

"THIS IS THE VICTORY



EVEN OUR FAITH."

UNITED CHURCH  
ARCHIVES

# Monthly Letter.

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## SUBJECTS FOR PRAYER.

For increased spiritual power to come upon the membership, upon all missionaries and teachers, that secret believers in the mission fields may be taught of the Spirit.—Acts ii. 18.

## JAPAN.

A letter from Miss Munro, Principal of our Azabu School, Tokyo, conveys the following cheering intelligence:

"Two of our girls have asked for baptism; two girls whose lives show they mean it. I am very thankful for this.

"There is another who must yield soon. As I teach her in the daily Bible lesson, I see it (the struggle) in her face and eyes. Miss Lambly, too, has witnessed the same. It is a fearful thing to teach a lesson when you see a face like that in the class—a sublime but awful thing.

"Our King's Daughters' school has a very large attendance, —forty-eight almost every day. Nakayama O-Yuki San has taken up the work dropped by Yoshida O Yu-San. But this work is so much a personal one that it is impossible for one to take up another's.

"I wish Miss Lizzie Hart and Miss Nellie Hart could

come back. Our vocal music needs some one very much. Miss Belton although feeling herself very incapable is giving a half-hour once a week to help Imadzuwa San, who is doing nobly all she can to keep up the singing class. But the girls are longing for the return of some of our teachers and I—my heart is sick with longing.

“We are now waiting for the news from the Boarus. Our household is very sober; overwork, poor health and heavy trouble take away much of the merriness from life, but I can say we are not unhappy. We love and trust each other and help and sympathize.

“The Japanese are so kind, and in every way win our gratitude. God himself gives us each inward peace. It is a most wonderful thing—the peace, the joy in Him. I ask Him to give me the meek and lowly heart. I have thought lately that ‘the Higher Christian Life’ might fitly be called ‘the Lowlier Christian Life.’ May God help me to say from my heart ‘His will be done in me as it is done in heaven.’ Can I trust Him for that?”

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## CHINA.

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From Mrs. Kilborn.

NIIGATA, JAPAN, September 20th, 1895.

It was with pleasure I received your letter dated July 10th. Thank you for your kind words of sympathy and encouragement. It was indeed a terrible experience and one which I trust I may never be called upon to pass through again. Yet every day I feel more and more how much we have to thank God for. When I heard of the terrible massacre of the missionaries at Ku Cheng, I realized more fully than ever how the arms of a loving Father had been around us, protecting us. God was indeed our refuge. The night the riot began, when all chances of escape seemed cut off, a howling mob on two sides, and, on the other, two neighbors who had refused to help us, we had no help but God. To me He seemed very near. Just before Mrs. Stephenson and I left the house to take refuge in the hospital, we knelt in prayer and committed our little ones, our husbands and ourselves into God's keeping. All fear left me. I seemed to hear the words, “I am with thee. I will never leave thee nor for-

sake thee." All through the trying days which followed, the assurance of His protecting care never left me. Arrived in Ichang it was with hearts filled to overflowing we went on board the foreign steamer an unbroken band.

I think I stood the strain incident to all as well, if not better, than most of the women. My nerves are all right but after reaching Shanghai, both Dr. Kilborn and I were indisposed. The heat was extreme, and cholera was daily spreading in the settlement. We decided to come to Japan for a time and went to Kanazawa, spending a month among the mountains. It was delightfully cool there. We left Tuesday the 17th, and came to Niigata with Mr. Dunlop. Before we return to Shanghai, we want to visit all of our Mission Stations but one.

In Kanazawa I met the Misses Munro, Robertson, Cunningham, Belton, Veazey, Lambly, and Crombie. I expect to see most of them again at their stations.

I am now feeling quite strong again and begin to feel anxious to return to China, for here I cannot study to advantage. I do not know when we will be able to return to Chentu. It has been said that ladies would not be able to go into the interior for at least a year. There is no reason why we should not return when the men go up to open work, and I am going back whenever Dr. Kilborn returns.

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### CHINESE WORK IN VICTORIA, B.C.

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We take the liberty of making a few extracts from a private letter of Mrs. Morrow's, now living with her son in Washington, D.C. :

"The parting between myself and the girls (in the Chinese Home) was a very sorrowful one. Poor girls! it was truly a house of mourning. For myself I almost wondered that they were and are so much in my heart. You rightly divine some of my feelings. How, during those last few weeks, I wished that more had been accomplished than was done. How I longed after them that one and all might be truly brought to Jesus, that such religion as they had should be deeper and more surely the life that they live. How I tried to think if anything was left undone or unsaid. I tried to do what I could, and yet there was much left undone.

"The Saturday evening before I left the Home over twenty of the Christian boys and Mr. Chan came up with an address and several presents. The boys were always so good to me; when I was sick I had fresh flowers always. I heartily enjoyed the Sunday-school, and they were so attentive. All this made it harder to leave them, and I shall have a very tender memory of the three years I spent in Victoria.

"Mr. Chan, the Chinese missionary, is doing very well at Victoria. He gives the girls in the Home lessons two afternoons in the week.

"Martha is to marry Lee Sing, who is about the best Christian Chinaman of the New Westminster Church; I think she will do very well. She has improved greatly, can cook and make her own clothes, and, I hope, will keep a tidy, comfortable home. Above all, she earnestly desires to live a true Christian life.

"So thankfully I think of Rose as 'a new creature in Christ Jesus.' What a change is made in her. The pettishness was overcome and the disposition to quarrel, and she became womanly and considerate. She makes a good wife; so does Mary.

"Ruth and Tsoi Lin do fairly well, but not very tidy or industrious.

"Chan Lin keeps on his way as a good Christian worker and helper of the Mission, I fear, however, Carrie does not make much progress.

"Katie holds on her way, remembers the verses she has learned, and comes to church and prayer-meeting pretty regularly. Annie scarcely does either. I forgot to write about Sarah. She has occasioned a good deal of anxiety, but has taken kindly to Miss Bowes and is doing well at present. I felt sorry for her after Rose and Mary were married, she seemed so hopeless, there was no prospect before her. I hope the way will open for her to go to China in some useful capacity. Daisy and Jessie were married two weeks before I left the Home. Jessie was young, but she is well and happily married to a Christian Chinaman in very good circumstances. I left seven girls in the Home, including one Japanese, who was conducting herself so nicely as to be a favorite with everybody."

## "CYCLE OF PRAYER."

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The General Missionary Society, the Woman's Missionary Society, and the Department of Epworth Leagues and Sunday Schools have arranged a sixteen-page leaflet, "Cycle of Prayer for Missions," containing subjects for prayer, embracing all covered by the Watch-cry of the Students' Volunteer Movement, "The Evangelization of the World in this Generation." The leaflet is now ready, price, 3 cents per copy; 30 cents per dozen. While suitable for all ages, a gift of one of these leaflets will afford a good opportunity for Sunday School teachers, Mission Band and Missionary Department leaders to foster an intelligent interest on the subject of missions among our young people.

## INCREASE.

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### BAY OF QUINTE BRANCH.

Mount Carmel Auxiliary.  
 Trenton (Grace Church) Auxiliary.  
 Bethany " "  
 Eden Grove " "  
 Mount Olivet " "  
 Dalrymple " "

### TORONTO BRANCH.

Alliston Mission Circle.

## IMPORTANT.

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Will Corresponding Secretaries please examine the printed label on their package of *Monthly Letters*, and if it bears the date December, 1895, have the subscription renewed at the next meeting if possible, as the Literature Committee may not be able to supply back numbers to those who are late in renewing?

## Suggested Programme for February Meeting.

I. Opening Exercises: We should be a band of women "whose hearts God has touched." Our inspiration should come from the Cross.

II. Regular Business. -

III. Hymn.

IV. Subjects for Prayer for the month: The Indians of our Dominion; the Methodist Orphanage, St. John's, Nfld.

The annual report of the Department of Indian Affairs for 1894, states There are 100,227 Indians in the Dominion of Canada.

Of these { 25,000 are acknowledged and claimed as Protestants.  
32,000 are acknowledged and claimed as Roman Catholics.

The Indian population of { N. Scotia  
N. Brunswick } is acknowledged and claimed as Roman Catholic.  
{ P. E. Island }

There are 1,191 pagan Indians living in the Province of Ontario.

There are 8,136 pupils on the rolls of the various Indian schools.

There are 295 schools; 18 are industrial schools.

Of these 295 schools, 105 are under the control of the Roman Catholic Church.

Of these 295 schools, 89 are under the control of the Episcopal Church.

" " 41 " " Methodist Church.

" " 13 " " Presbyterian Church.

V. Prayer: That our faithful standard-bearers among the Indians may be strong to "possess the land" for Protestantism.

VI. Paper, on some phase of missionary work among the Indians:

Suggested Subjects { 1. "Advantages of Industrial Schools."\*  
2. "Field of Usefulness Open to Physicians."  
3. "Intemperance, Whiskey and Other Evils."  
4. "History of the Crosby Girls' Home."

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\* For No. 1. Articles in the *Outlook* of September, 1888, and October, 1890, will be very helpful. The January *Outlook* of the same year gives facts for No. 2. All data necessary for Nos. 2 and 3 can be found in back numbers of *Outlook*.

## VII. Reading :

1. House-keeping at the Coqualeetza Institute, *Outlook*, January, 1890.
2. Indians I Have Known, "Our Work," No. VII., pages 10, 11, 12.
3. A text, a song and a sermon, Dr. A. E. Bolton, *Christian Guardian*, November 13, 1895.

## VIII. The Watch Tower.

## IX. Hymn. Prayer.

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 "THE BISHOP'S CONVERSION."
 

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"The Bishop's Conversion," by Ellen Blackmar Maxwell. With an Introduction by James M. Thoburn, Missionary Bishop for India and Malaysia. Published by Hunt & Eaton, Methodist Book Concern, New York.

The "Bishop" is a bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church. His conversion (with that of his wife's) is from wrong to right ideas of foreign missionary life and work. They determined to go to India and live there as missionaries, intending to show the missionaries how to live and work. They went—they stayed—they worked—they returned a year later to New York. But, what a year! Let all read this book, from our highest Church officers to Sunday School children. All need to read this drama—all will learn as never before what foreign missionary life and work are. Our Sunday School libraries must have it; our Woman's Auxiliaries, of course, will get it; our ministers, because they are leaders, will bring before their people their beautiful yet tragic picture of missionary life in India. India, China and Japan differ widely, yet as I read these pen pictures of the ups and downs, especially the downs, of foreign missionary life and work, I seemed to be back in Japan living my life there over again. And as I live it over again, seen from this vantage point, I realize as never before the importance, the magnitude, the moral grandeur of foreign missionary work.

Bishop Thoburn, in the introduction, says: "It has been a cause of regret to missionaries in the foreign field that people at home seemed so prone to form incorrect ideas both of their method of work and style of living. The root of the difficulty is found in the fact that most persons

measure all conditions of life by the same standard, without making allowance for the thousand points of difference which must prevail between people and countries so radically different as those found in the Oriental and Occidental worlds. To this must be added the fact that for two generations past a false idea of missionary character and missionary work has been devoutly cherished, both in England and America. The missionary is very much like other good men. His work is a very practical work, and all romantic ideals or exaggerated ideas of angelic perfection must be thrown to the winds. Instead of discussing in an abstract manner the various phases of her subject, she has wisely chosen to bring it in a most practical way before her readers by introducing scenes from actual life, which illustrate the most important phases of missionary life as she has seen it. . . . Detached statements of fact can never be made to impress the average mind so vividly or forcibly as pictures drawn from actual life, and especially when drawn by one present at the scene of action."

The converted "Bishop," in his first speech after his arrival at home, prophet-like, thus addresses the Church :

"There is," he said, "a policy or plan in the minds of the far-seeing ones that is widespread and comprehensive. They understand the tremendous responsibility we have as a Church, and that it is an absolute command 'to go into all the world.' We, as a Church, dare not shrink from the responsibility of taking India for Christ. It is ready to be taken as soon as the Church understands her obligation and ceases to regard it as a matter of inclination, or as a side issue, or something that depends on impulse. She must call on those that have trumpets, at their peril, to give no uncertain sound, for the time has passed when she can say 'I will, or I will not, plant a mission in that land.' She has planted, and Apollos has watered, and now that the increase is so great that she finds trouble in caring for it she must not falter and quibble about trifles."

Note.—This book may be borrowed from the library at Room 20, for two cents per day and return postage—the time to be reckoned from date of issue to date of mailing for return, inclusive. Three days will be allowed on books going to Provinces other than Ontario and Quebec. Anyone desiring to purchase the book may order it from Room 20 for \$1.50.

## NOTICES TO AUXILIARIES AND MISSION BANDS.

PLEASE NOTE THIS CHANGE.—All subscription orders for *Palm Branch* with the money must be sent to the Editor, Miss S. E. Smith, 282 Princess Street, St. John, N.B. *Palm Branch*—single copies, 15 cents; ten copies to one address, \$1.00.

W. M. S. Books for officers' use sold separately as follows: Treasurer's Book, 60 cents; Recording Secretary's Book, 60 cents; Corresponding Secretary's Book, 30 cents. The set, \$1.25.

Will friends who order literature from Room 20 kindly remember *not* to send three-cent stamps, if larger or smaller denominations can be procured! Remit by money order or bills when possible.

There are still a few Calendars (containing photo-engravings of our missionaries) for sale at Room 20. Price 20 cents each; \$1.80 per dozen.

Life-membership fees are to be sent with the quarterly returns to the Treasurer of the Branch in which the member lives.

All communications regarding Supply Committee work should be addressed to Mrs. Wm. Briggs, 21 Grenville Street, Toronto, Ont.

Letters asking for information about "Special Objects," such as the support of a Bible-woman, children in our schools, etc., may be addressed to Mrs. E. S. Strachan, 163 Hughson Street North, Hamilton, Ont.

Letters concerning the organization of Auxiliaries and Mission Bands should be addressed to the Corresponding Secretary of the Branch in which the work is situated. If there is no branch, write to Mrs. E. S. Strachan, 163 Hughson Street North, Hamilton, Ont. For Corresponding Secretaries' addresses see Annual Report.

Maps of China, Japan and British Columbia, painted on cotton, about thirty-six inches square, may be rented from Room 20 for 25 cents each, the Literature Committee paying the postage one way. The map is to be carefully enclosed in paper and returned the day after it is used.

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*, per year, 80 cents (subscriptions to this periodical may begin at any time during the year, but must continue till December and then end); *African News*, per year, 75 cents; *Message and Deaconess World*, per year, 50 cents; *Heathen Woman's Friend*, per year, 50 cents; *The Double Cross and Medical Missionary Record*, per year, \$1.00—to missionaries and student volunteers, 50 cents per year.

Back numbers of these periodicals not furnished by Room 20 unless specially announced.

### Free Leaflets.

Constitution for Auxiliary and Mission Band.

Duties of Auxiliary Officers.

Methods of Work and Suggestions for Mission Circles.

Origin and Work of W. M. S., Methodist Church, Canada.

An Appeal to the Women of the Methodist Church.

Scattered Helpers (Leaflets and Cards).

*Orders for free leaflets should be accompanied by two cents for postage and wrapping.*

Pasteboard Mite-Boxes, free—postage and wrapping, 3 cents each.

Folding Mite-Boxes, free—postage and wrapping, 3 cents a dozen.

Mite-Boxes and Leaflets will be supplied to Epworth Leagues on the same terms as to the W. M. S.

Life-Membership Certificates for Mission Bands free, postage and wrapping 3c. each, 6 for 12c.

Auxiliary Life-Membership Certificates, plain, 25c.

Auxiliary Life-Membership Certificates, illustrated, \$1.

## LEAFLETS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE.

	Each	Per doz.
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A Talk on Mite-Boxes .....	.02	.20
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A World of Gratitude .....	.02	.20
China. By Dr. J. T. Gracey .....	.15	
Christmas Selections, No. 3 .....	.20	
Christmas Treasury, No. 5 .....	.15	
Cycle of Prayer .....	.03	.30
Easter Obligation .. . . . .40 cents per hundred	.01	.05
Ezra and Me and the Boards .....	.02	.20
Fuel for Missionary Fires.....	.55	
Gist. By Miss L. R. Gracey.....	.60	
Gloria in Excelsis. Christmas Cantata .....	.10	1.00
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Helping Together with Prayer .....	.01	.08
How to Manage a Missionary Society .....	.02	.20
How Much do I Owe .....	.01	.08
How to Plead for Missions .....	.01	.12
India. By Dr. J. T. Gracey.....	.35	
Light Out of Darkness .. . . . .50c. per hundred	.01	.10
Mei-Mei, Your Forgotten Sister..... 40c. per hundred	.01	.10
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Missionary Songs, by E. Lorenz, words and music.....	.25	
Mrs. Pickett's Missionary Box.....75c. per hundred	.01	.10
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Please enclose 2 cents additional for postage and wrapping.

For the above, Address

MISS ANNIE L. OGDEN,

Room 20, WESLEY BUILDINGS, RICHMOND ST. WEST, TORONTO, ONT.

Open every Wednesday morning, from 11 to 1 o'clock.