

Nov. 1884 - 7th printed

W. F. M. SOCIETY.

CIRCULAR LETTER FROM THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT
WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY
(W. SECTION.)

DEAR FRIENDS,—

We have much pleasure in being able to place in your hands a statement in detail of the expenditure for our branch of foreign work during the past year. The first part of the statement is given in rupees (Indian money), but the total is stated in Canadian currency.

We also submit for your consideration an estimate of the probable sum needed for the present year. Some months ago we stated to you that at least \$8,000 would be required, but since that time new responsibilities have been assumed by the Assembly's Foreign Mission Committee. You will, therefore, note that for the foreign work alone the sum of \$8,530 is required.

The cheering extension of our work at home necessarily increases the outlay for printing, postage, etc. For this purpose we cannot place the estimate lower than about \$400 for the present year, which will place the total sum required in April, 1885, at about \$9,000. We earnestly commend these statements to your prayerful attention.

C. S. EWART, *President.*

M. J. MACMURCHY, *Secretary.*

TORONTO, October 20th, 1884.

Statement of Expenditure for Woman's Work for 1883-4.

Miss McGregor's Salary.....	Rs. 1,494	11	9
" " Expenses	1,348	12	0
Miss Ross, Salary.....	1,902	10	3
" " Expenses	192	8	0
Miss Rodger, Salary, part of the year.....	587	11	1
" " Expenses	165	0	0
Miss McGregor, Special.....	35	0	0
	Rs. 5,725	11	1
	Or \$2,290	00	
Girls' School, Mhow	312	00	
Miss Rodger, Salary and Return Expenses.....	737	50	
Miss Oliver.....	217	96	
Girls' School, Formosa.....	3,000	00	
Miss Baker, Prince Albert.....	300	00	
School on Crow Stand Reserve	311	00	
School on Bird Tail Creek Reserve	150	00	
School on Okanase Reserve.....	140	00	
	\$7,558	46	

TORONTO, 5th July, 1884.

Estimate of Expenses for Woman's Work for 1884-85.

Miss Rodger, Salary.....	\$ 720	00
" " Expenses	500	00
Miss McGregor, Salary	720	00
" " Expenses	500	00
Miss Ross, Salary	720	00
" " Expenses	500	00
Miss Oliver, Medical Education	300	00
Miss (Dr.) Beatty, Salary and Expenses in India for part of the year.	610	00
" " Outfit and Travelling Expenses to India.....	700	00
" " Special Medical Outfit	300	00
Miss Bell, Salary and Expenses in India for part of the year	610	00
" " Outfit and Travelling Expenses to India	700	00
School on Crow Stand Reserve	350	00

Bro't Forward	\$7,230 00
School on Bird Tail Creek Reserve.	300 00
Miss Baker, Prince Albert, N. W. T.	300 00
Girls' School, Formosa	400 00
Trinidad Schools (Mrs. Morton)	300 00
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	\$8,530 00

TORONTO, October 1st, 1884.

REV. H. MCKAY'S LETTER TO REV. DR. WARDROPE.

BROADVIEW P.O., Indian Reserve,
August 25th, 1884.

DEAR SIR,—

Since my last letter, the most of my time has been spent about Round Lake, building a house and stable, and preparing for winter. I think I have given you a description of the property we have secured. In the east we have taken up a broken quarter section of land beautifully situated at Round Lake and the Qu'Appelle River, containing, perhaps, 80 acres. On this land we have been building. In the west, about 12 miles distance, we have taken another lot, which is splendid hay land and conveniently situated. We are now about prepared to begin work. Saturday I left the mission house at Round Lake, crossed the river at the ford, passed over the valley, the way leading through fields of wheat and oats, potatoes, etc., belonging to the Indians, then up the high hills, then a beautiful drive of a few miles brought in sight the Indian camps. Here I met with Mr. Flett, and going into a very large tent, found about 30 Indians gathered together, among whom was Oo-oha-pa-hoo-wás, the chief, and a number of his counsellors. The object of the meeting was to discuss school matters and mission work among the tribe. There was much talk and we were well received. The chief did not wish to consent now, but wished to wait for a little. He said, many of my Indians are away, and I would not like to take such a step without consulting them, and more than that, all these things you say are dark to me. I know nothing about them. In my old ways I have a little light, and would it be right for me to throw away the little light and take what is all dark. Others spoke, and in about the same strain.

After leaving this reserve and driving perhaps 8 miles, we came to the camp of Ke-wis-ta-haw (Hover About), chief of the next tribe. We had dinner with him. He was willing that a school should be started in his reserve. He spoke of his young people and lamented their ignorance, saying they cared for nothing but eating. He said further that the Governor visited his camp and promised a school, and others visited him promising other things, but their promises were never fulfilled, they were all lies, and his ears were now so blocked up with hearing lies that he could hear no more.

We next came to the third reserve where the Catholics have been doing a little work. We came to the spot where we first camped after coming from Riding Mountain (Okanase). Here we spent the Sabbath and here we are still visiting. We had two services. In the morning the sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered, six united with us in commemorating the death and love of our blessed Master. In the afternoon the chief of this tribe met with his people, and had a talk. The chief's name is Oo-sâ-oo-pê-sê-kê (Yellow Calf). We found some good speakers among this tribe. They are very anxious that they should have a school and that their children should be educated. One said, we would like to send our children to school, but they are naked, and how can they go in winter? Another said, we shall build them a large house and they shall stay there. Another spoke about the injury they were doing themselves in trying to keep the children from being educated. Another said, let us try and help these men all we can, we know they come to do us good.

It would be a long letter to give you even an outline of all that was said. There were two chiefs at the meeting, that is, Yellow Calf and Hover About, and representatives from the three west reserves. The meeting was very encouraging, and seems to open up a large field of labor.

In the evening we had another service, Mr. Flett preaching in Indian and I in English. A large number of the Indians were gathered, some of whom came more than 10 miles; a good number came into the house, some stood at the door, others listened at the windows,—no doubt some of them hearing for the first time the preaching of the Gospel. These Indians are superstitious and still worship unknown gods. As I am writing this letter, I look out and see fires built on the hill to strange gods, and I hear the sad and

doleful cry or song of the medicine man, as he is practising his evil art over the prostrate form of some sick person lying in yonder camp. A few weeks ago they had their Sun dance (which they have once a year); the braves of the tribe are chosen. If a young man can dance for three days, constantly looking at the sun, eating or drinking nothing, he gets the title (a Brave). A person visiting this dance on the third day would never wish to see it again. * * * *

Dear sir, I can't give you a description of this dark picture. You have to see it to know something of its cruelties. I spoke to some about the wickedness of such, and they said the Great Spirit is pleased to see his children brave.

Mr. Flett is about to leave me. I wish he could stay all winter. I feel like a child undertaking this great work. Our friends can assist us much by their prayers and sympathy and by their means. We have about us in the winter hundreds of Indian children shivering for the want of clothing. I see in many homes in Ontario cast-off garments, a little faded or out of fashion. Could not boxes of such be gathered and sent to us? Any such would be thankfully received at Broadview Station, N.W.T.

I am, dear sir,

Yours very truly,

H. MACKAY.

EXTRACT OF LETTER FROM MISS MCGREGOR.

INDORE, July 19th, 1884.

I mentioned in my report that I have been in the habit of holding a Woman's Meeting in one part of the city, and you will be glad to hear that it is growing more encouraging than ever; many more come in than formerly, and I have now started one in a native quarter of Indore. I find where there is a room provided that the women will come in, and we reach so many more than by zenana visiting, though that is done as far as we can. To-day a number of women came to the door and asked if they might come in to hear the singing. Was not that rather pleasant? What beautiful faces some of these women have, and so intelligent. What a field for work Miss Beatty will have.

Although I did not in my report say anything about the box (battery), I still use it and find it a great help. The only

thing is, I cannot give sufficient time to that kind of work, as my schools require so much attention and it is difficult to get a good staff of teachers.

We are all in good health, no sickness thus far this year. My eyes are beginning to feel weary, so I will bid you good night. With best love from

Your very sincere friend,

M. MCGREGOR.

LETTER FROM MISS RODGER.

INDORE, August 4th, 1884.

MY DEAR MRS. HARVIE,—

Thanks, many, for your very welcome letter of 12th June. You can hardly understand in Canada how eagerly we look forward to the evening the foreign mail is expected, and what a disappointment it is when it brings nothing for us. The Canadian papers are particularly interesting at present, as they contain so much about the proceedings of the Assembly. Montreal is to be honored next year.

The work is going on steadily and each day brings its own. It is pleasing to hear of the prospect of the laborers here being increased, when there is so much to be done. In spite of all the opposition, many, so many now, hear us gladly, and a very decided change has come over the people in the bazaar in this respect within the last few years.

Now that the Mission is nearly eight years old, several, if not all of us, have thought that a boarding-school should be opened as soon as possible. Of course money will be required for a building before anything can be done, or perhaps I should have said, the consent of the people at home must be first asked. Still, I feel the matter only needs to be mentioned to you and you will respond heartily. We are working now with unqualified helpers, and if children are to be trained for teachers, it is time we had an institution of this kind. I have talked the matter over with Miss McGregor, Miss Ross and Mr Wilkie, and they are all in favor of it. Mr Wilkie has said he would also write, or mention it when writing. Between Indore and Mhow several children could be got at once for a beginning, and the number will be always increasing. If this school were opened, might not something also be done to rescue children who are going to ruin because

they are widows? If other ladies come out, one can be left free to take charge of a boarding-school. I shall probably mention the matter to some of the members of Erskine Church, Montreal, when writing; their contributions would greatly help to raise the money. I hope and trust your Society may favor the idea and that it will be soon carried into effect.

The building for my school in the bazaar is nearly completed, the ceiling has not yet been put in, but we have moved into it. It is airy and well ventilated, and when finished will be a very comfortable school-room. It is large enough to hold fifty children comfortably. The girls are asking already how many months must go by before Christmas. They have come to look forward to Christmas time with pleasure. There are many holidays which they observe during this month, in fact they are supposed to fast every Monday. Besides, the Kakhi festival always occurs in August; it is held in honor of Krishna, one of the incarnations of Vishnu. The girls expect presents from their brothers at this time, and if they get money they buy sweetmeats.

On the whole, there is much to encourage in the work, and we go about from day to day telling "the old, old story of Jesus and His love." When asking a woman a few days ago if she remembered what I had been reading to her previously, she replied, "It is all in my mind, although I may not be able to tell it all to you." How much is gained when admittance for God's word is gained, and we know that it will bring forth fruit to the honor of His name!

Hoping for a favorable reply to the proposition in this letter. With kindest remembrances,

Believe me to be,

Very sincerely, yours,

MARGARET RODGER.

NOTE.—This proposition of Miss Rodger's has been referred by the W. F. M. Board to the Assembly's Foreign Mission Committee.

NEW SOCIETIES.

Auxiliaries formed at Port Stanley, St. Thomas and New Westminster, in London Presbyterial Society.

"Old St. Andrews Mission Band," Toronto, in connexion with the church of that name, formed.

FOR EACH OF OUR MEMBERS.

DEAR FRIENDS,—

The work which lies to our hands is growing in a wonderful way; must we not thankfully believe in answer to prayer? In order that we may be able to overtake it, it is necessary that our Society should extend its borders. *That* will be best accomplished by each member feeling her own responsibility.

Will not each one who is now a member do her utmost, by using her personal influence and by earnest prayer, to add *one* to the membership of the Society this year? The Lord hath need of all that we can do.

E. MACLENNAN,
Treasurer, W. F. M. S.

NOTE.—Notice just received of a large auxiliary formed in Guelph on 22nd inst.