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"The World for Christ."



Monthly Letter Leaflet.

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

VOL. VII. TORONTO, MARCH, 1891. No. 11.

SUBJECTS FOR PRAYER.

SPECIAL prayer in prospect of our Annual Meeting, that all our Auxiliaries and Mission Bands may begin the year with renewed vigour and increased numbers. Thankful acknowledgment of the Lord's goodness in extending the work.

"God be merciful unto us, and bless us; and cause his face to shine upon us, that thy way may be known upon earth, thy saving health among all nations."—Ps. lxxvii. 1-2.

"Strengthen, O God, that which thou hast wrought for us.—Ps. lxxviii. 28.

Special Notices.

The Fifteenth Annual Meeting of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Presbyterian Church in Canada (Western Division), will be held in Chalmers church, on Tuesday and Wednesday, April 14 and 15, 1891.

The ladies will meet in the church on Tuesday, at 10.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m., and on Wednesday at 2.30 p.m. The Board of Management will meet on Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock. A devotional meeting will be held in the church on Wednesday

morning during the time that the Board are electing the officers. As soon as the officers are elected the Society will proceed with business. Special conferences of Presbyterian officers with the Board will be arranged for the interim between sessions.

The usual Public Meeting, Dr. Wardrope, Convener of the General Assembly's Foreign Mission Committee, presiding, will be held in St. Andrew's church, at 8 o'clock on Tuesday evening.

The ladies of Kingston extend a cordial invitation to delegates from every part of the Society throughout the Western Division. Ladies who expect to attend will kindly send names and addresses to Mrs. Mowat, 180 Johnstone Street, Kingston, who will provide homes for them during their stay in the city. It is earnestly requested that all names should be forwarded as soon as possible. Attention to this request will greatly assist and oblige the billeting Committee. In order to save time in writing the delegates' names in the book, each lady, upon arriving at the church is requested to present her card containing name and address.

**THE FOLLOWING ARE THE ARRANGEMENTS MADE WITH THE
RAILWAY COMPANIES.**

"Delegates must pay one full first-class fare at starting point and obtain a receipt on railway certificate for purchase of ticket from agent at starting point within three days of date of meeting (Sunday not included)."

This certificate, when signed by the Home Secretary at place of meeting, will enable them to return at one-third usual fare.

Where the journey is made over more than one line of railway it may be necessary for the delegate to purchase separate local tickets and procure certificates for each of the lines.

The delegates are requested to pay *particular attention* to these items.

1st. Tickets to Kingston must be purchased within three days of April 14th, the first day of meeting.

2nd. Delegates must pay full first-class fare going to the meeting and get a certificate filled in on one side by the agent of whom the ticket is bought.

3rd. Certificates must be filled in and signed by the Home Secretary at Kingston.

4th. "No refund of fare will be made on any account whatever because of failure of the delegates to obtain certificates, or to observe the requirements of the same."

5th. On the return trip certificates must be given to ticket agent at Kingston at least *ten minutes prior to time train is due to leave*. The return trip to be made by same route as going trip.

6th. Certificates are not transferable.

TREASURERS and Secretaries are reminded to send in their reports to the Board *early in March*.

PROPOSITIONS regarding Mission Bands—their relation to Auxiliary and Presbyterial Societies—have been presented to the Board of Management and will be brought up for discussion at next annual meeting.

IN applying for certificates of life membership it is only necessary for the Treasurer to certify that the fee of twenty-five dollars has been paid. The money should remain in the treasury of the Auxiliary or Band to be remitted with their funds to the Presbyterial treasurer. A life-membership fee for presentation may *not be taken* from ordinary auxiliary contributions, but must be an extra collection for that purpose.

FOR the purpose of correcting misapprehensions, which may exist in the minds of some of our members, regarding the "outfits" of our lady missionaries, the Board has thought it advisable to make the following explanation:—

1st. Why are outfits provided? For the sake of economy, and because it is frequently impossible to secure the articles necessary for the comfort of our missionaries in the various fields.

2nd. Of what do they consist? Of things required for personal and household use, and of medical books, surgical instruments and other appliances needful for the assistance of medical missionaries and nurses in their work. Whose property are they? Things for personal and household use belong to the missionary; medical books, instruments, etc., are the property of the Mission Council. The "outfits" given to missionaries vary according to

the circumstances of the fields to which they are appointed. The sum given to our lady missionaries in Central India and Honan, for the ordinary outfit, is \$150 (one hundred and fifty dollars) each.

ALL Post-office orders must be made payable to (Mrs.) "Agnes Telfer" at the Carlton Street Branch office.

Life Members Added During the Month.

MISS EDITH F. BRODIE, Toronto; Mrs. J. Fisher Eby, Toronto; Miss Mary D. Davidson, Toronto; Mrs. T. Collins, Ottawa; Mrs. Munro, Embro; Mrs. A. A. Scott, Carleton Place; Mrs. Robert McKenzie, Brockville; Mrs. John Scott, Woodstock; Mrs. Hughston McKay, Rat Portage; Mrs. Connors, Rylestone; Mrs. John M. Campbell, Indian Lands; Mrs. William R. Lough, Clinton; Mrs. Henry Loch, Guelph; Mrs. R. Pettigrew, Glenmorris; Mrs. J. Somerville, Owen Sound.

News From our Missionaries.

FROM a letter recently received from Dr. Marion Oliver we learn that Rev. N. Russell, Rev. W. J. Jamieson, Miss Ross and our medical missionary, Dr. Wilhelmina Grant Fraser, arrived safely in Bombay about December 27, 1890. The party were met by Miss Jamieson and Miss Rodger, who accompanied Miss Ross, Mr. Jamieson and Mr. Russell to Indore. Miss Fraser proceeded directly to Rutlam with Rev. J. F. Campbell by whom she was met at Mhow Station. The travellers were in good health and spirits.

TRINIDAD.

The Girls' Training School at Tunapuna.

FROM a bright and interesting letter recently received from Mrs. Morton, we learn that Miss Morton and herself are very much occupied with the care of their "five maidens," the number of young girls now resident in the Boarding School. An addition

to this number is expected after the new year. Mrs. and Miss Morton are assisted in the work of teaching by the Bible woman "Fanny," who has been "transformed, as wonderfully as was Paul, the persecutor, to become a faithful preacher of righteousness." "Fanny" has been associated with the family of Rev. Dr. Morton for the past eleven years. She is married to the Catechist, Geoffry Subaran, and they have five dear little children. Mrs. Morton says:—"They are as our right hand in the work."

The names of the "five maidens" are: "Elizabeth Burns," Alice Maya, Sophie, Victoria and Sarah. Elizabeth has been a Christian about a year, while Alice has been under careful instruction for several years. If she continues as she promises, she will make a valuable Christian worker. Sophie, the youngest, is a tractable child and makes good progress in her studies, though she knew nothing but cane piece work when she entered the school. Victoria is a good and amiable girl, and Sarah is beginning to read the Bible in Hindi. Recently they had a pleasant day, visiting the exhibition with Mrs. Morton and the Bible woman. These girls are like many of our Canadian young girls, fond of pretty clothes, trimmings, laces, frills, feathers, etc., and many instructions must be given about neatness in dress and the "ornament of a meek and quiet spirit." Our prayers are specially asked for Fannie, as well as for the young girls in the school. The following letter is written by Victoria.

TUNAPUNA, G. H., Nov. 13, 1890.

VICTORIA BASTIEN, *—I have now taken the opportunity of writing these few lines, hoping that all the kind ladies are well. We are all behaving good girls, and Madam took us to see the Exhibition and all the things were very pretty, and she took us to have our photo taken out and it come out very nicely and we are trying to behave well. So when there is any nice thing Madam will take us to see, and Christmas is coming, and we are studying our lessons hard that we may get some nice things. And we are improving very much in washing and starching and ironing our clothes. At five o'clock we get up and comb our hair and take our books and go upstairs until six; then we take our tea and at seven we go out to weed in the garden and then we come to our sums, and after breakfast we read Hindustan Bible lesson and after reading we go to our lesson until five; then we go to play

and at seven o'clock we come and study our Catechism and Psalms and Hymns. Dear friends, we are still remembering you all, and we hope you are still praying that we may become good girls. Nothing more to say at present.

NORTH-WEST.

WHITEWOOD P.O., ASSA, ROUND LAKE, Dec. 23, 1890.

MRS. MCKAY,—I was made glad by the kind letter you sent me. Your words of welcome and encouragement and prayer are still in my heart. I am glad to take a humble part in the work in which the W.F.M.S. is engaged. I have so much to write about that many letters might be filled, but a few broken paragraphs may be of more interest than long letters. I feel very much my responsibility. How different from what it was last winter; then a thoughtless girl at G. A. College, now a married woman; then my lessons my only care, now so many things to look after. The tables for fifty, the kitchen, the laundry, the beds, the mending and darning, and cutting out little garments, and teaching little hands the use of the needle, rolling pin or washboard, and scrubbing-brush and what not.

We have now about forty children attending the school. The largest number that ever attended the Round Lake school. We expect the number still to increase. We pay at present only \$8 a month for hired help in the house, the most of the work being done by the girls attending the school.

There was a poor Indian boy brought in the other day; the poor little fellow is deformed in the back, can't use his feet, only creeps like a baby. Only a little cotton rag for a shirt, nothing on his feet, no cap, no mitts, and the day very cold. You would pity him, and he seemed so happy when he was dressed and taken to the school-room.

We are having delightful weather, no snow, bright sun, the noise of autumn still heard in the withered grass. The lake is covered over with smooth ice. It is pretty to see the children out at play. The skates and toboggans and little sleighs and ice boats are all in use. You would say: What a happy family!

I have been out on several occasions with Mr. McKay among the reserves. My last trip was west eighty miles; spent the night

at the house of Mr. Coburn, farm instructor. It must be lonesome for Mrs. Coburn, so far away from white people. Her only companions are her husband and two little ones and the Indians. Still she is happy, and no doubt her Christian influence is felt among that band.

We had interesting meetings among the Indians. We succeeded in getting a few of the children to come to school. One man told us that he had been offered \$15 by the priest if he would send his boy to the Catholic school. It was a wonder to me how some of those little children were willing to leave the mother and come with us.

We have no sewing machine ; perhaps some day we may be able to get one.

PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE, Dec. 22, 1890.

MISS WALKER,—If you could have seen into our home during the past two months, you would understand why your letter was not answered before this. Many thanks for your letter, with its glad tidings. We are nicely settled again, and I am sure we shall be very comfortable this winter ; with all the improvements on the building, the house should be much warmer. The new school room is now ready. We expect to begin lessons in it on the 5th of January. The children are delighted with the desks and seats. Topsy thinks she can learn ever so much more at one of those desks than she could sitting on a common chair at a table. We have our usual number of boarding pupils. They are all excited to-day with the thoughts of Christmas and Santa Claus. Hints are being given for what is wanted ; all are wishing for a pair of moccasins. A few friends are willing to assist in providing an Xmas tree for the school. I must tell you of the fright our baby-girl gave us a few weeks ago. The child is only four years old, her mother is anxious to have the child stay with us, but it is difficult to keep her for more than a few days at a time. She gets homesick, and is determined to go home. One afternoon when all were in the school room busy at work, little Barbara was missed ; a search was made for her at once. The mother was working up town. Thinking the child had gone to her, two of the children were sent to her, but Barbara was not there. The

mother came then to join in the search, none dreaming that the child had gone to the teepees, as even an eight-year old child will not attempt to go through the woods alone. After searching for nearly an hour, Topsy, Katie and I started off to the teepees. After we had gone about a mile, the foot-marks of a small moccasin were found in the dust. We followed the marks for another mile, then they disappeared, but Katie found the marks of an Indian pony's feet, and the two girls would not move on till they had seen where Barbara's feet had turned. Then we knew she had been taken up by some Indian. We went on to make sure, and were relieved to find her at home playing as if nothing had happened. We returned to lighten Miss Fraser's mind and the mother's, as we had left them searching, and even dragging the well.

The work at the teepees is going on in the usual way. Service is held regularly every Sabbath afternoon. A few of the Indians hold a service on a week night. We are not able to attend this, as the road to the teepees is not a fit one to travel over on a dark evening. We were pleased a few Sabbaths ago to hear one of the old medicine men engage in prayer. He always attended service, but was never willing to take part before. There are now four who lead in prayer. Surely we should not feel discouraged! But yet when we see so many about us as indifferent as can be imagined to either the Christian service or that held in opposition, we do feel downcast, but we sincerely trust, that with the new year, bright days will come, and hope that all indifference may be swept away.

OKANASE, ELPHINSTONE P.O., *Jan. 14, 1891.*

MISS M. S. CAMERON,—I have got back to open school again after spending a pleasant vacation in Winnipeg and Headingly. In the latter place I taught school for two years, and always get a kind welcome back. My home was in Huntingdon County, Quebec, and that is too far to go to spend a short vacation.

This week I have thirteen pupils. My wee girls Madeline and Laura are back. They were away with their parents for a month or two before Xmas. My three little boys, Patrick, Willis and Brown come to school every day and are getting on nicely.

The ladies of the Merrickville W.F.M.S. kindly sent us some nice cards and scrap-books, and I got a set of little tea dishes, some dolls, blocks and dominoes, so I think the little ones can have a happy time indoors while the weather is too cold to be much outside. We take an hour for sewing and knitting every afternoon. The girls are now busy cutting out and making suits for their dolls. They got three dollars prize money for their work shown at the fair.

On closing day we had a little entertainment at the school-house. The children gave a number of recitations and songs very nicely, and we finished up with tea. The ladies of the house where I board kindly helped me to bake for the occasion. I had made the little girls aprons of light colored print, and they wore their best dresses, and looked very neat. They all tried to do their very best, and seemed to enjoy the affair greatly. We were disappointed in not having the parents of the children with us. They were prevented from coming by a funeral which took place on the same day, but we had some white people with us.

We have had a mild, pleasant winter so far. I shall be glad if it continues so, for I have over a mile to go to school, and the fire to make myself. The committee have had a house built for me near the school, but it is not yet completed. Kind love and best wishes for a Happy New Year.

BEULAH, MANITOBA, Jan, 7, 1891.

MR. JOHN MCARTHUR,—All the articles sent are very suitable for their intended purpose, and will be a great comfort to many needy persons on the Reserve. The heavy flannel received last Saturday will make excellent dresses for the old women. Yesterday, Mrs. McArthur with the assistance of Miss Anderson, of this place, cut six dresses of the flannel ready for sewing, for six of the oldest women on the Reserve. In the afternoon I went to the Reserve and distributed the dresses, with a quilt, stockings and some yarn to each of the old women; some of them are too old to sew or knit, but they will get others to do it for them. Three of them are between seventy and eighty years of age. There is another woman about this age away from the Reserve at present, but will be back soon. Five of those old women are

members of the Church, and two are heathen. Two of them made an open profession of their faith in Christ last Sabbath, were baptized and sat down with us to the Lord's Supper. One of them has been considering the matter for about two years, and the other for a longer period. They were all well pleased with the comfortable clothing received. One woman said, "I feel myself indebted to the kind ladies of the W.F.M.S. who must have worked hard to send us this clothing; I am old and not well, and unable to do much, but I will do what I can to help the Auxiliary on this Reserve to get money for W.F.M.S., and thank you for bringing it to me." What would be the condition of many of the old and the sick among the Indians without the kind help of the W.F.M.S., is a question that often presents itself to us, unless God in His Providence would open up some other door of relief, as far as we can see, the Angel of Death would be the Angel of Mercy to relieve them of their miseries in this life. With all the clothing received each fall and with all the care possible exercised in its distribution, before the next fall and clothing comes, many of them will show their need of help again so much, that for the helpers to see them and be able to help them, is to feel a thrill of lasting joy and experience the truth of our Saviour's words when he said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Kindly convey our sincere thanks to the ladies of Lanark and Renfrew for their kind and generous help on this Reserve.

FILE HILLS, ASSA, *January 16, 1891.*

MR. ALEX. SKENE.—Dear Friend.—Owing to sickness in our school I did not write to you regarding a supply of clothing for next year, as soon as you requested. No doubt you have learned ere this of the illness of some of our Indian children, and that the doctor pronounced the trouble to be Small Pox—and as a matter of course, the old cry—"Infection brought in by the clothes" was taken up. From the first I could not agree with the doctor, and felt hopeful that the trouble would pass over without any serious results.

In order that I might be able to show to the Department the impossibility of infection being brought in with the clothing, I asked

Rev. Mr. Baird to ask you to endeavour to trace the clothing sent us. I am sorry to have put you or the kind ladies of the different Auxiliaries contributing to such trouble, and am glad to be able to tell you now that it is not needed as we have been able to trace the trouble to its source,—and am so thankful that we are able to show this time that the trouble *did not come in the clothing*. Could I but tell you how helpful the clothing is to us in our work among these poor creatures, you would better understand why we are so anxious to show the falseness of the enemies' statement, "trouble is brought in by the clothing."

We are now back to our regular work, and the past weeks are gone. We care not to think of them, only as they give us courage to look into the future. For as we think of the strength given us during the days of anxious watching, we can say "surely goodness and mercy shall follow us." We miss one familiar face, and a voice which a few weeks ago mingled with ours as we sang some familiar hymns, is now silent.—"Sam," the first boy to enter our school as a pupil, was the first to be called away. Last Friday morning he breathed his last, and that evening Mr. McVicar and I laid him to rest. He was not a strong boy, being of a scrofulous constitution, owing to the unhealthy state of his blood. The vaccination along with an attack of chicken pox caused blood poisoning, of which he died. But I am getting this letter too long.

INDIA.

Re-opening of Schools and Classes. Two Persons Baptized.

RUTLAM, *November 27, 1890.*

MRS. CAMPBELL.—Although we came here in the middle of April, it was not till the rains had fairly broken that we were able to start work again among the women and girls in any sort of systematic way. Once it was cool enough we set about making arrangements for the opening of a girls' school, and for the more regular visitation of the women in their homes. For the former, after some delay, a building was secured which was fairly suitable.

Then, just after it was cleaned and ready, we had an outbreak of cholera, of a more fatal kind than I have known of in Rutlam before, and this caused further delay in the opening of the school. However, in the month of August we made a beginning with about six or seven girls. For weeks the number kept low, then it began to increase, and has gone on till now, I think, the average number present is about twenty-five. For the short time it has been in operation we think this very encouraging, especially as we have had a good deal to contend against. Our past experience (the native teachers when in Jaora, and my own here) has no doubt helped us. For example, the calling of the roll we found worked disastrously, frightening away the children in the former days; so we avoided that this time.

About a month ago we started a Sunday school for these same girls, and find they come quite as readily as to the other.

The *house to house* visitation is carried on principally by two of our native Christian women—both *grandmothers*—who spend most of their afternoons in this work. Their own homes being in the city they can do much of this without a conveyance, especially as there are two of them together. I have not looked at their report book lately, but I think the number of houses thus visited is about twenty. They seem to be well received, and I believe are doing a good work. Another Christian woman who lives out of the city, and who is not very strong, also engages in this work, sometimes going along with me and sometimes alone, of course, in a conveyance.

Principally for the benefit and at the request of our native Christian women, we have a weekly Bible Class at the house of one of the native Christians. Other women also attend. For some time we also had a weekly sewing class at our own bungalow; but owing to sickness in the families of some of those who attended I thought it better to stop it for a while; but we hope to begin again to-morrow.

This week's mail has brought us the welcome news that Miss Fraser is now on her way out to India, and that we may look for her in Bombay about the 20th—just in time for Christmas. All here to whom we have spoken on the subject seem much pleased at the prospect of our having a lady doctor settled among us.

With a population in the city alone of 31,000, and with no European doctor nearer than Indore, you will see that she will

occupy a large and needy field. Then, we have Jaora, with a population of about 20,000, only twenty miles from here on the railway line, and other places not quite so large which can be visited from here more or less easily.

You will be glad to hear of the baptism of two persons—a man and his mother—since our return here. The man was a Sadhu (religious mendicant), and came to us first at Indore, some sixteen or eighteen months ago; but unlike most men of that class, was willing to do any kind of work with his hands. He was employed as a labourer, both in Indore and Rutlam, and then went to his home in Jaora for a while, but came back shortly after our return to Rutlam, bringing his mother and brother with him. But not to go further into particulars, mother and son were baptized the same day, and we believe them to be sincere Christians.

News from the Boarding School.

NEEMUCH, C. I., *December 9, 1890.*

MISS HARRIS.—I am sorry that in my first letter I did not enter into particulars about the opening of the boarding school as fully as you would have liked. It is only a temporary affair in Neemuch, and was opened here simply because there were no suitable premises to be had in Indore. This property is merely rented until such time as the permanent buildings are ready; not to have been intended for the purpose, it is wonderfully convenient, but I should not like to have the prospect of staying here for a great while. The accommodation is necessarily limited, so that girls are now being taken in only when they are too old to stay at home, not when they are old enough to come to school, as should be the case. In the hot weather I fear we shall all suffer; holidays may have to be given a little earlier than in coming years. I trust that it will not be very long before we shall be able to call upon the W. F. M. S. for the money they have kept so long for the boarding school.

I have now eleven girls, having taken in one during the last few weeks, and lost, through various reasons, three of those who were

with me when school opened. Since I last wrote, Chandia, with her father, mother and two brothers—the whole family—has been baptized, so that Lita is now my only heathen charge. However, I am glad to say that the difference between her and the other girls is much more in name than anything else; though she is still heathen enough to shed tears when some of the others told me that she belonged to the lowest caste, she has, as far as I can observe, entirely given up the heathen practices she had at first, such as praying to Ram, and she is much more obedient and even more truthful than some of those who have been Christians all their lives. Her progress has been by no means phenomenal for a child of ten years old, as she seems to be, but when it is remembered that she was densely ignorant when she came to me five months ago, it is not to be despised. She can now do easy simple addition sums quite readily, is about half-way through the first Hindi book, can write pretty well, and knows a good many of the New Testament stories. You see, I take for granted that you have a warm interest in her.

On Friday next I hope to have a little entertainment for the girls before sending away those who are to go for the two weeks of Christmas holidays. After tea and cake, for both of which they have a great fondness, each girl will receive a jacket and a skirt, from those the Central Church Mission Band so kindly sent; each of the little ones will get a doll, and each of the bigger ones a blotting book, which I am sure they will appreciate, for if left to themselves they would keep up a brisker correspondence with their friends than would be at all desirable.

Some of the girls sew very nicely, and as they seem to be really fond of both plain and fancy work, my resources are often somewhat taxed to find work to give them. I have as many skirts, jackets, etc., made up as it is well to keep on hand, and I do not let them do fancy work, for which no use could afterwards be found, else caps and crochet work without end would inevitably accumulate.

The Indian cold season, which we are now enjoying, is delightful, the mornings and evenings are chilly, but in the middle of the day we might easily wear summer clothing. The bright sunshine and cloudless sky make it hard for us to realize that our friends at home are in the midst of their winter sports.

Mrs. Wilson and I expect to leave next Monday on a holiday

trip to Agra and Delhi, and will probably spend Christmas Day with one of our nearest neighbours, the Rajputana missionaries. Christmas Day is not here what it is at home ; it lacks the associations, and the date in the calendar is needed to make us believe that the great holiday has really come.

The members of the Mission Circle here are all well, and looking forward to welcoming the new fellow-workers who must now be somewhere in the Red Sea.

Extract from Dr. Elizabeth Beatty.

INDORE, Jan. 8, 1891.

THE new year has opened with bright prospects. Mr. and Mrs. Wilkie have been brought back to us and the work. Miss McKellar is with us ; Mr. Russell is ready—indeed, is, I believe, already at work in the college. Neemuch and Rutlam are reinforced. The hospital is above ground, and that is saying a good deal, for the foundation was deep and had to be carefully laid. We hope to be working in the completed building by the breaking of the monsoon. It will, indeed, be a great relief to have it in working order. I have just now a patient out in a village who has to be seen every day, and even with that attention I have not been able to prevent serious injury by ignorant people. It is no exaggeration to say that, in many cases, the only hope of saving life is by getting the patients away from their friends. The hospital, when it is finished, will do much for them.

You will have heard that I have asked to be allowed to return to Canada this year. The reason is that malaria does not wear itself out in fever as it used to do ; but spends its poisonous force in attacks that resemble angina pectoris. No one has yet found for me a remedy that will either prevent or shorten the attacks. Sometimes they are not very severe, but sometimes the pain is agonizing and long continued, and always leaves me prostrate. Before I went to Simla, and for some weeks after my return, the attacks were frequent ; but, I am glad to say, I have not had one for several weeks past, and I am feeling well and quite able for work. August to December is always a feverish season, and I think—and others think for me—that it will be

best not to spend that season again in India without a change home.

We have made a small advance in a social way with the Parsees—they may eat and drink with us without prejudice to their religion. We invited all the Parsi ladies in Indore to an "At Home." More than half of them came. We had twenty four guests. We had tea and cake and a very pleasant hour together, then we went to the school-house and gave a small magic lantern exhibition, which we mean to repeat. Altogether we flatter ourselves the affair was a brilliant success. One of the young Parsi ladies came to me a few days afterwards and asked for the words of a Hindi hymn that was sung; so perhaps there will be more than a *social advance*.

MISSIONARY STUDIES.

By Miss Ferrier, Caledonia.

(ELEVENTH PAPER.)

THE Presbyterian Church of Australia is now taking an active share in the work of evangelizing the New Hebrides, and most of the missionaries are supported by that Church. There are at this date, 1889, twenty islands occupied and eighteen ordained missionaries on the field, and under their direction no fewer than one hundred native teachers are engaged in evangelistic work. These teachers are absolutely necessary to the carrying on of mission work on the new Hebrides and are quite as much missionaries as the ministers. In many cases they give up home and friends, and go to a strange island where a different language is spoken and different customs prevail, and being strangers, the people are suspicious of them, so that they are often exposed to much hardship and danger, and not a few of them have won the martyr's crown. They are teachers, according to our idea of the word, for they conduct the daily schools, but they are preachers and evangelists as well. The population is scattered in little villages all over these mountainous islands, the distances are considerable, and there are no roads and no means of travel but on foot, or by boat, so that the missionary can of necessity visit

each village but seldom; but by carefully training teachers, directing their work, and over-seeing it as far as possible, he can extend his influence over a large district, and at the same time be able to give the necessary attention to the work of translating the Scriptures and other books, a work which the great number of languages spoken makes it needful for every missionary to take up. The missionaries on the older stations help those on newer fields by supplying them with teachers till their own converts are sufficiently instructed to take up the work; then when a new island is to be opened, experience has proved that it is generally best to prepare the way for a foreign missionary by first sending some carefully trained natives, whom the savages are more likely to receive as being of their own colour, and more like themselves in habits and modes of thought, and it has been found that the example of the pure, unselfish lives of these good men and women, and their simple instructions, have been greatly blessed of God—therefore the missionaries ask for them the sympathy and prayers of the Church, and assure us it would be difficult to find a better investment for mission funds than paying the salaries of these humble labourers who each receive about thirty dollars annually for their support.

For some time past the French have been very anxious to seize the New Hebrides, and French soldiers and priests have been stationed on some of the islands. Had they succeeded in taking possession, our mission stations would have been broken up and the Christians persecuted as has been done on other islands they have seized. So, much anxiety has been felt, and much prayer offered by the friends of the Mission, and quite lately the French Government have withdrawn their soldiers and war-ships, and have promised to leave the people in peace, a decision which has filled the hearts of all interested in the Mission with thankfulness to God and hope for the future.

QUESTIONS.

What Church now supports most of the missionaries on the New Hebrides? How many islands are now occupied? Give the number of ordained ministers and of native teachers. What is said of the nature and value of the work of the latter? Why are they missionaries as much as those from other lands? Describe their work. Give the reasons why the missionary cannot

visit the people very frequently. How are the newly arrived missionaries supplied with teachers? What has experience proved to be the best plan for beginning work on a heathen island? What do the missionaries ask for these humble workers? Tell what you can of the desire of the French to seize these islands and how the matter has ended.

Increase.

Presbyterial Societies.

- LANARK AND RENFREW.. *Carleton Place*.—Union Auxiliary disbanded. Zion Church and St. Andrew's Church Auxiliaries organized.
- “ .. *Glen Tay*.—Mission Band.
- GUELPH *Branchton*.—Auxiliary.
- “ .. *Elora*.—Juvenile Mission Band.
- STRATFORD *Stratford*.—St. Andrew's Church Mission Band.
- “ *Attwood*.—“Calder” Mission Band.
- BRUCE..... *Chesley*.—Geneva Mission Band.
- HAMILTON..... *Hamilton*.—“Earnest Workers” Mission Band, Erskine Church.
- TORONTO..... *Limehouse*.—Auxiliary.
- KINGSTON *Lansdowne*.—Auxiliary held no meetings for some time, but is now re-organized with new officers and young women as members.
- LANARK AND RENFREW.. *White Lake*.—Auxiliary for a time ceased to hold meetings, but has now resumed active work.
- TORONTO..... *Dovercourt*.—Auxiliary after some months of inactivity has been re-organized.
- Four Auxiliaries and six Mission Bands organized. One Auxiliary disbanded.

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. Harvie, 80 Bedford Road, Toronto.

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

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

Directions about The Monthly Letter Leaflet.

1. The year begins with the *May* number. 2. Subscription, 12 cents a year, *payable in advance*. 3. Subscription may begin at any time (one cent a copy), but must end with the *April* number. 4. All *orders* and *money* to be sent through the Presbyterial Secretary to Mrs. Telfer, 72 St. Alban Street, Toronto.

PUBLICATIONS.

- No. 29. The Mother at Home, by Pansy, 3 cents each.
15 cents per doz., or 2 cents each.
- “ 22. The Beginning of It.
“ 21. A Study in Proportion.
12 cents per doz.
- “ 37. What is Foreign Missions' Rightful Share.
“ 32. An Appeal from the Mother of a Missionary.
“ 33. The Society at Springtown.
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| 31. A Transferred Gift. | 13. Thanksgiving Ann. |
| 26. Po-Heng and the Idols. | 12. Why we did not disband. |
| 25. A Plea for our Envelopes. | 10. For His Sake. |
| 24. The History of a Day. | 7. Mrs. Pickett's Missionary |
| 23. A Partnership. | Box. |
| 18. Five cents in a tea cup. | 3. Voices of the Women. |
- 8 cents per doz.*
- No. 28. Bringing up the Ranks to the Standard.
“ 27. A Lesson in Stewardship.
“ 17. Why we should keep up our Auxiliaries.
4. The Importance of Prayer.
2. Giving, and Giving up.
- No. 40. Missionary Thank-offering Story.
Free.
- No. 36. Objections to Missionary Work.
“ 35. How much do I owe. No. 39. Scattered Helpers.
“ 34. Our Hour of Prayer.
“ 38. The Silver Sixpence.
“ 5. Questions Answered.
“ 1. Self Questioning.
- Prayer Cards.
Envelopes to Auxiliaries formed since Annual Meeting,
Mite Boxes, 1 cent each.
Envelopes, one large containing 12 small; $1\frac{1}{2}$ cents each
Map of North-West, with Indian Reserves marked,
unmounted and unvarnished, 25 cents.
Muslin Map of Honan, \$2 ; Formosa, \$1 ; Trinidad, \$1.
To be obtained on order. 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.