always our quota of sick, and poor, and old. The nature of Christianity cannot be better taught than by deeds of love and charity, silently and unostentatiously performed. That is what the W.A. enables every missionary it helps to do, in such a way as it would be impossible to do without their aid.

We have now 140 good Christians, of whom 35 are very regular communicants, but have about 33 heathen close to us, and eighteen miles away we have 185 more. Of that 185 heathen, we have four boys at our school, who are very good pupils.

We are anxious to obtain more of those pupils. The government are now building a new school for us 48 x 42 feet, two stories, and a full basement for kitchens, cellars, etc. The cost will be about \$3,000, to accommodate thirty.

The Indians will be very poor this winter, as their crops were an absolute failure. They have nothing to sell, and to make matters worse, the prairie and bush fires of July burnt up all their hay and much fencing and stables. Now they are building themselves shanties, and stables for their animals, from fifteen to twenty-five miles away. There are forty miles nearly burnt, including all this reserve. This places this band, although considered far more advanced than the average in trying to help themselves, at such a disadvantage that they will undoubtedly be worse off than the poorest hitherto. I therefore ask you to give their present condition your best consideration, that the lesson of Christian charity and brotherly love may be carried home to them, and not to them only, but to their heathen brethren all round.

I beg to utter a note of warning to the W.A. for their guidance in the distribution of their gifts. Let it not be thought that because the half or the majority, or even all, in a "band" have become Christians that, therefore, there is no call for further help for them. The work of Christianizing does not end with baptism; it is rather a work of years, of generations. With that work there will always be a call for the work done by the loving hands of the W.A. It is better in every way to neglect the purely heathen, if we neglect at all, than to neglect our own people. Under any circumstances, the heathen should not receive more than the poor struggling Christians, lest we teach them a wrong lesson. In speaking thus I am not thinking of the children at all. Treat them both sides alike.

My reason for thus writing is that I have found that in some missions the heathen get quantities of clothing, etc., out of all proportion with what this and that of Fort Pelly get. In both cases our people have no better means of gaining a livelihood, and are practically the same people. These heathen get ten times as much as we get for ours.

If we had no need, we would not ask; but we have our sick, our blind, and our old and helpless. Allow me to suggest that each Dorcas secretary should apply to the deputy of the Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs for a copy of the Annual Report on Indian Affairs for 1893, where you can find the number of