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Mrs. Bell P.S.

"Whatsoever he saith unto you do it."

B.V.
30
A.M.K.

MONTHLY LEAFLET

OF THE

Canada Congregational Woman's Board of Missions.

4.
3. MONTREAL, APRIL, 1898.

Price 10c
a year.

SUBJECTS FOR PRAYER.

Let us not be weary in well doing."—Gal. 6:9; I. Cor. 15:58; I. Cor. 3:8; Peter 3:14.

TOPICS FOR AUXILIARY MEETINGS IN "LIFE AND LIGHT."

April—The Zulu Mission.

May—Missionary Treasuries.

THE MONTHLY LEAFLET.

All communications and letters from the missionaries intended for publication should be addressed to the Editor, Mrs. Sanders, 5 Mackay street, Montreal, P.Q.

Editorial Paragraphs.

The fiscal year of the C.C.W.B.M. terminates on May 20th. All the Treasurers please send their money as early as possible as not to crowd so much work for the Board Treasurer into the last days of the year. On May 31st there will be due foraries \$406.26, and for Home Missions \$527.66. Total, \$933.92. To pay the above two pledges, there is only \$364.84 on hand (Fees, Foreign, Home and undesignated sum.)

Who will give the bell for the Canadian Mission Station, Samba? See M. L., page 4, December, 1897. Every subscriber should keep the M. L. for reference. A few back numbers can be supplied at one cent each.

Notice.—C.C.W.B.M. Annual Meeting.

The Twelfth Annual Meeting of the Canada Congregational Woman's Board of Missions will be held in the Congregational Church, Paris, Ontario, on Thursday and Friday, June 2nd and 3rd. Further particulars will be given later, but it is hoped that the auxiliaries will begin preparing for it and elect delegates as soon as possible. If all who hope to be present, whether as delegates or visitors, will please notify me early in April, it will greatly facilitate the work of arranging the programme.

MARY L. FREELAND,
Sec. C.C.W.B.M.,
Bowmanville, Ont.

UNITED CHURCH
ARCHIVES

From Charles E. Swett.

1 SOMERSET STREET, BOSTON,

March 5, 1898

DEAR MRS. SANDERS,—Yours of the 17th ultimo is at hand and I note your enquiry as to cost of a "church bell" for Mr. Currie. I am not able to judge from your letter or from the leaflet enclosed what size bell is wanted. Church bells, as called, range in weight from 400 lbs. upwards. A 500 lb. bell purchased last year from the McShane Bell Foundry, Baltimore, Maryland, to go to China, cost, with all necessary mounting complete, \$95. This price was quoted on the bell delivered in Boston or New York. We estimate that the freight and insurance on this bell to Benguella would be in the vicinity of \$10; then there would be cost of carriage in from the coast, which is reckoned at about \$4.25 per man load of 60 lbs. It would be impossible to reckon the cost of transporting such a bell inland without knowing the number of packages in which it would be packed and the weight of each. I can ascertain in regard to this if you desire.

So-called "Farm" bells run in weight up to 100 lbs. and "Academy" and "Factory" bells, which are suitable for small churches, from 100 to 350 lbs. A bell of this description sent last year to Turkey weighed 225 lbs., and cost \$10 net. The price quoted on the bell delivered in Boston. From the measurements which we have of this bell, we estimate that the cost of freight and insurance to Benguella would be about \$5, which must be added transportation inland. I shall be pleased to answer any further enquiries you may wish to make, or to attend to the purchase and shipment of the bell if you desire and will so advise me.

From Miss Maggie W. Melville.

CISAMBA, Jan. 1, 1898

DEAR FRIENDS,—How joyfully the new year is opening to many, but how sadly to others. As I write I can hear the shooting at the funeral of a young girl, the sister of two of the station boys. Oh! the superstitions connected with the burial. But I am not going to have this letter full of sadness.

A week ago was Christmas a bright, beautiful day. Early in the morning when the day had just dawned we heard the familiar sound of the bugle calling the stationers to the

ual morning prayers. Then a little after eight we all assembled in the school-house for a special service which was conducted by Muenekanye, he choosing as his subject "The visit of the angel to Mary." At the close all remained quietly seated for a few minutes, and just as they began to go, Mr. Currie said, "Wait a little while." Two of the boys brought a box and a basket fairly running over, and we distributed the articles, coats, shirts, jackets, dresses and cloths in all about twenty articles. A number of these had been kindly sent by some of the home churches. The gifts were received quietly, not from lack of gratitude, but because they consider it improper to be demonstrative on receiving a gift. As we left the school-house the villagers began to arrive, the women carrying baskets of meal, but dressed in their finest clothes. They came flocking in groups of two or three, then in larger groups until the path was as full as far as one could see. These people walk in what we called to call Indian file, and I love to watch them wending their way in and out along the path. At eleven o'clock we again assembled in the school-house, which had been decorated with evergreens and chains of colored paper made by the kindergarten children. Above the organ, at the back of the platform, was the text "Glory to God," written in Umbundu. We took our places, but before Mr. Currie arrived the house was full and he had difficulty in reaching his. To the right were the station men, and to the left the station women and girls. The remaining space was occupied by visitors. We had a good service, Masuva preaching on the "Birth of Christ" in his clear, decisive way, Mr. Currie's address following. There were fully six hundred people in the building and a large crowd outside, who could not find room within. Just as we were leaving a heavy shower came up and we rushed for home, where we changed our wet clothes for dry, and by the time our luncheon was over the day had passed and we again went over to see the people at their food, taking our cameras with us. As soon as the feast had been served the sports began, consisting in running races, hurdle races, shooting with bow and arrow and shooting with guns. All entered very heartily into these games. The old men were particularly taken up with the gun shooting, one of their number carrying off the second prize, Lumbo having won the first. After these were finished the people began to wend their way homeward, all seeming to have enjoyed the festival, just as we did a little later when we met for our Christmas dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Currie. The people are gradually, year by year, learning to know what Christmas means and why it is such a special day. We pray that they may soon know the true meaning of it in their own hearts.

From Miss Helen J. Melville.

CISAMBA STATION, Jan. 20th, 1898.

MY DEAR MRS. SANDERS,—My thoughts wander over the past year with its joys and sorrows. There has been much to encourage us also much to make our hearts ache. We can only commit all our successes and our many failures into His hands asking His blessing on them. Surely He that has led us thus far will lead us on to the end.

It has been on my mind for some time to make out a Cradle Roll for prayer of our babies. Those born at the station, most of them children of Christian parents. These little ones need your prayers that as they grow up in this dark land they may be kept pure and clean. Pray for the parents that they may teach them aright and by their example lead them to the Lord Jesus. My idea was that those who wished might copy this roll and hang it in their bedroom, and on the birthday of the little one remember them especially in prayer.

W. C. A. MISSION, CISAMBA STATION.

Children's Cradle Roll for Prayer.

- Jan. 8th, 1898—Maria, daughter of Kangombe and Njengela
 " 21st, 1896—Minniehaha, daughter of Mbembele and Nalembe.
 April 10th, 1897—Malinda, daughter of Citumba and Cajonga.
 May 18th, 1896—Willie, son of Sayose and Nayose.
 June 9th, 1897—Victoria, daughter of Sambumbulu and Vita
 " 19th, 1897—Angelina, daughter of Katombela and Siku.
 July 4th, 1893—Jessie, daughter of Samakuva and Nanjese.
 Sept. 20th, 1896—Helasi, son of Cinono and Nahelasi.
 " 30th, 1893—Yose, son of Sayose and Nayose.
 Oct. 15th, 1896—Lily, daughter of Samakuva and Nanjese.

We wish to thank the friend who so kindly sends us McClure's Magazine. It has come from the publisher. We have enjoyed it very much. We also wish to thank those who have sent us papers and books from time to time during the year. We have enjoyed the reading of them. Some have been sent to other stations in the mission.

From Rev. W. T. Currie.

CISAMBA, Jan. 18th, 1898.

DEAR MRS. SANDERS,—Your letter of October 1st, 1897, was very welcome. We are all greatly pleased to know that funds are forthcoming for the hospital. Just now we are having a great run on the medical department. Much other work has

neglected in order to attend to the patients. Is it possible that no doctor is to be sent to our aid next spring?

In the *Congregationalist*, October 7th, 1897, we notice the following editorial paragraph:—"We are impressed by the loving thought of the ladies of our city missionary auxiliaries in sending pillow cases, sheets, etc., to Africa, but we seriously doubt whether such articles are likely to be in urgent demand there." Now, what the editor could have been thinking about to make such a statement as that we are at a loss to know. A hospital without sheets and pillow cases, forsooth! White patients lying on the bare beds without a covering. Surgical cases with no covering but the few oil-soaked, dirt-begrimed clothes with which they came to the station. Young mothers lying in an ward with nothing to shield them and their little ones from the public gaze. Surely the scenes in a hospital conducted without sheets and pillow cases would make the spirit of Mrs. Ella F. M. Williams rise in indignant protest that such a place should be conducted in her memory and for Christ's sake. Please assure the ladies that the articles will be wanted, and are greatly wanted now, even though the hospital has not been built.

The box sent by the friends in Guelph reached us in nice time for our Christmas festivities, and many young people were made glad by the gifts it contained.

Not for the past five years has there been from this country such a rush for slaves as there has been during the past few months. Large caravans have gone into districts of the Congo Free State and bought or stole hundreds of slaves. Some of the slave dealers were seized by the officials. Others were killed and their poor victims liberated. Many hid for days in the bush, while the Belgian soldiers seem to have been in camp about one hour distant from them. Then, when the soldiers passed, began the deadly slave march to Bihe. Many poor wretches fell by the way from hunger and exhaustion. Some, being unable to go further, were despatched with their master's hatchet, or shot through the back, or had their throats cut. Others were hamstringed and left to die of hunger or be torn by wild beasts. Others were bound hand and foot and their abdomens cut open. Further, what seems to me one of the worst features of the case is to hear young boys telling with great gusto of those bloody horrors which they have witnessed. No man can gloat on such scenes, or talk of them as a light matter, without suffering irreparable damage to his manhood. In the meantime we have had all we could do to keep our young lads from being carried away on these expeditions. One of the church members left, contrary to our advice, saying that he was going but a short distance with his brother, but evidently the

elder brother, when he got him to the interior, forced him to go the whole way; for he has been absent six months and there is not yet any word of his return. Fancy the strain on the faith and character of a young Christian alone with none but God to help him amid such influences as one of those journeys exert. Most of the slaves brought to this immediate district are girls and women, showing clearly that villages were plundered to secure them. Some time ago I sent to their homes nineteen boys who had been seized in the Ngaranganzi country, and who were returned to me by Mr. Campbell. Yet the relatives of these same boys were mostly away again after slaves. When will this cease?

Extracts from Mrs. Read's Letters to Mrs. Moodie.

SAKAJIMBA, W.C. Africa.

As to things for the kindergarten, balls would not be worth the expense, unless possibly in limited quantity, and then home made, with string ready to be stuffed with cotton here. Blocks would be very welcome. From the third gift up. But in quantity, rather than by the tiny boxes, they are more expensive that way. Cards with very simple designs would be good. A cup, jug, hat, the most elementary; for sewing, some reels of marking cotton or such cotton as is sold for that special purpose. No 4 needles would always be acceptable. Wooden beads, old or new, so long as they are wooden and unbreakable. Also long corset laces to string them on. Mats for weaving would be good as an introduction to using native material in the same way.

A word or two to our kindergarten. It is now really not a kindergarten at all, for the little ones are swamped as it were by boys and girls from 10 to 14, who come in good numbers, drawn chiefly by sewing. We sing kindergarten songs, first all together then Dr. Rose Bower takes the older ones to read and sew, and I take the little ones. In all we have usually from 30 to 50. The attendance of the village girls is very promising. But how wild and noisy they are! At times it seems a veritable Bedlam, but we must be patient as well as judiciously firm. They cannot change that all at once. We would rather have the noise and confusion than rows of benches, in perfect order, but empty.

I have been going to tell for some time of our mats, our floor covering. They vary much in size. The average is about 4 x 6 ft. or thereabouts. They are made by soaking and splitting long reeds and weaving them together by means of a bark string about an inch wide. The reeds are a light straw color and the bark string dark brown, or almost black, so the combination is

nite pleasing. These mats are laid all over the bricks, "not burnt brick, only sun burnt," or hard mud floor, fitted as best as can (for they are oftener crooked than straight) and sewn together with twine and a large packing needle. The sewing is not an easy task, and must be done carefully else, the seams stick up and cause one to stumble, or the cord wears out and the mats have to be re-sewed. It is not easy to sweep these mats really clean, and where there is a baby creeping about it is a source of anxiety to the mother lest baby's bright eyes and tiny fingers may find a pin, or button, or something in the crevices. That is one disadvantage. One distinct advantage is that one never worries over water spilt on them; it soaks in at once, and water is the only thing that will keep jiggers under control. Washing tends to take the gloss off the reeds, and so causes them to wear out quickly, yet in our house the mats have to be washed. Twelve to fifteen mats are needed for a room. One room costs \$1.50, and much used rooms need re-matting after 12 or 15 months' wear.

Treasurer's Acknowledgments, Feb. 25th to March 25th, 1898.

TORONTO BRANCH.—Rugby, \$14 50, and 15 subscriptions M.L., \$1.50.

OTTAWA BRANCH.—Martintown, 11 subscriptions M.L., \$1.10; Kingston, "Bethel," 10 subscriptions M.L., \$1.

PARIS AND HAMILTON BRANCH.—Burford, 2 subscriptions M.L., 20c.; Rev. J. T. Daley, 10 subscriptions M.L., \$1.

ONTARIO (MISCELLANEOUS)—Hamilton, First Church, 10 subscriptions (additional) M.L., \$1; Woodstock, 10 subscriptions, \$1; Kingston, First Church, 12 subscriptions, \$1 20; "Forest Local Union" of the Congregational churches for the Scandinavian Church Building Fund, Wetaskiwin, Alberta, N.W.T., \$3; London, Miss Helen R. Cannom, boys' Sunday-school class, \$2.

MANITOBA BRANCH.—Winnipeg Union Auxiliary, for Cisimba, \$10.

QUEBEC PROVINCIAL BRANCH.—Point St. Charles, 30 subscriptions M.L., \$3; Montreal, Emmanuel, M.L. (additional), 5c.; Mrs. Madley's Sunday school, for Mrs. Currie's school, 5c.; Junior S.C.E., for kindergarten supplies, \$5; Sunday-school, for Memorial Hospital, \$10, and for the support of "Galene," Smyrna, Turkey, \$10; Danville, for Home Missions, \$5; Montreal, Zion, undesignated, \$16.10; for Foreign Missions, \$1; Miss Williams' Sunday-school class, for Foreign Missions, \$2, and 73 subscriptions M.L., \$7.30; Montreal Calgary, for the support of "Galene," \$3.15, and Miss Powter's Sunday-school class, for Mr. Currie's work, \$2.50; Sherbrooke,

12 subscriptions M. L., \$1.20; Melbourne, 1 subscription (additional). 10c.; Rock Island, 9 subscriptions M. L., 90c.

QUEBEC (MISCELLANEOUS).—Ayer's Flat, 13 subscriptions M. L., \$1.30; Waterville Ladies' Missionary Society, Foreign Missions, \$5.

NOVA SCOTIA.—Yarmouth, 12 subscriptions M. L., \$1.20.

Total for Ontario, \$27.50; Quebec, \$94.90; Manitoba, \$40.00; Nova Scotia, \$1.20. Grand Total, \$163.60.

(MRS) FRANCES A. SANDERS, *Treasurer C. C. W. B. M.*
125 Mackay Street, Montreal, Q.

MINNEHAHA MEMORIAL LIBRARY.

Africa—"Story of my Life" (Bishop Taylor). "Reality and Romance in South Central Africa" (Johnston). Moffatt's "South Africa." "Livingston." "Khama's Country." "Story of Uganda" (S. G. Stock.) "Mackay of Uganda." "Lone Woman in Africa." "Among the Matabele." "Thomas Comber." "Bishop Crowther." "Missionaries and Martyrs of Madagascar." "Round Africa." Miss Whately's "Egypt." "Among the Zulus."

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The Isles—"Islands of the Pacific" (Francis). "Among the Maories." "James Chalmers." "Bishop Patteson." "Henry Lyman, the Martyr of Sumatra" "John G. Paton." "Letters from the New Hebrides" (Mrs. Paton).

Persia—"Justin Perkins, D. D." "Woman and the Gospel in Persia." "Henry Martyn and Samuel J. Mills."

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