

THIS IS THE VICTORY



EVEN OUR FAITH."

Monthly Letter.

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SUBJECTS FOR PRAYER.

The Indians of our Dominion ; the Methodist Orphanage,
St. John's, Newfoundland.

JAPAN.

From Miss Blackmore.

AZABU, TOKYO, *Nov. 21st, 1896.*

Now that we know the estimates are granted we will begin at once to get our dispensary running. Life with so many hundreds in this district is at its best, but a long, desperate struggle with starvation and sickness to them means not only *pain* without the means to secure medical attendance, but inability to work, even for one day, means inability to buy the poor and scant portion of food which from day to day barely makes life and work possible. How best to help the most needy ones without making them careless and dependent is a difficult question here, as it is with workers

among the poor at home ; and here, too, as there, the most really deserving are often those who suffer and die in silence, while those who solicit aid are those whose want is the result of their own idleness or improvidence. The dispensary will, we hope, be a true aid to them in their physical ills as well as in bringing them to know of the " true riches."

At present there seems to be no ground for doubt that the addition to the Kofu school will be needed. There are sixty-five pupils now, making both school-rooms and dormitories insufficient.

The Shizuoka school building is beautiful and substantial, and so light and airy that it makes one feel that the girls *must* be healthy and happy in it. There is so much light, indeed, that I am afraid, in the summer it will be troublesome, but all through the winter it is delightful.

I need not tell you that our hearts beat quicker when we read of the resolution of the Board *re* Mrs. Large's return, and thought that she might soon be among us again. Whatever the decision of the General Executive may be, it is good to know *our* Board has done all it can.

Next Monday is Thanksgiving Day with us. . . . In the evening our girls are to give a literary entertainment in the school-rooms, to which all the teachers and students of the boys' school are invited.

The King's Daughters met here last Saturday for their semi-annual gathering. It was refreshing to behold such a number of bright, earnest, young Christian girls together, and to see how much of real happiness these Christian friendships bring into their lives.

December 2nd. The last ship brought us your letter, containing the resolution of the Board meeting. We were glad to have such full and satisfactory news. Of course we are eager now to hear the decision of the General Board *re* Mrs. Large. It means so much to the work here whether she comes back or not.

On consultation with Dr. Macdonald we have decided to open the dispensary with the new year. Some preparations are required in the way of getting an outfit, and the doctor is so very busy now he could not come this month.

December 3rd. Interrupted. There has been a heavy

cloud of anxiety resting on us for the last few days. Kuru Sakakura, one of our supported girls, who graduated two years ago, and who has been Miss Munroe's interpreter and most efficient helper, took a cold which quickly developed into a cough. On examination bacilli of consumption were found, and we felt almost hopeless of her recovery. To-day Miss M. and T. went with her to Dr. Kitaiato, who is a specialist in treatment of consumption, to have her examined and see if he would take her into his hospital. I have just returned. Dr. Kitaiato thinks there is good ground for hope, as the disease has only just commenced, so we left her comfortable and happy in a clean, quiet room, and we feel as though the sky has suddenly cleared.

We are all well, and work is going on steadily. Now that we have again two evangelistic workers in Tokyo, some of the places that had to be dropped after Mrs. Large left are reopened, and Miss Hart has had most enthusiastic welcomes from the women among whom she worked before.

From Miss Hart.

AZABU, TOKYO, Dec. 3rd, 1896.

I begin to feel now as if I am once more at home in my work. There have been many changes, and I find that many of the women have moved away, some have died, others married, and so on, making it seem almost like new work in some districts. However, some I knew are still as I left them, and I have received hearty welcomes from all I knew. I have been surprised and, at the same time, very glad, for I did not realize that the women had come to feel as much at home with me, or that I was a friend they could trust. You, perhaps, cannot understand how hard it must be and is for some to feel toward a foreigner as they do toward one of their own nationality. And the hearty welcomes have given me much more courage and hope of being useful in the work.

To day I had a new experience, in a way. I have often before, I suppose—in fact, I am sure—been the first foreigner some women have spoken to, but was never told it till to-day. Some weeks ago, a woman called at the house where one of our Bible-women boards. As all were out but

the Bible-woman, she began talking to the woman, and for some unknown reason showed her a photo of Miss Hargrave, that led to the woman saying she had never met a foreigner, and she thought them dreadful and their teaching very bad. She just hated Christianity, and so on. The Bible-woman then told her a little about Christianity and gave her a Christian paper. Taking the paper home to her husband, he read it and was quite pleased; told his wife that was very good teaching, and she could go to a Christian meeting if she wished. So, after thinking over what the Bible-woman told her, she decided to see for herself. Going one night to a church near by, she stood outside and listened, understanding a little of what was said.

She was at the Bible-woman's house again to-day, and was told that I was coming over, so waited to see me and hear me talk. After the introduction and greetings from the family, the woman of the house picked up my fur mitten and, in a surprised way, said, "Why, is this a mitten?" I said, "Yes." Then she put it on, and said, "How warm it must be." The strange woman looked on, and said, "Why would you do that with a foreigner's things?" The woman laughed, and the Bible-woman then told me that the strange woman was afraid of foreigners and thought them dreadful, etc.; but that she had waited to see me, and was anxious to hear some more Bible teaching. We had quite a nice talk; the woman seemed so much interested and talked so freely, asking questions, and when she did not understand frankly saying so. The Bible-woman also talked with her, and asked her to come to our next meeting. She said, "Thank you, Mrs. O. (the woman of that house) has promised to take me." We told her she would not understand all at once, but that she need not worry about that, that in time she would understand.

Ever since coming to Japan I have longed to get right at the beginning like that, but the women generally keep clear of us until they know something about Christianity, the Bible-woman doing the first work.

Not long ago I had the joy of talking to a woman for the first time. I mean it was the first time she had ever heard a Bible talk, and she comes regularly to our meetings in that district; but I will tell you more about her another time.

FRENCH MISSION SCHOOLS—MONTREAL.

The East End school, which opened on the first of September, had an attendance of thirty pupils during the first month; two of German parentage, nine from English homes, and nineteen French-Canadians.

Miss Matthieu writes: "We were pleased to see some of the pupils of last year return. A few of the new ones are from the homes of French-Romanists, whom I visited a year ago last August. Though they tarried long in fulfilling their promise made to me at that time, I know now that the Spirit of God has been working in the hearts of the parents, and prompted them to send their children on the day we reopened. I thanked God and felt encouraged.

One of my pupils, a bright studious girl of fourteen, who refuses to commit to memory Scripture texts in French, will (strange to say) learn any Scripture text in English, join in singing our hymns, and accompany me to Sabbath School and prayer-meeting. She is very devout in her home, her parents being bigoted Romanists. We hope and pray that some day she will come out into the light and learn more about Jesus."

December 5th: "I have visited every family in connection with our school, and we have felt it was good to speak one with the other. Some of the widowed mothers have drawn out my sympathy, making me feel that there is more interest in teaching our little people when we get acquainted with their home surroundings. I expect soon to have more time for district visiting.

"Though the November days were dark and gloomy outside, we seemed to live and work in the sunshine of God's love, daily striving for improvement in our class work. I can truly say our dear children have been earnest and devoted in their studies."

The pupils attending the West End school are younger than formerly. Three of the more advanced have entered the Institute, and some families previously connected with the mission have left the city. At present there are seventy-one names on the register. Miss Anderson continues to visit and distribute literature; and reports several cases of boys and

girls who have been in our school, and have in this way fitted themselves to obtain the respectable positions they now occupy. They are most grateful, many of them having called upon Miss Jackson to thank her for the instruction received.

Miss Anderson writes: "It will be nine years the first of February since I began to work for your Society. The school at St. Gabriel was opened on that day with eleven pupils, the children of Rev. Mr. Sadler's congregation. There was no part of his work in which Mr. Sadler took greater interest than the school, often visiting it, praying with and giving kindly advice to the children. All the results of Mr. Sadler's work since he took charge of the West End Mission will not be known during his life-time; but he has lived long enough to see young people—some of them belonging to the most ignorant Catholic families—become respected members of Protestant churches."

INDIAN WORK.

From Miss Burpee.

COQUALEETZA INSTITUTE,
CHILLIWACK, B.C., Dec. 7th, 1896.

In looking back over the three years that I have been here, I can see progress in my department as well as in all of the other departments of the Institute.

The first year in the Institute we would have found it quite difficult to have done all of the sewing that was required, as the only help I had was the few girls that had been in the old home, the new girls, who came in at that time, knew very little, if anything, about sewing. A store of ready-made garments on hand, that had been sent to us from time to time, came in very acceptably. Now nearly all of the older girls can make their own clothes, with very little instruction. I find Indian children, as a rule, fond of needle work, and they take great pride in doing their best. This last year I have been trying to teach knitting, but find they are very slow at it.

We exhibited some of the children's work at the Chilliwack and Westminster fairs this year, and received eight

first prizes, six seconds, and one special prize. One of the little girls, doing a sample of darning, was so anxious to exhibit it that she sat up till ten o'clock to get it finished, and was rewarded by receiving the special prize.

I do enjoy my work very much. I often think how strange it was that I was given this position. I had never thought of going into the mission field till Mr. Tate and Miss Clark spoke to me about it, and urged me to take up the work. Shall I ever forget how I felt the responsibility that I was taking upon myself; but knowing that our loving Father never expects anything of us that we cannot do, I felt if this was the place He wanted me to be in. He would give me the wisdom I would need and would help me, and He has helped me in many ways. I shall ever praise my Heavenly Father for giving me such a grand opportunity of working for Him, I pray that I may improve it each day, and prove a faithful servant in his vineyard.

I have a Sunday School class of twelve girls and a week-night class of twenty boys, which I enjoy very much. Last Tuesday night, after my class meeting with the boys, on going to the dormitory, I heard one of the boys saying, "I would like to be a Christian, but I know the boys will only make fun of me if I am." He had no more than got through speaking, than three or four of the boys that are not Christians said, "No, Alfred, I won't, I won't." Pray for the dear boys that they may all have the desire to be Christians.

It seems quite like old times to have Miss Clark with us again. She arrived at Chilliwack the third of this month. She intends staying with us till the boat sails north. We pray that she may be as successful in her new field of labor as she was here.

Miss Young is getting along very well, but finds the work a little heavy.

Miss Scroggie has not been able to start her kindergarten work yet, as we have not received the table and chairs. She has been trying to have school, but as the children have to sit on benches without backs and no desks, she finds it difficult to accomplish much. We are in hopes they will be here in a few days, as they have been on the road nearly a month now.

Suggested Programme for March Meeting.

Subjects for Prayer and Study for the Month : Japan, Korea, and the Isles of the Sea.

(To be read at the opening of the meeting.)

I. Opening exercises.

"To love Christ is to live for Christ, and to make His glory the supreme end of our life."—*Rev. Alexander Oliver, D.D.*

II. Regular business.

III. Hymn.

IV. Question Drawer :*

When did the Woman's Missionary Society send its first missionary to Japan?

How many missionaries (W. M. S.) are now in Japan?

Name missionaries, and tell where stationed?

V. Reading. †—"A Beacon Light in Japan."

VI. The Watch-Tower.

VII. Sentence Prayers—For the peace and prosperity of the missions of the Church in Japan.

* See W. M. S. Annual Report, 1895-96.

† See No. VIII. "Our Work Series." Price 1 cent, at Room 20.

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Orders for *Pa'm Branch* should be sent to Miss S. E. Smith, 282 Princess Street, St. John N.B. Single copies, 15 cents; 10 copies to one address, \$1.00.

Subscribers to the *Missionary Campaigner* will avoid delay by writing direct to F. C. STEPHENSON, publisher *Missionary Campaigner*, Toronto, Ont., instead of to Room 20, as orders cannot always be forwarded as promptly as is desired.

Please note that the Recording Secretary's and Treasurer's books of the set for W. M. S. Auxiliary Officers are out of stock. The Literature Committee is arranging for a new issue, but it will be several months before the new books can be prepared. They will be announced as soon as ready.

The Annual Report for 1895-6 is ready, and has been sent to subscribers. If any packages have failed to reach their destination, kindly communicate with Room 20.

Will Branch Corresponding Secretaries please send monthly "Increase of Auxiliaries and Bands" to Mrs. Bascom, Secretary Literature Committee, 189 Lunn Ave., Toronto.

Letters concerning the organization of Auxiliaries and Mission Bands should be addressed to the Corresponding Secretary of the Branch in which the work is situated. For Corresponding Secretaries' addresses see Annual Report.

Manuscripts for loan can be procured from Room 20. Subjects: "Chinese Religious Faiths," by A. W. Briggs; "Systematic Giving," by A Systematic Giver. Postage and wrapping, 3 cents each. The manuscript to be carefully *enclosed* in paper, and returned the day after it is used.

Will friends who order literature from Room 20 kindly remember *not* to send three-cent stamps, if larger or smaller denominations can be procured? Remit by money order or bills when possible.

The Literature Committee is prepared to receive deposits of \$1.00 for the literature to be used in connection with the Suggested Programme, and will send the necessary literature whenever called for by the programme, as long as the money lasts. The usual charge of two cents, for wrapping and postage, will be deducted for each parcel.

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