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# Monthly Letter Leaflet.

WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY, PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA.  
(WESTERN DIVISION.)

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VOL. IV. TORONTO, MARCH, 1888. No. 11.

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## ANNUAL MEETING.

TORONTO, March 1, 1888.

The Twelfth Annual Meeting of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, Presbyterian Church in Canada, Western Division, will be held in Knox Church, in the city of Guelph, on the 10th and 11th April, 1888. The Guelph ladies extend a very cordial invitation to delegates from every branch of the Society, for whom homes will be provided on application to Mrs. Loch, Box 636, Guelph.

Certificates to travel at reduced rates will be furnished as usual by Mrs. Campbell, 194 Richmond Street W., Toronto. They must be signed by the ticket agent at starting point, and by Mrs. Campbell at Guelph.

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## FOREIGN LETTERS.

### INDIA.

INDORE, Dec. 14, 1887.

MRS. WILKIE. — Your letter of April last reached me when in Cashmere, and should have been replied to long ere this, but so much moving about, and, since my return, getting the house in order, etc., have prevented my doing so. Now I am getting ready for our journey to Canada, which, with so many little ones, does not leave me much leisure for letter writing.

Miss Beatty had another sharp attack of fever since our return from Cashmere, and still suffers from the pain in her back at times; but she always seems ready to respond to calls in spite of it all.

Miss Oliver is getting strong after her attack of diphtheria. She had the best of care, being with Miss Rodger, who was prompt in calling in medical aid, and did all that was in her power for her. Dr. Keegan said it was owing to the great care she had that she pulled through.

It was a sad coming home to us. We only heard through telegram of Mrs. Murray's very sudden death, and consequently had no further word about the sad event till we reached Sealkote, two weeks later. Most likely you have heard the particulars; but lest you may not I may say that she was never conscious from the time she was known to be in danger, which was about seven o'clock on Saturday evening, and she died about twelve o'clock on Sunday night. She had been reading her Bible on Saturday, and with beaming face referred Mr. Murray to Rom. xiv. 8, "Whether, we live therefore or die, we are the Lord's," and said that she had found a meaning in it that she had not known before. Just before she died the same light shone in her face, but if she was conscious she was too weak to speak, and passed away without being able to say anything. She always seemed happy, and the short time we were privileged to be with her before leaving for Cashmere we found her a friend indeed; she seemed such a brave, earnest spirit—just such as should set themselves apart to do and work for the Master in this heathen land. But the Lord, who doeth all things well, had other things in store for her, and has taken her home. Our prayers and sympathies are with her loved ones who are mourning.

I am sorry I can't write you anything encouraging about the long talked of boarding-school, as Miss Rodger wisely has decided to close it up. The girls at present in it are too old to be allowed to go around, as they must do, until we get a building, and so at our last prayer-meeting it was decided to take steps to have them sent to Musserabad, where there is a boarding-school with the necessary buildings, our Church here undertaking to defray all expenses apart from what the parents can give privately. I feel sorry; for, were I privileged to be in the work, I should like to be able to gather the young inside the protecting walls of a good and well-conducted boarding-school. I hope no one thinks that the children are to be shut inside four square walls. Whilst that is the first necessary step in order to be able to protect the little ones, yet inside these it is intended that all the influences will be at work that are found in a good Christian home; and the longer I live in India the more am I convinced that it is the first great step toward having a satisfactory native Church, and until we have such institutions, both for boys and girls, we must look for slow progress toward sanctification among our native Christians. There must be a thorough separation from the old habits and associations, and this only can be done by getting them when young—the younger the better.

I have one satisfactory item of news to tell you, which I am sure you will rejoice over as much as we do, viz., that last week a map of a large piece of land (nine acres), in a suitable situation for hospital and school work, was put into our hands by the Dewan (prime minister), together with a letter in which he said that the Maharani to whom the land belongs had given her willing consent to allow us to use it for Christian work. The formal deed we have not yet got, as H. H. Maharajah Holkar has not yet given his formal consent, but we hope soon to get it too. We hope soon to see a large and well-equipped hospital there—another of our necessary wants here. Until we have it our lady doctresses must work at great inconvenience to themselves, to the injury of their health and usefulness.

P.S.—Since writing the above your letter reached me containing a list of articles that are in the box you have sent, for which very many thanks. I shall write when the box reaches us.

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FORMOSA.

Interesting Services at Go-ko-Khi Chapel.

TAMSUI, Dec. 5, 1887.

MRS. MACKAY.—On Sunday, 27th November, I went in a boat at 7.30 a.m. with our three children, my husband, a Mr. Aminoff from Finland, and several students, all bound for Go-ko-khi chapel, near my old home. There I remember when the people called Kai Bok-su (Pastor Mackay) Foreign Devil, Foreign Dog, etc. It was the first chapel opened in the country away from Tamsui. There I first heard of Jesus, there I was baptized, there I was taught the Bible, geography, natural history, astronomy, geology, botany, church history, etc., and there I first sat down and commemorated the dying love of Jesus. So you can see how glad I was to be there this time. And A Hôa went with us too, but Dr. Mackay preached. I wish others could let you know of his addresses. I never hear any one like him. We all felt deeply as we listened. A Hôa thought of the time when he was there, the first place for him to be a helper. There were nearly a dozen of the old converts present; all wept. After singing the last hymn the old people were so touched they went into a room and wept and sang and talked. The chapel was packed full. One old woman was so sad she followed us

out in the boat and never spoke a word but sat with her hand to her head. Dr. Mackay shouted, Sing "Forever with the Lord." She is here still and so cheerful and happy. Neighbours, old and young, converts and non-converts, poured out to welcome us. The above is all *truth*, and no sentiment. The Jamiesons well. We are all well too.

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DEMERARA.

Distribution of Clothing to the Nitvlugt School Children.

ZEEBURG HOUSE, 6th Jan., 1888.

MRS. GIBSON.—Thank you very much for your kind letter of the 18th Nov., which arrived about a month later. It is encouraging to get a letter from one so interested in our work as you are, and I highly appreciated it. I shall always be very glad to hear from you, and will in return give you any information concerning our work here which I think may be of interest to you. Mr. Gibson did study at Knox College. I am not a Canadian, and have never even visited North America; that is a pleasure in store for me which I hope to realize at no very distant date. I shall then have an opportunity of becoming personally acquainted with you and some other friends interested in our work.

Your mission report also arrived safely, but I have not had time to do more than glance through it, as I have been unusually busy for the past two months making garments for distribution among the children of the Nitvlugt school at Christmas. I think I undertook rather much, and am quite glad that it is all over. Through the year I have often been grieved to see many of the children, boys and girls, going to school almost naked, some of the latter entirely so. I made the fact known to some of my relations here, and they very kindly contributed their children's cast-off clothing to cover the most naked. This I found caused some jealousy amongst those who were fortunate enough not to require such aid. Several boys called on me going from school, and after their usual "Salam, Mem Sahib," said, "You give girls napra (cloth) an' boys shirts, an' you no gi' a we shirt." I told them it was because they were naked I gave them these things, to make them look decent in school. One little fellow said, "Then I come bare skin to-morrow." I made him understand that he would not gain anything by so doing, but told them if they were good boys, and went to school regularly, I should give them each a garment for Christmas. It was rather

an undertaking, as it was then late in October, and we should require at least 160. I bought the cloth however (a pretty bright print), and cut the articles required, and I was ably assisted in the making of them by the following ladies, who kindly offered their aid:—Mrs. Herriot, Mrs. Binns, Mrs. Minty, Mrs. Matthers, Mrs. Stokes, Mrs. Henderson and Miss Norah Shannon. The last mentioned, a child of nine, made six overall pinafores very neatly. On Christmas Eve we distributed the clothing, and gave 190 children a treat of buns and sweets. There were several ladies and gentlemen present, who were much pleased with the children's behaviour on the occasion. Amongst the visitors was an amateur photographer, who took pictures of the schoolhouse and children. The former is fairly good, but the children did not come out well, as they were simply huddled together, there being no time to arrange them. I shall send you a copy of each, so that you may have some idea of the school and scholars. On the day after our treat there were 211 children at Sabbath school. We should have liked very much to have given the Sabbath school children prizes of some kind, but we could not afford it this year. I am sure a little encouragement in this way would do much toward securing regular attendance. Coolie children with few exceptions dislike school, and their parents encourage them in this feeling, and often hide them underneath beds, in barrels or boxes, to prevent their being taken. We have great hope however that many of them will outlive this aversion. During the holidays we have been speaking to some of the children on this estate, and they seem anxious for school to reopen. In the early part of the year I spent all my spare time learning Hindustani and teaching two of the most clever boys in the Nitvlugt school. They came to me daily in the afternoon, and I taught them reading, writing, arithmetic, grammar and geography, and read with them "Line Upon Line." They made very satisfactory progress, and are now monitors in the school. Mr. Gibson and I are much pleased with these two boys, and trust they may continue in well-doing. Maullabaccus, the younger of the two, when I showed him a pretty straw hat with bright blue band, and told him I intended to give it to him at Christmas, did not look so pleased as I expected, and I was puzzled to know why. In two or three days after he came and said that he and Somera would rather have a copy each of "Line Upon Line" than anything else for Christmas. I cannot tell you how pleased and encouraged we were to hear this. We gave them the books, and our sincere prayer is that the Spirit may accompany the truths therein contained, and bring forth fruit in the hearts of

the young readers and those who may hear them read. Maullabaccus lives near to us, and it is very cheering to hear him in the evening, when all is quiet, joined by some of his little friends singing hymns both in English and Hindi, and teaching them the Ten Commandments and the Lord's Prayer in their native tongue. In the group which I send you you will see Somera and Maulla in the back line, one on the right and the other on the left of a tall boy in black. We intend giving the Hague children a treat either this month or next. When I write again I will tell you more about this school.

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*THE NORTH WEST.*

Interesting Account of Mr. Flett's Work.

WINNIPEG, Dec. 24, 1887.

MR. COLDWELL.—When Mr. Flett was here he desired me to write to the members of the W. F. M. S., and to say that he felt under very great obligation to them for the great interest they have taken in the cause of Missions, and the liberal help they have given in donations this and other years.

This year, he says, the contributions were excellent and so ample that after distributing the goods to all the needy, young and old, a stock was left over for future use. It was a grand gift, and a timely one; for year by year, at first, many of the Indians find it very hard to adopt the white man's ways, and even when they do adopt them they need occasional assistance during the year, like other people.

Mr. Flett says that he wishes some of the ladies who have been so kind to the Indians could have heard their expressions of gratitude when the things were distributed, and could see how cleanly and neatly they have dressed since. The evening before he came to Winnipeg, he called a prayer meeting in one of their houses for six o'clock. As he entered the house that evening the clock was striking six, and there were the Indians assembled, forty-two of them.

That is better than we usually do in several Winnipeg congregations, both in point of attendance and punctuality.

Mr. Flett found his audience comfortably clad, clean and attentive. The floor had been scrubbed; on the walls, white-washed, hung pictures, the gift of Ontario ladies. The beds in adjoining rooms were nicely made up and covered with quilts. Everything, in short, was in the best of order.

I think that this state of affairs (which is a fair sample of the state of affairs generally on the Reserve) is very gratifying as an evidence that the work on the Mission field here has been blessed, that light is gradually displacing darkness, that the dawn of a better day is breaking.

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### Gratitude for the Quantity of Goods Sent.

PIAPOT'S RESERVE, Dec. 5, 1887.

MISS ROSE.—It is so good in you to remember us desolate ones in this waste howling wilderness, cut off from all the delights of Christian civilization.

And I see by the leaflet you remember all the far-away workers. I am most glad to see that Miss Mackay received the \$100 prize given by Government for the best conducted Indian school. It will encourage her in her work of faith and labour of love; and I doubt not, she needs some encouragement if her Indians are in any way like my poor ones. The School Inspector spoke highly of her to me while he was visiting my school.

The contributions are all in from the Hamilton Presbytery. I found a number of letters scattered through the bales, all of which we answered unless some have been overlooked.

The Mission Bands are working so nobly, so untiringly. I herewith have the honour of acknowledging princely gifts from the Erskine Church Mission Band, Hamilton; Happy Workers' Mission Band, Dundas; Willing Workers, First Presbyterian Church, St. Catharines; "Lend-a-hand," Haynes Ave., St. Catharines, the last-named having sent a valuable box of tea. Any one living among Piapot's Indians can hardly over-estimate the value of a box of tea. A cup of strong tea, with sugar in it, and a slice of bread and butter, will elicit more genuine gratitude from one of my people than a good dress, or handsome overcoat. Not that they are not fed enough; they have abundance of flour and bacon—good flour, excellent bacon. But they do not cook properly. I have toiled teaching them the art of bread-making. Many make excellent bread, but it is all set, raised, kneaded and baked in the Mission kitchen; so you can understand leavened bread is rather scarce among 380 souls. Butter they have not; sugar they have not. What do they do with their money? you will ask. Well, it is hard to say. At the last payment of annuities the Instructor and myself used all our influence to persuade them to purchase some useful articles, the season of

the year being June, and winter far away, some could not see the force of providing for such a distant day. Sixteen families did purchase new tent cloth, which they make into "tepees" for themselves. The cost of material for one tent is about \$12. Each soul is entitled to an annuity of \$5. The head of a family of ten draws \$50 ; consequently when a child becomes orphaned, many are found extremely anxious to adopt the same on account of the annuity and the extra rations. They can beg a few rags to cover the poor child, and reckon a stray child clear gain.

Last year I could not get even one load of wood from the Indians. This year they have brought me all I will require. Even Piapot himself brought me a load. We consider this a great achievement. Yet there is much feeling against learning the English. The old people hate innovation, and children are wonderfully fond of "Nokomis," or "Nokoni"—grandma—and the poor old creatures will carry the children upon their old backs up the hills—and very steep, high hills they are too. It is said we are quite four hundred feet above the Qu'Appelle Valley. And in the valley they love to camp, because through it runs the small, sluggish stream known as the Qu'Appelle River. And most naturally they love to be near the water, not that they are over-clean in their habits, but smoke a great deal, and that seems to make even white gentlemen thirsty. Well, when the little ones come to school, "Nokoni" must buckle to and mount the hill with the five-year old on her burden-accustomed back.

Many little ones tease to come to school. So, when Nokoni sits down to rest, she tells the little one "Meshoshe likes you, but you are not to think all the whites do ; they do not. They want you to learn their ways, so you may die and they will take the land. They took our buffalo and our freedom. They put us upon a Reserve. We cannot leave without a letter from one of them. Instead of plenty of buffalo to eat, we have that ugly white flour and ugly bacon." She goes on to say, "You must do as little as you can for Meshoshe. But you must do a little, or she will give you nothing." This is the teaching of grandma Indian. Thus we make but slow progress in teaching. The Kindergarten methods are the best. I brought an outfit of gifts from Chicago when I came. They enlightened old and young. The gifts are too expensive for me to renew, and I am sorry to say the sets are all broken upon now. One box of Kindergarten blocks came from "Lenc-a-Hand" Mission Band, Haynes Avenue, St. Catharines. I find most helpful. Not one, old or young, but are greatly taken up with them.

Then, too, the picture books and scrap-books come next. Such beautiful scrap-books from so many sources. I am indebted to "The Boys' Own Missionary Society," Toronto, for some elegant scrap-books. But I cannot enumerate so many scrap-books from so many different sources, all good, and charming, and bright. I can imagine I see the happy, manly boys at work, assisted by the lovely, sweet girls.

Most excellent bales and boxes from Hamilton, Dundas, St. Catharines, Niagara and Caledonia. Besides these no names were mentioned, many bales being nameless. I had a letter from Lochalsh stating that two bales were sent from there. Two bales looking decidedly different from the others were received, but being nameless, I am not certain that these are they; but as they are over and above those numbered from Hamilton, I conclude they are from Lochalsh.

To all the dear sisters in Christ who were kind enough to send to me personal gifts please accept my warmest personal thanks. The pretty slippers from my dear unknown are a perfect fit. If she will kindly let me know her name, I should like to write to her. All my gifts were so suitable. It is much too kind to remember me so lavishly. May the Lord reward you all.

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### Clothing Received.

STONY PLAINS RESERVE, EDMONTON,  
Dec. 19, 1887.

MR. ANDERSON.—It is with very great pleasure that I notify you of the arrival of the two cases with clothes for the Indians on this Reserve; they came in good time, as we are having very cold weather, and some of them were very poorly clothed. One of the boxes is distributed amongst them already, and they seem to be highly pleased with them. I now ask that you will accept of our returning thanks for your kindness, and trust that your efforts for good will be abundantly blessed.

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### En Route.

Our missionaries, Rev. J. Goforth and Mrs. Goforth, reached Vancouver, B.C., on Monday, January 30. The journey across the continent was tedious, eleven days in all, owing to snow blockades. A letter received yesterday from Mrs. Goforth states that they expected to sail February 2, by SS. *Parthia*, en route for China. Both are well, and desire the prayers of God's people.

## INCREASE.

In Lanark and Renfrew Presbyterial Society—St. John's Church Auxiliary, on 21st December, by Mrs. McKenzie; also, St. Andrew's Church Auxiliary, Almonte, formed.

In Kingston Presbyterial Society—Elphin Auxiliary, on 28th May, 1887, by Rev. A. McAuley; on 10th January, Cooke's Church Auxiliary, Kingston, and on 11th January, St. Andrew's Church Auxiliary, Kingston, by the Presbyterial officers.

In Whitby Presbyterial Society—"Coral Workers" Mission Band, Claremont, 23rd January, by Mrs. Kippan.

In Lindsay Presbyterial Society—Cambray Auxiliary, in September, 1887, by Mrs. McTavish, assisted by Miss McKellar and other ladies; and on 9th February, Wick Auxiliary, by Miss Robinson.

In Toronto, on 19th January, The MacLaren Auxiliary, in connection with Bloor Street Church, by Mrs. Robinson.

In Orangeville Presbyterial Society—Two Auxiliaries, one in Hillsburg and one at Price's Corners.

In Hamilton Presbyterial Society—"Little Workers" Mission Band, Kirkwall, by Mrs. Ewart; and the "Golden Rule" Mission Band, by Miss Ferrier.

In Stratford Presbyterial Society—Avonton Auxiliary, by Rev. D. Gordon.

In Paris Presbyterial Society—"Hearts and Hands" Mission Band, by Mrs. Dickenson.

In Huron Presbyterial Society—Egmondville Auxiliary, on 27th January, by Mrs. Fair.

In Saugeen Presbyterial Society—Knox Church Auxiliary, Harriston, on 9th January, and Woodlawn Auxiliary, on 23rd January, by Mrs. Young and Mrs. Jamieson.

## NOTICES.

The Board of Management meets on the first Tuesday of every month, at 3 o'clock p.m., in the Managers' Room, Knox Church, Toronto. Members of Auxiliary Societies, or other ladies interested in the work and desiring information, being introduced by a member of the Board, are cordially invited to attend.

Letters concerning the organization of Societies, and all matters pertaining to Home work, are to be addressed to Mrs. Hugh Campbell, 194 Richmond Street West, Toronto. The Home Secretary should be notified *at once* when an Auxiliary or Mission Band is formed.

Letters asking information about missionaries, or any questions concerning the Foreign field, as to Bible readers, teachers or children in the various Mission Schools, should be addressed to Mrs. Harvie, Wilcocks Street, Toronto.

Letters containing remittances of money for the W. F. M. S. may be addressed to Mrs. James MacLennan, Treasurer, 10 Murray Street, Toronto.

All requests for literature may be sent to Mrs. Telfer, 72 St Albans Street, Toronto.

Certificates of life membership can be issued at any time, if the Home Secretary be notified.

## LITERATURE.

No.		Price.
1.	Self-Questioning (leaflet) .....	Free.
2.	Giving, and Giving Up; or, the Test of Love. per doz.	8 cents.
3.	The Voices of the Women .....	1 cent.
4.	The Importance of Prayer in regard to Mission Work .....	8 cents.
5.	"Why and How?" Missionary Questions for Women .....	8 "
6.	Two Cents a Week .....	Free.
7.	Mrs. Pickett's Missionary Box .....	1 cent.
8.	Some Facts in the Life of Kashibai, a Brahmin Woman .....	1 "
9.	Pitchers and Lamps .....	1 "
10.	For His Sake .....	1 "
11.	Preparation for the Master's Work .....	8 cents.
12.	What is in thine Hand .....	8 "
13.	Thanksgiving Ann .....	1 cent.
14.	Suggestions for holding Missionary Meetings .....	Free.
17.	Why we Should keep up our Auxiliaries... per doz.	8 cents.
18.	Five Cents in a Tea-cup .....	1 cent.
	Presbyterial Organization .....	Free.
	How to Organize and Manage a Missionary Society or Band .....	"
	Mite Boxes .....	1 cent.
	Envelopes .....	Free.
	Prayer Cards .....	"

Orders for the above Leaflets received by Mrs. Telfer, 72 St. Albans Street, Toronto.

Applications for "The Monthly Letter Leaflet" (extra copies one cent each), and Annual Reports, to be made to the Home Secretary, Mrs. Campbell.

Every member of the Society is entitled to a copy of the Report free, extra copies are sold at 10 cents each.

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