

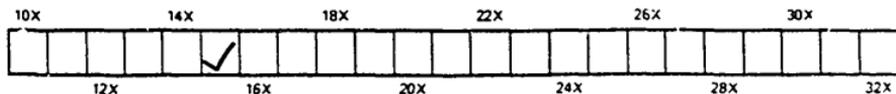
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“The World



for Christ.”

# Monthly Letter Leaflet

WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY, PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA

(WESTERN DIVISION)

VOL. XII.

TORONTO, MAY, 1895.

No. 1.

## Subjects for Prayer.

MAY.—The Indians of the Canadian North-West. The French Canadian Missions, and other Home Mission work of the Church. For the Chinese in America.

“For the Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.”—*Luke xix : 10.*

“For there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.”—*Acts iv : 12.*

## Missionaries, Teachers and Helpers in the North-West and British Columbia.

PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE—Miss Fraser, Miss Laidlaw. ROLLING RIVER—Mr. J. W. Wright, Mrs. Wright. OKANASE—Rev. Geo. Flett, Mrs. Flett, Miss McIntosh, Miss Jackson. CROWSTAND—Rev. C. W. Whyte, Mrs. Whyte, Miss Henderson, Mrs. Lockhart. BIRTLE—Mr. Neil Gilmour, Miss Maclaren, Miss McLeod. BEULAH—Rev. J. McArthur, Mrs. McArthur. ROUND LAKE—Rev. Hugh McKay, Mrs. McKay, Mr. Wm. Sahlmark. FILE HILLS—Mr. A. Skene, Mrs. Skene. LAKESIDE—Rev. W. S. Moore, Mrs. Moore. REGINA—Rev. A. J. McLeod, Mrs. McLeod, Mr. W. Stewart, Mr. A. D. Monroe, Miss Nicholl, Miss Cumming, Mrs. Moffatt and others. PRINCE ALBERT—Miss Baker, Miss Cameron. MISTAWASIS—Rev. A. W. Lewis, Mrs. Lewis, Miss McIntosh. PIPESTONE—Mr. Peter Hunter. ALBERNI, B. C.—Mr. M. Swartout, Mr. Russell, Miss Johnston, Miss Minnes.

## The Annual Meeting.

The Nineteenth Annual Meeting of the Society was held in Central Presbyterian Church, Toronto, on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, April 16th, 17th, 18th, 1895. The weather was perfect, and the church bright and comfortable, and admirably suited to the requirements of the meeting, notwithstanding that its seating capacity of over 1,100, was taxed to the utmost at all the sessions. Upwards of 500 railway certificates were signed by the Home Secretary, and 307 delegates were hospitably entertained in Toronto homes. The attendance was probably larger than any previous year, and the meetings throughout were earnest and enthusiastic without the least jarring note to mar the harmony of the proceedings. The revered and loved President occupied the chair on Tuesday afternoon and evening and during Wednesday's sessions. Her absence from her place on Thursday morning, on account of illness was the occasion of much solicitude, and many earnest prayers ascended to the Throne of Grace on her behalf; but when at the close of Thursday afternoon, it was announced that the President was no worse and was resting quietly, all hearts went up in thankfulness. That prayer has been graciously answered, and that Mrs. Ewart is now well on the way to recovery, every member of the Society will be rejoiced to know.

**TUESDAY AFTERNOON.**--The devotional hour on the first day, which has now become an established custom at our annual gatherings, was this year, as in the past, felt to be one of the most helpful and delightful parts of the meeting. All hearts were united in earnest prayer for the presence and power of the Holy Spirit. Mrs. Colin Fletcher of Thames Road gave a brief address, which was listened to with deep attention. The thought which she dwelt upon was, that the results of Christian effort must depend largely upon the character of Christians themselves, basing her remarks on Heb. xii, 12, 13, and pressing home the important truth that for the members of this Society--whether permitted to give direct help in the world's evangelization or whether debarred from so doing--to be good wives, daughters, sisters, to walk carefully and prayerfully--this was "making straight paths for their feet," and would be blessed of God for the advancement of His cause in the world. The "halt and the lame" were looking to Christ's professed followers, both in Christian and in heathen lands, as the exponents of Christian truth, and who could tell where influence began or ended.

**THE CONFERENCE.**--On Tuesday evening the Presidents of Presbyterian Societies, Auxiliaries and Mission Bands, with Presbyterian Secretaries and Treasurers, met in conference with the thirty-six Managers. The

notice of motion from Hamilton Presbyterial Society, that the reports of Presbyterial Societies be taken as read at the Annual Meeting, which has twice appeared in the *Letter Leaflet*, was after some discussion recommended to be held over for another year, as owing to an oversight, it had not appeared in the *Letter Leaflet* in time to permit of its being considered at Presbyterial meetings.

The question of appointing Presbyterial Secretaries for Mission Bands received attention. Opinion as to the advisability of appointing such an officer was divided. A good deal was said against the multiplying of officers, and there was a strong feeling that the Bands should be under the care of the Auxiliaries. In some Presbyterials, where only three or four Bands existed, the need of a special Secretary was not much felt. In other Presbyterials it was thought a judicious and competent secretary might do a great deal to foster the Bands, and interest the children. Children liked to receive letters, and it was pointed out that the duties of a secretary need not and ought not to conflict with the relations of the Auxiliary towards the Band. The general conclusion seemed to be that success or failure would depend on whether the right person were appointed, special qualifications were necessary, and the power for good or harm in the hands of a Mission Band secretary very great. It was agreed that the appointment of this officer was one which might well be left to the option of Presbyterial Societies.

Two propositions, one coming from St. Andrew's Auxiliary, Kingston, another from St. John's Church Auxiliary, Brockville, and a suggestion from Ayr, all opening up wide and difficult questions, were read to the Conference. These communications had not been sent to the Board in time either for consideration or for publication in the *Letter Leaflet* that the societies might consider them previous to being brought before the Annual Meeting, and must therefore, it was agreed, be held over for the present.

Several members of the Conference spoke of the unrest in regard to the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, which seemed to have taken possession of many in the Church, through misunderstanding on the part of a few as to the relation of the Society to the Foreign Mission Committee. The President and others expressed the opinion that this might be in part owing, not so much to a feeling against the Society, as to the hard times and the great difficulty of keeping up the general work of the Church. Ministers unacquainted with our position might naturally wonder why we could not just give the money to whatever Scheme we wished. One Presbyterial President had sent a circular letter on the subject to all her Auxiliaries. The paper read by Mrs. Blair at the meeting of the Brockville

Pres., and published in the Church papers, also covered the ground and would repay wide circulation.

**WEDNESDAY'S MEETINGS.**—After devotional exercises, with which every session opened and closed, the President's Address, the Presbyterial Reports and the hearing of letters and addresses of greeting from sister Societies occupied the forenoon. The President's address this year included items of business from the minutes of the Board not pertaining directly to the work of any secretary, and which have in former years been reported by the Recording Secretary. The most important of these were : 1. Mention of the good results of the deputation to the North-West. 2. A proposition that there should be only one secretary for the North-West, and that the Foreign Secretary should attend to the prizes for our schools in India and also any gifts for the hospital. This motion had been tabled after considerable discussion, as it was thought we were not yet ready for such a change. 3. Mention of misunderstanding and misstatements regarding the financial position of the Society and the steps the Board and the Foreign Mission Committee had taken to set the matter in its true light. 4. Reference to the loss sustained by the Society in the retirement from office of Mrs. MacLennan, and also to the marriage and removal from Toronto of the Assistant Home Secretary. 5. Reference to the annual day of prayer, and to the time set apart each week by the Board for special prayer for all the Schemes of the Church. The remainder of the President's address was full of interest and dealt with significant facts of recent occurrence in Japan and China. The address will be published in full in the Annual Report. This account is necessarily much condensed, and we have also been obliged, *very reluctantly*, to hold over until next month a synopsis of the addresses of our lady missionaries at Wednesday's and Thursday's meetings.

The Presbyterial Reports were even more than usually interesting and to the point this year. The reading of them by representatives from the various societies, including Auxiliaries not in Presbyterial order, took less than fifty minutes, and it was felt by not a few that to miss hearing them would be a loss to the meeting, expressing as they did, in a closely compressed form, the results of a vast amount of effort, some sacrifice, and without exception, a sense of privilege and great joy in the work. Allusions to the prevailing depression of the times were accompanied in many cases by a financial showing equal to last year and sometimes in advance of it, and the undaunted courage and confidence in God expressed in all the Reports filled our hearts with gladness and gratitude.

Letters of greeting were presented by Mrs. Campbell, Corresponding Secretary, from the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, New York ; from the Woman's Board of Missions of the Northwest, Chicago ; from Rat

Portage Auxiliary, Manitoba; from the Canada Congregational Woman's Board of Missions; and from the Presbyterian Woman's Missionary Union, Queensland. Addresses of greeting were given by Mrs. Scott on behalf of the Woman's Missionary Society, Montreal; Mrs. Langford for the Woman's Foreign Mission Society of the Methodist Church; Mrs. C. Stark for the Woman's Baptist Missionary Society; and Mrs. Cowan for the McAll Mission. All were most cordial in their expressions of sympathy and congratulation.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.—The presenting of the Annual Reports by the various Secretaries and the Treasurer occupied the opening hour of this session. As these reports will very shortly be in the hands of the Society, and as most of the delegates received a copy at the meeting, we shall not attempt any extended notice of them. They were ably spoken to, each secretary confining her remarks within fifteen minutes. The Auxiliaries now number 585, Mission Bands 250, Membership, including Scattered Helpers, 23,562. The Home Secretary said, however, that she had found it impossible to arrive at the correct number of members, because a very general mistake had been made of entering the same person as a member in more than one column of the tabulated forms. Secretaries, it was hoped, would pay special attention to this point another year. The Foreign Secretary's Report gave a full account of the Foreign and North-West work supported by our Society. It was literally crammed with facts, and will prove a helpful repository of knowledge for future use. Earnest appeal was made by the Foreign Secretary for medical women to offer for Honan, as such will be urgently called for as soon as the country is sufficiently settled for them to go. The loss sustained by the death of Dr. Lucinda Graham and Mrs. Malcolm was touchingly referred to. The Secretary of Supplies reported 28,000 lb. of clothing and bedding sent during the year to the North-West. As a result of the deputation last summer it had been ascertained that too much clothing had not been sent in previous years, and that the work could not be carried on without it. A refund of freight charges to the amount of \$603.83 had been made by the Indian Department. The Secretary-Treasurer of Publications reported 13,160 subscribers to the LETTER LEAFLET with an increasing list, and urged that we aim in the coming year at having it in every home connected with the Society. The enlargement of the LETTER LEAFLET would entail increased expenditure, but the receipts from sales warranted the Board to take this step. With the exception of the printing there was no paid labor in connection with the department of Publication, nor in any other department of the Board, but it was pointed out that the outlay should be kept within certain limits, leaving a margin to provide for future possibilities in

this direction. The editor of the *LETTER LEAFLET* said that the *LEAFLET* must speak for itself from month to month, and that the only way it could do this was by *being read*. There was some reason to fear it was not always read. Even the official notices from the Board were sometimes overlooked, thus causing needless correspondence.

The following abstract from the Treasurer's statement shows the financial standing of the Society :—

Cash received from Auxiliaries during the year		
1894-95 .....	\$35,153 15	
“ received from Mission Bands during the year		
1894-95 .....	6, 248 09	
Presbyterial collections, interest, etc., after deducting		
reported expenses .....	486 41	
Cash received from other sources during the year		
1894-95 .....	1,023 04	
	<hr/>	
	\$42,910 69	
Balance from last year .....	440 47	
Expenses of management .....		\$ 780 63
“ for Missionary purposes .....		409 80
Balance in Canadian Bank of Commerce, April 4th,		
1895 .....		42,160 73
	<hr/>	
	\$43,351 16	\$43,351 16

Mrs. Harvie reported what had been done during the year regarding the Training Home. The committee appointed at last annual meeting had done all they could, which was very little, as they found their progress checked at the beginning for want of funds, it not having been agreed that the general fund should be used for this purpose, and no other means having been provided. The Executive of the Board had conferred with the Executive of the Foreign Mission Committee on the subject, but no conclusion had been reached, and it was agreed to refer the whole matter the regular meeting of the Foreign Mission Committee, to be held in May. The reports were received and adopted very heartily, Mrs. McQuesten of Hamilton, and Mrs. McCrae of Guelph speaking in terms of high appreciation of the debt the Society owed to its officers.

The new Board was then appointed by the adoption of the report of the Nominating Committee, which was presented by the Convener, Mrs. Grant.

The Society then had the pleasure and privilege of an address from Mrs. Goforth on the Work Among the Women in Honan, which was listened to with deepest interest.

THE EVENING MEETING.—Cooke's Church, which accommodates over 3,000 people, was filled to its utmost on Wednesday evening with an appreciative audience. Mr. Hamilton Cassels occupied the Chair. Rev. W. Patterson, pastor of Cooke's Church, spoke a few cordial words of welcome, and Rev. R. P. MacKay, Foreign Mission Secretary, gave a brief synopsis of the progress and work of the Society.

The Rev. Dr. Gillespie, of New York, for many years Foreign Mission Secretary of the American Presbyterian Church, North, was the guest of the evening, and the chief speaker. He spoke of the *outcome* and the *outlook* of Women's Foreign Missionary Societies, as these had come under his own eye during the past twenty-one years.

Although the movement was not welcomed in all quarters at the beginning, it had received assured recognition, and the approval of the Master and of the Church. It had resulted in the *discovery and development of gifts and graces* undreamed of before. Under the head of work accomplished, the remarkable development in recent years of the missionary spirit among young men and young women, was noted. Increase in prayer had been a feature of the outcome. In the outlook there was a two-fold peril: 1. The men of the Church were in danger of being too well satisfied with what their wives and daughters were doing and too willing to leave the bulk of the missionary work in their hands; 2. Women's Societies were meeting with so much appreciation that there was danger of their being persuaded to undertake too many things. Divided effort was not the way to accomplish great things. Singleness of aim and flexibility of method were essential to success, but above all constant waiting upon God. "Ye are the Lord's remembrancers." "We must advance upon our knees," as Neesima had said.

Dr. J. Fraser Smith, Honan, followed in a short speech. He had found since his return to Canada a great deal yet to be done in correcting ignorance and persuading men and women to deny themselves just a little for this work. In undertaking missions in Honan, they had been storming the citadel of heathenism, and they had found that the help of man was in vain, but God had been their refuge and strength, a present help in trouble, and now they were cheered by gathering in the first fruits.

Rev. J. Fraser Campbell spoke of the encouragements of the work in Central India, referring particularly to the abolishing of *Suttee* and to the law recently enacted forbidding the marriage of girls under fourteen years of age. In closing, Mr. Campbell made an appeal for more men for India. He referred to the openings for work in many places, the Rajahs even being anxious that missionaries should be sent. The collection amounted to \$165.

THURSDAY.—At 10 a.m., the Board met in the school room for the election of officers. Mrs. MacLaren presided at this meeting and throughout the day. At the same hour a devotional meeting in charge of Mrs. Fletcher, of Hamilton, was held in the church. The following were the officers elected:—President, Mrs. Ewart; Vice-Presidents, 1st, Mrs. MacLaren; 2nd, Mrs. MacLennan; 3rd, Mrs. G. H. Robinson; 4th, Mrs. Ball; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Playfair; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. H. Campbell; Home Secretary, Mrs. Shortreed; Foreign Secretary, Mrs. Harvie; Sec.-Treasurer of Supplies, Mrs. Jeffery; Sec.-Treasurer of Publications, Mrs. Telfer, Assistant, Miss Telfer; Treasurer, Mr. T. McGaw. The Vice-Presidents and the Treasurer were elected by ballot, the other officers by acclamation. At the Board meeting on the following Tuesday, Mrs. MacLennan declined to retain the office of second Vice-President and pressed so strongly her wish that her name be placed fourth on the list of Vice-Presidents that the Board reluctantly acceded to her request. Miss Stone, Chatham, was appointed to represent the Society at the meeting of the New York Woman's Board at Detroit, on April 24th and 25th.

The devotional meeting of Thursday morning was addressed by Mrs. J. Fraser Campbell, C. I. Mrs. Campbell emphasised four things for which she hoped earnest prayer would be made: 1. For an outpouring of the Holy Spirit on members of the Church at home, so that they may provide the means to send missionaries. 2. For an outpouring of the Spirit on native Christians, especially in a deepening of the sense of sin. 3. That all missionaries and converts may be living epistles. 4. That missionaries may be guided in extending their work, and be led to enter those places where the greatest good would be done.

At the close of the Board meeting, Mrs. Watt, Guelph, addressed the Society on the model Auxiliary. She had heard of only one model Auxiliary, in which every member of the congregation was also a member of the Auxiliary. In the model Auxiliary every member should consider herself a president in point of responsibility, and every president should consider herself a member, only with a great deal of work. A meeting was only good when you made it good. The secret of success in a model Auxiliary was prayer. Mrs. Mutch then read an admirable paper on Mission Band Work. The discussion which was to have followed was omitted for want of time, much to the disappointment of all. It is hoped, however, that some amends for the loss to the Society, will be made by publishing Mrs. Mutch's paper in full in next month's LETTER LEAFLET for the benefit of Mission Band workers.

A cordial invitation having been received, it was agreed that the next Annual Meeting be held in Peterborough.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON.—The first item of business was the appointment of the Executive and Nominating Committees on the recommendation of the President. The following resolution on the retirement of the Treasurer was then passed:

*Resolved*—That the Society and the Board of Management hereby unite in recording their deep regret at the retirement from office of Mrs. MacLennan, for the past ten years the much esteemed General Treasurer of the W. F. M. S. Mrs. MacLennan was appointed in 1885 as successor to Mrs. King. Since that date over \$300,000 of the Society's money has passed through her hands. In taking charge of these funds, and in all the

other duties of her department, Mrs. MacLennan has been found faithful and efficient in small things as well as in great. Her books have been kept with the utmost accuracy, a fact which has repeatedly been testified to by Rev. Dr. Reid, as auditor, and her letters to inquirers on the financial methods and policy of the Society have been models of clearness and courtesy, and have been most helpful in correcting misapprehension and in preventing confusion in the disposal of missionary funds. The Board especially desire to express publicly their appreciation of Mrs. MacLennan's services, not only as Treasurer but also in all matters of business, in the consideration of which her sound judgment has been of the highest value. We would, therefore, tender our hearty thanks to Mrs. MacLennan, with the earnest wish and prayer that she may be long spared to aid, by her counsel and co-operation the work of the W. F. M. S., a work which we know to be very dear to her heart.

**DISPOSAL OF THE MONEY.**—The money was then allocated as follows: That \$25,535.92, being amount of estimate for the year, less \$14,662.08 already paid to Dr. Reid, be paid to the Foreign Mission Committee. That \$1,200 be sent to Foreign Mission Committee (E. D.) for woman's work in Trinidad and the New Hebrides.

That the further sum of \$15,000 be paid in advance to Rev. Dr. Reid to meet the expense of salaries, etc., in connection with the work of the W. F. M. S. for the ensuing year, as they fall due.

After the dedicatory prayer, Miss Jamieson, Neemuch, C. I.; Miss McIntosh, Honan, and Miss Baker, Prince Albert, N. W. T., gave short but deeply interesting addresses, descriptive of their work. It was felt to be a great pleasure and privilege to see these dear missionaries face to face, and to hear them bear testimony to the power of the Gospel among the heathen. That they were all in improved health, and looking forward hopefully to an early return to their several fields, was a matter for sincere congratulation and thankfulness.

A concise and comprehensive Map exercise on our foreign fields, given by Miss MacMurchy, and a few earnest, thoughtful closing words by Mrs. Ross, Lindsay, brought the meeting to an end. After joining in the Doxology, we separated, wearied in body somewhat after three days of meetings, but refreshed in spirit mightily, and inspired, we trust, to greater effort and to more consecrated living in all lowliness and meekness, remembering that our Heavenly Father "giveth power to the faint, and to them that have no might He increaseth strength."

## HOME DEPARTMENT.

### Increase.

#### *Presbyterial Societies:*

HAMILTON ..	North Pelham Auxiliary.
CRATHAM ..	Botany, "Belle" Mission Band.
GLYNGARRY ..	Wales Auxiliary.
" ..	Pleasant Valley Auxiliary (reorganized).
HURON ..	Exeter, Caven Church, "Willing Workers."
KINGSTON ..	The Ridge, "Helping Hand."
MONTREAL PRESBYTERY ..	St. A. de Dundee, Zion Church, Dundee Auxiliary.

## Life Members.

Miss Marjory Ferrier, Caledonia.  
 Mrs. Wm. Hawley, Bethel.  
 Mrs. Peter McTavish, Chesley.  
 Miss Flora M. Findlay, Central Church, Hamilton.  
 Miss Agnes Marshall, St. Andrew's, Scarboro'.

## Treasurer's Statement.

### RECEIPTS.

March	5	Balance in Bank .....	\$13,270 86
"	"	Morning Star M. B., Knox Church, Woodstock, for Bible Woman, Formosa. ....	30 00
"	6	Lanark and Renfrew P. S., Additional .....	20 00
"	"	Toronto Pres. Society .....	5,918 62
"	7	Paris " " .....	1,926 36
"	"	Barrie " " .....	1,294 71
"	"	Chalmers Church, Quebec, Auxiliary .....	78 15
"	8	Hurox Pres. Society .....	1,379 18
"	"	Owen Sound Pres. Society .....	768 51
"	"	Whitby " " .....	1,074 84
"	9	Y. P. S. C. E. Knox Church, Stratford, for India. ....	50 40
"	12	Peterborough Pres. Society .....	1,552 32
"	13	Guelph " " .....	2,221 92
"	"	Owen Sound " " Additional .....	2 68
"	15	Lindsay " " .....	1,375 00
"	16	Glengarry " " .....	2,083 54
"	19	Subscription, Miss Quinn, Listowel .....	3 00
"	20	Mrs. and Miss Lash, Muscowpetung, Fees and Subscriptions. ....	14 00
"	"	Kingston Pres. Society .....	1,359 04
"	21	Membership Fee, Bruce P. S. ....	1 00
"	"	Hamilton Pres. Society .....	3,138 73
"	22	Winnipeg " " .....	671 56
"	"	Maitland " " .....	1,468 00
"	25	Brandon " " .....	942 75
"	26	Carlyle Aux., Regina Pres., Additional .....	7 00
"	27	Maple Grove M. B. ....	7 45
April	2	Balance in hand of Sec.-Treas. of Publications (after paying expenses) now paid into general account .....	368 19
"	3	Brockville Pres. Society .....	1,525 00
"	"	Additional from Brandon P. S. ....	10 00
"	"	" " Sarnia " .....	8 00
			<hr/>
			<b>\$42,570 81</b>

EXPENDITURE.

March 7	Discount on Cheque.....	\$ 0 15
" 19	Ticket to Montreal and return, for Delegate to W. M. S., Montreal.....	17 60
" "	Postage on Life Membership Certificates.....	1 25
" 20	Discount on Cheque .....	25
" 26	12 Cree Hymn Books.....	3 60
" "	Secretary of Supplies, Postage .....	1 82
" "	Foreign Secretary, ".....	1 95
" "	Corresponding Secretary, Postage and Note Book..	3 00
" "	Recording Secretary, Postage.....	85
" "	Home Secretary, Letter Postage, \$1.36 ; Postage on Reports, \$1.31 .....	2 67
" "	Treasurer, Postage.....	1 94
" "	Desks and Seats for Girls' Boarding School, Indore	375 00
		<hr/>
		\$ 410 08
April 4	Balance in Bank .....	42,160 73
		<hr/>
		<u>\$42,570 81</u>

E. MACLENNAN,

*Treasurer W. F. M. S.*

**FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.**

**NORTH-WEST INDIANS.**

**Feeding the Hungry.**

FROM REV. HUGH M'KAY.

*Round Lake, Whitewood P.O., Assc., February 11, 1895.*

In the afternoon of Sabbath, December 23rd, we left Round Lake, driving up the ravine you passed through on your way from Whitewood. After leaving the ravine we passed over the trackless prairie through the deep snow. It was already dark when we arrived at the Camp of Kennie. Here we found a few families living in little log hovels. No flooring, no chair or bedstead, filthy and poor : visited each home. In one a mother sitting by her little daughter. The flushed cheek, anxious eye, quick breathing and rapid pulse tells its own story ; a bright and beautiful child about to die. The arm is too weak to be raised, but she welcomes us with a smile. Dissolution is here, but we hope that the soul is in the safe keeping of Him who said : "Suffer the little ones to come unto Me."

We enter another home ; old man helpless, old woman able to gather wood and set a snare for a rabbit, that is all. There was no door, only a tent hung over an opening. They are poor indeed. In another home, two old women ; they try to tan hides for a living ; but, oh, what a poor living ;

look at their table, look at their bed, look at their dwelling, look at their prospects for support, poor old Canadian women. After visiting all the homes we invited all to have tea with us. About twenty in all had a good supper with us. It would do you good to see how they enjoyed the beef and the pork, bread, tea and sugar.

Finding no place at this camp where we would like to spread our robes, we drove on to the next encampment, where we arrived at 9 o'clock. We found a little stable where we could put our ponies, and after making them comfortable for the night we made some calls. We found a house that was rather inviting, clean floor recently scrubbed, whitewashed walls, bright and clean stove, lamp, etc. In this little house we spent the night, and in the morning gathered all in the camp for breakfast, about forty, and they did all eat and were satisfied, and after breakfast had an opportunity of speaking of Him who is the bread of life. We drive from this camp to Billie's Camp; you remember where Billie had his tent, there is a little village there now, about forty in the village. We visited all the homes. In one house we met two families; on the one side there was neatness and order, on the other side confusion; on the one side, a neat bed enclosed with curtains, little sofa, cupboard, clean dishes, etc.; on the other side, bedding, food, untanned hides, harness, dirty pots and dishes all mixed. In another home, saw an old woman helpless. I told her I had just received a letter from Mr. McNeil, who had been farm instructor for several years here, and who is now at Fort McLeod. She was glad to hear of him and asked how is his wife and his little ones. I replied, they are all well, and here is a dollar he has sent to you so that you shall have tea and sugar for Christmas. The old woman took the dollar, and the little old chin began to quiver and her lips trembled as if attempting to speak, and the big tears gathered in her eye and rolled down the withered cheek. I went out to make some other calls before she could find her tongue.

I would like to tell you of all we saw in those poor homes and all about our dinner with forty invited guests, but I would weary you. After seeing all satisfied, we drove to Kewistahaw's. Do you remember the little hill and congregation, the chief and his chief men and all the poor sad looking people? Do you remember how they watched you when you began to shake hands, wondering if you would shake hands with them, if they would be so happy as to feel your hand on their head? I am sure the picture is still in your mind. Well, these are the people we invited to eat with us. I might fill several pages giving you an account of that Christmas afternoon dinner, but I shall not weary you; about 100 in all enjoyed the dinner, but I would like also to give you an account of two other dinners we had with the Indians. One at Goose Lake and another with Sheshep's

band. About 300 invited guests. The cost of the dinner about \$15; of this \$15, \$7.50 was received from Moosomin Thanksgiving collection, and \$7.50 a voluntary contribution.

Many of our people are suffering this winter; there are ten in the nearest band who have nothing and are unable to help themselves. What they are going to do I do not know. Feeding starving Indians on the Reserve costs us more this winter than feeding the children in our school. We can't see them starve. Why should poor helpless Canadians starve when wheat is selling at 40 cents per bushel, and beef at \$4.00 per cwt. ? I often fear that I do not make plain enough the wants of this people to the Church. We have our full number of scholars in the school; twenty treaty children and three non-treaty. Two of the non-treaty girls are able to pay for their board by working. The other is a little girl, more white than Indian; her home and surroundings are bad, and if left in her home she would likely sink lower than the pagan Indian. We have a school of dear little children with us, and we trust many of those little hearts have already chosen the good part that shall not be taken from them. Our boys are kept busy cutting wood and taking care of cattle. We get a good supply of fresh eggs and milk; the weather has been very cold, the thermometer playing about 40 below zero. When we see the bright morning sun shining and playing with some beautiful geraniums, we would almost imagine it was June.

I had the pleasure, a few days ago, of being at the marriage of one of our first scholars at Round Lake—Miss Ellen Gaddie. She was married at the house of her father, which presented a beautiful appearance on that evening; there was a large number of guests invited. I can't describe the dress of the bride or that of her maids; they all looked pretty. The tables looked tempting. The brides cake, made by her own hand, would do credit to any housekeeper. We noticed some lovely flowers, which showed a beautiful contrast to the wintry scene without. There were beautiful and numerous presents, which told of the esteem in which the bride was held by her numerous friends. Mr. Silman, the young man, is lately from England. He has plucked a prairie flower, but he shall find her to be an intelligent and industrious woman and a loving and Christian companion.

I was visiting the other day an old man in Kewistahaw's band, who was very ill; he may not be living now. He was down to see us at Christmas and seemed well and now he is so low. He took bleeding of the lungs. This will make seven since your visit in that band. We often speak of your visit to Round Lake; your visit has done good. We are often cheered by your kind words and strengthened by the thought that many are praying for us.

There is a good work being done in the colony north of us this winter. The spirit of the Lord has been leading many hearts to open, that the King of Glory may come in. Oh! when shall the hard heart of the pagan Indian be opened? For this we work, for this we pray. This is the only power that can lift up this people. It is the power of God to salvation for the poor Indian. Without it he shall have poverty, disease and death. With it he shall have plenty, health and life.

Mrs. McKay and our teacher and all the children join me in kind greetings.

### Caring for the Little Ones.

FROM MRS. M'KAY.

*Round Lake, Whitewood P. O., February 12, 1895.*

I sometimes wonder who would care to hear about my work. It is only cleaning and dressing and feeding little Indian children, and is there anything that is of interest about it? There is about 300 yards of flooring to be swept each day, three meals served up for about twenty, beds made up; this is the work of each day. Then there is the baking, cooking, scrubbing, ironing, mending, darning, making up new garments, etc. Do you think it is a busy life? All the assistance I have is one girl and the little girls of the school. I sometimes fear that I spend more time in working for their bodily comfort than in caring for their souls.

There are thirteen girls and every one is interesting, so different and yet so alike. I like to spend a half hour with them after they go to their rooms at night. They will read over with me a passage of Scripture, repeat the golden text in the Sabbath school lesson, repeat all the golden texts which we had since January. They will kneel down and with bowed heads repeat over their evening prayer; then I say good night and thirteen little voices echo "good night."

The youngest is little Sula, aged 5; she is a privileged little one. She is always moving; the teacher does not keep her long in school and she spends most of her time with me, or playing with her doll and singing. One night I was putting her to bed and she was a little cross about something and did not wish to kiss me good night. I said, "Never mind, Sula; Alma will kiss me," and I left the room. After some time one of the other little girls came down and said, "Sula wants you," I went up and Sula said: "Missie McKay, I want to kiss you."

One little girl was telling me about a dream she had; she said she saw in her dream Jesus coming down from heaven standing on something like a great sheet, and He took her and her sister and Mrs. McKay up to heaven,

and when they reached, Jesus lifted His hand and the heavens opened and we all went in. Mrs. Harvie, if I was sure all these little ones would be converted, I would think myself happy that I put my hand to this work. I appreciate very much your kind words of sympathy and encouragement and your prayers.

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CENTRAL INDIA.

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In Chains of Superstition.

FROM MRS. RUSSELL.

*Mhow, C. I., February 6, 1895.*

Mr. Russell is still out in the district and is having such splendid meetings. Wherever he goes the people seem willing and anxious to hear the Word. The last letter I had was some five days ago, when he sent a man in some thirty miles for his mail; he is quite a distance from any post office. Since going out to this district his health has improved very much; what an inspiration there is in being able to go from village to village setting forth the glad tidings of our Saviour's love to those who have never before heard of it only one who has had this blessed privilege can know; and then in such work one is necessarily a great deal alone. It is a busy time, full of work; but it is a real coming aside to be alone with God; and, oh, how much we need this, surrounded on all sides as we are by sin and misery; if it were not for His promises, the future of India might look hopeless; but we know all will be well, and that the entrance of His word must bring light.

I wonder if I can tell you anything new in regard to the pleasant week we spent at Dhar; you have doubtless by this time had the needs of Dhar often before you, and it does seem as though God were really calling us to enter in and win this beautiful place for Him, for it certainly is one of the most beautiful spots I have seen in Central India. I know if it is His will the way will be made very plain. Here in Mhow we see very little of the real Eastern life, but in Dhar it is very different. You will have read of the class of fakirs or holy men (as they are called) who, to please the gods, hold their arms up until all the muscles and sinews are so contracted and shrivelled that the arm remains in that position, is quite useless and cannot be taken down. We saw just such a man as we were walking through the bazaar streets in Dhar; his finger-nails were fully ten inches long and hung down over his fingers like so many claws. Another sad sight was that of another holy man, who had a ton of iron fastened on his body. You might think this an exaggeration and wonder how a man could possibly

carry around with him a ton of iron; but he does not carry it around, for he cannot even move; on his neck, arms, wrists, legs and ankles are great heavy bands of iron, and to these bands are attached, by short chains or large iron rings, all sorts of weights, until the poor man appears to be just one great load of iron. It is fourteen years since he first put these weights on; he cannot move hand or foot, and when he removes from one place to another they just lift him as they would some heavy piece of baggage and place him on an ox cart. He is quite dependent upon the people by whom he may be surrounded, and cannot even give himself a drink of water. When we saw him he was lying on the ground in a native rest house, and he told us the people had not given him anything to eat or drink for two days; what a sad, sad sight! We could not give him the water he was asking for, but Mr. Russell told him of the Water of Life. How our hearts did ache as we looked upon him, bound in the chains of superstition, not only mentally, but bodily. I could not but wonder what his thoughts were as he lay there week after week, month after month, and year after year.

In the face of such heart-weariness how precious are the words of our Saviour, "Come unto Me all ye that are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest." "Take My yoke upon you and learn of Me, for I am meek and lowly, and you shall find rest unto your soul." Here are these poor men each day bringing unto them great weariness of body, and I doubt not far deeper weariness of soul, in their vain quest after God, whilst all the time our dear Saviour is longing to enter into their hearts and life and give unto them that peace which can come from belief and trust in Him alone.

## The Movement Among the Mangs.

FROM MRS. WILKIE.

*Indore, Feb. 4, 1895.*

I must make an excuse for my long delay in writing. We have got settled in our home again, and have Christmas with its preparations and meetings over. Before passing on I may say that the Christmas morning meeting of the Sunday school children was a greater success this year than last year. We had over eight hundred present. Two hundred and twenty-five Christians were present at the Christmas dinner. Our numbers are increasing so fast that we were considering the advisability of not giving the usual dinner. We did not like to deprive the poor people of their treat, so gave them boiled rice and meat curry, which we were enabled to do through local subscriptions. The mission box helped us this year, by supplying the greater part of the prizes for the Sunday school children.

We have baptized twenty-five since our return, mostly women, which is encouraging, as all through the Mang movement the women have been

the hardest to reach. Some of them have held out long after their husbands were received into the Church. Last Sabbath we baptized a widow woman, who has been a bitter opponent to Christianity from the first. Probably you remember that we wrote over a year ago about two young girls that we rescued after they had been engaged to be married to the idol, and so destined for the degrading temple service. She is the mother of these girls. The girls were put into the "Industrial Home," under Mrs. Johory's care, and lived quiet, consistent lives for over a year, and were baptized since our return. The mother, notwithstanding the efforts of her daughters and others to bring her under the influence of the truth, continued a bitter opponent. Months ago, when listening to a sermon in the Church on the torments that fall to a sinner after death, she was led to death. When out one day, some distance from her home, she stumbled and rolled down a hill. She thought that she was going to be killed, and vowed to God that if He would only spare her life she would give her heart to Jesus, but the vow was soon forgotten. Through the course of time she was taken ill and thought she was dying, then she remembered her vow, and her fear of the future returned. When she was able to go about again she hesitated about taking the step of confessing Christ, but two weeks ago as she was coming to the Church she was again spoken to and strange to say, exactly the same words were used as at first, that made her fear the future. After a hard struggle she yielded. When before the Session she gave most satisfactory answers.

Another interesting case is the wife of the Jamedar, or headman of the Mohulla. Not only was she opposed to the truth, but she tried in every way to hinder the others from listening; so much so, that we were talking of not allowing her to be present at our meetings. When we were trying to teach her verses of Scripture we could not get her to repeat three words in the order that they were given. We knew that she was twisting the words to make the others laugh. At the time when our patience was almost exhausted, she surprised us, by coming forward for baptism, and, since then, we have had no trouble with her. They have been subjected to a good deal of persecution. Two weeks ago two of our Christians were attacked by some drunken men. The Christians defended themselves and fled as soon as they could. They had to remain at the college all night on Sunday, as these men intended to waylay the Christians as they went home from church. The drunken men lodged a complaint, and when Mr. Wilkie got into the city, the Christians were being put into stocks. It was with great difficulty that they were got out, as the magistrate refused to take bail, even from Mr. Wilkie. It was only when threats were made that the case would be carried to the higher authorities

that they agreed to take bail. The trial was to come off yesterday, but Mr. Wilkie returned greatly pleased, as the accusers had cleared out and the case fell through. We were afraid that it might be a similar case to one we had before we left for home a year ago, which was conducted as follows:—These poor people would be called to appear on a certain day: if they did not appear they were fined three or four annas. This went on all the time we were away. When you consider that these poor people would not make more than three or four annas at most a day, you will have some idea of what it meant to spend day after day waiting for a case that has not yet come off.

There has been great excitement to-day, seeing the first windmill put up at Indore. Crowds of natives have come to look at it. One man suggested their being able to grind their flour with it.

Since writing the above we have had eight more baptisms; seven were from the Mang Mohulla.

You will be pleased to know that the Government grant of Rs. one hundred and sixty-six, for the High School, has been increased to Rs. two hundred.

Mr. Wilkie is in Bombay looking after our school furniture which has reached there; and also doing some other business connected with the College. He was very well when he left yesterday morning.

Miss Sinclair leaves to-morrow morning. Mr. Wilkie will see her off at Bombay before he leaves on Friday. The three new ladies, Miss White, Miss Grier, and Miss Dougan, also Miss O'Hara, are all away at Nussera-bad at their examination. I hope that they will all be successful.

I have given Miss Sinclair what I had left of "Brush's cure for sea sickness," and hope that it may help her as much as it helped me, thanks to your kindness.

We had our communion last Sabbath, when ten new members were added to our numbers. Three from the Boarding School, three from the Industrial Home, one from the Boys' Home, and three from the Mang Mohulla. We had another baptism last week—the wife of one of the Mang men, who was among the first received through baptism. It is cheering to see the wives taking a stand for Christ. A young lad, who was baptized lately, and who has been very much persecuted by his people, disappeared to-day, and we cannot find any trace of where he has gone. I hope no violence has been used. Poor fellow, he looked so frightened the night he was baptized. We all felt sorry for him. We have been keeping him in the Boys' Home since his baptism. His people have been using all sorts of means to try and get him away, and succeeded to-day, but how, we do not know. We get good news from all the children.

HONAN.

Medical Women for Honan.

EXTRACT OF LETTER FROM REV. DONALD MACGILLIVRAY.

*Chu Wang, Honan, Dec. 29, 1894.*

During this war we remain indoors mostly instructing station classes, two of which we hold this year. The one at Hsin Chen has over 23 members. Chu Wang class is now meeting; 14 members. These are all selected men, mostly accepted on one year's probation. All *men*, of course, and including women believers, now we number over 50 believers, though only 10 as yet have been baptized in both ends of the field.

Mr. Grant gave them a magic lantern exhibition the other night. The picture of the prodigal's return was thrown on the scene. One of the class quickly enquired: Where is his *mother*? Did you ever think that he must have had a *mother*, even more deeply moved by her long-lost son's return than the father? I had never thought of it and felt rebuked by this babe in Christ's thoughtfulness about the *mother*. He himself has an old mother, who is still in doubt regarding her son's faith and his question shows how his mind was running.

As to the progress of the war, your papers have just one true thing, *i. e.*, Japan is beating China. As for the rest of the so-called news you might as well believe Baron Munchausen!

However, how you all must have been deceived again and again by the telegrams! Even Dr. Smith, since going home, has swallowed that one about Consul ordering us all out to Tientsin. When letters from home came telling about it, it was news to us. We had never heard of it before. I have no doubt but that our friends at home suffered more anxiety than we did.

Note especially that, although there are some 10 to 20 women believers, the wives and mothers, etc., of our men, none of them have come forward for baptism because there are no ladies here to teach them, not even *married* ladies. They are used to think of the ladies' help in the past and they desire it now. *Therefore*, if the war ceases, be sure to remember the cause of these waiting women at the Board. Even I think that now there is pressing work for single ladies in Honan. I never believed there was an opening among the heathen women, until at least we have woman's hospital. But I always thought that when women were brought in by son's and husband's influence, as in this case, the work of single ladies was laid out before them and very urgently called for.

## SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

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### Acknowledgments of Clothing and Gifts.

FROM MISS SINGLAIR, INDORE.

The greatest event of our school year is the Annual Distribution. So I think it should be mentioned at length, and I will take this opportunity of thanking the many friends who have again sent out gifts. The dolls were so daintily dressed, and, as far as I can judge, in the very height of western fashion. The members of Mission Bands would feel repaid for the Saturday afternoons they spent dressing dolls for India instead of playing, if they could see the children here when they receive their dolls. I must also specially thank you for the abundant supply of wool sent out. It was divided among the schools, the most part being, however, reserved for the Industrial Home, as they can use it to best advantage.

Put to return. Miss Grier and I decided to join forces and bring the children of her school and mine here to the Boarding School Hall for the occasion. We were busy for some days beforehand getting everything arranged. The hall looked very fine, its high clean walls adorned with maps and mottoes, pots of cool waving ferns and lilies in the corners and arch ways, and under the middle arch two large tables with pyramids of dolls.

I need not attempt to describe it all to you. English ladies thoroughly interested, Parsis in their beautiful colored silken saris, Marathi ladies with beautiful jewels. Miss Grier's children sang in Hindi, mine in Marathi, and the Boarding School girls sang three English Kindergartens very prettily. The wife of the Maharajah's Prime Minister, being unable to come on account of ill-health, sent a note saying that she appreciates our efforts on behalf of female education and would like to give R25 with which to buy prizes.

The wife of the Agent Governor-General presided, and gave the children a sweetmeat treat; another friend gave R10 to defray the expense for garis to bring the children from the city. In all, there were considerably over 300 present, and it was far and away the most successful gathering we have ever had. I trust the effect may be all for good.

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FROM MRS. WILKIE.

*Indore, Feb. 6, 1895.*

I hope you will be forgiving enough to excuse me for not writing before. Time here seems to pass so quickly, and the longer we are here the more we find to do.

Thanks for all the things sent to me this year in the mission box. I found use for all my share. The cloth we used for prizes in our sewing class in the Mang Mohulla. The scrap books, etc., were used in connection with the Sunday Schools as prizes. We were very glad to get the patches for use in the Mohulla. We have fifty in our sewing class, some of them sew quite neatly. We find that they listen to the Bible lessons much better now than they did at first. This year their prizes will depend on the number of Bible texts they are able to repeat.

Thanks also for the supply that Miss Oliver brought out. We were very glad to get the wool. What was left after the other schools were supplied is to be used in the "Industrial Home." The dolls and scrap-books are to go to Miss Duncan, as she is short of prizes and all the schools at Indore are already supplied.

Mr. Wilkie is keeping fairly well considering the amount of work he has to get through. He has not a single day during the week that he can rest.

All the Mission staff at Indore are well. Miss Oliver is busy at her old work. We were very glad to welcome her back. The three new ladies and Miss O'Hara go up for their examination the end of this month.

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FROM MISS M'INTOSH.

*Okanase, March 25, 1895.*

A few days ago a young man called and delivered the box about which you wrote; it had been freighted to Dauphin, about eighty miles away. When I saw the contents I only wished it had arrived before Christmas. The boots are very much needed just now and I am very glad to get them. The dresses are to be made in school as industrial work. There are three less of the large girls coming to school at present.

You ask for a description of the Christmas tree we had after I returned. When I was home I got what toys were necessary for the children and on my return found some very suitable presents awaiting me from some ladies in Brockville, so we had everything except a tree—that was impossible to get as it was so bitterly cold. The children were very anxious not to wait longer, so I thought it better to have a "Children's Social" at my house. Miss Jackson and myself prepared the refreshments. There are forty-two children in all on the Reserve. All were remembered and were very happy. We were in quite a dilemma how we should arrange the presents, not having a tree, but that difficulty was overcome by utilizing our large tub. It really looked very fine with the dolls peeping over the edge and the presents piled up until the top was reached where a ship in

full sail rested. I was very sorry the children missed the sight of a tree lighted up, and then, if it could have been on Christmas Eve, it would have reminded them of our Father's love in the gift of His dear Son.

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FROM REV. HUGH M'KAY.

*Round Lake, Whitewood P.O., Assa., March 11, 1895.*

I write to say that the goods sent to us shipped Scotch Ridge, N.B. have been received in good order and are a great comfort to many of the poor shivering Indians about us. The winter has been cold and the cold still continues; last night the thermometer was 20 below zero and a high wind blowing, so you may see that the Indian is still glad to gather his blanket about him and crouch by his little camp fire. There are several of the Indians sick at present. Consumption is found in many of them.

I am just returned from visiting the west end of my field; had a drive of 80 miles, spent three days.

We have had good health at the Mission during the winter. Mrs. McKay is well and kept busy with her charge.

We have now supplied the poor people, and I am sure many of them would have perished during the winter were it not for the kind hand of the W. F. M. S. In the school we have a good supply in all, except material for pants; perhaps, however, by patching we may be able to get along. We are thankful to God for touching the hearts of the good women who have been engaged in this good work.

Mrs. McKay wishes to be kindly remembered to you and joins me in the prayer that God may bless you.

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## MISSION STUDIES.

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### Christian Work in Syria.

BY MISS FERRIER, CALEDONIA.

The Christians of Syria are divided into several sects, the principal of which are the Maronites and the Catholic Greeks, both allied to the Church of Rome, and the Syrian Greeks who adhere to the Patriarch of Constantinople. As a general thing, those who profess Christianity are more moral and intelligent than the Moslems, and much more industrious, but they are very ignorant and superstitious, and their religion is little more than an outward form, many not even knowing that Jesus Christ is the Saviour of sinners.

Among them also women and girls are treated with little consideration,

and most of them lead hard, laborious lives, and have a love of patient endurance which excites the sympathy of travellers. Betrothal and marriage are the chief events in the life of a Syrian girl, but she has no voice in the matter, rarely even seeing the youth to whom she has been betrothed till the marriage ceremony is over. None of them were at all educated till Christian missionaries began to labor among them, and many still think it useless for girls to learn to read.

Moderate mission work was begun in Syria about the year 1820, the first design being to seek to revive the dead Christian Churches, but violent persecution soon arose, no Maronite or Greek being allowed to continue in his own church if he professed the doctrine of salvation through the atonement of Christ alone, so a Protestant Syrian Church was in time formed in which have arisen many devoted Christian workers, and not a few who have, for Christ's sake, suffered the loss of all things. I will give you one instance. About ten years ago two Maronite children, a boy and girl, named Effendi and Adel, were brought to know Christ as their Saviour by hearing of Him in a Mission Sabbath School. Their parents were very angry when they found that they had become Christians, and often beat them cruelly to compel them to give up their faith; finding this useless they locked them into a dark room, and almost starved them. Still the poor children kept firm, staying themselves upon God, and often in the dark night little Adel would put her arms round her brother's neck and repeat the promise, "When my father and my mother forsake me, then the Lord will take me up." After a time their father told them he had made up his mind to send them to their uncle, a Maronite priest, who, he said, would find means to compel them to give up their new religion. The poor children were terribly frightened and clung to each other till far into the night, when the hope that they might possibly escape made them get up and examine their prison, when to their great joy they found that their father had forgotten to lock the door, so, very quietly, and praying God to help them, they managed to get out without waking anyone, and went to the missionaries' house where they were gladly received. Upon hearing their sad story the missionary felt there was no time to be lost, so hasty preparations were made, and before dawn he and the children were on their way to a distant mission station where the children were kindly received and cared for. The parents, of course, searched for them, and soon found out where they were, but by offering to pay them a sum of money the missionary succeeded in getting them to consent to allow the children to remain with him, and at the time I read their story they were nearly grown up and were still faithful to Christ and trying to lead others to Him.

The Maronites live chiefly on the northern slopes of the Lebauon Mountains, where also are many Druses. The two sects were often at enmity and in 1860 a civil war broke out between them, in which many thousands, chiefly Christians, were massacred and 20,000 widows and children left destitute. Yet good resulted from this terrible outbreak, for foreign powers interfered, the Druses were compelled to settle down and become peaceful tillers of the soil, and a Christian protectorate was established in the district which is now the best governed and the most prosperous part of Syria, and a great impetus was given to mission work.

The great numbers of homeless widows and children furnished a favorable opening for many devoted Christian women, who came both from Britain and America to seek to relieve their misery and raise them from their degradation, and a wonderful change for the better has resulted from their labors. There are now hundreds of mission schools in the land, in which Maronite, Druse and Arab children receive a good, plain education and careful religious instruction. There are also several good boarding schools where girls receive higher instruction and a thorough training in domestic matters, and it is a common saying among the old women who have been brought to Christ, that the difference between them and their grandchildren is like that between the blind and the seeing. Parents in the mountain homes are learning to welcome their little girls, and fathers no longer call them donkeys, as they grow up and show themselves as capable of learning as their brothers.

It is pleasant to think that in Bethlehem where Jesus was born, and in Nazareth, where He grew in wisdom and stature, there are excellent schools in which little girls are learning to know and love Him. At Sidon, too, where the poor mother pled for her afflicted daughter, there has been for many years a large boarding school in which numbers of girls have been trained to be efficient teachers.

The whole Bible has been translated into Arabic, the sacred language of the Moslems and the one taught in the schools, in which the children learn scores of texts, and these repeated at home are often the means of bringing the parents to Christ. Neither is other Christian teaching forgotten. One of two little sisters on going home from school was naughty, and the other said, "My sister, what did our teacher tell us? Do you wish to grieve Jesus who loves you? Do you not want to go to heaven to see Christ and to wear a beautiful dress? You must want to go to hell and see Satan because you are naughty." Some little girls, after a lesson on temptation, agreed that when Satan should tempt them they would say, "Go from here, Satan; we do not want you; we will listen only to Jesus; our teacher has told us of Him, and He does love us." A little Moslem

girl was very sad when she heard of the sufferings and death of Christ, and said, "O my teacher, why did Christ die? Why did He let the Jews crucify Him? He is the Son of God."

These few details will show you that much good seed is being faithfully sown in Syria; still it must not be forgotten that the girls and women who have learned the way of salvation are few indeed compared to the numbers who are yet in ignorance, and that the uplifting is a slow process, requiring much patient labor, much prayer and a large expenditure of means.

I have thought it best to defer saying anything of the Jews in Palestine till I can tell you something of the work of our own missionary, Dr. Webster, who lately began to labor among them. Meantime, I hope what I have said will help to awaken an interest in our new mission field, as well as in the efforts of others to carry the light of the gospel to the land which once again lies in the darkness of the shadow of death.

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## NOTICES.

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The Board of Management meets on the *first Tuesday* of every month, at 5 o'clock p.m., and on the remaining Tuesdays of each month at 10 a.m., in the Board Room of the Bible and Tract Societies, 104 Yonge Street, Toronto. Members of Auxiliary Societies, or other ladies interested in the work and desiring information, may attend a meeting if introduced by a member of the Board.

Letters concerning the organization of Societies, and all matters pertaining to Home work, are to be addressed to Mrs. Shortreed, 224 Jarvis Street, 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, 80 Bedford Road, Toronto.

Letters containing remittances of money for the W.F.M.S. may be addressed to Mrs. McGaw, Treasurer, Queen's Hotel, Toronto.

All requests for life-membership certificates should be sent to Miss Bessie MacMurphy, 254 Sherbourne Street, Toronto, to be accompanied in every case by a receipt from the Treasurer of the Auxiliary into which the fee has been paid.

All correspondence relating to the sending of goods to the North-West, or other Mission fields, will be conducted through the Secretary of Supplies, Mrs. A. Jeffrey, 142 Bloor Street West, Toronto.

All letters to the Board not directly bearing upon work specified in the above departments should be addressed to Mrs. Hugh Campbell, Corresponding Secretary, 220 Richmond Street West, Toronto.

The President's address is, Mrs. Ewart, 540 Church Street, Toronto.

### A Soliloquy.

"It is too bad that this package cannot be mailed," soliloquized the perplexed individual in charge of the leaflet department of the Board of Management, but the person requesting these leaflets fails to give her address in her letter, and the postmark on the envelope is not plain. The handwriting looks familiar, which makes it still more aggravating, as I do not know it sufficiently well to tell who the writer is nor where she lives.

"This is not the only perplexity. Yesterday, fifty cents in stamps came enclosed in an envelope, without any word, name or address. How I should like to know for what they are intended! Possibly subscriptions to the LETTER LEAFLET. Wish I were endowed with an infallible intuitive faculty, so that I might give proper credit to the right person. There is no ill without some good, however. I shall wait a reasonable time, and then if I fail to hear from the sender, will credit the amount to our fund and send the LETTER LEAFLETS to some dear worker who cannot afford to pay for it.

"Here is another riddle to solve in this letter :

"One who is evidently a progressive worker fails to send her Post Office address. She needs those leaflets for her meeting, and since she is sufficiently interested to write and enclose the amount for them, I do regret that her enthusiasm should be cooled by any seeming indifference at headquarters.

"Look at this letter :

"'Please send me one hundred copies of leaflet like sample sent me a few days since.' Alas! there were many samples sent to almost as many different persons. Wish my 'forgettery' would not serve me such tricks, for I must look through my file of letters for her previous communication, and upon finding it cannot tell what was sent, for we do not keep a record of all the samples that go from the office.

"'Oh wad some power the giftie gie us' to send all these leaflets to their proper destinations!"—*Adapted from H. M. Monthly.*

## PUBLICATIONS.

No.	Price
70. Business Rules for Missionary Societies .....	Free
68. Origin and Work of The W. F. M. S. ....	"
66. He Hath Need of Thee .....	"
38. A Silver Sixpence .....	"
36. Practical Work .....	"
35. How much do I Owe .....	"
34. Our Hour of Prayer .....	"
16. Helping Together in Prayer .....	"
15. The Missionary Mite Box .....	"
11. Refusals .....	"
8. Why and How .....	"
4. The Importance of Prayer .....	"
36. Mission Band Organizations .....	"
2. Giving and Giving Up .....	"
1. Self Questioning .....	"
6. Objections to Missionary Work .....	"
19. Our Plan of Work .....	"
5. Questions Answered. ....	"
14. Suggestions for holding Missionary Meetings .....	"
Scattered Helpers—Cards including Leaflets .....	per doz. 6 cents
Prayer Cards free.	

## MAPS, &c.

India (paper). 25 cents; Mounted .....	\$1 50
Trinidad, 6 ft. x 4 1-2 ft., on cloth .....	1 50
New Hebrides, 6 ft. x 4 1-2 ft., on cloth .....	1 50
Envelopes, one large containing 12 small, 1 cent.	
Mite Boxes, 1 cent each.	
Presbyterial Secretary's Receipt Books .....	25
Treasurers of Auxiliaries " " .....	8 cts. and 5
Pamphlets, Mr. Great-Heart, Life of Dr. Geddie .....	10
" Life of Dr. Paton .....	10
" India. By Professor MacLaren.....	5
" Our Formosa Mission. By Rev. G. M. Milligan D.D. ....	5
" Papers on Woman's Foreign Mission Work. By Mrs. D. J. Macdonnell ..	5
" Hand Book. By Rev. R. P. MacKay.....	1

For above apply to Mrs. Telfer, 72 St. Albans Street, Toronto. Postage and express paid.  
 Applications for Reports to be made to Mrs. Shortreed, Home Secretary, 224 Jarvis Street, Toronto.

## PUBLICATIONS.

29. The Mother at Home, by Pansy .....	each, 3 cents
73. Missions in Africa .....	" "
30. Personal Responsibility .....	2 "
80. Beginnings at Muddy Creek .....	1 "
79. Paper by Mrs. Grant, Orillia .....	" "
78. Duties of Officers .....	" "
77. Hints to Mission Bands .....	" "
75. Ling Te's Letter .....	" "
74. God's Will in our Prayers .....	" "
50. Freely Giving .....	" "
47. The Mission of Failures .....	" "
46. "Yes you do, Lucindy" .....	" "
45. Systematic Giving .....	" "
43. A Sketch of the Life of Mrs. Matheson .....	" "
42. That Missionary Meeting .....	" "
41. The Sin and Sorrow of the Heathen World .....	" "
37. What is Foreign Missions' Rightful Share? .....	" "
33. The Society at Springtown .....	" "
32. An Appeal from the Mother of a Missionary .....	" "
31. A Transferred Gift .....	" "
25. A Plea for our Envelopes .....	" "
24. The History of a Day .....	" "
22. The Beginning of It .....	" "
21. A Study in Proportion .....	" "
18. Five Cents in a Teacup .....	" "
14. The Basket Secretary .....	" "
13. Thanksgiving Ann .....	" "
10. For His Sake .....	" "
9. Pitchers and Lamps .....	" "
7. Mrs. Pickett's Missionary Box .....	" "
3. Voices of the Women .....	" "
73. The Measuring Rod .....	" "
56. Mission Band Organizations .....	" "
76. How we Conduct our Band .....	per doz. 8 cents.
71. Aunt Hattie's Deficit .....	" "
72. Two Thank-Offering Envelopes .....	" "
51. Get the Women .....	" "
53. Mrs. Weston's Lesson .....	" "
54. The Roofless House .....	" "
49. One Tenth .....	" "
48. Cry of the Children .....	" "
44. Responsibility .....	" "
40. Mrs. Bartlett's Thankoffering .....	" "
28. Bringing up the Ranks to the Standard .....	" "
27. A Lesson in Stewardship .....	" "
23. John Trueman's Way of Giving .....	" "
20. The Adjourned Meeting .....	" "
26. Po-Heng and the Idols .....	per doz. 4 cents.
17. Why we Should keep up our Auxiliaries .....	" "
55. What the Children thought of Giving .....	" "
54. Motives for Giving .....	" "
67. Preparing the Way .....	" "
69. Tother and Which .....	" "

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### Directions about the Monthly Letter Leaflet.

1. The year begins with the *May* number. 2. Subscription, 12 cents a year, payable in advance. 3. Subscriptions may begin at any time (one cent a copy), but must end with the *April* number. All orders and money to be sent through the Presbyterial Secretary to Mrs. (Agnes) Telfer, 72 St. Albans Street, Toronto. Payable at Toronto General Post Office