

World of Missions

(For Dominion Presbyterian.)

Foreign Mission Committee Notes.

There was a full meeting of the committee on the 17th and 18th inst. and a long docket. The minutes of the Presbytery of Indore of the 8th of August, an abstract of which was given to the press some weeks ago, were read. The committee declined to become a party to the case, and adopted the following resolution:

"Having read relevant documents, the committee regrets that the Presbytery of Indore adopted a resolution seriously reflecting upon the character of the Rev. Principal Wilkie, a member of the Presbytery and a missionary of this committee, without formulating a specific charge and taking action thereupon in accordance with the laws of the church. The committee further regret that the resolution referred to has been published broadcast over the signature of the clerk of the Presbytery of Indore. The committee resolves that in reference to Mr. Wilkie's request for advice, the secretary be requested to intimate to him that the constitutional procedure is open to him in accordance with the laws of the church, to require the Presbytery of Indore to formulate a specific charge or withdraw the resolution complained of."

It was further agreed to give this resolution of the F.M.C. to the press.

Dr. J. Frazer Smith has been seriously ill with typhoid fever. A medical certificate was read stating that Dr. Smith must have change of climate. It was accordingly agreed to grant him six months' leave of absence.

Rev. J. T. Taylor, who is on the way to India, has been appointed to Indore, and temporarily as treasurer of the mission in Dr. Smith's place. Dr. and Mrs. Nugent and Miss Goodfellow are also on the way to India in company with Mr. and Mrs. Taylor. Miss Jamison has now twenty-eight blind children under her care, and it was agreed to allow her to erect a suitable building for them, the greater part of the funds being provided by private contributions, from friends in India and elsewhere. It is said that there are 500,000 blind in India, and that there are only two other institutions in the country for their instruction.

A letter was read from Mr. Ledingham, in which he reports encouraging work in the college. He also tells the sad story of the death of a young girl through cobra bite. She was one of the children of the girls' school, and became one of their teachers. She knew she was to die in a few hours, but calmly faced the great reality, trusting to the Saviour, to whom her heart had been given.

Miss White, whose furlough is due next year, requested that she might remain another year in the interests of the work. The request was granted.

It was reported that Miss Ogilvie sailed on the 9th of October, to be the future Mrs. Dr. Leslie. It was also reported that Erskine Church, Montreal, which supported Dr. Leslie as a single man, is to continue to support him on a married man's salary. Dr. Leslie whilst at the coast for a change, was placed for six weeks in charge of a quarantine station by the Chinese Government, until another could be secured. The station was established because of the cubonic plague that has done such terrible havoc in India and has reached China.

Dr. Leslie is to receive from the Government \$250 a month whilst in the service, which he says is to be given to the Century Fund.

The Presbytery of Honan grieves very much over the removal of the Rev. Donald MacGillivray, of Shanghai. Mr. MacGillivray is an army in himself. The rapid opening up of the work and the loss of such a man makes them inconsolable. They want two or three others to make up the loss.

The missionaries in British Columbia held a conference in Alberin, in which the whole Indian work on the coast was discussed, and unanimity arrived at as to the best methods of doing the work. They were much encouraged by their day or two together. Mr. and Mrs. Motion, who have taken up the work at Alberin, were thus introduced to their fellow-missionaries and their methods.

Dr. Warden stated that at this date the fund was \$33,675, in debt. The expenditures in building in Honan and the West are unusually large this year. The estimates adopted by the General Assembly are \$10,000 greater than the estimates of last year. As this is a specially prosperous year in Canada, it is hoped that the contributions of the church will be especially generous, in order that the work may not only be maintained, but expanded, as doors open, and they are already open in every field, beyond the ability of the committee to enter.

Mrs. Jeffrey, who visited the Indian missions in the Northwest and British Columbia, submitted certain recommendations, which were considered and most of them approved. They will be submitted to the committee in Winnipeg in charge of the Northwest work.

Prof. Baird, on account of his increased duties in connection with Manitoba College, has resigned the joint convenership, which the committee regrets very much. Prof. Baird has for seven years had much to do with the development of that work. He will still serve until the next meeting of the committee, when a successor will be appointed.

R. P. MACKAY.

Our Gifts.

By Rose Terry Cooke.

"What shall I give to Thee, O Lord?"

The kings that came of old
Laid softly on Thy cradle rude
Their myrrh and gems and gold.

"Thy martyrs gave their hearts' warm blood,
Their ashes strowed Thy way;
They spurned their lives as dreams and dust,
To speed Thy coming way.

"Thou knowest of sweet and precious things:
My store is scant and small,
Yet, wert Thou here in want and woe,
Lord, I would give Thee all."

There came a voice from heavenly heights:
"Unclose thine eyes and see.
Gifts to the least of those I love
Thou givest unto me."

Principal Fairbairn on Woman's Work in India.

(We give the following extract from the Rev. Dr. Fairbairn's address at the London Missionary Society's anniversary. It is full of interest and power.)

From Darjeeling I went to Benares, and there for the first time came face to face with two things. One of our missions, and a noble

mission it is, and the work of woman in it. Now there is nothing that I am more prepared to say than that the woman is a most efficient agent in the mission field. She, as she lives, and as she works in India, has accomplished, and is accomplishing, wonderful things. I was very much inclined, before going out, to say it is risky to send our daughters. It is an adventurous thing to send our wives and sisters. Ah, go and see, and you will discover no better, no finer work was ever undertaken or more successfully performed by any human hand. One day, outside an Indian city, I passed two shapely and beautiful English women. They came well mounted, trotting gaily and gallantly, one on either side of the road, bearing themselves on horseback as only English women can. That was one great type of the English women the native sees. May I tell you of another? It is not a tale told by a missionary; it was a tale told by a civilian to me.

We were walking in his garden just as the sun was westering, and he broke out in the way of an enthusiastic Scotsman. After having relieved his soul in criticism of what he thought defects in mission work, he broke out in praise of the woman as missionary, and then he told a tale, how, in a district where he was commissioner in the famine, there had been in one of the cities or towns somewhat of an outbreak. There was no white man in the residence. Into the mission school where sat the only white face, a missionary woman among her scholars, there suddenly broke the Tesildar, the native head of the town, saying, "Oh, Mem Sahib, there is a mutiny. Come and quell the mutiny." "That is not my function, it is yours; I am a woman, you are a man." "Ah, but you are the only white face in the district. Come, they will hear you. Send them to their homes." So she arose, she marshalled her scholars behind her, she marched out, she ordered the men to disperse. They fell right and left, she marched through with her scholars behind, the Tesildar humbly bringing up the rear. Nor was that all. She had to go on leave, and a younger woman took her place. Then the famine came, and all that she could personally raise she carefully distributed. Then came word of the Mansion House Fund. How was it to be distributed? A meeting was called, the commissioner presiding. Up stood a venerable Hindu, the chief man of the town, and said: "If this money is to find its destiny, and none of it is to stick to anybody's hand that does not need it, you must place it in the hands of the Mem Sahib at the school." "Ah," said my friend, "we cannot do that; she is of a mission." "She may be of the mission, but she is the one person that will see every anna properly distributed, fulfilling its end." Then—for he was supported by the chief Mussulman—it was determined to entrust the distribution to the Mem Sahib; there that young girl did a work that no man could be found to do, and did it so well as to fill all hearts with admiration. As the summer went on she grew pale—faded, and they proposed to send her to the hills. To the hills she long refused to go, but by and by she consented. Just the day before she was to go, cholera came. Then she got my friend with a face radiant with smiles, and said: "Now I cannot go; now I must stay," and through it she stayed, and through it she lived, and when one came to compliment her who remarked on the folly of trying to change the Hindu, she met him in the noblest way by saying: "Why, what would you consider the man doing who came and asked you in your office as to the folly of your own work?" There is a type of the woman in Indian missions, living to help, living to heal, living to educate the child, and, above all, living to give to the Indian wife and Indian mother an ideal of womanhood as the promise of remaking India, and she will be beloved and remembered after the exquisite heroism of many a rare and graceful rider has perished and been forgotten.