

"THIS IS THE VICTORY



EVEN OUR FAITH."



---

# Monthly Letter.

PUBLISHED BY

The Woman's Missionary Society of the Methodist Church, Canada  
ROOM 20, WESLEY BUILDINGS.

---

Vol. XV. ]  
No. 3. ]

TORONTO, MARCH, 1898.

[Price 5c.  
a year.]

---

Subjects for Prayer.

Japan, Corea, and the Isles of the Sea.

---

## PAPAL COUNTRIES.

We cull the following from an address delivered by Bishop C. C. McCabe at Chautauqua, Aug. 1st, 1897 :

Thirty-five years ago you could not get into France with your missions, but to-day one hundred and twenty preaching places exist in Paris alone. And I have visited some of them. What a joy to visit the McCall Missions in the city of Paris, and realize that they have all been planted within the last few years; to go from mission to mission and hear them sing in French, "Rock of Ages, cleft for me," and "Jesus, Lover of my soul." Thousands of men and women attend these meetings every night. They were founded, as you well know, by a Scotch Presbyterian, but they have had an everlasting protracted meeting there ever since they were founded.

Thirty-five years ago you could not get into Italy at all. They would stop you at the gate, and if you had a five-cent Testament in your valise they would take it out and keep it until you came back, and then give it to you again. But now there is a great building five stories high, a hundred and fifty-five feet long and ninety-five broad, and it has in it one hundred and forty-six different rooms—one room will seat a great congregation of six hundred people. We have a boys' school in it that has among its scholars four of the grandsons of the illustrious Garibaldi. I hope they will make a Methodist preacher out of every one of them, and I hope that two of them will be presiding elders. I would like to have a Methodist preacher named Garibaldi presiding elder of Florence, and then send word to Savonarola somewhere in heaven that a Methodist preacher was preaching the gospel in Florence.

Thirty-five years ago you could not get into Mexico, but now you can. We have a hundred and thirty-eight churches there ourselves, and the Southern branch of Methodism has a great many there. Thirty-five years ago you could not preach a sermon anywhere in Mexico without being arrested. But that glorious man Diaz, who five times has been elected President of the Republic in opposition to the mandates of the priesthood, says to our missionaries: "*Bring more, build more schools, build more churches, come on with your Christianizing and your educating influences. We need them in Mexico.*" And he lends us all the power of his influence to help us in our work. Don't you think these are brightening days? Then there are the South American republics; we can get into almost every one of them. So that all over the earth the skies are brightening, and we want to lift up our hearts and rejoice, for the day of our redemption draweth near.

### REPORT OF THE CHINESE "GIRLS' HOME."

Four months have rapidly passed since I prepared my last report. After my return from the East, I assumed responsibility September 2nd. Christine was still in bed, having been in the Home two weeks after her return from the hospital.

Elsie had been brought over from Vancouver by Miss Morgan four days before my arrival. She was a bright, wayward, stubborn, restless and affectionate girl, we think about fourteen years of age. The court trial re Elsie was pending for weeks. Sing Kow, who claimed to own her, came repeatedly to see her, which request was always refused, except a competent interpreter could be secured. At the request of our lawyer, I took Elsie eight times to his office, to be ready in case the court required her. Twice she had to appear in court, and I had to stand once in the witness-box. October 26th Judge Drake sustained the former decision given by Judge Walkem, "that Elsie remain in the Home." A further attempt was threatened by Sing Kow, but no notice has been given, consequently we think he will not further trouble us.

On September 20th Katie had her face operated on by Dr. E. Hall in my presence, having no one to nurse her in her home. I brought her with me, and put her to bed. Shortly after her partial recovery her husband was arrested for forgery and put into jail. A law-suit followed. Mr. Hall, with the help of Mr. J. E. Gardner, won the case. They both believed him to be innocent, consequently did their best to secure his liberty, and succeeded, to the great joy of Katie and all her friends. After staying three months with us in the Home, Katie accompanied her husband to their own little home.

On October 18th we had a wedding in the parlor at 2.30 p.m. The young girl came from one of those awful places, having wished to escape the sad life for some time. Rev. Mr. Chan and Rev. A. B. Winchester performed the solemn ceremony in the presence of a few who happened in, after which I passed round tea and cake. They took a room with Mary, Rosa and Laura. The bride has come quite often to our Friday meeting, and she and her husband attend the Mission Church.

I must now go back to Christine whom I carefully nursed, dressing her sore back every day for three weeks, then each alternate day for five weeks, then occasionally as the case required. Gradually she became able to help with the work. Miss Morgan taught her and Elsie for two hours in the

morning. The first week in November Christine was a very good girl; I really was much encouraged by her behaviour, but soon my hopes were blasted. On the evening of Sunday, November 7th, while Miss Morgan and I were at our tea, Christine and Katie quarrelled. I made peace as soon as I could, but Christine became very sulky. She was ready for church, and I said I would take her, consequently went up to put on my bonnet; when I came down she was gone. I could not ascertain her whereabouts until Tuesday morning, when I received a postal from St. Ann's Convent, asking me to call. I did call, but Christine wished to remain where she was, as she had been placed when a young child by her own mother in a R. C. Orphanage, where she spent some years. A committee of ladies went to see her, but she would not return. She was sent shortly after to Cowiehan, about sixty miles away, to the Orphanage.

Miss Churchill became a resident of the Home October 26th, 1897. Early in November Assa, a young married Japanese woman, came to attend the school, with Elsie, and to learn how to work. She has her dinner and tea here. It is much more satisfactory to her than to me, as she cannot come in time to help with the morning work; however, I am sure it is a great help to Assa.

We prepared a Christmas dinner for forty on the 24th. Last year thirty-eight sat down. We were sorry that this year only twenty-three responded to our hearty invitation. Rev. Mr. Speer, also Mrs. and Miss Speer, came in to see them all at the tables, after which they went into the front school room, where the meeting was addressed by Mr. Speer. The provision that was over helped nicely to provide for Miss Churchill's entertainment, and also Miss Morgan for the Japanese, both of which were in the Home.

The Friday meetings have been regularly held, with a fair attendance, averaging for the four months ten adults and four children. Friday is often a rainy day. I have been able to make fifty-eight visits in the homes of our married girls, and in business calls on the doctor and lawyer. The Home Committee has met regularly, besides some special meetings. I usually teach each Monday evening in Chinese School.

Two resolutions were sent into the Woman's Council; one

relating to slavery among the Chinese, and the other on the sanitary regulations.

We would thank our Heavenly Father for the many blessings during the past one-third of the year, and notwithstanding the dark shadows that cross our path in the work, there have been many gleams of sunshine to brighten the "Home" horizon.

S. BOWES,

*Home Mother.*

---

## REPORT OF CHINESE DAY SCHOOL, VICTORIA, B.C.

*From August 9th, 1897, to January 31st, 1898.*

---

In thinking over what I shall send you for my first report of our Chinese Day School since I have had charge, I feel that nothing very definite can be said. We reopened, after summer vacation, on the 9th of August. During the past five months thirty-one pupils have entered our school. The attendance during that time has been very fluctuating, as it has been ever since the school was organized, so that we cannot report an average of more than forty per cent. This is characteristic of the Chinese, and indeed of all heathen, as far as we can learn. While we have some pupils who are very regular, the bulk of them come and go, without assigning us any reason. However, we continue up to the present, and are hopeful for the future.

It is something to remember that our school has been in existence now for nearly a year, notwithstanding the fact that the public schools here are free, and are open to the Chinese, and our school charges a fee to its pupils. Religious instruction has been made very prominent, it being the primary object of our school to bring a knowledge of Jesus and His love to the hearts and consciences of our pupils; and while a great deal of prejudice has been manifested on the part of some of the pupils, and we cannot get them to take any part in our religious exercises; and while some may have left us on this account, still we have felt it

our bounden duty to keep right on in this direction, praying that the time may soon come when all such prejudice shall be a thing of the past. We think, however, that considering the fact that the public schools here are free and open to the Chinese, and that no religious instruction is given which might prejudice the Chinese against them, it will be extremely difficult (if not impossible) for us to establish a good day school. The fact that in our night school here, which is free, we have as many pupils as we can at present accommodate, and a great many more than we can satisfactorily teach, gives us reason to believe that if our day school were free, it would be more largely and regularly attended, and we think it would be worth while experimenting in this way, for a time at least, to see how it would work. As far as we can see, this is the only means by which we can reach these children and teach them the truths of Christianity.

We pray that God's blessing may rest upon our work. Nothing else will avail us. While the people are friendly and kind, heathenism has a mighty hold on their hearts, and nothing but Divine power can break their chains.

As this is the first I have written regarding the work since being engaged in it, I would personally take this opportunity of expressing my gratitude to the Board for enrolling me amongst its missionaries. I wish I could hope that my work here might be but the preliminary step to the great mission field, where the harvest is so great and the laborers so few.

ELIZABETH CHURCHILL.

---

### Evangelistic Work among the Chinese and Japanese Women in Victoria, Nanaimo and the Mainland.

*For term ending December 31st, 1897.*

In reviewing the work of the past four months, especially among the Chinese women, there seems little to report beyond the bare facts of visits made and new homes entered. Since September 1st two trips have been made to the Mainland. Steveston and Moodyville were visited once; New Westminster, Vancouver and Nanaimo twice. In S— there were several bright, happy little meetings among the Japan-

ese women. On account of sickness at the mission, house-to-house visiting was necessary. It was a pleasure to reap and converse with these women in their own language. The lack of this cripples me with the Chinese for I am slow in picking up the language. In one home, while I was reading to a woman and her daughter, more than a dozen men came and waited till our meeting was over. In two other homes we had almost the same number. The Chinese women in the different places were glad to see me, but those who can converse well in English are little interested in Christianity. In two homes the husbands were present during my call, and bowed in prayer with us. Mrs. Thom is visiting the women in Westminster. Both there and at Nanaimo there were good meetings. I hope the time will soon come when in all these places women will attend the church services. During the fall several of the Japanese women have met at Mrs. Eby's in the afternoon. Recently I heard from one of our Japanese Christians at Union saying there are a number of women there. In Victoria, 6 new homes in Chinatown have been entered. Owing to various reasons, on'y 42 homes have been opened to me during the past quarter. The Sunday School for the little ones has been fluctuating. In October it was moved to the mission in hopes the children would attend more regularly. They do not love the Sunday School yet; if there is nothing more attractive elsewhere they are present. The work at the Japanese Mission here is as usual. A portion of each morning has been given to teaching in the home, a Japanese girl comes for English. Three hundred and thirty-six visits were made during the term.

F. KATE MORGAN.

---

## INCREASE.

---

### BAY OF QUINTE CONFERENCE.

Millbrook, Mission Band; Frankford, "Busy Bees," Mission Band.

### TORONTO CONFERENCE.

Gravenhurst, "Rose-Bud," Mission Band; Uffington, "Buds of Promise," Mission Band."

## SUGGESTED PROGRAMME

FOR THE

**Thank=Offering Service**

OF THE

**WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY,****Easter-Tide, April, 1898.**

## Opening Exercises :

- I. {
1. President will repeat John iii. 14-17.
  2. Hymn, "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross."
  3. Prayer.
  4. Scripture Lesson, John xvii. 1-21.

II. Hymn (Solo), "There is a Green Hill."

III. An Easter Message, "In Trust With the Gospel."  
By the Pastor of the Church.

*"Now then we are ambassadors for Christ."*

*"Ye are my witnesses."*

IV. Offertory and Reading of Texts.

- V. {
1. Prayer—Consecration of Offerings.
  2. Sing while kneeling, "Alas, and Did My Saviour Bleed."
  3. Benediction.

## JAPAN.

All will be sorry to hear that Miss Blackmore has been ill, and will hope soon to hear of her full recovery. Under date of Jan. 17, Miss Blackmore writes :

"Just as the Christmas holidays began I was taken with a grippe, and not only did I lose my own opportunity of getting all sorts of odds and ends of work done, but Miss Munro's and Miss Hart's entire holidays were given up to waiting on me. I had not got on my feet when school re-opened. However, I am gaining rapidly now. I taught an hour today as a beginning, and intend to try full work to-morrow.

"It is the first time I have been ill since coming to Japan more than eight years ago, excepting of course, 'the Japanese head' I had before my furlough.

"A comforting assurance. How clearly he makes known to each worker the part He has planned for that one; and it is always *solid ground* beneath the feet, even in the roughest place to *know* we are working in just the place He wants us."

*Woman's Missionary Society and Church Relations Outlined.  
Similar in all our Stations.*

From Miss Preston.

KOFU, JAPAN, Nov. 15, 1897.

Our school has a Board of Directors composed of six members which may meet once a month. Of these six, three are nominated by the Japanese interested in the school, and three by the Woman's Missionary Society. Of the latter, two are foreigners, and the other is Rev. Mr. Kobayashi, our pastor. The Board of Directors has a vital relation to the school—preparing the calendar and taking up many questions of interest affecting the school.

It has been the custom of the pastor to come to the school the second Sunday evening of every month to preach to the girls. He often stays after the service or comes early to talk over difficult points with the girls, giving the opportunity of asking questions. It has been, and is, the express

desire of the principal of the school that the pastor of the church should have this frequent opportunity of special instruction of the students.

The whole school, teachers and students, attend the morning service in the church, forming a large, and we believe, a helpful part of the congregation. The pastor has been invited to visit the school class-meetings, and once this term he has done so. He has interviewed and questioned girls who were to be baptized. While it is true that the Christian teachers in the school must each bear a share of responsibility for the spiritual welfare of the girls that are primarily committed to their care, yet we always desire to have the pastor share in and help as much as possible in teaching them the truths of God and leading them into the way everlasting.

We have only one church in Kofu, though there is one preaching place where an evangelist lives. In the church Sunday School our Bible-woman and three daily students have taught for a long time. The Superintendent of the Sunday School until recently had been for some time a foreign missionary—one of ourselves—chosen according to the Discipline of the Methodist Church. It is only because no foreigner who could take up this work was available without great loss to other departments that the Superintendent is not a foreign missionary now. One of our Japanese teachers has recently gone to help, and in all these plans there have been free consultations with the pastor.

We have Sunday School work in six places in Kofu, in which the girls take part, one of these being the preaching place mentioned above and which we entered at the request of the pastor. We have had Sunday School work in the other five places for a long time. When difficulties occur, as, opposition from the teachers of the public schools, or serious throwing of stones on the part of the children, the matter is usually talked over with the pastor. In these six Sunday Schools, as is not the case with the church Sunday School, the expenses are all met by the Woman's Missionary Society.

We have a weekly meeting on Saturday for the study of the lesson to be taught on the following Sunday, con-

ducted by one of the Woman's Missionary Society missionaries, and the work in these schools is under her supervision. The attendance at these schools is reported to the District meeting held just before Conference. I believe our pastor is very glad to have us take up work among the children, which, for the most part, would not be thought of or attempted if we did not do it. He is a very busy man, with his hands more than full of work with the superintending of the district and the numerous claims on him in every way, and I am sure it is a great relief to him to have successful work carried on for which he is not required to bear the responsibility. We are always open to suggestions, and between us there is such unanimity of feeling and understanding that we do not have any friction in our relations.

In our evangelistic work among the women we try to hold meetings in the places where we have church work, although some of these places are distant, and it requires both physical labor and valuable time to take the long rides necessary. But one of our motives is to help build up, as far as we can, the general work in the various appointments although there are many places in Kofu itself where we could carry on meetings much more frequently were our time not so taken up with outside meetings. But in all of the circuits, and especially those in charge of unmarried men there is great need for our help.

From prejudice and custom men cannot do the work among women that women can. In three meeting places the pastors are a great aid in notifying the women of the meeting to be held, and in general working it up, while, according to circumstances, they may often address the meeting.

---

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

Missionary Review of the World, per year \$2.25; Gospel in All Lands, 80 cents. Subscriptions to this Magazine may begin at any time, but must continue till December and the end. Illustrated Christian World, 75 cents; Message and Deaconess World, 40 cents; The Double Cross and Medical Missionary Record, \$1.00 — to missionaries and student volunteers, 50 cents. (Please enclose 2 cents for postage and wrapping.)

## OUR EASTER THANK-OFFERING ENVELOPE.

---

The New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island Branch has, at the request of the Literature Committee, prepared an envelope and leaflet to be used for gathering our Easter Offering.

The leaflet, containing an appeal for our work, is written by the Editor of *Palm Branch*, and is to be folded and placed within each envelope before distribution.

Price 5 cents per dozen ; 15 cents for 50 ; 25 cents for 100.

For Mission Bands the envelope is pink, with the same inscription as that for Auxiliaries, but without the leaflet.

Price 3 cents per dozen. Please enclose 2 cents additional for postage and wrapping on each package.

They can be obtained from MISS A. L. OGDEN, Room 20, Wesley Buildings, Richmond St. West, Toronto, Ont. Also from the Branch Depots, MRS. C. STEWART, care of Rev. Dr. Stewart, Sackville, N.B., or MISS ELLA NEILSON, 704 Main St., Winnipeg, Man.

---

The Literature Committee at Room 20 and the Branch Depots in Sackville, N.B., and Winnipeg, Man. (as above addresses), are prepared to receive deposits of \$1.00 for the literature to be used in connection with the Suggested Programme, and will send the necessary literature whenever called for by the programme as long as the money lasts. The usual charge of two cents, for wrapping and postage, will be deducted for each parcel. Subscribers will be notified when their deposit is expended.

---

Will Corresponding Secretaries who order Annual Reports and MONTHLY LETTERS please remember that, by direction of the Board of Managers, the remittance must accompany the order. Price of the Annual Report, 10 cents a copy. Please enclose 2 cents for postage and wrapping.