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He Helped

"Whatsoever he saith unto you do it."

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MONTHLY LEAFLET

OF THE

Canada Congregational Woman's Board of Missions.

Vol. II.
No. 10.

MONTREAL, NOVEMBER, 1896.

Price 10c
a year.

SUBJECTS FOR PRAYER.—November.

"Thanksgiving."—Heb. 13: 15-16; 2 Cor. 9: 8-15; James: 1-17; Ps. 50: 14.

TOPICS FOR AUXILIARY MEETINGS IN "LIFE AND LIGHT."

November—Thank-offering Meetings.

December—Signs of Promise, 1896.

THE MONTHLY LEAFLET.

All communications and letters from the missionaries intended for publication should be addressed to the Editor, Mrs. Sanders, 125 Mackay street, Montreal, P.Q.

Editorial Paragraphs.

All subscriptions to the 2nd Volume expire with the January number. Renewals and new subscriptions for the 3rd Volume must be received before January 9th, so that we may know what arrangements to make for the February number. Appoint your collectors without delay. Shall we or shall we not have the MONTHLY LEAFLET enlarged to twelve pages? This question must be decided by its readers. The editor is willing to prepare the additional pages, and the price will be the same, only 10 cents a year, providing the M. L. has a subscription list of 2,000 or over. A few Auxiliaries have done nobly. Some have done well, but many could do better, and, with a very little effort, double the list of their subscribers. Is not the M. L. worth this extra effort? Will not each old subscriber try to obtain a new one? Will not those who have friends in churches where the Leaflet is not taken endeavor to interest and induce them to subscribe for it? We want all to know about the good work being done in our Canadian Mission Station, Cisamba, W. C. Africa, and also to be kept well informed of the work the C.C.W.B.M. is doing. Remember, 2,000 subscribers are required.

UNITED CHURCH

We have still a few back numbers (except February.) Those who want the second volume must send their orders immediately. Up to date 1,305 subscribers, and only 1,400 printed each month! If any old subscriber has lost or mislaid any numbers and is desirous of having a complete set, we will supply *back numbers* at one cent each. Give your orders and money to the Secretaries, so that they may be mailed in one package.

A list of articles, suitable for a missionary box, from Mr. Currie, will be found in the May MONTHLY LEAFLET. Donors should write to Mr. Charles E. Swett, 1 Somerset Street, Boston, Mass., to ascertain how much the freight will be from Boston to Cisamba, which ought always to be *prepaid*. The boxes should be sent addressed to the care of Mr. Swett, with the missionary's name and address marked in the corner.

Since hearing from Mr. Currie of the non-receipt of the MONTHLY LEAFLETS, we have enclosed one number of each issue and mailed by letter post.

With pleasure we announce that an Auxiliary has been formed in the Cobourg Church, Ottawa Branch. The following are its officers:—

Hon. President—MRS. JOHN C. FIELD.

President—MISS EMMA FIELD.

Vice-President—MISS LAWES.

Secretary—MISS TILLIE FIELD.

Treasurer—MISS SARAH FIELD.

We remind our readers that at the Annual Meeting of the Board, held in Kingston, the Auxiliaries were requested to devote the offerings of the thanksgiving services to the payment of the Misses Melville's salaries.

Thanksgiving Circular.

To the Ladies of the Auxiliaries:

DEAR SISTERS,—As Thanksgiving Day is approaching, we hope that every Auxiliary is preparing for a Thank-offering meeting. Lay your plans for a good programme, and invite every woman in the congregation. Let your offerings be liberal. The Board needs your hearty support in the work which it has undertaken. If we remember the many blessings which we have received during the past year, in our own lives, in our homes, and in our church work, we shall surely say, "What shall I render unto the Lord for all His benefits towards me?"

Besides these personal blessings, we have, as a Board, several specific causes for thanksgiving to God, which we would ask you to remember at your Thank-offering meetings.

We would thank our Heavenly Father:

1st. For the spared lives of our missionaries, and the restoration to health of Miss Helen Melville and Mr. Currie, who have both been very ill during the year.

2nd. For the young people of the Canadian Mission Station, Cisamba, W. C. Africa, who have stood the test and been firm through their trials. Let us add prayer for a blessing on the hundreds of natives who witnessed the Christian burials.

3rd. For the encouraging reports of Galene's progress in Miss Macallum's School, Smyrna, Turkey.

4th. For the cheering reports with regard to the finances of the Canada Congregational Missionary Society. Let us pray that it may continue to prosper.

5th. For the successful carrying out of the plans and work of the C.C.W.B.M., and the formation of new Auxiliaries. Let us be very earnest in our prayers that our Heavenly Father will guide us to "go forward."

So mingling our thanksgiving and our prayers before our Father's throne, and bringing our offerings unto His treasury, we shall be blessed and strengthened, and the Lord will prosper us in our work.

On behalf of the Executive.

J. MACALLUM, President.

M. L. FREELAND, Secretary.

Letter from Miss Helen J. Melville.

CISAMBA, W. C. Africa, July 13th, 1896.

DEAR ONES SO FAR AWAY,—Again it is drawing near mail time, and I want to have a little talk with you all. In my mind's eye I see you gathered round the table, for it is about tea time. I fancy I hear your voices. I do hope you are all well. We are well and again very happy in our own house. Things are not all put to rights yet, but we are very comfortable, and I hope better able to stand the heavy rains when the wet season comes. We have had the house altered so as to be more in accordance with our taste. Our bedroom used to open directly off the kitchen, and I never liked it. Now we have taken part of the closet, which was large, and made a passage. The bedroom and kitchen doors are partly glass, so we have plenty of light. We have our little box stove, so are nice and warm. This is our cold weather, and we feel it. This morning, at eight o'clock, by the front door, it was 40°. Kumba, as I told you, was married, and wanted outside work, and it is better for him, as he will learn the different branches of work, and he is a man now, and getting to be one of Mr. Currie's right hands

He is to be trusted round the stores, and fixing loads, he is so honest. We have two little boys ; Wanga, and a boy who has only been about a month at the Station, Seponde, by name. I think they will do very well.

20th - I can scarcely realize that Mrs. Miatt has gone. It seemed so strange, not half an hour before the mail came bringing news of her death, Maggie and I were talking about her, saying how much we enjoyed her letters, and hoping that the mail would bring one from her. She will be sadly missed in the church, and we out here will miss her too. The Testament you sent arrived for Kumbu, and he was much pleased. He looked and looked at it, taking it to church with him. Indeed, everywhere he goes he carries it with him. The boys came up from the coast ; the agent there had blundered. He had given about half of them loads belonging to some one else, so we were short. Just think, the box from Windsor standing there ; the boys saw it ; also the box with photo supplies, but did not bring them up. So I cannot send you any pictures. I was so disappointed, for I know you must think us slow at this end of the line. But all things to those who wait, and here we wait. Next week Iumba and Esinde are to be married. He is so kind and thoughtful, yet so manly. Calungela, his intended, is pretty small, but active as a cricket. All four I have mentioned are members of the church. These are busy days.

Extracts from Miss Margret Melville's Letter.

CISAMBA, W. C. Africa, July 20th, 1896.

DEAR LOVED ONES AND FRIENDS,—Helen has told you of our being settled again in our house after being absent for six months. The girls are having quite a lively time now playing with the cats and laughing because Helen has written their names in the letter she is writing. They are a merry crowd, and it makes one feel glad when we see how happy they are. Yesterday three were received into the Church—two boys and one girl, Nanjesi, who is the mother of Jessie. She is a good leader and a staunch Christian. Then Nejola, who was one of Mr. Lee's boys. He is a good, nice boy, whom we all like. The third is Epandevelo, who was so very ill with pneumonia, and proved himself a firm believer in the words of life. We pray that these additions may be a means of great blessing to the Church. Next Thursday two more of the girls are to be married, so we will miss them in the evenings. Kumbu is sitting here at the table writing a letter to Will, and there have been

many stops in this, so I scarcely know what I have written. Now, love to all the friends.

***Translation of a Letter from Galene's Mother,
Mrs. Philadelpheos.***

ORDOW, July 27th, 1896.

MY DEAR MISS McCALLUM,—I received Galene's marks for the last six months, as also some time ago those of the first term. Ordow is a most unsuitable place for the bringing up of children, not only because of the lack of educational establishments, but in every way it is lacking in even the commonest elements of propriety. I am sorry that especially this year life has become a burden to the people here, and the little outward beauty which the place possessed is gone, and as I look around I wonder how to express my warm and boundless gratitude to you who so kindly have taken Galene where she will have the opportunity so precious to her, not only in regard to her intellectual progress, but also to her spiritual progress, and not only my warm thanks to you but to the kind friends in America who so generously have provided the means by which Galene can enjoy the advantages afforded by the school. I do not know the persons who are contributing for Galene's support, and it is impossible for me to sufficiently thank them for their goodness. I only hope that Galene, by her good conduct and faithfulness in school and by her usefulness in the future, may richly reward all the sacrifices and the labors of those who are supporting her.

RHODEPE PHILADELPHEOS.

Miss Helen J. Melville.

AMERICAN MISSION, BENGUILLA,
(Via Lisbon), West Central Africa.

CISAMBA, Aug. 18th, 1896.

MY DEAR FRIENDS,—Mail time has come again, and I am told it is my turn to write to the Leaflet. There is not much this month to tell you, my friends. A couple of weddings, but you have heard that story so many times that I will not repeat it. Those married this month are all members of our church—one of the young men an evangelist appointed by the Cisamba church. This makes eleven married couple here. In seven cases both husband and wife are church members; two husbands without their wives and one wife with her husband. In one case neither is a member of the church. The country is beginning to put on a spring-like appearance, the bushes are budding, the trees putting out their new leaves, the black burnt ground is being covered by the honey weed with its many tinted leaves, which

gives it a beautiful appearance from a distance. We are in the midst of garden work. Our olonaka (brook gardens) which we plant now, about two months before the rains come. From these brook gardens we hope—if the locusts will allow it—to have some early vegetables. All our boys, even down to the little fellows of seven and eight years, have their own little "onaka," and after work and school are over you will see the whole onaka land dotted with boys of all sizes, and some girls, too (either at their own or their boys' garden) busy at work; it is a pretty sight; all seem so happy. Indeed, they are so anxious to be at this work that we have had a few cases of—shall I say it—truant playing.

For some time past we have heard rumors that men were catching women at their fields or on the roads, so that of late they have been afraid to go to their field work without some of the men with them. A wife of one of the chiefs and her child was taken; the child was sold to a trader; the mother, they have not been able to trace. The mother of one of our boys was caught and nearly strangled, but escaped.

One night, about three weeks ago, the girls were in as usual for prayers; started to go to their own houses; had not gone a dozen of yards when they all came back screaming, saying they had seen two men who had attempted to catch them. I took the lamp and went out, went half way up with them, and waited while they ran to their houses. Later in the evening the men had gone to their houses, but the girls would not open the doors. Next night all was quiet, but four of the young men slept near, two in the girls' school-house, and two at the other side of the girls' houses. As you know, it is only unmarried girls who sleep on our side of the stream. All the boys' houses are north of Mr. Currie's house on the opposite side. The following night, after prayers, I took the lantern and went with the girls, but met one of the boys on the watch. About an hour afterwards we heard the most heart-rending calls for the boys. They rushed up, saw the men, and shot twice. They think one man was shot, but not badly. These shots aroused the whole village, and all the boys came over in a very short space of time. They set up a search for the men, but it was so dark one could not see their hand before them. All was quiet again until about midnight we heard one knocking at a door quite near to our house. No one was in this house, the girls, all feeling afraid, had gone into two houses; they then opened the door of another, but it was empty. There was no sleep for us that night. Next morning we told the girls to come and sleep in our kitchen; we feel they are safe, and they like it, although the men were given such a hot reception, we do not think they will return. The girls are

still sleeping with us. It has been an anxious time for us as well as for them. I think we will have to try and get a telephone to connect with Mr. Currie and Ngulu to use at such times.

The people in this country are so slow, I do not see why the men do not rise in a body and scour the country until they get these men. The captain says if they catch them and bring them to the fort he will give them a lesson that will put a stop to such work. I find after all I have written a rather long letter. We are expecting this week to receive the incoming mail, but alas if it is like the mail of the past few months, it brings us very little. There are a few of our loved ones who *never* fail or forget us, but the most of our friends seem to think we do not need words of cheer in the shape of letters. We get very hungry for them sometimes, and for papers as well. The last two weeks we have had *nothing* to read. You in the home land do not realize what this means. We know there are some who, when they have read an interesting book or paper, would send it to us to satisfy this hunger if they only realized it.

Some way or other, Mrs. Sanders, we do not get the Leaflets you send to us. We have only received three since it has been in publication. We feel sorry, as we know you send them, and we would like so much to get them from time to time.

My sister joins me in kind regards to all.

Believe me, yours sincerely, HELEN J. MELVILLE.

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