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Missionary Leaflet.

Woman's Missionary Society of the Methodist Church, Canada.

Vol. VIII. TORONTO, FEBRUARY, 1892. No. 2.

SUBJECTS FOR PRAYER.

FEBRUARY.

For the French work.

(1) The Committee of Management, (2) the Teachers and Pupils, (3) the Roman Catholic Church, in Canada and elsewhere, that the light of God's Word may penetrate her darkest recesses, and purge away her errors.

SUGGESTED SCRIPTURE READING TO BE USED AT MONTHLY MEETINGS OF AUXILIARIES:

Isa. liv. 1-17; Acts xii. 1-12.

JAPAN WORK.

Letter from Mrs. Large.

TOKYO, JAPAN, November 26th, 1891.

The work in the school goes on without much of the extraordinary. There are but 70 pupils, aside from the five in the Bib' School, with no promise just now of much if any increase. Educational work is in a most undecided state. The Empress' school draws all who are anxious for position and matrimonial recommendations, as there they are supposed to

receive a real Japanese training, no foreigner having any control whatever, religion being carefully excluded. The present attendance at the Empress' school is a little over 300. Our "King's Daughters" society has established an industrial school in the little chapel of which you have heard. It is opened three days a week at four o'clock, closes at five. Reading, writing, arithmetic and sewing are the subjects taught. No child may attend who goes to another school; it is meant for those only who cannot attend where there is a fee charged. The girls have all the charge of the school, one of the older ones being the principal. They had their largest number yesterday, when ten were present. Some who came at first have been kept home by their big brothers, who objected to it on account of its being a Christian school. The girls are much interested in their work.

This terrible earthquake has drawn upon the pockets and sympathy of all. Two weeks ago the girls sent off a parcel of clothing numbering 60 articles; to-day another with 28 articles has gone to the distressed ones. It is marvelous with what small bits they will make a good warm garment. I do not think that anything is too old or small for them to find a place for it, as a lining at least. I think I referred to what one of our school servants had done for his friends. I will now give you a little of his history. It is almost three years since "Sentaro" came to hire as a school servant. He was recommended by Mr. Hiraiwa, who knew his brother, a member of the Shizuoka church, who was also a Christian, and a very earnest one, Mr. H. told me. Time proved him to be a more than usually faithful servant, watchful over the whole place. He saved me many a step by reporting where things were not just in the order they should be, or where duties were being neglected. His spare moments were spent in reading his Bible, not to be seen, but because he loved it,

and I do not think he even thought that we might notice him. And often at night his voice could be heard in prayer by the one in the room above where he slept, so as to be ready for any call. When it was known that I would be back in the summer he set himself to learn something in English to say to Kate and me when he should first see us. On the morning of our arrival he took the first train to Yokohama, and was on the wharf to greet us as soon as we landed; but in his joy at seeing us he entirely forgot his English sentence, he afterward told me. In September he spoke to me one day about wishing to leave us, and go into some business for himself. He was tired of the life he was living and wanted a home of his own. I could but express my sorrow at losing him; at the same time I understood why he was leaving. He said he did not wish to leave before the close of the year, and I in the meantime was to look for someone to take his place. A few days, perhaps a week, after the earthquake, we were collecting money from all on the premises toward the relief of the sufferers. I spoke to Sentaro about the servants giving. He replied about as follows:—"I am sure they will all give, but I have nothing to give. My adopted parents' home is in Nagoya; they have lost much by this earthquake. I felt sorry for them and wanted to help them. As you know, I intended to go into business for myself next year. Well, there was that money in the savings bank that I could send, but if I did that I could not carry out my purpose, I thought. But the more I thought, the more I did not want to give up my own desires; but I got no peace until after praying and asking God to give me the light and heart I should have, I went to the Post Office, drew out all my money, wrote an order and sent it off to my adopted parents, and now my heart is all clean. I am content to work on as a servant as long as God wants me to. It is His will concern-

ing me, and I am happy." Much of this was said with tearful eyes and in a trembling voice. I too found that the tears were running down my cheeks. Such a lesson in sacrifice I had not had in a long time. By enquiry I found from him that he had saved about \$35 or \$40. This was the result of three years' saving, for when he came to us he had clothes, etc., to buy, he said, and for which he had to go in debt. Besides that he is a liberal giver to the Church.

Last Monday was the festival of the end of the harvest, a public holiday. I had not seen all the girls since my return, and as we feel it is well to still attach all we can to the school, we sent out about 150 invitations for a re-union, from three o'clock to five, on the 23rd. A pouring rain came on Sunday evening and continued all day Monday. In spite of it we had in all, ourselves included, over 100. The two hours passed very quickly, the conversation never flagged, there was joy on every face at meeting with schoolmates of former days, and with many regrets that it was time to go home, they bade us good-bye.

Yesterday, I had a long talk with our cook. He has been with us for three years; a clever fellow, but without much principle. He listened to me very willingly and said he had been thinking that he ought to be a Christian, but he did not think he was quite ready. He had talked with his wife, but she said he had better wait until he was older and more quiet in spirit. But, said he, "I am a better man than I was three years ago, at the same time I am not ready to say to the man who quarrels with me, and strikes me on the face, 'My friend your hand does not hurt.'" He knows the way, but does not yet care to walk in it.

INDIAN WORK.

From Miss Clarke.

CHILLIWHACK, B C., December 14th, 1891.

Yours of December 1st and 3rd to hand, also inventory. Your kind words of sympathy, were very comforting. We feel the need of all the sympathy and help we can get in our present trying circumstances, though, thanks to Mr. and

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

Mrs. Tate's kindness in receiving us into their home, we are comparatively comfortable though very much overcrowded.

We have appropriated the \$100 granted for shed, to the purpose of putting up an extension to Mr. Tate's house for kitchen and woodshed. It is well under way, and I trust you will approve of the use made of the money. Our winter's stock of boots as well as the greater part of our stores were destroyed.

The foundation is partially destroyed and the Missionary Committee have had plans for an Industrial School drawn up, which have, I think, been submitted to the General Secretary. The plan is to have one large building, so arranged that boys and girls be separate. In brick, it would cost from \$10,000 to \$12,000. The hope is to get the Government to co-operate with the two Missionary Societies in the undertaking.

The Secretary of one of the Montreal Mission Bands wrote me in November, enclosing postal cards for monthly items of interest. The address has been lost and I shall be glad if the young sister will kindly communicate with me again. The school was closed just four days. The school furniture was all saved. We feel that gratitude should be the uppermost emotion of our hearts, when we remember all the providential circumstances connected with the fire.

December 29th, 1891.

Yours of December 21st to hand yesterday. I feel deeply grateful to the ladies for their kind thoughtfulness concerning me, both as regards the replenishing of my wardrobe and arranging for a holiday. As there is no pressing need of my remaining at my post, I shall gladly avail myself of the permission to spend a month in recreation, directly after the beginning of the new year.

The full amount of insurance (\$4,000) has been paid to Mr. Tate, and is deposited in the Bank of British Columbia, Victoria.

The Christmas service, Christmas-tree, and feast, were much enjoyed by all, though, of course, a shade of sadness, when we remembered our scattered children, was but natural. Still, we commend them to our Father's care, being assured they are safe in His keeping.

PRAYER CARD LEAFLET.

SUBJECTS FOR PRAYER.

MARCH.

For Japan.

That divine direction may be given to the rulers at this crisis—that Christianity may be permanently established, and our educational and evangelistic work greatly prospered and extended.

SCRIPTURE READINGS.—*Psalm cxv. 1-8; John iii. 14-22.*

Zipangu, or the Empire of the Rising Sun, as her people delight to call her, is situated in the North Pacific Ocean, east of China and Corea. It consists of a group of several hundred islands.

Of these, Nippon is the largest and most important, and all our mission stations are here, dotting the centre of the island like so many cities of refuge.

In 1859, Protestant missions were introduced, and thirty years afterwards the census showed 443 missionaries, 25,514 members, and 16,674 Sabbath School children, in addition to the devotees of the Roman Catholic and Greek Churches. The prospects of our Protestant religion here are very favorable; the increase of members in 1888 being 5,785, and the increase of contributions \$16,000, the total contributions from the Japanese for Protestant work in that year being \$48,000. This is encouraging, when we consider that the majority of these Christians receive a salary of not more than twenty-five cents a day, though our missionaries assure us that our religion is not confined to the humble classes, but that Christians may now be found through all the grades from Coolie to President of Parliament, our own Church having a fair representation among the influential ones.

Great changes, due to contact with the West, are in progress, some of an alarming nature. We refer to Rationalism, Unitarianism, and the New Theology, which has filled the minds of some of young Japan's travellers to the West. It is encouraging, however, for us to know that those missionaries, whose sole aim is to lead men to Christ and to build them up in holiness, have very little trouble with the new "isms" among their converts. The missionary, political and commercial atmosphere of Japan is now electrified as never before. The land lies before us, and shall we not "go up and possess it?" Pray that the God of all wisdom may guide this intelligent and energetic people in this transition period of their country's history.

Our missionary work in Japan began in 1882, at the urgent request of the missionaries of the Parent Board who preceded us in 1873. Providence opened the way for Miss Cartmell to commence the work in Tokyo. God so blessed her labors that when, in 1887, it became necessary for her to return home to recuperate her health, she found it harder to part with her work there than it had been to leave her beloved Canadian home. Miss Lund has taken up her work, and has nobly carried it on. In 1884, a school for girls was opened in Tokyo, which has had wonderful success from the first. To this school Miss Eliza Spencer, of Paris, Ont., now our elect lady Mrs. Large, was appointed teacher, who, on her return home last year, was succeeded by Miss Blackmore, who, in her report of last year, says she knows that God has been with them *every step of the way*. The fame of our Tokyo school having gone throughout the Empire, several cities were anxious to have a girls' school, each offering inducements. Shizuoka, having made the most liberal offer, was chosen.

Two years ago, a girls' school was established at Kofu, which, Miss Wintemute, its Principal, states, is one of the few places which has not yet been affected by the general reaction against woman's education.

Our missionaries in this land are Mrs. Large, who, with Misses Lund, L. Hart, Shoults and Cushing, are occupying the field in the city of Tokyo; Misses Morgan and Robertson in Shizuoka; Misses Blackmore, Wintemute and N. Hart in Kofu; Misses Cunningham and Hargrave in Kanazawa, and Miss Preston in Fukui. In addition to these, our Society employs, under the supervision of Miss Lund, fourteen native Bible-women, who are

doing earnest and faithful service for the Master among their countrywomen Miss Lund has recently established a Bible school for training women for evangelistic work, giving them a thorough course of instruction in Scripture history and doctrine, the life of Christ, our Catechism, and the rules and usages of our Church. Though the attendance is not yet large, this school gives promise of great usefulness.

How greatly this work is dependent for its efficiency and extension on the prayers of our members, we may not realize. But shall we not each say with Samuel, "God forbid that I should *sin against the Lord* in ceasing to pray."

Extracts of Letters from Supply Committee.

One of our missionaries writes: "I must say, on behalf of my people, that we are greatly indebted to you for your great kindness. All the clothes sent were very serviceable, and with them I have relieved ten families. There is one old man who is entirely friendless. He has no wife and no family, and lives all alone. My heart aches for him. He has an old shanty, with the rain coming down on him when it is wet, and in winter the snow drifts in on him, and that, too, when he is in bed. He has no bed but a 'pallet of straw.' The pillow you sent I gave to him, and also one of those beautiful quilts. He is so thankful, it would do your heart good to hear him pronouncing his blessings on you, and expressing his thanks. The reason why he is so reduced is because he has a lame back, and is unable to work, and depends on the neighbors around. I am so glad we have made him a little more comfortable this winter, but we owe it all to the Woman's Missionary Society. The Frankford Auxiliary sent a box of clothing and bedding to a mission in Muskoka, enclosing a specially nice quilt with some small articles from a society of little girls called 'The Little Protectors.'"

The missionary from Thessalon says: "The box of quilts from Granton Auxiliary arrived in our time, and I have distributed them to the grateful poor. The people to whom I gave them were overcome with gladness. I convey to you their honest thanks."

Many letters of thanks have been received for special gifts at Christmas time to our young missionaries. One especially commended itself to us. It said. "The present is suggestive of Ister, home and mother, three wonderful words in this region."

Mr. Huntington writes that "the goods for the poor Indians and white people, from Grimsby and Playfair, have been received. The people are doing nobly; 'God bless them.'" A large bale from Prescott is on its way to the same mission, also one from Guelph.

A letter from Rev. J. Semmens, Winnipeg, says: "I am glad to know that two cases of goods for distribution on Indian missions are on the way. It is so kind of the friends at Norwich and Gorrie to remember those who have need. The cases now under way will be forwarded to Norway House and Berens River. Be assured that your sympathetic help is much appreciated both by myself as a friend of the Indians and by those who are made comfortable by your kind gifts. May God, who remembers the 'cup of cold water given in His name,' reward you all."

The Auxiliary at Collingwood very kindly and promptly supplied a very urgent request from Gore Bay by sending a box containing clothing, quilts, blankets, boots, etc. They were received with joy and gladness by the very destitute family to whom they were given.

Parcels and boxes sent to Toronto for shipment to missions should be addressed to Mrs. Briggs, Methodist Book Rooms, Richmond Street West, Toronto.

Auxiliaries and Mission Bands would greatly oblige by remitting money for freight when sending their parcels. To British Columbia the cost is four cents per pound. Goods sent to the North-West may be sent direct to missions. If a list of articles in box, with value attached to each article, weight of case and freight-bill be sent to Mrs. Briggs, they will be sent to the Indian Department at Ottawa, and the amount of freight will be refunded.

MRS. W. BRIGGS,
Secretary.

21 Grenville Street, Toronto.

Notices to Auxiliaries.

1. Monthly Letter Leaflets and Annual Reports should be ordered through Branch Cor. Sec.

The Annual Reports are now ready. Price 5 cents per copy. Remit money for same and *Monthly Letter Leaflets* to Branch Treasurer with next quarterly returns.

2. No Auxiliary to have more than two copies of monthly Letter Leaflet, unless additional copies are paid for; also some one in each Auxiliary to be appointed to solicit subscribers, and attend to the distribution of same.

The Board finds this necessary, as the monthly letter has been enlarged, at no advance in price, and to save the Society from loss all copies must be paid for.

Members of the W. M. S. can obtain the following periodicals from Miss Annie L. Ogden: *The Missionary Review of the World*, per year, \$1.50; *The Gospel in all Lands*, per year, \$1.05; *The Heathen Woman's Friend*, per year, 50c.

Will subscribers to these periodicals kindly allow at least three weeks from the time the order is given until they look for the magazine, as all orders have to be forwarded to the United States, and the magazines mailed from the publishers there, which necessarily involves considerable delay.

Leaflet prices as per printed list on next page. Life-members' certificates, illuminated, \$1.00, plain, 25cts. Mite-boxes, free. Express charges or postage on mite-boxes to be paid by Auxiliary ordering. In ordering free leaflets or certificates enclose stamp for postage.

When our friends desire leaflets by a special date, will they please order early to avoid disappointment, as it is not always possible for us to send them by return mail.

All the above may be had by addressing orders and remittances to Miss Annie L. Ogden, Room 20, Wesley Buildings, Richmond St. West, Toronto, Ont.

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