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"The World



for Christ."

# Monthly Letter Leaflet

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

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VOL. X.

TORONTO, APRIL, 1894.

No. 12.

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## Subjects for Prayer.

APRIL.—Central India—The Medical and Zenana work. For our Boarding and Day Schools, Assistant Teachers and Bible Women.

"For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise."—Heb. x. 36.

"A little one shall become a thousand, and a small one a strong nation. I the Lord will hasten it in his time."—Isa. lx. 22.

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## List of Missionaries in Central India.

CITY OF INDORE.—Rev. J. Wilkie, Mrs. Wilkie, Dr. Marion Oliver (on furlough), Dr. Margaret O'Hara, Dr. Agnes Turnbull. Miss J. V. Sinclair, Miss Janet White, Miss May Dougan, Miss

Jessie Grier. MHOW.—Rev. Norman H. Russell, Mrs. Russell, Rev. Frank Russell, Dr. W. Grant Fraser, Miss J. Ross, Miss Calder. NEEUUCH.—Rev. W. J. Jamieson, Mrs. Jamieson, Dr. Maggie McKellar, Miss Jennie Duncau, Miss Jamieson. RUT-LAM.—Rev. J. F. Campbell, Mrs. Campbell, Rev. W. A. Wilson, Mrs. Wilson. UJJAIN.—Rev. J. Buchanan, M.D., Mrs. Buchanan.

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## HOME DEPARTMENT.

### Letter Leaflet.

The LETTER LEAFLET year ends with this number. All orders for the May issue must be in the hands of the Secretary of Publications not later than April 12.

Will Presbyterial Secretaries please see that the printed forms sent them by Mrs. Telfer are filled in and forwarded by the above date?

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### Annual Meeting.

The Eighteenth Annual Meeting of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Presbyterian Church in Canada (Western Division) will be held in Bank Street Church, Ottawa, on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, April 17, 18 and 19, 1894. On Tuesday afternoon at 3 o'clock there will be a devotional meeting in the church, at the close of which delegates will be enrolled and billeted. The Nominating Committee will also meet on Tuesday afternoon at the close of the meeting. On Tuesday evening a conference of the Board with Presbyterial Secretaries and Treasurers will be held, beginning at half past seven, at which questions may be asked and subjects of interest to the Society considered. On Wednesday and Thursday the proceedings will be in much the same order as last year.

A cordial invitation is extended to delegates from every part of the Society throughout the Western Division.

In past years considerable difficulty has been caused the Billetting Committee through the names of Delegates not being properly certified to and forwarded in time; the Board has therefore decided to appoint a COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS, the Convener of which is Miss Isabella L. George, 277 Jarvis Street, Toronto, to whom the names of all delegates must be sent by the Secretary of the Society they are to represent, giving also the Presbyterial Society to which the Auxiliary or Band belongs.

The following representatives from each Society, in addition to the thirty-six managers, are entitled to entertainment: From the Presbyterial Society—the President, Secretary, and one delegate; from the Auxiliary—the President or her substitute, and one delegate; from the Mission Band—the President or her substitute.

In accord with Article 8 of General Society Constitution and the decision of last Annual Meeting, these delegates must be members of the General Society to be entitled to vote.

These names must be sent in not later than April 10th, as they have all to be forwarded to the Secretary of the Billetting Committee at Ottawa that entertainment may be provided. Secretaries are also requested to provide their delegates with a copy of their credentials to present at Ottawa.

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### Reduction of Fares.

Every member of the Society who intends to be present at the Annual Meeting, at Ottawa, *whether a delegate or not*, is earnestly requested not to neglect to obtain the railway certificate. Even if the distance to be travelled be only a few miles

it is hoped this will be attended to so that the requisite 300 may be made up to insure a *single fare* for all. Will Presidents kindly remind members of Auxiliaries and Mission Bands of their duty in this matter? The question of railway fare is very important to those going to the meeting from distant points. Will each individual member bear it in mind *for the good of all*?

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## Railway Regulations Regarding Reduced Fares To Annual Meeting.

Delegates and members of the Society attending the Annual Meeting are requested to give special attention to the following points :

1. The railroad companies have agreed to the following terms, viz. : *One way first-class fare for round trip, if 300 or more delegates attend, who, at the railway station, on starting, obtain from the ticket agent a standard certificate of purchase of first-class full fare one way ticket, and on return present the said certificate at the railway station, duly certified and signed by the Home Secretary at the convention. One fare and a third, if the delegates number from 50 to 299, and one fare and two-thirds if less than 50 attend; the return trip to be made by the same route as the going trip.*
2. All delegates, therefore, travelling by rail, even if the distance be short, will, on starting, ask from the agent, *at least ten minutes before the train is due to leave, a "standard" certificate of purchase of ticket. No other form of certificates will be recognized.*
3. *If more than one Company's line is travelled over, an additional certificate should be obtained on purchasing ticket at point of junction. ASK YOUR AGENT FOR A THROUGH TICKET.*

4. "Certificates procured from the agent at starting point more than three days (Sundays not included) prior to commencement of meeting (April 17th), and certificates presented more than three days (Sundays not included) after date of close of meeting (April 19th), will not be honoured for tickets for return trip."
5. "Certificates that bear date of purchase of ticket for going trip after the last day of the meeting will not be honoured for return passage."
6. "Certificates are not transferable, and the signature affixed at the starting point, compared with the signature to receipt for ticket, will enable the ticket agent to detect any attempted transfer."
7. "*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.*"
8. All members of the Society attending the Annual Meeting can secure the reduced railway rates, but only credentialed delegates will be provided with entertainment.

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### Increase.

*Presbyterial Societies ;*

BARRIE . . . . . Penetanguishene Auxiliary.

MAITLAND . . . . . Dungannon, Erskine Auxiliary.

OWEN SOUND . . . . . Latona Auxiliary.

TORONTO . . . . . Toronto, Southside Auxiliary.

“ . . . . . Deer Park, “Hopeful Workers” Mission Band.

WINNIPEG . . . . . Winnipeg, Westminster Church Auxiliary.

OTTAWA . . . . . Hull, Zion Church Auxiliary.

## Life Members added in February and March.

Mrs. Joseph Lynn, Campbellville Auxiliary.

Mrs. James Young, Bank Street Church Auxiliary, Ottawa.

Mrs. W. Robertson, Duff's Church Auxiliary, Puslinch.

Mrs. A. J. McLeod, Regina, N.W.T.

Miss Annie Ethel Dodds, Northern Lights M. B., North Plympton.

Mrs. John Noble, Parkhill Auxiliary.

### CORRECTION.

Mrs. J. S. Hardie, Stanley Street Church, Ayr, instead of Mrs. J. T. Hardie.

## Treasurer's Statement.

### RECEIPTS.

|       |     |  |            |
|-------|-----|--|------------|
| Feb.  | 6.— | Balance in bank.....                                   | \$2,264 00 |
| "     | "   | St. Andrew's Aux., King.....                           | 75 00      |
| "     | 16. | Chatham Pres. Society.....                             | 926 90     |
| "     | 19. | Campbell's Bay Aux.....                                | 26 00      |
| "     | "   | Bequest, late Eliza McBean.....                        | 200 00     |
| "     | 20. | Russell Aux., Ottawa P. S.....                         | 39 80      |
| "     | 22. | Moosomin Aux., N.W.T.....                              | 25 00      |
| "     | "   | Stratford Pres. So.....                                | 1,421 38   |
| "     | 24. | Maple Grove M.B.....                                   | 8 00       |
| "     | 26. | Returned by Dr. Marion Oliver for R.R.<br>Tickets..... | 39 00      |
| "     | 28. | Life M. fee, Duff's Ch. Aux., Puslinch...              | 25 00      |
| "     | "   | Muscowpetung's Aux.....                                | 25 00      |
| "     | "   | Owen Sound Pres. So.....                               | 789 37     |
| March | 3.  | Orangeville Pres. So.....                              | 730 67     |
| "     | "   | Lanark and Renfrew P. S.....                           | 3,620 04   |
| "     | 5.  | Guelph Pres. So.....                                   | 2,140 84   |
| "     | "   | Lethbridge Aux.....                                    | 21 05      |
| "     | 6.  | Peterborough Pres. So.....                             | 1,540 10   |
| "     | "   | Owen Sound additional.....                             | 1 50       |
| "     | 7.  | Paris Pres. So.....                                    | 1,699 89   |
| "     | "   | Mount Pleasant Aux. B.C.....                           | 12 35      |

|          |                                     |             |
|----------|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| March 7. | London Pres. So.....                | \$2,030 71  |
| " "      | Whitby Pres. So.....                | 1,156 24    |
| " 8.     | Y.P.S.C.E. Knox Ch., Stratford..... | 50 40       |
| " "      | Chalmers Ch. Aux., Quebec.....      | 61 88       |
| " "      | Toronto Pres. So.....               | 5,731 57    |
| " "      | Ottawa Pres So.....                 | 923 39      |
| " 9.     | Chatham additional.....             | 4 94        |
|          |                                     | <hr/>       |
|          |                                     | \$25,590 02 |

EXPENDITURE.

|          |  |             |
|----------|--|-------------|
| Feb. 6.  | Corresponding Sec. postage.....                                      | 3 30        |
| " "      | Postage on Life M. certificates and letters<br>relating thereto..... | 2 00        |
| " "      | Furnishings for Miss McIntosh, Okanase.....                          | 48 57       |
| " 14.    | Freight charges on the above.....                                    | 21 86       |
| March 1. | Discount on cheque from Regina.....                                  | 25          |
| " 6.     | Discount on cheque from Cobourg.....                                 | 1 92        |
| " 7.     | Treasurer's postage.....   | 2 53        |
|          | Home Sec. postage on letters.....\$2 65                              |             |
|          | " " reports.....   | 2 89        |
|          |  | <hr/>       |
|          |  | \$85 97     |
| " 13.    | Balance in bank.....   | \$25,504 05 |
|          |  | <hr/>       |
|          |  | \$25,590 02 |

E. MACLENNAN,  
*Treasurer.*

**Mission Band Notes.**

The following extracts are taken from a most interesting letter from Mrs. Byers of Gananoque, telling how she conducts her large Mission Band of boys and girls under fifteen years of age. When they enter the High School, they also enter the senior Mission Band.

Mrs. Byers writes: "In the first place, I would desire to emphasize the importance of a Mission Band leader or president being a consecrated, enthusiastic Christian, full of love for the Saviour and for children, and if possible with a natural gift of



knowing how to talk to children and manage them without ever losing patience. Our officers consist of a President (who must be a member of the General Society), a Secretary, Treasurer, Organist, and Captains. Every boy or girl over twelve years of age securing a class of six younger children becomes a captain, responsible for the conduct of his or her class, and prepared at each meeting, at the time allotted for that purpose, to give a short report stating who were absent at last meeting, and why I find that this plan secures the hearty co-operation of the older boys and girls (who are always most difficult to manage), which is a factor of great importance in work of this kind.

“ We usually occupy about six months in studying one field, and at the end of that time have what we call a ‘missionary concert,’ which is really a sort of review, to which the congregation is invited, and pay ten cents towards the children’s mission fund. I consider such a concert as this both legitimate and profitable. We avoid all theatrical display, and they have been the means of reaching and interesting the parents in a way which nothing else would have accomplished. The children are not allowed to give any offering except what they have earned, or saved by self-denial ; but I consider that in giving these concerts or reviews they have well earned the ten cents admission fee.

“ We teach the mission fields by means of a very simple catechism, which any lady can easily prepare for herself from the admirable papers by Miss Ferrier in the LEAFLET. The answers should be as short, simple and concise as possible. The president prepares for herself a small book on each field, containing both questions and answers, and besides writes out the answers *only* on bright coloured cards for the children. When the time for the catechism arrives, the ‘card committee’ (two of the older members) give out one or more cards to each child, using

discretion to give the *very short* answers to the youngest children, and then they must all pay very close attention to see who has the proper answer to the question asked, stand up and read it aloud, when it is repeated by the whole class. As the questioning goes on, the president uses the map, makes little explanatory remarks, etc., as may be needed. After all the questions are answered, the captain of each class takes up the cards, and the president asks a number of them a second time, to ascertain by the uplifting of the hand how many have paid such close attention as to remember them without aid.

“ We have a complete set of maps, and I cannot understand how any band can do good work without them ; they are part of the *necessary* machinery, I think. By this catechetical method of teaching, it is surprising in how short a time the children will have a clear, intelligent view of the field under study.

“ After the catechism part of the programme is over, a letter from one of the missionaries in the field being studied is read by the president, being simplified or abridged if necessary. A short sketch of some of the manners and customs of the people in the field is then given, generally taken from articles in ‘ Children’s Record,’ or some of the other children’s missionary magazines (‘ Children’s Work for Children ’ is excellent). If these articles are illustrated, the pictures are shown to any who wish to see them at the close of the meeting. Suitable recitations and dialogues are also learned, and one or two given at each meeting.

“ The best of all these things are made note of by the president or secretary, and form part of the programme at the ‘ missionary concert,’ so that very little extra preparation is required for that event.

“ In conducting a juvenile band, *everything* must be so well arranged beforehand that the little people will not have one minute in which to become restless or insubordinate.

“ A programme should always be carefully arranged, and one such as the following I know from experience can *easily* be accomplished in *one hour*: (1) Singing. (2) Prayer. (3) Learning Mission Bible verse (on black-board). (4) Singing. (5) Minutes of last meeting. (6) Captains' reports. (7) Collection (sing while taking up). (8) Catechism (15 minutes). (9) Missionary letter. (10) Recitation by member. (11) Reading or story by president. (12) Prayer. (13) Marching on in order while singing.

“ I think, if possible, children's missionary meetings should be held weekly. They are very apt to forget the right day when it goes longer.

“ I do not find it practicable to carry out the sentence prayers in a *large* gathering of young children. It is more likely to cause irreverence than to have the children all stand with closed eyes and folded hands, and be led by the president in such a simple, direct prayer as *all*, even the youngest, can easily follow. Where the Band is small, the sentence prayers are helpful to all, and in senior Bands are to be highly recommended. The children move and second, and sometimes discuss, resolutions, and make amendments very nicely—part of the training I consider, necessary to make them intelligent church-workers by and by.”

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## FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.

### NORTH-WEST INDIANS.

### Encouragement in the Indian Work at Prince Albert.

FROM MISS BAKER.

*262 Bishop Street, Montreal, Feb. 12, 1894.*

Very many thanks for your kind letters containing such loving words of sympathy and interest in the work, which has been, and is still, so dear to me. And, oh! it does cheer me to

have your assurance that we are ever remembered in your prayers.

At the time I wrote you regarding my being obliged to rest, I also wrote to the Committee in Winnipeg, but they did not see their way clear to appoint one to take my place until the end of September. I could not inform you as to my movements, as up to that time I was in the dark myself, my arrangements depending upon their decision. As soon as I had seen my successor, Miss Anna Cameron, well established in the work, I left, visiting friends on the way here, reaching here about the middle of last December.

Since my arrival, my health has not been at all good. I had an attack of la grippe, which settled in my head and eyes, compelling me to keep very quiet. I am so thankful to say that now I am able to get out, but have to exercise great care. At present I am not able to make any plans for the future, nor can I yet decide as to the time when I can go back to Prince Albert. Health permitting, I will likely do so in May or June.

All letters from Prince Albert bring the cheering news that Miss Cameron is carrying on the work very successfully. She assisted me for three months before I left, and became well acquainted with the work and the Indians. The school is at present, as formerly, made up of children and several young men. The progress of the latter has been all that could be expected, as they cannot attend regularly. Their ages range from 18 to 30 years. Some of them write nicely and are able to keep and make out accounts. Two come to church regularly. The old people we have tried to reach by reading to them, and we think that evidences are being seen of the work of the Holy Spirit moving on the hearts of some of them. A Sabbath school is held in the school-house regularly, conducted by Miss Cameron and Miss McTaggart, and when the amount of opposition, that even the day school net with, is considered, we have reason

to rejoice at the amount of success attending it. We ask your fervent prayers, that it may yet be the means of bringing many of the older ones into the fold of Christ, and be the nucleus of a Christian church among them. As yet many of them have but a very vague idea as to what is to be learned there. Miss McTaggart writes me that on the third Sabbath after the school was organized, one of the women came bringing her knitting, wanting to be taught how to close the heel of her stocking. When told that the Sabbath should be kept holy, they will tell you, "Oh, that is for the white man, not for the Dakota!"

But we never feel discouraged, for we know that "He that is for us is greater than he that is against us," and silently, but surely, a change we can see is being wrought among them.

Miss Cameron, in writing to me about a poor woman whom I left very ill, says: "Poor Liuté tokeca-wi is dead; they came asking for boards to make a coffin. I got one made for her, also made a shroud and a wreath of flowers. My sister and I went to the house, dressed her and saw her laid in her coffin. Her poor husband was so pleased to see her so decently dressed, and oh! Miss Baker, how thankful you would have been to have seen them all stand around and listen so quietly, while I read to them 'Makoce tehan waste;' 'There is a happy land,' etc. You may be sure, my dear Mrs. Harvie, that tears coursed down my cheeks as I read it, for I had become greatly attached to her; she was ill for three months before I left, and she was always so pleased to have me visit her. Anyone who has ever heard the wailing and howling after the death of an Indian, can never forget it, for it is terrible to listen to. Her husband is a good old man, although he has never professed to be a Christian. He was the first one to consent to our starting a school among the band, and, on that account, for a long time suffered a good deal of persecution.

They have no hereditary chief, but he has for years acted as chief.

The greatest obstacle to our work is that the people are so far away and so scattered. We are in hopes that the Government will soon give them a portion of land, so that they could be brought together, and the work more efficiently carried on by means of more suitable buildings. They would also take more interest in improving their homes if they owned a small piece of ground and cultivated it.

If possible, I hope to visit Toronto before returning to Prince Albert; any way, I look forward to the great pleasure of attending your Annual Meeting, which I know and feel will be a season of refreshing.

Miss Cameron may possibly not have written to you yet; I know how every moment is occupied, especially when the days are so short and the weather so severe. She gave the children a Christmas tree, which was much prized by old and young. Kindest regards to the ladies.

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### New Pupils Received.

FROM MISS LAIDLAW.

*Portage la Prairie Mission School, Feb. 20, 1894.*

Many times since Christmas have I thought of answering your letter and telling you all about how we spent the time, but there has been a good deal of sickness among our children and those at the tepees, that little time is found to do anything but the ordinary work. Last week four of them were in bed, Jessie having a bad attack of pneumonia and bronchitis, but we are very glad to say she is improving and we will not need to sit up at night with her now.

The usual entertainment and dinner was given and everything passed off nicely. Friends were very kind and liberal in

sending donations. We wish to thank friends in Sarnia, Ridgeway and Chatham, through the LEAFLET, for especial remembrance.

During the last month we got two new pupils, one a boy of about four years old, the other a little fellow of eighteen months, whose mother went away and left. The father gave him to us a few Sundays ago. He did not seem to know what it was to be petted and would cry if we looked at him or spoke to him, but in a few days that wore away and he is now as happy as any child could be, and the pet of the household.

Everything is going on nicely at the school ; none of the children have been home this winter. Louisa and Katie are going out to service in another month, to families in town. Louisa leads the singing in the infant class in the Sunday School. I need not write more fully of our work, as you know it all so well.

We are glad the winter is passing away and long for the time when the nineteen pairs of feet will be able to run on the prairie.

There are many old and feeble ones at the tepees who are not standing the winter very well ; we are doing all we can for them, but they give no signs of belief in Christ ; it is hard, very hard to talk to them.

We know we are remembered with our work in prayer by the ladies of the Board, and are strengthened by the knowledge. We grow weary in the work at times, but never of it. Miss Fraser joins me in sending kind regards to the ladies of the Board.

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## The Opening of a New Mission.

FROM MRS. WRIGHT.

*Rolling River Mission, Minnedosa, Feb. 12, 1894.*

You will have noticed by the February "Record" that a new Indian Mission has been started on the Rolling River Reserve,

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and that Mr. Wright and I have been chosen to take charge of the work.

We have been here for over two weeks now, and are busy getting acquainted with the Indians. We have not had time to unpack our boxes or get our house in order yet, we have so many Indian callers. We had seventeen visitors to-day. When half a dozen of them get crowded into our little kitchen and start smoking their kine ka-inck, we are almost forced to go outside for a breath of fresh air. Poor little baby feels it more than any of us. The Indian women have taken a great fancy to him, and whenever they get a chance, tuck him under their dirty old blankets. I try to keep him out of their sight as much as possible, but the house is so small that this cannot always be managed.

The Indians are very poor and miserable. We were out to visit some of them last week, and I saw more misery among them in one day than I saw all the time I was at the Crowstand. Some of the poor things have hardly enough on to cover their shivering bodies. One poor old woman came a long way for help to-day; she was dressed in an old print dress and part of a shawl. She fairly hugged the stove when she came in and could not talk to us until she had taken two cups of hot tea.

We expect the Interpreter here in a couple of weeks. Then he and Mr. Wright will have services on the Reserve. By the amount of offerings hanging out for the Spirits, we think that it will be very hard to get the Indians to listen to the Gospel, but we have only to wait, and pray that their hearts may be opened to receive the blessed truths. Please remember us and our band of Indians in your prayers.

894.  
a new  
reserve,



SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.  
Acknowledgments of Clothing.

FROM REV. C. W. WHYTE.

*Kamsack, Feb. 9, 1894.*

It was only last week that we got the last of our stuff in from Yorkton station. It was the Kingston consignment. It may appear curious that I should have left it out there so long, but I did it just because I thought it best. If it had been here we would have been bothered with people coming after it, and it would probably have disappeared long ago, and some who need help toward the middle and end of the winter would be left without.

As I said in my last letter the supply sent us this year has been most liberal. The Kingston people sent us a splendid lot of quilts, and the dresses for the old women were just the thing. I have distributed almost all of them among the poorest of the widows. How pleased they were! It would have done you good to see how thankful they were. Two old women who were nearly blind seemed to take great pleasure out of handling these nice warm clothes.

We have always made it a rule to have the people pay for the clothing, if possible, in some way or other. They bring wood, and wash, and scrub, and tan hides, and get out rails, and make moccasins, and sew up patch-work quilts—in fact, we take anything at all that can be used about the mission for these clothes. This you can easily see gives us a great deal of trouble, but it is a great advantage to many of the Indians to be able to get them here. Some of the lazy ones think they should get them for nothing, and, in fact, sometimes tell us that these clothes are sent up for the Indians, and that we have no right to sell them. And in one or two cases children have been taken away

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from the school because we refused to agree to the demands of their parents. But, of course, we need not wonder at that for the same kind of thing is often noticed among white people.

We have much, however, to be thankful for ; the attendance at services this winter has been very good and much interest has been shown. The number of children in school is greater than ever before since the exodus to Regina. Their health during the present winter has been excellent, much better than last winter. Their progress has also been good this winter. We had an examination lately in all the work of the school—cooking, sewing, etc., school work and all. Some of them did very well and showed that they were able to put into practice what they had learned. We expect the examination, which I intend to conduct periodically, to be quite a stimulus in the regular daily work.

Feb. 16th.—My last mail brought me your note with copy of shipping bill of clothing from Ormstown Auxiliary. We shall likely be able to get their parcel in some day next week. It was very thoughtful of the Ormstown people to send us out a bundle of clothing. How very pleasant it is to see that we are being remembered in all corners.

Thank you for your kind wishes regarding the weather. The fact is that up here the winter could hardly be called severe. It was not nearly so bad as last winter. Our buildings have both been very comfortable. You may not know that we are outside of the blizzard belt, and while the thermometer falls, sometimes down to sixty or seventy below zero, we have but little wind, and these low temperatures are not nearly so terrible as they sound to Ontario ears.

The health of both staff and children has been good. I see that Mr. McKay, of Round Lake, remarks upon the absence of scrofula this winter, and we have had exactly the same experi-

ence. Last winter some of our children suffered very much from these sores and very few were free from them altogether. This winter we have only one case and that is a mild one.

FROM MRS. WRIGHT.

*Rolling River Mission, Minnedosa, Feb. 12, 1894.*

We received several bundles of clothes from different parts of Manitoba, but not nearly enough to satisfy the demands that are daily made.

Do you think we can get any help from Mission Societies in the east? We need blankets or bairts and something to make jackets for the women more than anything else. A number of basques were sent in the bundles, but they are useless for the Indian women. We also need needles, thread, yarn and print, for I would like to teach them to sew and knit.

If the school is opened next summer we will need clothing for the boys and girls to help coax them in.

FROM MISS BAKER.

*262 Bishop Street, Montreal, Feb. 12, 1894.*

Sometime after I left Prince Albert the clothing was received, and I can assure you I do feel so grateful to the Maitland Presbyterian Society for such a generous and well-assorted supply as I hear was sent, everything was so good.

The pants for the boys were such a treasure; of quilts also there was an abundant quantity, and I am so glad that the last days of the poor old woman, of whom I have spoken, were made comfortable out of the good things sent.

Words cannot be found to express thanks. I can only say as I have done before, God bless and reward all who labour in the W. F. M. S. The schools in the North-West could not go on without their support.

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## Corrections.

On page 303, line 13, March LEAFLET, read "Howick" for "Howels"; also "stove" for "stool," in last sentence of Mr. Lewis' letter.

## MISSION STUDIES.

BY MISS FERRIER, CALEDONIA.

(*Seventh Paper.*)

### THE COUVA DISTRICT.

I have in a former paper spoken of the cause of this district being chosen as the second centre for mission work, and of the Rev. T. Christie's settlement there in 1874.

At that time, Couva was rather inaccessible, there being neither railway nor good roads in the district, and in the rainy season it was difficult to reach the different estates even on horseback. It was also very unhealthy, much of the land being low and undrained. It is now greatly improved in these respects, more land being under cultivation, and a railway runs through the district connecting it with Port of Spain and San Fernando.

Mr. Christie got as his first assistant, Balaram, already mentioned as one of the first converts. Together they visited the different estates and villages at least once a fortnight, holding evangelistic services, visiting the sick and speaking to the people privately, as opportunity offered, without which, Mr. Christie felt preaching would not have much effect, and as it was his opinion that the work could best be done by men of their own race, he employed a large portion of his time in training young men so as to fit them for being Catechists, and the first suggestion in regard to a mission college was made by him.

The first church was opened in 1878. It was situated in the centre of the district near one of the largest estates, with as

many as a thousand coolies within a mile of it ; a hundred and seventy-five of these attended the opening services, and appeared much interested. Divine service, a Bible class and Sabbath school were held in it each Lord's day, and this had a good effect upon the progress of the work, which had hitherto gone on so quietly that outsiders had little idea of how much was being done. At that time there were about two hundred and forty children attending schools, and nine young men receiving higher instruction.

That year, Balaram having heard with much interest of the then newly established mission in Indore, his native state, returned to India, and has ever since been employed as a Catechist in our work there.

Mr. Christie, after nine years of earnest labour, was compelled, owing to the failing health both of himself and his wife, to leave Trinidad. He died shortly after, and his wife and child did not long survive him. They rest from their labours, but the work to which they gave their lives goes on.

Mr. Grant and Lal Bihari kept up all the religious services until the arrival, in 1884, of the Rev. J. K. Wright, who laboured with much success in the district for four years, when the state of Mrs. Wright's health made it necessary for him also to resign. The other missionaries again took charge, aided by a student from Nova Scotia, until, at the close of 1889, a new missionary, the Rev. F. J. Coffin, was sent out. During the two years he was in charge the number of schools and Catechists employed was increased, and all departments of the work were in a satisfactory condition. When the mission college was opened, Mr. Coffin was transferred to San Fernando, and his place in Couva taken by the Rev. A. Thompson, the missionary now in charge. Sabbath services are regularly held at eleven different stations, and occasionally in several other places. There are eleven Catechists

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employed ; eighty-eight members in full communion, and seven hundred children attending schools.

Miss M. Archibald, the first missionary teacher in the Couva school, died suddenly, after having been only a short time on the field, in 1887. She had been pursuing her work with great ability and diligence, and her so early removal from a position of so much usefulness is one of the mysterious dealings of God's providence of which we can only say that what we know not now, we shall know hereafter. Her place was for some time vacant, but is now filled by Miss Fisher, who went out in 1890, and has proved an efficient teacher and earnest missionary worker. Two bright, intelligent heathen boys attending her school are so anxious to learn that, though they have to work hard to support their mother and little brothers, they manage, by beginning the day's task very early, to get to school three hours a day, going back to the fields again in the afternoon.

It is very hard to keep the heathen girls at school long enough to learn to read, the parents thinking it useless for them to do so ; and not much has yet been done in the district in the way of special work for women, but some of the female converts are doing what they can to instruct their heathen neighbours. One, having no time to attend school, learned from her fellow workers in the cane fields to read Hindi, and then began to study the Bible, with which she is now so well acquainted, that she is quite capable of assisting her husband, who is one of the Catechists. Another Christian woman, who makes her living hoeing in the fields for very small wages, is always at her place in the house of God, and never fails to bring a weekly offering to help to support the mission. Such proofs of success are cheering to the workers, who will, we trust, yet see an abundant harvest resulting from God's blessing on their labours.

## Index to Volume X.

|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| Annual Meeting .....   | 5, 254, 282, 310 |
| A Package of Leaflets.....   | 4                |
| Addresses of Missionaries and Directions for Shipping<br>Goods ..... | 59               |
| Annand, Mrs., An Enjoyable Furlough.....                             | 76               |
| Baker, Miss, Slow but Steady Progress .....                          | 72               |
| “ “ Encouragement in the Indian Work or Prince<br>Albert.....        | 318              |
| “ “ Acknowledgment of Clothing.....                                  | 326              |
| Blackadder, Miss, Extracts from Letters.....                         | 118              |
| Buchanan, Mrs., New Mission Bungalow.....                            | 38               |
| Bureau of Exchange.....  | 58               |
| Campbell, Mrs. J. F., High Caste Women Interested.....               | 207              |
| Cameron, Miss Annie, Acknowledgment of Goods.....                    | 299              |
| Duties of Officers of Auxiliaries and Mission Bands. . . .           | 21               |
| Duncan, Miss, Children's Work full of Encouragement....              | 146              |
| Dougan, Miss, Settling Down to Work. . . . .                         | 261              |
| “ “ First Impressions.....   | 292              |
| Expenditures for 1892-93 .....                                       | 175              |
| Estimates for 1893-94.....   | 178              |
| Flett, Rev. Geo., Acknowledgment of Clothing... ..                   | 245              |
| Fraser, Miss, Acknowledgment of Clothing.....                        | 219              |
| “ “ Helpfulness of the Girls.....                                    | 262              |
| Goforth, Mrs., A Father and Son Baptized .....                       | 34               |
| “ “ Encouragement in the Work .....                                  | 121              |
| “ “ Sad Death of Aged Woman.....                                     | 149              |
| Graham, Dr. Lou, Chinese Women's Bible Class.....                    | 228              |
| Grier, Miss Jessie, Preparing to Sail.....                           | 207              |
| “ “ News from the Travellers.....                                    | 232              |
| “ “ A Quiet Wedding at Bombay.....                                   | 256              |
| High-Class Korean Women.....   | 88               |
| Helping-Hand Chart.....  | 59               |

|   |   |          |
|---|---|----------|
| Increase.....   | 2, 30, 59, 88, 114, 142, 173, 199, 227, 254, 286, | 313      |
| Indore College.....   |   | 36       |
| Jamieson, Miss, School Work Among the Chamars.....                |   | 184      |
| Johnston, Miss B. J.....  |   | 105      |
| “ “ Alone in the Field .....                                      |   | 153      |
| “ “ Growth and Encouragement.....                                 |   | 211      |
| Letter Leaflet Notices.....                                       |   | 232, 310 |
| Lewis, Rev. A. W., From Halifax to Mistawasis... ..               |   | 45       |
| “ “ Acknowledgments of Clothing..                                 | 48, 242,  | 301      |
| “ “ Disposal of the Clothing.....                                 |   | 160      |
| Laidlaw, Miss, A Hopeful Beginning .....                          |   | 157      |
| “ “ Acknowledgment of Clothing.....                               |   | 297      |
| “ “ New Pupils Received.. ..                                      |   | 321      |
| Life Members, Lists of .3, 30, 59, 88, 114, 142, 173, 199, 227,   |   | 314      |
| .....   | 254, 286,   | 314      |
| Life Members' Certificates.....                                   |   | 142      |
| McArthur, Rev. Jno., Acknowledgment of Supplies .....             |   | 221      |
| McIntosh, Miss, Encouraging Incidents (Honan).....                |   | 31       |
| McIntosh, Miss, Comfortably Settled in New Home<br>(Okanase)..... |   | 158      |
| McIntosh, Miss, Acknowledgment of Supplies... ..                  |   | 220      |
| McLaren, Miss, New Building Completed.....                        |   | 155      |
| “ “ A House of Mourning .....                                     |   | 266      |
| “ “ Acknowledgment of Supplies .....                              |   | 273      |
| McLaren, Mr. G. G., Acknowledgments of Goods....                  | 245, 298  |          |
| McLeod, Rev. A. J., Acknowledgments of Clothing..                 | 221, 275  |          |
| McKay, Rev. Hugh, Acknowledgments of Clothing, 49, 220,           |   | 271      |
| McKenzie, Mrs. Efate, Death of .....                              |   | 183      |
| McWilliams, Miss, Mission Work at the Hills.....                  |   | 130      |
| “ “ Return of.....  |   | 143      |
| “ “ At Home Again.....  |   | 172      |
| MacGillivray, Rev. D., A Hopeful Outlook.....                     |   | 269      |
| Minnes, Miss, An Indian Wolf Hunt.... .                           |   | 263      |
| “ “ Christmas at Alburni.....                                     |   | 296      |
| Moore, Rev. W. S., Acknowledgments of Clothing....                | 189, 244  |          |
| Moore, Mrs., Extracts from Letter.....                            |   | 105      |
| Mission Studies, by Miss Ferrier.. 51, 78, 107, 135, 161,         |   |          |
| .....   | 190, 246, 276, 303,                               | 327      |



|  |      |      |      |
|--|------|------|------|
| Mission Band Notes.....                            | 86,  | 315  | Sup  |
| Mission Band Workers, Hints to.....                |      | 200  | Sup  |
| Notices to Secretaries.....                        | 85,  | 285  | Sinc |
| No Surplus.....                                    |      | 114  |      |
| Notes of Praise.....                               |      | 164  |      |
| Need of Zenana and School Workers.....             |      | 227  | Ske  |
| Notice of Motion.....                              |      | 285  |      |
| Our Envelopes.....                                 |      | 38   | Tra  |
| Omissions.....                                     |      | 172  | Tha  |
| Outgoing Missionaries.....                         |      | 169  | Tre  |
| On Furlough.....                                   |      | 90   |      |
| O'Hara, Dr. Margaret, Sunday School Work.....      |      | 68   | Ujj  |
| "    "    Rejoicing in Hope.....                   |      | 125  |      |
| "    "    At Bombay.....                           |      | 144  | We   |
| "    "    A Trip to Ceylon.....                    |      | 233  | We   |
| Praying for Missions.....                          |      | 114  |      |
| Patience a Chief Requisite in Missionary Work..... |      | 117  | Wt   |
| Pioneer Work in the Livingstonia Mission ..        |      | 62   |      |
| Reports, F. M. Committee's.....                    | 142, | 172  | Wi   |
| Reasons Why Article 3 Should Remain Unchanged..... |      | 19   | Wi   |
| Railway Regulations.....                           |      | 283, | Wc   |
| 312  |      |      | Wi   |
| Reduction of Fares.....                            |      | 311  | Wi   |
| Russell, Rev. N. H., A Notable Gathering.....      |      | 36   |      |
| "    Mrs., My Welcome .....                        |      | 99   |      |
| "    "    Persecuted for Christ's Sake .....       |      | 71   |      |
| "    "    Trip to India and Ceylon .....           |      | 268  |      |
| Ross, Miss, Idolatrous Rites and Ceremonies .....  |      | 41   |      |
| "    "    At the Hills.....                        |      | 126  |      |
| Russell, Miss, Evidences of Progress.....          |      | 294  |      |
| "    "    Acknowledgment of Gifts.....             |      | 300  |      |
| Seventeenth Annual Report .....                    |      | 57   | the  |
| Similitude, A .....                                |      | 247  | gir  |
| Special Prayer, Day of .....                       |      | 199  | for  |
| Supplies, Report of, for 1893.....                 |      | 217  | pl   |
| Supplies for 1894.....                             |      | 214  | wi   |

|     |  |                                |
|-----|--|--------------------------------|
| 315 | Supplies Additional for 1894.....                      | 270                            |
| 200 | Supplies, Additional Report of, for 1893.....          | 271                            |
|     | Sinclair, Miss, Acknowledgment of Gifts.....           | 50, 133                        |
| 285 | "    "    For our Mission Bands.....                   | 97                             |
| 114 | "    "    Come Over and Help Us.....                   | 104                            |
| 164 | "    "    Marathi School at Indore .....               | 334                            |
| 227 | Skene, Alexander, Acknowledgment of Supplies.....      | 274                            |
| 285 | "    "    A Good Record.....                           | 46                             |
|     | "    "    Bright and Dark Days.....                    | 237                            |
| 58  | Training Home.....                                     | 226                            |
| 172 | Thank-offering Story.....                              | 113, 141                       |
| 169 | Treasurer's Statements.....                            | 3, 30, 173, 227, 255, 287, 314 |
| 90  |  |                                |
| 68  | Ujjain and Rutlam.....                                 | 91                             |
| 125 |  |                                |
| 144 | Welbourn, J. J., Acknowledgments of Goods.....         | 50, 246                        |
| 233 | Welbourn, Mrs., Items From the Far West.....           | 75                             |
|     | "    "    Acknowledgment of Goods .....                | 106                            |
| 114 | "    "    Progress Slow, but Steady.....               | 187                            |
| 117 | White, Miss Janet, Good-Bye .....                      | 206                            |
| 62  | "    "    A Very Hearty Welcome .....                  | 258                            |
|     | Wilkie, Mrs., Why Our Missionaries Break Down.....     | 209                            |
| 172 | Whyte, Rev. C. W., Acknowledgment of Clothing....      | 243, 324                       |
| 19  | Walker, Miss Bessie, Purchase of Land by Indians ..... | 240                            |
| 312 | What a Native Teacher Can Do.....                      | 194                            |
| 311 | Wright, Mrs., The Opening of a New Mission..           | 322                            |
| 38  | "    "    Acknowledgment of Clothing.....              | 326                            |
| 99  |  |                                |

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### The Marathi School at Indore.

Miss Sinclair writes, enclosing a photograph of the girls of the Boarding School, and mentions the marriage of one of the girls; the first marriage in the school. Speaking of the reinforcements to the Mission staff, Miss Sinclair expresses her pleasure that Miss Dougan has begun the study of Marathi with a view to taking over the City School. "That Marathi

School," she writes, "was my first love in India, and I am glad such an appointment has been made. Marathi is a very difficult language, and specially difficult to learn here, as it is only spoken by a section of the people."

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## NOTICES.

The Board of Management meets on the *first Tuesday* of every month, at 3 o'clock p.m., and on the remaining Tuesdays of each month at 10 a.m., in the Board Room of the Bible and Tract Societies, 104 Yonge Street, Toronto. Members of Auxiliary Societies, or other ladies interested in the work and desiring information may attend a meeting if introduced by a member of the Board.

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 question 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. MacLennan, Treasurer, 10 Murray Street, Toronto.

All requests for life-membership certificates should be sent to Miss Bessie MacMurchy, 254 Sherbourne Street, Toronto, to be accompanied in every case by a receipt from the Treasurer of the Auxiliary into which the fee has been paid.

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Miss Shortreed, Assistant Home Secretary, 224 Jarvis Street, Toronto, will conduct correspondence with Mission Bands, and will be glad to receive items of news or helpful suggestions relating to this branch of the Society's work.

All letters to the Board not directly bearing upon work specified in the above departments should be addressed to Miss Haight, Corresponding Secretary, Morvyn House, Jarvis Street, Toronto.

The President's address is, Mrs. Ewart, 66 Wellesley Street Toronto.

### PUBLICATIONS.

| No. |  | Free             |
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| 65. | He Hath Need of Thee.....                        | Free             |
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| 33. | How much do I Owe.....                           | “                |
| 34. | Our Hour of Prayer.....                          | “                |
| 16. | Helping Together in Prayer.....                  | “                |
| 15. | The Missionary Mite Boz.....                     | “                |
| 19. | Practical Work.....                              | “                |
| 11. | Refusals.....                                    | “                |
| 8.  | Why and How.....                                 | “                |
| 6.  | Preparation for the Master's Work.....           | “                |
| 4.  | The Importance of Prayer.....                    | “                |
| 2.  | Giving and Giving up.....                        | “                |
| 1.  | Self Questioning.....                            | “                |
| 19. | Our Plan of Work.....                            | “                |
| 5.  | Questions Answered.....                          | “                |
| 14. | Suggestions for holding Missionary Meetings..... | “                |
| 39. | Scattered Helpers - Card including Leaflets..... | per doz. 6 cent. |
|     | Small Prayer Cards free.                         |                  |

### MAPS.

|                    | <i>Cotton, unmounted.</i> | <i>Painted linen, mounted</i> |
|--------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Honan.....         | \$2 00                    | \$2 50                        |
| India (Paper)..... | 25                        | (M't'd on cloth) 1 50         |
| Formosa.....       | 1 00                      | 1 75                          |
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| Trinidad.....      | 1 00                      | 1 50                          |

Envelopes, one large containing 12 small, 1 cent each.

Mite Boxes, 1 cent each.

Receipt books, for membership fees, for the use of treasurers or Auxiliaries and Bands. Price 8 cents and 5 cents.

For above apply to Mrs. Telfer, 72 St. Albans Street, Toronto  
Postage and express paid.

Applications for Reports to be made to the Home Secretary, Mrs Shortreed, 224 Jarvis Street, Toronto.

## PUBLICATIONS.

| No. |  |                   |
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| 29. | The Mother at Home, by Pansy ...             | each, 3 cents     |
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| 43. | A Sketch of the Life of Mrs. Matheson .....  | " "               |
| 42. | That Missionary Meeting .....                | " "               |
| 37. | What is Foreign Missions Rightful Share.     | " "               |
| 33. | The Society at Springtown .....              | " "               |
| 32. | An Appeal from the Mother of a Missionary    | " "               |
| 31. | A Transferred Gift .....                     | " "               |
| 25. | A Plea for our Envelopes .....               | " "               |
| 24. | The History of a Day .....                   | " "               |
| 23. | A Partnership .....                          | " "               |
| 22. | The Beginning of it .....                    | " "               |
| 21. | A Study in Proportion .....                  | " "               |
| 18. | Five Cents in a Tea-cup .....                | " "               |
| 14. | The Basket Secretary .....                   | " "               |
| 13. | Thanksgiving Ann .....                       | " "               |
| 12. | Why we did not Disband .....                 | " "               |
| 10. | For His Sake .....                           | " "               |
| 9.  | Pitchers and Lamps .....                     | " "               |
| 7.  | Mrs. Pickett's Missionary Box .....          | " "               |
| 3.  | Voices of the Women .....                    | " "               |
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| 49. | One Tenth .....                              | " "               |
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| 44. | Responsibility .....                         | " "               |
| 40. | A Thank-offering Story .....                 | " "               |
| 28. | Bringing up the Banks to the Standard .....  | " "               |
| 27. | A Lesson in Stewardship .....                | " "               |
| 20. | The Adjourned Meeting .....                  | " "               |
| 26. | Po-Heng and the Idols .....                  | " "               |
| 17. | Why we Should keep up our Auxiliaries .....  | " "               |
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### Directions about the Monthly Letter Leaflet.

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