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"The World for Christ."



Monthly Letter Leaflet.

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

VOL VI.

TORONTO, JULY, 1889.

No. 3.

SUBJECTS FOR PRAYER.

India - Missionaries at Rutlam, Indore, Mhow, Neemuch ;
Hospital, Medical Missionaries ; Assistant Teachers and Bible-
women.

The Letter Leaflet.

SUBSCRIPTIONS to the MONTHLY LETTER LEAFLET should be forwarded to Presbyterian Secretaries, and are to date from the May issue, which begins the volume. Free postage has been obtained, and new mailing arrangements are under consideration, of which further notice will be given as soon as completed.

Missionaries for India and China.

AT a recent meeting of the Foreign Mission Committee, the following appointments were made :

For India, Miss Jamieson, Quebec, and Miss Harris, Toronto, teachers possessing high qualifications.

For Honan, China, Miss Graham and Miss McIntosh, Toronto; certificated nurses from the training school of the Toronto General Hospital.

The ladies for Honan will probably leave in the beginning of August, those for India not till October.

The Revs. Murdoch McKenzie, John McDougall, B.A., and J. H. McVicar, B.A., graduates of the Presbyterian College, Montreal, young men of exceptional promise, were also appointed to Honan.

Mission Life in Inland China.

PANG CHUANG, FEBRUARY 21ST, 1889.

MRS. GOFORTH.—It has been suggested to me that the readers of the LEAFLET would be interested to hear something of our life in Inland China.

Pang Chuang, where we are staying until a way is opened into Honan, is about four hundred miles inland from Chefoo, and is situated in the midst of a very thickly populated district.

Our Mission compound is half inside and half outside the wall of Pang Chuang. The view from our windows is not very interesting as it is nothing but the wall, which is made of mud and is about fifteen feet high. The compound is large, having within it the three dwelling houses of the mission, chapel, dispensary, hospital, etc.

Our Mission circle, at present, consists of Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Smith, Dr. and Mrs. Peck, with their family, the Misses Wyckoff, Rev. Mr. McGillivray and ourselves.

Our life here is very different from Canadian life. We have no shops where we can send and get what we need, but instead there is a "Fair" held at different villages around us about twice a week. To these "Fairs" we send our boy, who buys what we want that can be obtained. I need scarcely say the variety is not very great. It mostly consists of beef, chickens, eggs and sometimes pears of a very poor kind compared with Canadian. Sweet potatoes and millet can also be obtained; our butter, milk, etc., we have to get from England. During the summer months we have to live entirely on canned meats, as no fish, meat or vegetables can be obtained.

I think the friends at home would have been not a little amused could they have peeped in and seen me when I was training my servants after coming here. We had only those who knew nothing of foreigners, so I had to just set to and teach them everything from sweeping a room to making bread. I had often to pray very hard for grace, as one's patience is sometimes severely tried by the slow ways of the Chinese. The motto of the Chinese is "Man Marti" (slowly, slowly).

The work to be done among the women of China is very great at this station; although there are three who spend almost all their time teaching and visiting the women, yet they cannot begin to overtake the work that ought to be done. There is a Station class held at the compound during the winter months for women. At this class the women are taught to read and repeat the Lord's Prayer, creed, commandments, catechism, and passages of Scripture that would most help them in their daily life. The women are densely ignorant, at least most of them. Some are able to learn all I have mentioned above, but the most can not learn very much, but still enough to help and strengthen them to bear persecution bravely, as many of them do. The two young ladies of this Mission have just returned after a two weeks visit to a distant place, where they have been teaching the women. During their absence I was enabled to hold morning prayers with the women here. Of course I did not pray in Chinese myself, but simply led the reading and singing. I felt so glad to be able to do even that for the Master, little though it was.

Dear sisters, I ask you to pray that God might give much help in the study of this difficult language. I am very anxious to be able to read and speak plainly and freely by the time we get a place in Honan, so as to be able to help in work among the women.

The Chinese New Year season has just ended; while it lasted we had a large number of women coming in to see us. My little daughter always gave them a genial welcome, jumping and crowing much to the delight of both women and children. It is very touching to see and hear of the great wretchedness and poverty of the Chinese. There is one case I am specially interested in. About three months ago a poor old blind woman, led by her little son, pleaded for admittance at the hospital. After she was admitted we found she had walked about two hundred li, or sixty-six miles, in the bitter cold. They had begged their food

and had stopped at night anywhere they could find a place. There is every hope that both eyes can be cured. It was so touching the first time I went in to see her after the first operation had been performed. She grasped my hand in hers and held it to her eye, exclaiming, "Tai Tai, wo kau, wo kau" (Lady, I see, I see). She is very eager to learn and may be led to accept the Saviour. The little boy also is very bright and has made rapid progress in learning the doctrine.

Our main work is at present studying. We sincerely trust the friends at home are continuing to pray for us. The battle is the Lord's. *He will work through us.*

PANG CHUANG, MARCH 15TH, 1889.

TO THE LADIES OF THE TOPP'S AUXILIARY, TORONTO :

DEAR SISTERS :—By the last courier I received the certificate of life membership of the W. F. M. Society. I wish I could tell you how pleased and touched I felt as I opened it. I realized that the prayers and sympathy—yes, and the love of some of you came with it. I thank you heartily and sincerely for thus so kindly remembering me. I need scarcely say, dear Christian sisters, I need your prayers and your warmest sympathy. There is much here to depress and keep the heart sad, so that anything that shows us that the friends at home are not forgetting to "hold the ropes," encourages and strengthens us to greater earnestness and helps us onward.

This kind and handsome gift which you have just sent to me has brought with it fresh hope and courage.

Our motto is "The World for Christ." Oh, let us live up to our motto, remembering the time is short and the need is very great. Soon each of us will be called to give an account of our stewardship. How shall we stand before our King?

Again thanking you for your kind gift, and with very many prayers for God's blessing upon you in your work, I am your sister in Christ.

First Impressions of Work in India.

INDORE, APRIL 20TH, 1889.

MISS SINCLAIR:—Six weeks after reaching Indore we came to our own bungalow, and are now very comfortably settled. They would gladly have kept us at the ladies' bungalow, but, as you know, the sleeping accommodation in Indian houses is very limited. Sometimes I realize what a great distance separates me from the loved ones at home; but I have proved that He can satisfy the deepest heart desires.

We are both working away at the language—Urdu and Marathi. I find it very difficult, because Urdu is the vernacular commonly spoken in this part, and I seldom hear a word of Marathi. However, I recognize the advisability, or rather necessity, for a Marathi-speaking worker for Indore city. And even though I am eager to work, and to work as efficiently as I am able, yet I am willing, I think, to wait. But it will be months before I will have acquired even a very scant vocabulary. Since I came I have done a great deal of singing. I can read the words even if I do not know the meaning. I have started a weekly practice, for the singing in church was really very poor. Do you not think that the Gospel can sometimes be sung very effectively?

Mr. and Mrs. Campbell have gone to a hill station. I would tell you the name, but do not know how to spell it.

I have great cause for thankfulness as regards my health. Miss Rodger said a few nights ago, "It is perfectly amazing that you stand the heat as you do." And I am thankful.

Never have I had a moment's regret that I came to India when I did. There is enough of good, sound Presbyterian doctrine in me to believe that it was so fore-ordained. If I were to express an opinion on the subject, I would say that the idea in the minds of many at home—that to be an efficient worker, one must have medical knowledge—is exceedingly erroneous. It seems to me that it is of great advantage to have zenanas opened through medical visitation, but that such visitation is of little lasting effect, unless followed up by regular zenana instruction. However, perhaps I should not express any opinions until I have been here longer.

Extract Letter from Mrs. Gibson, Demerara,
Referring to Mr. Gibson's Death.

EDINBURGH HOUSE, MARCH 12TH, 1889.

My husband was apparently in perfect health on Sunday, the 18th November, but after the usual services he felt very weary. In the evening he seemed quite well, and helped me to select dresses (out of those sent from Canada) for three children who were to have been presented for baptism on the following Sabbath. This was his last mission work. During the night he was taken ill with acute dysentery, accompanied by fever. The best medical aid was called immediately, and was in constant attendance night and day, but it was of no avail, and he breathed his last on Monday the 26th November.

It is needless to say that while I remain here I shall take a deep interest in the Mission, the welfare of which my dear husband had so much at heart, and talked about when his voice was almost inaudible.

The childrens' gifts and prizes arrived safely early in November. I shall write again and tell you about the distribution, etc. In the meantime will you please thank the ladies who so kindly sent them, and say the thought of their coming encouraged us greatly through the year.

Distribution of Gifts and Prizes at Demerara.

THE VILLA BELFIELD, EAST COAST,
APRIL 11TH, 1889.

MRS. GIBSON.—I enclose a newspaper cutting from which you will see how and when the prizes and gifts so kindly sent by the Canadian ladies have been distributed. I regret not being able to be present at the Hague distribution. Dear little baby was very unwell and I could not leave her. I made all the arrangements, however, and my two nieces, assisted by the estates manager (Mr. Thorpe) and his wife, and the Rev. G. Stephen (Sec'y. of the Mission Council), distributed the things. The children were highly delighted with them, particularly the dolls; even the

little boys begged for "babies," as they called them. Mr. Stephen, I presume, will give an account of both distributions in his annual report, and I shall ask him to forward a copy to you. The Mission work is now being carried on under his supervision by a catechist and teachers.

WEST COAST COOLIE MISSION.

About the close of last year, a number of ladies in connection with the Presbyterian Church in Canada, sent a large number of prizes and presents for the pupils attending the Coolie Schools on the West Coast. Owing to the sad death of the Rev. J. Gibson, the distribution had to be postponed. The first distribution took place on February 7, at Uitvlugt School. Mrs. Gibson presided, aided by Mrs. Henderson, Mrs. Herriot, Miss Nora Shannon and the Rev. G. Stephen. The second distribution took place at Hague School on Monday last. There were present 150 children, with many of their parents. The prizes and presents consisted of clothing, books, dolls, toys, etc. Mrs. Gibson was unfortunately unable to be present, but the work of distribution was effectively performed by Mrs. Thorpe, Mrs. Henderson and Miss Nora Shannon.

Thereafter the children adjourned to Mr. Thorpe's house, where they were regaled with buns and sweets. Before parting, three cheers were given to the kind ladies in Canada, also to the ladies present, and to Mr. and Mrs. Thorpe.—*Extract from Demerara Newspaper.*

There were about 230 children at the Uitvlugt School who received prizes. There were more than 300 on the Sunday-School roll.

The Sioux and Cree Children at Boarding School.

INDIAN SCHOOL, BIRTLE, APRIL 27TH.

MISS MACLAREN. — My brother received a letter from you some time ago. He told me that he had written, giving some of the information desired, but had left the question of *clothing* to me. My only excuse for not writing earlier in the month is, we

have had measles in the school for the last month or more, and my time was pretty well taken up with the care of the children. They are all better now, however, and some have gone home for a week's holiday.

You will be glad to hear that we have been getting on very nicely for some time; five of the Sioux have returned, and they at least appear to have "buried the hatchet." The Cree children are equally agreeable, and are quite willing to be friends. We are beginning to think that the trouble begins with the parents; they tell the children to *do* certain things, and not do others for fear that one tribe does more work than the other.

As the larger ones leave to help with the work at home (catching gophers), the little ones come in, and these are by far the most promising pupils. They learn English faster and get on in the school room faster than their older brothers and sisters. But we must leave this for another and longer letter and turn to the clothing.

I have quite sufficient on hand to do through the summer months, as the Winnipeg children have sent me quite a box of dresses and pinafores. I will require almost a complete outfit of bedding for ten large beds in the fall. What I have will be quite done by that time, as it was mostly of the cheapest quality. (The agent here had to lend me blankets for the winter, but I shall return them now). An unlimited supply of boys' pants also, and girls dresses. I have very nearly, if not altogether, enough *girls' jackets* and *boys' overcoats* over from last winter. The girls all learned to knit last winter but of course not nearly so fast as they wore out, so that both stockings, mittens and yarn will be very acceptable.

I should like very much to get some new material suitable for every article of dress both for girls and boys, as I intend that each girl shall make a full suit for herself and brother. I know a little about both dress-making and tailoring, and I think the girls should learn too.

As to the material, nothing is so suitable for every day dresses as home-made or factory flannel for winter, and gingham or shirting for summer; print for them does not pay to make up, as the first time they go out to play they will come in with their pinafores torn from yoke to hem, and it really does not do to reprove or warn them too often.

I was so delighted to hear that I was going to get a spinning wheel. You said *wheels* in your letter, but one, with a reel also, will be quite enough for this school, and the agent will get them for the homes as soon as they are needed. I think this will do a great deal towards making them independent. Quite a number of them have a few sheep, and when they find they can manufacture their own cloth it will encourage them not a little.

We are going to make every effort to secure at least thirty-five (35) children as soon as we can. I shall write soon and give you some items of interest for your LEAFLET. May God bless you all.

Another Destructive Fire.

WINNIPEG, APRIL 30TH, 1889.

EXTRACT—PROF. HART.—Allow me in the name of our Committee to express to you our great thankfulness to the ladies of the W. F. M. S. for their noble grants of \$400 for the school at Portage La Prairie, and of \$525 to free the new school at Crow Stand from debt.

I have just had a very encouraging letter from Mr. Laird. He tells me that the average attendance for the current quarter has been so far over thirty. He adds that he might have had more pupils if he had been able to accommodate them. We shall have to make an addition to the building this summer if possible. Our new school at Crow Stand has had a very narrow escape from destruction by fire. A terrible prairie fire was raging, and the wind was blowing it in great fury towards the school. After great efforts on the part of Mr. Laird, the Indians and school children, the building was saved. The beautiful grove in front of the school, however, was badly burned. The old school house in which Cuthbert McKay taught so long was burned to the ground, and so were the stables near the old mission house. Mr. Laird speaks of this as by far the worst fire he has seen in this country. We have great reason for gratitude that the loss is not greater.

I read with great interest the account of the meeting of your Society in Toronto. It was, indeed, a great success. God is greatly blessing your labors.

INCREASE.

In Paris Presbyterian Society—In Stanley street Church, Ayr, an Auxiliary and two Mission Bands. The "Inglis" and the "Whatsoevers," May 6th, by Rev. J. S. Hardie.

In Lanark and Renfrew Presbyterian Society—Chalk River Auxiliary, May 15th; an Auxiliary at Portage du Fort, Que., May 23rd, both by Mrs. Irving.

In Brockville Presbyterian Society—An Auxiliary in First Presbyterian Church, Brockville, by Mrs. McKenzie, May 2nd. St. John's Church Auxiliary, Brockville, May 16th.

In Owen Sound Presbyterian Society—An Auxiliary at Desboro, organized the last week in March, but not reported. An Auxiliary at Peabody, May 13th, both by Mrs. Rodgers.

In Bruce Presbyterian Society—Bruce Centre Mission Band, by Mrs. Little, May 19th.

In Orangeville Presbyterian Society—Melville Church Auxiliary, Caledon, by Mrs. Fowlie, May 15th.

In Peterborough Presbyterian Society—A Juvenile Mission Band, the "Sunbeam," in Mill Street Church, Port Hope, by Mrs. Craick, May 18th.

(The Mission Band announced in June LEAFLET was organized at Lakefield by the Rev. John McEwen, and is called the "Pansy.")

In Guelph Presbyterian Society—At Knox Church, Galt, the "Cheerful Gleaners" Mission Band, The "Willing Workers" Mission Band, connected with the same congregation organized at Little Corners Sabbath School, by Mrs. Jackson.

(The "Gardiner" Mission Band given in June LEAFLET was organized at *Eramosa*.)

In Hamilton Presbyterian Society—The "Formosa Helpers" Mission Band, Knox Church, Hamilton, re-organized as an Auxiliary.

In Toronto Presbyterian Society—Dovercourt Auxiliary, March 28th, by Mrs. Mutch.

(The Auxiliary announced in June LEAFLET in Winnipeg Presbyterian Society was organized at *West Selkirk*.)

Ten new Auxiliaries and six Mission Bands.

NOTICES.

THE Board of Management meets on the first Tuesday of every month, at three 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. 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. MacMurchy, 254 Sherbourne Street, Toronto.

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

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. Hugh Campbell, 220 Richmond Street west, Toronto.

Communications respecting the literature of the Society and the MONTHLY LETTER LEAFLET, should be addressed to Mrs. Telfer, 72 St. Albans Street, Toronto, the Secretary-Treasurer of Publications.

All requests for life membership certificates should be sent to the Recording Secretary, Mrs. G. H. Robinson, 625 Ontario St., Toronto.

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THE MONTHLY LETTER LEAFLET.

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Mite Boxes, 1 cent each.

Envelopes, one large, containing 12 small, 1½ cents each.

Map of North-West, with Indian Reserves marked, \$1.

All postage prepaid.

For above apply to Mrs. Telfer, 72 St. Albans Street, Toronto.
Applications for Annual Reports to be made to the Home
Secretary, Mrs. Shortreed, 224 Jarvis Street, Toronto.