

THIS IS THE VICTORY



EVEN OUR FAITH."

Monthly Letter.

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SUBJECT FOR PRAYER—APRIL.

French-Canadian Missions and Papal Countries.—Rom. xii. 21

FRENCH WORK.

Report of East End Mission School.

Our average attendance for the month of December was twenty-nine pupils—six English, twelve French Protestants, and eleven Romanists; all learn Scripture texts. On Christmas Eve our pupils were served tea in the class-room, after which we had our Christmas-tree. The church was crowded, a number being Romanists, who appeared interested and delighted with our little folks. They did remarkably well and were very happy with their gifts from Santa Claus.

During the month we organized a Mothers' Meeting, and have met twice. The attendance was small, as many of the mothers have to work out, while others have small children and no help. We have had three Romanists in attendance;

two of these have taken our work (sewing) to their homes to finish.

Some of our pupils are very destitute ; all the help we can get is very thankfully received.

I am intensely encouraged in visiting the families of Romanists, and have been successful in placing a good number of tracts and Sunday-school papers.

The work of French evangelization is worthy of all commendation.

January, 1895.—The evangelistic work in connection with our Sunday Schools continues to give encouragement. Pupils who had left a few months ago, to attend convents, returned with the simple story : “ We could not learn anything but prayers ; we have forgotten most of our tables and everything we tried to learn while with you.” Their parents have decided to leave them with us for instruction, religious and moral. All our pupils learn our catechism and Scripture texts. Attendance, twenty four ; ten Romanists. We had a decrease in our numbers owing to sickness. Three new pupils have been added.

I have visited twenty-six families and given many tracts and papers, which have been thankfully received. A sick woman asked for more literature, and in a bashful way said : “ How I would like to hear you sing some of those sweet hymns my little son has learned at your school ! ”

In the homes of my pupils there is poverty and misery, owing to want of employment—no work for the fathers and brothers—sometimes one dollar a week being all the father’s earnings ; but God, who hath compassion on the poor, careth for them and will provide.

Let the prayer of every woman be for the propagation of the Gospel among our fellow-countrymen.

West End Mission School.

The work continues with an encouraging degree of success. Under the able management of Miss Jackson the scholars are making progress in their studies, and are receiving valuable instruction in Bible truths, as well as memorizing portions of Scripture. The average attendance for November, 1894, was

fifty-six, for December, sixty, and for January, 1895, sixty-three. During the past two years pupils have remained in the school for a longer time with much more satisfactory results.

The ladies of Dominion Square Church furnished a Christmas-tree laden with gifts for the children, with which they were delighted. Parcels of clothing were received from other friends, and our Bible-woman writes: "There never was a time when it was more needed, as there is much poverty, the result of so many men being out of employment."

Several improvements have been made in the school building. The large room was divided so that the kindergarten department is separated from the general school and more efficient work can be done.

Our Bible-woman, Miss Anderson, teaches the younger children, from nine to twelve; they take great interest in their work. Oral instruction is given from the Bible and catechism, which their young minds readily receive and retain. Miss Anderson devotes her afternoons to visiting, making about one hundred visits a month. Religious papers and copies of the Scripture are distributed wherever they will be received, and many Roman Catholics take great interest in reading them. The fact that many of our former pupils are attending Protestant churches and some of them members of the church proves that the Master has owned and blessed the work of His servants, and that joyous reaping surely follows faithful seed-sowing.

INSTITUT METHODISTE FRANCAIS.

MONTREAL, *March 11th, 1895.*

A very busy and satisfactory session is rapidly drawing to a close. More thorough work could be done were the school term a longer one. Parents of pupils from the country are already withdrawing their children for the sugar-making and other farm-work. It seems advisable to close in April, as few boys would be left after May 1st. We have had eighty-seven pupils since last October (forty boys and forty-seven girls), of whom twenty-eight come from Roman Cath.

olic families. Several of these profess to have become Protestants during the winter, but past experience warns us not to be too sanguine of their sincerity until they have been subjected to the test of home-influence. Some are very greatly changed since coming to us, and show clearly by their daily lives how much they are in earnest. One of them, a young man from below Quebec, came, feeling dissatisfied with his own Church, and yet very resentful of criticism in the lectures on controversial points. He was, however, very soon convinced of the errors of the Church of Rome; made a public confession of his faith in Christ alone, and has since been of the greatest assistance in every department of our work, especially relieving Madame Dalpé by superintending the home-work among the boys.

Our Roman Catholic students are required to attend all the Sunday and week-night services, and though some remain outwardly unimpressed, we feel that the seed sown cannot be lost.

We are specially thankful for the remarkably good health of the pupils, which we attribute partly to the unusual amount of outdoor exercise taken, owing to the attraction of a little skating-rink in our own grounds.

A new feature in our domestic department this session has been cooking lessons, which the Committee on Domestic Management requested us to arrange for the girls. These lessons are given by our own cook, and are planned, as far as possible, not to interfere with the regular school work.

In the boys' wing there is a very marked improvement as to tidiness and general order, they having had with them, for the first time, a lady—Madame Dalpé—who, with her husband, came to us in October, and who, owing to their intimate knowledge of the French mission work and long experience in teaching, have proved invaluable helpers.

A very happy spirit of unity and good-fellowship pervades the entire school. The greater part of the students are Christians, and of the others many are "almost persuaded." We would like to ask that these be remembered during the month of special prayer for our work, as we are very anxious that none should leave us undecided.

I. G. MASTEN.

JAPAN.

Tokyo Evangelistic Work.

Opening of another Sunday School - Request for Prayer

(Continued from last month.)

In this department of the work Miss L. Hart's absence has been especially felt. At the Annual Council meeting the charge for the year was given to Mrs. Large, whose hands were already more than full. She has done what she could, but to Miss Y. Yoshida has fallen the burden of carrying out the plans.

At the close of June, Nagano san, who had worked in Shitaya district as Bible woman, resigned; there was no one to fill her place until September, when Sakazaki san, who had been engaged in Komagomi district, was removed to Shitaya. At the request of the pastor, Mrs. Inomata and Mrs. Hayashi changed work in September, the former taking Kakigara-cho, and the latter, Kobiki-cho (both belonging to the same pastoral charge). In October, Sakazaki san was dropped, an action that met with the approval of the whole band of Japanese workers. Mrs. Kaneda, who had worked in Ushigomi district, resigned, because she felt she was not doing satisfactory work; as this agreed with the opinion of the pastor, her resignation was accepted.

In order to meet the needs of the work as far as possible the appointments from the new year are as follows: Mrs. Sabashi and Miss Assai to Azabu district; Mrs. Inomata to Ushigomi; Mrs. Hayashi to Kobiki and Kakigara-cho; Miss Kubo to Negishi. Miss Naito, who has worked for over four years in Kofu, requested a change of appointment for a time, feeling she would gain in experience thereby, so, as Miss Preston approved, she was appointed to Shitaya. With her is associated Miss Kimura, as teacher in the Charity school.

Miss Cartmell's removal to Kofu to replace Miss Alexander, whose illness necessitated her coming to Tokyo to remain for a time, left her work to be provided for. Miss Ito, for six years matron in our Azabu school, has been appointed to fill her place. Miss Yoshida still keeping Miss L. Hart's work

and her own Sunday-evening meetings with the mothers in the King's Daughters' school in Azabu.

Two thousand five hundred and six homes have been visited ; 3,232 people talked with ; of these, 1,230 were non-Christians, and 160 heard the Gospel for the first time. Six have requested baptism. Ninety-six meetings have been held, with an average attendance of 6.5 women and 8.4 children. This includes Miss Yoshida's Sunday-evening meetings for the mothers, in the King's Daughters' school, at which the attendance has ranged from six women and twenty-nine children to seventeen women and thirty-five children.

Since our last report another Sunday School has been opened in the home of an old woman reached by our Azabu workers. Having heard the good news herself she gladly offered her house as a gathering place for the children. One hundred and sixty-eight children and three mothers were present at our Christmas entertainment. A programme had been prepared, and was carried out successfully. On the 28th an entertainment was given to the poor, among whom we have worked during the year—many of them the parents of our Sunday School children. One hundred and twenty were present. Our pastor, Mr. Takagi, addressed them, telling the story of Christmas in language within their comprehension, and though there was the feast to come after, they listened with eager faces all through the half hour. The feast was simple—only a bowl of hot soup, a ball of rice and a few pickles ; but there were among those who partook of it, many that had not eaten such a satisfying meal in months.

Orphanage.—There are still eleven in the Home. Just at present the committee in charge has two cases under consideration. It is surprising to see the change that one short year has made in the appearance and behavior of the children. The matron is doing faithful work ; the children all seem very fond of her. The teacher in the King's Daughters' school reports the Orphanage children as the best in her class. The whole expenditure of Mission Funds since the first of last September is but yen 66 (less than \$35 gold). The eldest girl has been appointed to assist the matron in the cares of the house, especially with the little ones, and thus

her mother is relieved of the burden of paying for her support out of her own slender earnings of yen 3 a month. It has been very hard to find steady, industrial work for the children, owing to the match trade having been for a time stopped. However, the committee has been watchful, and procured work wherever it was to be had. In this there has been somewhat of a variety: Matchbox-making, toy-making, sewing mop-cloths, ripping dresses preparatory to washing, loosening out tangled thread and making paper-bags for shop use; and yet, with all these, less than 3 yen has been earned. We ask your prayers for these little folks that, rooted and grounded in the Word of Life, they may be made good reapers in the Master's harvest field in the days to come.

SUPPLY COMMITTEE WORK.

Let me congratulate your Society on the benevolent work of the Supply Committee. "Supply"—surely the name is very significant. How much we, who are in the midst of the needy ones, understand what it means!

It is amazing what can be done by united effort. Just to think of over \$3,000 worth of comforts, sent by your committee to the Lord's poor children. We have a number of very needy ones here, who are depending upon us to help them this winter. Notwithstanding we have some things on hand, we have not one quarter enough. My object is to make our people's homes more comfortable, for they are desolate indeed. You would be surprised at the changed appearance brought about by a quilt or a piece of carpet, a few knives or spoons, a picture or any ornament that helps to civilize. Our hearts and the hearts of our people overflow with gratitude to the ladies of the Supply Committee.

We have eleven Indian local preachers, who would never have a decent coat or clothing of any kind if we could not procure them for them. Our great trouble is to get them large enough, as they are men who will measure as much as forty-four inches round the chest, and our women are large also. But in this, as in every other matter, we pray that our Father may help us, and send the needed supplies.

Suggested Programme for May Meeting.

- I. Opening exercises: "We cannot give light without burning. It costs to be good and to do good."—
Westminster Preacher.
- II. Regular Business.
- III. Hymn.
- IV. Subject for Prayer for the month. Work among the Chinese. (Isa. xlix. 12.)
 - (a) Let a member name our missionaries among the Chinese.
 - (b) Another, the different departments of work.
- V. Prayer for China. That the present struggle may be made of God a preparation for Gospel conquest.
- VI. The Watch-tower.
- VII. Reading: "Chinese Light-Bearers." *
- VIII. Topic for an Original Paper: "Our Opportunity and Responsibility in China." †
- IX. Hymn. Prayer.

* See the *Guardian*, April 24th, the *Wesleyan* of same week, and the *Outlook* for April. As all the Auxiliaries have access to at least one of these papers, they will not be sent to those who have deposited a dollar for Programme Literature unless specially ordered.

† The news of the day from China—both secular and religious—will furnish data for this paper.

HOME READINGS.

Chinese Ancestral Worship,	-	<i>Miss. Rev.</i> , Feb., '94, p. 81.
Riots and Orphanages in,	-	<i>Miss. Rev.</i> , Feb., '94, p. 117.
China and the Chinese,	-	<i>Miss. Rev.</i> , Feb., '94, p. 133.
Christian Work amongst the Higher Classes,	- - -	<i>Miss. Rev.</i> , May, '94, p. 371.
Unoccupied Fields in,	- -	<i>Miss. Rev.</i> , July, '94, p. 502.
Methodist Educational Institu- tions in,	- - -	<i>Miss. Rev.</i> , July, '94, p. 523.
Peking and the Great Wall,	-	<i>Miss. Rev.</i> , July, '94, p. 527.
Story of Ting-Ting-Ching,	-	<i>Miss. Rev.</i> , April, '91, p. 257.
" " "	-	<i>Miss. Rev.</i> , Sept., '94, p. 698.
Chinese Customs,	- - -	<i>Miss. Rev.</i> , Jan., '94, p. 78.
" " - - -	-	<i>Miss. Rev.</i> , July, '94, p. 557.
" " - - -	-	<i>Miss. Rev.</i> , Aug., '94, p. 638.

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HAMILTON CONFERENCE.

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Notices to Auxiliaries and Mission Bands.

The Literature Committee is prepared to receive deposits of \$1 for the literature to be used in connection with the suggested programme, and will send the necessary leaflets 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 please notice that the programme does not call for a leaflet *every* month. When it does, the leaflet will be mailed within a few days of the time the MONTHLY LETTER is sent. If not received within ten days after the receipt of the MONTHLY LETTER, kindly notify Room 20, that the loss may be made good.

Woman's Missionary Society Books for officers' use, sold separately as follows. Treasurer's book, 60c.; Recording Secretary's book, 60c.; Corresponding Secretary's book, 30c. The set, \$1.25.

Maps of China, Japan and British Columbia, painted on cotton, about thirty-six inches square, may be rented from Room 20 for twenty-five 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; *African News*, per year, 75 cents; *Message and Deaconess World*, per year, 50 cents; *Heathen Woman's Friend*, per year, 50 cents; *Gospel In All Lands*, 9 months, 60 cents (subscriptions to this periodical may begin at any time during the year, but must continue till December, and then end); *Palm Branch*, in clubs of ten subscriptions, 10 cents per copy; single subscriptions, 15 cents.

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x *Match for the Mission*