

"THIS IS THE VICTORY



EVEN OUR FAITH."



Monthly Letter.

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Subject for Prayer.
China and the Chinese.

JAPAN.

From Miss Blackmore.

AZABU, TOKYO, Feb. 22nd, 1898.

The last American steamer was behind time, so Miss Jost reached us before the letter announcing her coming. However, she had no trouble beyond a little delay. I think I need not say that we feel sure we have a valuable worker in Miss Jost.

I cannot tell you how our hearts are comforted by the solution of confidence and sympathy from the Executive. Our ladies at home believe in us and are satisfied, we can work on and be "of good courage." Peace and confidence

like that of the old days, before the mission trouble, are coming back to us. Don't you think so?

SPECIAL OBJECTS.

I am afraid that the support of any child, with an unconditional plan to be carried out, would work disaster. I do not believe there is one boy in a thousand who would not be made utterly worthless by knowing there was such a programme before him independent of his own efforts, ability, or character. Special privileges would no longer depend, as now, entirely upon their own worthiness, but upon whom they happen to have for patron. Then, too, such plans are quite out of keeping with the policy on which we have always managed our orphanages. Our aim has been to rescue from want and suffering, children who have no relations able to support them; to give them in childhood a Christian training and an elementary education; to teach them from the beginning to work as far as possible for their own support, and then when they are older to put them to some trade by which they can earn an honest living, and thus become self-supporting and useful members of society.

BUILDING.

I have been waiting until we would see how our building would stand the rains before writing to you of our needs. Quite extensive repairs had to be put on the roof of the newest part after the typhoon last September, and since then it has given us no trouble. But the old part is in a very bad state. Last night we had a fall of snow, and to-day it has been raining constantly. There are so many leaks that no less than thirty-two tubs, basins, buckets, etc., were set about in different parts of the building to catch the drops. Even then the hall floors have been so wet that we could not have the girls pass through. Of course we had the floors wiped again and again; in fact the time of one servant and a good deal of my own has been taken up to-day in trying to keep the inside of the building from being flooded. Miss Munro had to roll up her carpets and take down her curtains, while five basins are needed to catch the

drops. Besides, the plaster on one side of her room is so soaked with water that she will not be able to sleep there to-night.

Much of this, of course, would be remedied by a new roof, but the whole building (the old part) is in a state of decay. One end is built close against the bluff on which the Boys' School stands, so that the sunlight never falls on the north and west sides. The smell of decayed wood in that part of the building has become more than disagreeable, and is growing worse each month. In many places the rotted part of the woodwork can be picked away in handfuls. In the last two years we have had four cases of diphtheria in the school, unknown before. Three of these have been girls sleeping in the old part. (The last of these cases developed to-day.) But, more than this, the recent disaster in London, Ont., has added greatly to our apprehensions of what a heavy earthquake or typhoon may bring to us. If the old part were taken down and a smaller building put up on the south side of the new part, the rooms would be pleasanter, more healthful and better suited to our present needs.

From Miss Munro.

TOKYO, *January 28th, 1898.*

HISTORY OF THE KING'S DAUGHTERS' SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

The King's Daughters' Society of Japan grew out of a private conversation held among some ladies, of whom Miss Leete was one. At the close of this casual conversation, it was decided to talk it over with other ladies, principals of schools. A number of invitations were sent out (to Mrs. Large among others), and the result was the organization of the King's Daughters' Society of Japan. The Presbyterian, Baptist, Friends, Methodist Episcopal and Canadian Methodist schools in Yokohama, and the Dutch Reformed School in Yokohama belong, besides many schools and churches in other cities. The foreign community in Yokohama also have a circle, which is not affiliated with ours. Circles

exist from Hakodate to the Island of Shikoku. One-tenth of the earnings of the Azabu circle goes to China, not to the school work in China.

The school for the poor was the first work undertaken. It was held first in the old chapel, and taught for an hour a day after our school, the senior girls taking turns, but only five or six pupils attended, so it was resolved to open a half day school and hire a teacher. Afterwards the school became an all-day affair, although each pupil attends only half a day.

Two points I think you will be glad to notice: The contribution has never been to any special work in China, but to the work of bringing China to Christ. We do not think it the wisest way to interest our girls in one Chinese woman or child, nor in one form of work. They began by being interested in the fact, that amid the great persecutions there some years ago, "not one Christian went back." This was the direct result of a missionary address by a man returning from China, a missionary who had been through it all with his people, and loved and honored them, and believed in them. They had heard other missionaries speak, telling of Chinese customs and oddities; but what won the hearts of our girls for China was the fact that the Chinese have good material in them. This interest was the start. They pledged themselves and continued the work from a sense of duty. The war with China gave them great pity for the Chinese people. A little incident that happened one summer made them realize that Chinese have the same kind of hearts as Japanese, and so the hearts of our girls of different years are knit to China.

Another thing you will like to notice, is that our poor-school has continued for more than six years—having been opened in October, 1891—yet the girls now are as much interested in it as the girls who founded it, are just as strict in keeping it a purely Christian school for the poor, and work perhaps harder to aid in its support. It has become quite a part of the community where it is situated, and is the centre of our work for the poor.

Besides giving to China and helping in the education of the poor, our King's Daughters contributed from their

funds towards the relief of the needy in any part of Japan. Twice they have sent money and clothing to aid the work of the Red Cross Society. Besides this, in the winter time they often find it necessary to make over old clothes for the poor, in which they are assisted by every girl in the school, so that many who do not wish to identify themselves with a Christian society, take part in the work they do.

INDIAN WORK.

From Miss Paul.

PORT SIMPSON, B.C., *March 8th, 1898.*

We have increased in numbers to forty-one girls at the Home. A new one, a girl about twelve or thirteen years of age, came yesterday, who appears to be good-natured and teachable. Two of our girls have been married. One left the Home last May, as her time had expired, and after the fishing season she worked for Mrs. Richards. She was married in December to a young man in the village, who had spent a few months at Coqualeetza. She will make a good cook and housekeeper, and they seem very happy.

On January 6th, Lizzie Bradley was married from the Home to a smart, active young half-breed. She, also, is a good cook, and understands all kinds of work, so we hope she, too, will make a good home for her husband.

The Christmas festivities passed off well this year. We had our entertainment and tea on the Thursday before Christmas. The entertainment was good, and the selections well rendered, with one or two exceptions.

We received a box from the ladies of Victoria, containing dolls and other things suitable for the Christmas-tree; so our tree was a greater success than usual.

On Christmas-eve Mrs. Redner told the children they might hang up their stockings, which they did over the banister in the hall upstairs. It was a sight worth seeing next morning, when thirty-four girls were trying to find their own stockings, and exclaiming over the things found therein.

On Christmas Day we took the few girls who were left over to the Boys' Home for dinner, and then Mr. Richards and family brought the boys over to our home for tea.

Mr. Vowell, Superintendent of Indian Affairs, visited us at New Year's. He expressed himself very much pleased with the Home and school. He also spoke in the highest terms of the Home to the council of Indians, whom he afterward addressed. The work at the Boys' Home and at the Hospital pleased and interested him greatly. We have had a prosperous winter, and though some of the children have been sick for a day or two, there has been no serious illness. Matilda continues much the same; we do not think she will ever be strong.

In January, Mrs. Redner went to Vancouver to take Nellie down. Her father, a bad white man, wished to get possession of her. She is a girl past sixteen; and he got an injunction, obliging her to appear in court at New Westminster. The Judge, however, after hearing the case, allowed the girl to choose her own guardian, and she preferred to return with Mrs. Redner. Her father is a Catholic and a worthless man, so it would have been very bad for the girl to have been given to his care.

The people are now getting ready to go to Naas for small fish or oolachan. Nearly all will be gone next week.

My health is very much improved, and notwithstanding the extra work, I am better than I have been for two years. We are thankful for all God's blessings and mercies to us. Mrs. Redner will soon be leaving us for a needed rest. We shall all miss her very much.

INCREASE.

Toronto Conference Branch.

Toronto—Woodgreen Tabernacle, Auxiliary.
 Thornbury—"The Maple" Mission Band.

Montreal Conference.

Smith's Falls, Ont.—Mission Band.
 Calumet, Que.— " "

CHINESE GIRLS' HOME.

Report of Three Months, Jan., Feb., March, 1898.

Though I have nothing very marked to report for this quarter, I can say that the duties devolving upon me have been faithfully performed. Elsie has greatly improved in some things, and in her general bearing, but requires "line upon line" and "precept upon precept." Doubtless, if she remains in the Home for two or three years, she will likely develop into a valuable and sensible woman.

On the 16th of March a missionary concert was held in the Chinese Mission Church, under the auspices of the "Chinese Girls' Home Mission Band," the object being to educate on missionary lines and increase the mite-box contents. The church was nicely filled with attentive listeners, largely Chinese and Japanese. The addresses and music were excellent. The voluntary offering amounted to \$13.00, which, being added to the mite-box, gave \$19.00 as the girls' first offering towards the "Jennie Ford Home," Chen-tu, China.

The Friday meetings have averaged an adult attendance of nearly nine, and that of children, three. Very few, if any, English people come.

Visits paid in the quarter, 102; home and missionary letters written, nine. The Advisory Board has met monthly.

Elsie's case is not yet settled, but appealed to the Supreme Court of the Dominion, which meets in Ottawa. We are trusting and hoping in the Divine supremacy, that she may be allowed to remain in the Home, where she wishes to stay.

S. BOWES,
Home Mother.

Suggested Programme—June.

Subjects for Prayer and Study for the Month: "The
Extinction of the Liquor and Opium Traffics and
all covetous hindrances to Christianity."

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

- I. Opening Exercises: Only the Golden Rule of Christ can bring the Golden Age of man."
- II. Regular Business.
- III. Hymn.
- IV. The Watch-Tower.

" Watchman, tell us of the night,
What the signs of promise are."

- V. Readings { * " Whoso offendeth."
 { * " Have you any boys? "

" Thy kingdom come, O Saviour great,
In hearts and homes, in Church and State ;
But ere it comes, full well we know,
Saloons must go, saloons must go.
With prayer and work, the world we'll show,
Saloons must go."

- VI. Question Drawer.*
- VII. Sentence prayers, that every household represented in the Woman's Missionary Society may stand staunch and true for teetotalism.
- VIII. Hymn. Benediction.

* The literature necessary to carry out the Programme can be supplied for four cents postpaid, by Room 20 and the Depots—(for addresses see last page).

NOTE.—In view of the approaching Plebiscite vote, the Literature Committee thought it advisable to put the subject of the Liquor and Opium Traffic in the month of June instead of July, as many of the Auxiliaries do not meet in July.

NOTICES TO AUXILIARIES.

Our New Gold Pin.

The Literature Committee has just completed arrangements for our W. M. S. and Mission Band Pins in gold for life-members. The star is attached by links to a pin which is topped by a small gold ball, and makes a very suitable gift for a life-member. The pins are \$3.50 each, and the order is to be accompanied by a voucher of life-membership from the Recording Secretary of the Auxiliary or Band to which the member belongs.

The Literature Committee regrets that it has been found necessary to increase the price of the silver Mission Band Pin to 15 cents each, \$1.50 per doz. This price will not be asked until the 1st of June; until then it will remain as at present, 10 cents each for any quantity. Please enclose the usual 2 cents for postage and wrapping.

A New Leaflet for Mission Band Leaders.

A leaflet, by Mrs. H. Gayfer, of Hamilton, containing suggestions for leaders of Mission Bands, Circles and Missionary Departments of Epworth Leagues, is in preparation and will be ready about the middle of April. These suggestions cover the ground very thoroughly, and will be found of practical value by leaders, not only of young people's societies, but Auxiliaries as well. Price, 5 cents.

The Literature Committee at Room 20 and the Branch Depots in Sackville, N.B., and Winnipeg, Man., are prepared to receive deposits of \$1.00 for the literature to be used in connection with the Suggested Programme, and will send the necessary literature whenever called for by the Programme as long as the money lasts. The usual charge of 2 cents, for wrapping and postage, will be deducted for each parcel. One Dollar usually lasts over a year, and subscribers are notified when their deposit is expended.

All the above-mentioned articles may be ordered from Room 20, and the Depots. For addresses see foot of page 12.

Subscriptions for the following missionary periodicals will be received and forwarded by MISS OGDEN:

Missionary Review of the World, per year \$2.25; Gospel in All Lands, 8 months, 55 cents. Subscriptions to this Magazine may begin at any time, but must continue till December and then end. Illustrated Christian World, 75 cents; Message and Deaconess World, 50 cents; The Double Cross and Medical Missionary Record, \$1.00—to missionaries and student volunteers, 50 cents.

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 Those Leaflets marked thus * have just been added to the list.

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