

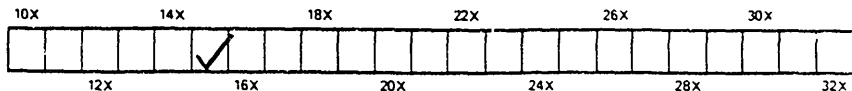
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Monthly Letter Leaflet

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

VOL. XIII.

TORONTO, MAY, 1896.

No. 1.

Subjects for Prayer.

MAY.—The Indians of the Canadian North-West. The French Canadian Missions, and other Home Mission work of the Church. For the Chinese in America.

"For the Son of man 's come to seek and to save that which was lost."—Luke xiv. 10.

"For there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."—Acts iv. 12.

Increase.

Presbyterial Society:

CHATHAM	Goldsmith, "Faithful Stewards" Mission Band.	
LONDON	Proof-line, "Sinclair" Mission Band.	
LINDSAY	Woodville, "Willing Workers" Mission Band.	
KINGSTON	Belleville, St. Andrew's Church Mission Band.	
TORONTO	Richmond Hill,	Mission Band.
MAITLAND	Lucknow, "Sepoy" Mission Band.	} 1895
"	Brussels, "Little Stars" Mission Band.	
SARNIA	Coplestone, "Sunshine" Mission Band.	

Treasurer's Statement.

1896.

RECEIPTS.

Mar.	2nd.—Balance in bank.....	\$8,789 32
"	3rd.—London Pres. Society.....	2,242 26
"	"—Presbyterian Church, Moosomin, N.W.T.....	10 00
"	"—Chatham Pres. Society.....	1,225 00
"	4th.—Sarnia Pres. Society.....	767 06
"	5th.—Lanark and Renfrew Pres. Society.....	\$,518 10
"	"—Whitby Pres. Society.....	1,034 64
"	6th.—Lindsay Pres. Society.....	1,407 27

Mar.	6th.—Orangeville Pres. Society	670 00
"	" —Carlyle Aux., Assa., N.W.T.	5 75
"	" 9th.—Paris Pres. Society	1,585 71
"	" 10th.—Toronto Presbyterial Society.	5,587 50
"	" —Brockville Presbyterial Society	1,300 00
"	" 12th.—Mrs. Stewart and daughter (Southampton).	2 00
"	" —Dundee Aux., Zion Church, Quebec.....	97 58
"	" 13th.—Hamilton Pres. Society.....	3,117 66
"	" —Huron Presbyterial Society	1,442 41
"	" 18th.—Farrington Aux., Brantford.....	82 79
"	" —St. Thomas, Alma St. M. B.....	8 00
"	" 23rd.—Glengarry Pres. Society.....	2,086 82
"	" 24th.—Kingston Pres. Society	1,200 00
"	" —R. Carr Harris, Kingston, per Miss Sinclair	5 00
"	" —Maitland Pres. Society	1,499 00
"	" —M. A. F. for W. F. M. S.	3 00
"	" 25th.—Mount Pleasant Aux., Vancouver.....	31 10
"	" —Thank offering from Knox Church Aux., Woodstock (for Formosa)	60 00
"	" 28th.—Brandon Pres. Society.....	1,061 68
April.	1st.—Owen Sound Pres. Society.....	668 56
"	" 4th.—Life Membership fee.....	25 00
"	" —Peterboro' Pres. Society.....	1,638 99
"	" 6th.—Winnipeg Pres. Society.....	769 97
"	" —Balance in hand of Sec. Treas. of publications, after paying expenses, now paid into general account	301 21
"	" 7th.—"Indore Helpers" M. B., Madoc.....	12 00

\$42,245 38

EXPENDITURE.

Mar.	2nd.—Foreign Sec., postage	\$ 1 17
"	" 10th.—Postage on Life Membership Certificates and letters from Jan. 6th to March 9th.....	1 45
"	" —Badges for Annual Meeting.....	4 62
"	" 31st.—Sec. of Supplies, postage.....	1 99
"	" —Foreign Secy., postage....	1 00
"	" —Tubes for Life Membership Certificates.....	2 00

\$12 23

Balance in bank..... \$42,233 15

\$42,245 38

W. A. MCGAW, *Treasurer.*

Annual Meeting.

The Twentieth Annual Meeting of the Society, held in Peterborough on the 21st, 22nd, and 23rd of April, was a most successful gathering, both in attendance and interest. There were 300 visiting delegates, a fact which gave much satisfaction, inasmuch as it insured the single-fare rail way ticket, so important to those coming from a distance. Although we

regretted the absence of a few familiar faces, and voices we would like to have heard, it was pleasant to see among the delegates many dear young girls, who took their part in the meetings and added to the interest of the discussions. Much pleasure and thankfulness were expressed at seeing our beloved President again in her place and in her wonted health. The thoughtful arrangements for the entertainment of the Society, made by friends in Peterborough, were thoroughly appreciated. The weather also was delightful, and the church convenient and comfortable. The service of praise was led by an excellent choir, and the vocal solos at the day meetings, as well as the music rendered on Wednesday evening, were much enjoyed. A very happy hour was spent at the close of Wednesday afternoon, when the delegates and their hostesses were entertained at tea by the Ladies' Aid Societies of St. Paul's and St. Andrew's.

At the devotional meeting, on Tuesday afternoon, many earnest prayers were offered up. Mrs. Thorburn's address was an inspiration to all. The one thought which she dwelt upon was "The Kingship of Christ." It was pointed out that this great truth should strengthen our faith and loyalty, should make us more earnest and importunate in prayer, and inspire us with hope and joy in our Christian life and service. Loving reference was made, in the prayer which followed, to those who during the year had passed into the heavenly home.

The Presbyterial reports were then presented by the Secretaries or their representatives, and the Home Secretary read the reports of societies not in Presbyterial order. The reports this year were interesting and encouraging in a marked degree, and, though necessarily condensed, contained much which indicated vitality, intelligent knowledge, and growth; and also, it might be added, painstaking care in their preparation on the part of Secretaries. After the reading of the reports, the President read an important letter from Mrs. Harvie, in which it was stated that circumstances would no longer permit of her holding the office of Foreign Secretary. These circumstances were, as Mrs. Ewart explained, Mrs. Harvie's appointment by the Ontario Government to be Inspectress of Charities and Prisons for the Province.

THE CONFERENCE.

On Tuesday evening the Conference of the thirty-six managers, with Presidents of Presbyterials, Auxiliaries, and Mission Bands, and Presbyterial Secretaries and Treasurers (or their substitutes), took place. The attendance was so large that it was found necessary to adjourn to the church. The President drew the attention of Treasurers to the importance of caution in the care of money belonging to the Society, and, on behalf

of the Board, strongly advised that in future all funds be deposited in chartered banks. In the Maritime Provinces a private bank, in which funds had been placed, had failed, causing a loss of over \$3,000 to that part of the Church. A resolution from the Guelph Presbyterial was read, objecting to the proposed change of order in the Annual Meeting, which placed the reading of the Presbyterial Reports at the close of the devotional hour on Tuesday, and asking that the first day be kept solely for devotional purposes. The members of Conference were asked to consider this point. The new order had been tried this year as an experiment only, and with the hope that the arrangement would give more time for other business on the following days. (The new arrangement was confirmed, by vote of the Society, on Thursday.) A proposal to re-arrange the work of the Foreign and Supply Secretaries, mentioned at the Annual Meeting last year, was considered. It had seemed desirable to make a division of the correspondence in such a way as to obviate the necessity of the missionaries having to write to both these Secretaries—a necessity which in the past had made it difficult to arrange the letters for publication, besides entailing unnecessary labour on our missionaries. The plan proposed was to place all the North-West correspondence, including Supplies, in the hands of the present Supply Secretary; and all the Foreign Correspondence, including Supplies, in the hands of the Foreign Secretary. (At a later stage of the meeting, the Board was empowered to make this change and to arrange all details.) A request which had come to the Board, that matter bearing upon the topic on the Prayer Card might appear in the *LETTER LEAFLET* a month in advance, was spoken of. The Conference approved of the idea, and agreed that it would be a help in preparing for meetings where other literature was not available. It was also suggested that programmes of special meetings, such as the Day of Prayer and Thank-offering might with advantage be inserted a month in advance. An objection was made to giving so much space in the *LETTER LEAFLET* to accounts of Presbyterial meetings, seeing that they always appeared in the Church papers, and that, too, often before they appeared in the *LEAFLET*. It was stated, on the other hand, that not one-third of our members take a Church paper, and that each one was specially interested in the account of her own Presbyterial meeting. It was suggested that such reports would be more readable if helpful ideas brought out at meetings could be embodied in them. It was necessary to condense them, space being very limited. The feeling of the Conference was in favour of continuing the reports. The advisability of appointing a Mission Band Secretary was discussed at length. There had been doubt as to what was meant by the appointment of such an officer. *The duties of the office had*

not been well defined. The Home Secretary, in answer to questions, said the duties of a Mission Band Secretary ought not to disturb existing relations between either Presbyterian officers and Bands or Auxiliaries and Bands. Her thought had been rather that of *fostering*, by writing to the Bands and answering their questions. Junior Bands especially needed this fostering care. A Mission Band Secretary would require to be experienced and peculiarly gifted, and would, strictly speaking, be called a Corresponding Secretary for Mission Bands. She ought not to live at a distance from the Presbyterian Secretary, but if possible in the same town. Ottawa had recommended the appointment of a General Mission Band Secretary, thinking it would lighten the Home Secretary's work. Hamilton had appointed a Mission Band Secretary this year. Toronto was not favourable to it. It was finally recommended that the question of the appointment of a General Mission Band Secretary be left to the Board, and that Presbyterian Societies decide the matter for themselves, according to circumstances. The Secretary of Publications requested that all orders for the LETTER LEAFLET be paid in advance. This was the rule, but it had not been strictly carried out, and much labour and inconvenience had resulted. Auxiliaries and Mission Bands were requested to send their subscriptions to the LETTER LEAFLET, through their Presbyterian officer. Life membership fees ought not to be sent to the General Treasurer. The money should be paid into the Auxiliary, and only the certified statement that it had been so paid sent to Miss MacMurchy.

The President's Address on Wednesday morning was heard with the deepest attention. It contained much that we would gladly re-produce in the LETTER LEAFLET but for want of room, we cannot give even a synopsis of it but must refer our readers to the Annual Report where it will appear in full. The Annual Reports of the Secretaries, and the Treasurer's statement, must also be disposed of very briefly, although the presentation of them occupied an hour which was full of deepest interest. As each delegate received a printed copy, we feel that our Auxiliaries, as far as represented, are already in possession of their contents. We trust they will receive careful attention and study in the coming months. In the Foreign Secretary Report an appeal from the Presbytery of Honan for a second medical lady, and a teacher to be sent before the close of this year, was noted; also the need for one, probably for two, medical ladies and one teacher for India this Autumn, one of these to take the place of Miss M. Grant Frazer who is returning in broken health. It may be noted that the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society does not contribute to the salaries of ordained missionaries to the Indians in Manitoba and the North-West Territories; it aids the educational work for boys and girls by the

maintenance of non-treaty children attending the various schools, pays the salaries of teachers, matrons, helpers, etc., and erects school buildings.

The schools aided are 9 in number, 6 Boarding schools and 3 Day schools, namely, Portage la Prairie, Birtle, Crowstand, Round Lake, File Hills and Lakesend Boarding schools, and the Day schools at Mistawasis, Makoce Waste (Prince Albert) and Okanase.

In British Columbia, schools are established at Alberni, Uclulhat and Ahousaht.

The Home Secretary emphasized a few practical points in her department; among other things, the need of a more careful use of the tabulated forms particularly in entering the membership; greater promptness in forwarding reports to Presbyterian Secretaries and Treasurers; the duty of keeping the regular offerings intact for the support of the work for which the F. M. Committee had given us an estimate, the importance of reporting the funds of the Mission Band and Auxiliary *separately*.

Two Auxiliary reports not in Presbyterian order were heard with peculiar pleasure. These were the reports of the "Purab-ka-Tara Aux.," Indore; and the "Indian Womens Aux." on the Bird Tail reserve. The former, which is a literal translation from the Hindi, reports a membership of 22, and an average attendance of 25, the offerings amounting in all to Rupees 19-5-6. The explanation of the smallness of the contribution is, that this year it is *all their own*, "not because our hearts have grown careless or our love cold, but because in former years Mem. Sahib and the Miss Sahibs gave much more than we did." The "Indian Women's Auxiliary" has increased in numbers and has contributed this year \$17. "They realize more and more Christ's claim upon them to help on His cause, and their own condition is gradually improving."

The Supply Secretary reported a year of more than usual success. Of quilts, the supply had in a few cases exceeded the need, but clothing for boys and for old women was insufficient on some reserves. Grateful acknowledgment of the kindness and co-operation of Mr. Hayter Reid of the Indian Department was made; also a reference to the Government Blue Book on Indian affairs which contained warm commendation of the work of our Mission Schools.

The report of publications showed the paid circulation of the LETTER LEAFLET at the close of the year to be 14,000. A falling off in the sale of Contribution Envelopes was noted, and a return to their use enjoined, as a help to systematic giving. Greater activity in the distribution of literature among the indifferent was also urged.

The Treasurer's statement showed the total receipts from all sources to be \$42,876.33. The expense of management including the printing and

distributing of Annual Reports, an item which cost \$456.53, was \$626.32, this being, as was stated, only 1½ per cent. of the whole amount

Greetings were conveyed from the W. F. M. S., Baptist, by Mrs. Hunter, and from the McAll Mission by Mrs. Ross; and letters of greeting were presented by Mrs. Grant from the Presbyterian Societies of Winnipeg and Brandon, from the Montreal Woman's Missionary Society, from the W. F. M. S. of the Eastern Division, from the Queensland Missionary Union, from a similar society in Otago, New Zealand, from the Provincial Board of the Church of England W. F. M. S., from the Presbyterian Church of New York Woman's Board, from the Congregational W. F. M. S., from the W. F. M. S. of Northern New York, from the Woman's Presbyterian Board, both of the North-West and of the South-West, respectively, in the United States.

BUSINESS FROM LAST YEAR.

It was moved by Mrs. Mowat, Kingston, and duly seconded:—"That inasmuch as the reports and estimates of the W. F. M. S. show that the wives of some of the missionaries engage actively in mission, and even in medical work, which is recognized by annual grants of money, this work be further recognized by the Board of the W. F. M. S. meeting the difference in salary between a married man and an unmarried man, thus releasing a comparatively large sum for the use of the F. M. Board, on the express condition that it is to be used in extending the work by opening up new stations."—(See February LETTER LEAFLET). After full discussion the motion was put to the meeting and lost.

MISS SINCLAIR.

It was a great pleasure and privilege to have Miss Sinclair with us through all the sessions, and on Wednesday afternoon, when she addressed the Society, she was received with enthusiasm. Here again we would gladly give the address in full, but space forbids. Suffice it to say that hopefulness, faith in God, and love for the women of India breathed in all she said.

EVENING MEETING—DR. WHERRY.

The evening meeting was presided over by Mr. Hamilton Cassels. Rev. Dr. Torrance, of St. Paul's church, welcomed the Society, and Rev. R. P. McKay presented a summary of the reports. The church was well filled and a collection amounting to \$67 was taken. The chief feature of the evening was an able address by Rev. Dr. Wherry, of Chicago, whose testimony to the value of the work of unmarried women in the foreign field was as strong as words could make it, and was the result of personal

knowledge, from many years' experience as a missionary. Much might be done, said the speaker, by single women, even without the presence of male missionaries. The influence of Christian women was no less in heathen than in Christian lands and might be said to be even greater. The hope of the men of India lay in female education, it was a *fundamental* work. Great advances, educational, moral and religious, had been made in India, resulting from the influence of *missionaries*. Idolatry and pantheism were fast falling away from the minds of the people, and the idea of a *living God who answers prayer* was taking their place.

CHANGE OF OFFICERS.

The election of officers on Thursday morning by the Board resulted in the re-election of the President ; Vice-Presidents ; Recording Secretary ; Secretary of Supplies ; Secretary and Assistant Secretary of Publications ; Corresponding Secretary, and Secretary of International Alliance without ballot, there being one nomination only for each of these offices. A ballot was taken for the offices of Treasurer, and of Home and Foreign Secretaries, which resulted in the election of Mrs. Shortreed, Foreign Secretary ; Mrs. Grant, Home Secretary ; and Miss George, Treasurer.

NEXT ANNUAL MEETING.

A cordial invitation for the annual meeting next year from Mrs. McQuesten, on behalf of the Auxiliaries in Hamilton, was thankfully accepted by the Society.

MISSION BANDS.

Mrs. McNachtan, of Cobourg, brought out some good points in regard to Mission Band work. The boys should not be overlooked ; the President should not have all to do ; the President should be old enough and young enough ; children must have more to do than merely to listen. Mrs. Steele's paper on Mission Literature, which followed, suggested ways and means of using a missionary library. The LETTER LEAFLET was indispensable, and yet there were auxiliaries where it was not taken. An interesting discussion then took place, during which many practical plans were mentioned. One conclusion, however, was forcibly borne in upon many minds, namely, that the Mission Band leader must have head as well as heart, combined with a special fitness for dealing with children, and at least a fair share of original inventive ability. Mrs. Grant, of St. Mary's, struck a true note in saying that mothers, and especially young mothers, had much to do with the success of Mission Bands.

MRS. HARVIE'S RETIREMENT.

It was moved by Mrs. Graham, Lakefield, seconded by Mrs. Cameron, Barrie, and carried by a standing vote:

"That in view of the enforced resignation of our beloved Foreign Secretary, which comes to us at the close of our second decade, we desire to express our deep sense of the grave loss we sustain in the removal of one whose duties were performed with consummate skill and efficiency; and our abiding appreciation of the services which have been so unsparingly rendered to the cause of woman's work for woman during the past existence of our Society. Her name is a loved household word in hundreds of homes throughout our land, and her firm stand for loyalty to our constitution may well remain with us a fragrant memory which shall strengthen our own devotion to the cause we love so well. So we, who learn with deep sorrow of this separation, desire to witness for the many in our own land who have learned to love and honour her; for the Indians in our North-West, whose admiration and confidence she won; for our representatives in the foreign field whose hands have been strengthened by her unflinching sympathy and good-will, ever tenderly accorded; and for the dear departed who cherished her kind words among the last received from the home land before exchanging the cross for the crown; and at the same time we desire to note something of our own gratitude for all that the Holy Spirit has enabled her to do for us. Words are but a poor medium to convey our feelings, under such circumstances, and we yield ourselves to silence, the silence which is the truest, holiest expression of the full heart; breathing the prayer, 'God bless her and keep her, and make His face to shine upon her in all the time to come.'"

DISPOSAL OF THE MONEY.

The funds in the hands of the Society amounting to \$41,735.48 were then disposed of by resolutions, duly moved and seconded, and unanimously carried.

1. That the sum of \$21,035.48 being the amount of estimate for the year 1895-96 of \$43,179, less \$22,143.52 already paid to the Foreign Mission Committee, be paid to them now.

2. That \$1,200 be transmitted through Dr. Warden to the Foreign Mission Committee (E. D.), half of it to be applied by them to woman's work in Trinidad, and the other half to woman's work in the New Hebrides.

3. That the Treasurer of the W.F.M.S. be empowered to pay to the Foreign Mission Committee early in May the further sum of \$19,500 to be

applied by them towards the expenses of the W.F.M.S. for the current year.

A balance was reserved to meet the expense of printing and distributing the Annual Report.

VOTES OF THANKS.

Hearty votes of thanks were passed : 1. To Dr. R. H. Warden for his kindness in auditing the Treasurer's books. 2. To the railway companies for their kindness and courtesy, special mention being made of the local agents in Peterborough, and of Mr. Hebert, joint agent in Montreal. 3. To Miss Bessie MacMurchy for the thorough manner in which she had taken charge of the travelling arrangements. 4. To the friends in Peterborough for their great kindness and hospitality to the Society. 5. To the organist and choir, and to Mrs. Jones, Miss Vair, and Mr. G. W. Mulligan, who favoured us with solos. 6. To the trustees of St. Paul's for the use of the Church.

At the Board meeting on the following Tuesday, in Toronto, a vote of thanks was tendered to the local press in Peterborough for the very excellent reports of the meetings which they had given.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

A notice of motion was given by Mrs. Mutch in behalf of the Toronto Presbyterial, to amend Note I. appended to the By-laws of the Constitution of the General Society, by adopting the following : "Any member or auxiliary of this Society desiring to bring up matters for discussion at the annual meeting is requested to present the same at the annual meeting of the Presbyterial Society for transmission, with or without approval, notice to be given to the Board of Management in writing, one month before the time of the annual meeting of the General Society ; or, when such notice is not given, the matter will be referred to a committee named at the time."

The following notice of an amendment was also given on behalf of Mrs. Hugh Campbell, who was not present : "Any member or auxiliary of this Society desiring to bring up matters for discussion at the annual meeting is requested, first, to present the same, in writing, to the executive committee of their Presbyterial Society at least one month before its annual meeting in order that the executive committee may have time to consult the Board of Management, if necessary, and after their annual meeting transmit the same, with or without approval, to the Board of Management, in writing, one month before the time of the annual meeting of the General Society ; or, when such notice is not given, the matter will be referred to a committee named at the time."

Mrs. Mutch explained that there was no antagonism between the first and second amendment and expressed the hope that before the next Annual Meeting both would be embodied in one motion by the Toronto Presbyterial. The president asked that Presbyterials would carefully consider these notices.

TRAINING SCHOOL.

The following resolution of the Executive of the F. M. Committee in reference to a training school for missionaries was read: "1. That the Executive feels the great importance of a careful training in Biblical and theological knowledge for all the young women who are sent to foreign fields. 2. That the Executive does not see its way at present to recommend the establishment of such a school under the care of the committee. 3. That the Toronto Bible Training School, which is non-denominational in its management, to some extent, covers the ground, and appears to be doing excellent work, and the Executive think that while the committee should not commit themselves to any definite responsibility for an institution which is in no way under the control of the Church, they might in the meantime avail themselves of its services for the training of young women who are looking forward to the foreign work of our Church provided arrangements were made to supplement the training given, by courses of lectures in Knox College or by courses of lectures given by the professors and others. 4. That a sub-committee be appointed to confer with the professors of Knox College with a view of making suitable arrangements for such lectures."

In reply to a question whether returned missionaries could be made available as instructors in foreign languages, the President explained that the months spent by our missionaries on their arrival in studying the language gave them time to become accustomed to their surroundings, and learn the customs of the people and thus prevented many mistakes.

In response to a question from the President as to whether the Society was prepared in the coming year to undertake new work, which might be asked for by the F. M. Committee, a unanimous standing vote was given that WE GO FORWARD.

Mrs. Thorburn commended to the use of the Society a set of missionary exercises in the form of answers to questions—the price was fifty cents, and it could be obtained from Miss Parker, of Aylmer.

The Question Drawer, in charge of Mrs. Watt, Guelph, brought out much practical information on many points well worth preserving in this report, but space is lacking.

A few brief words by Mrs. Grant, the newly-elected Home Secretary, brought the meeting to a fitting close. Her earnest appeal for more love to Christ, and greater faithfulness in carrying on His work we may well believe will awaken what is far better than a mere passing enthusiasm, even a deep and steadfast purpose to do and dare great things for Christ in the year on which we have entered.

Meetings of Presbyterian Societies.

WINNIPEG.—The seventh annual meeting of Winnipeg Presbyterian was held on Tuesday, March 10th, in St. Andrew's Church, Winnipeg. The morning session, after devotional exercises, was devoted entirely to business—election of officers, etc. Mrs. Watt, president, presided at all the meetings. Reports were received from all Auxiliaries and Mission Bands within the bounds. The reports were, on the whole, very encouraging. The afternoon session was attended by about 500 ladies. After devotional exercises, Mrs. Joseph Hogg gave a characteristic address welcoming the delegates, to which an appropriate reply was given by Miss Anderson, of Stonewall. The secretary, Mrs. A. D. McKay, read her annual report. There are 14 Auxiliaries and 6 Mission Bands, with a membership of 342—89 of whom belong to the General Society. We have 35 Scattered Helpers, and 2 Life Members were added during the year. The Financial Statement showed \$806.42 for 1895. Mrs. J. M. McDonald, LEAFLET Secretary, gave the report on literature. There are over 400 copies of LETTER LEAFLET distributed monthly. There are also papers on various mission fields, written by members, which after being read at the meeting for which they had been prepared are interchanged. The president gave her annual address, reviewing the work, and urging the members to greater faithfulness and fuller consecration to the Master. Mrs. McFarlane gave what was perhaps the best paper given, on "The Disadvantages of a Country Auxiliary," showing the disadvantages which must necessarily arise owing to our sparsely-settled country and our severe climate; taking the other side, what a help an Auxiliary may become to those women, socially, mentally, morally, and spiritually. Miss Hargrave, a returned missionary from Japan, addressed the meeting on the work in Japan. Mrs. Matthews gave an excellent paper on "The Responsibility of the Women of the Church in Regard to Foreign Missions." Miss Coultrey sweetly sang "Where is Heaven?" Mrs. C. H. Campbell gave a racy paper on "The Model Auxiliary—Looking Backward," taking her stand in 1900, when every woman would be a member of some missionary association, when the meetings would begin on time and close promptly. The paper was much enjoyed. Greetings were received from Brandon Presbyterian, also from Methodist, Baptist, Congregational, and Episcopalian Missionary Societies, which were a marked feature of this session. At the evening session, Rev. D. McLeod, Moderator of Presbytery, presided. Revs. C. B. Pitblado and C. W. Gordon addressed the meeting on behalf of the Presbytery. Dr. Duval spoke on the needs of the work. The officers for 1896 are: President, Mrs. Watt, Winnipeg; 1st Vice-President, Mrs. C. H. Campbell, Winnipeg; Vice-Presidents, Miss Bruce, Winnipeg, Mrs. McFarlane, Dugald, and Mrs. Hamilton, Stonewall; Secretary, Mrs. A. D. McKay, Winnipeg; Assistant Secretary, Mrs. W. McGaw, Winnipeg; LEAFLET Secretary, Mrs. J. M. McDonald, Winnipeg, Treasurer, Mrs. Hart, Winnipeg.

LANARK AND RENFREW.—The thirteenth annual meeting of the Lanark and Renfrew Presbyterian was held in St. Andrew's Church, Smith's Falls, Tuesday, February 25th, 1896. After devotional exercises, the delegates gave one-minute reports from their societies, telling of what they found to be most helpful in their meetings. Knox Church, Perth, give a

five-o'clock tea every three months, and invite ladies of the congregation and any young men that wish to go. The young men become honorary members by paying a dollar. Smith's Falls Auxiliary got a number of the LETTER LEAFLETS and distributed them among the women and young girls of the congregation, and in this way increased the interest in missions. Balderson visited different Auxiliaries, and in this way feel that by helping others, they receive good themselves. The president's address was instructive and profitable. After the opening exercises of the afternoon session, the election of officers took place. Those elected are: President, Mrs. Cooke, Smith's Falls; 1st Vice-President, Mrs. Campbell, Renfrew; 2nd, Mrs. Stewart, Perth; 3rd, Mrs. McLean, Arnprior; 4th, Mrs. A. A. Scott, Carleton Place; Corresponding Secretary, Miss Sinclair, Carleton Place; Recording Secretary, Miss Beatty, Pembroke; Mission Band Secretary, Mrs. R. C. H. Sinclair, Oliver's Ferry; Treasurer, Miss Findlay, Carleton Place. A welcome from Smith's Falls to delegates, by Mrs. Farrell, was responded to by Mrs. Mitchell, of Almonte. The reports from the secretary and treasurer were read and adopted. The contributions of the year amounted in all to \$3,518.10. Mrs. A. H. Scott, of Perth, conducted the question drawer. The following are some of the questions: 1st. Does it matter if a woman does not attend the meetings if she pays her dues? Answer.—It depends on her object for staying away. Fees are not the only thing. Every woman helps by her very presence. 2nd. Should not the most active members be chosen president and secretary? Answer.—Thought it was wise to bring the timid ones into the work. Get different members to take the president's chair and carry out the programme. 3rd. Is it true that the W.F.M.S. had more funds than it needed? Answer.—Emphatically, No. 4th. What place should prayer occupy in our Mission Bands? Answer.—Drop out prayer, drop out strength. 5th. Should money be taken out of the mission envelopes to pay freight on bales of goods, etc.? Answer.—This brought up quite a discussion as to whether delegates' expenses should be paid or not. Different opinions were expressed. It was thought they should, unless a special expense fund was provided. 6th. Would you advise taking members into the Auxiliary who were not members of the church? Answer.—Thought it was advisable to take them and get them interested in the work, and in this way get them into the Church. If the Auxiliary is the birth-place of a soul, it is a noble work indeed. After this, Mrs. Edmiston, of Perth, gave an address. Mrs. McNachtan, of Cobourg, followed with a very touching and inspiring address. At the evening session, after the devotional exercises, the Clerk of the Presbytery presented the following:—In 1884, when the Presbyterial was first organized, they had \$402; now, \$3,518.10. Dr. Bayne gave a very good address on "The Worldliness of the Church." Mrs. McNachtan gave a brief account of mission work from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and showed the increase in the work. Dr. Robertson followed in an address on Home Missions. He emphasized the fact that the Home Missions were by no means in opposition to the Foreign Missions, and also complimented the women on the great work they were doing. Mrs. Sinclair, Mrs. Cooke, Mrs. Angus, Mrs. McFarlane, Mrs. Scott, and Miss Anderson assisted in the devotional exercises at the various sessions.

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.

CENTRAL INDIA.

Medical Work.

Through the kindness of Dr. Margaret McKellar, we have received the following interesting article, which is the English translation (by herself) of a paper, written in Hindi, and read at the Mela recently held at Ujjain, by Miss Annie Kansingh, a graduate of the Woman's Medical College at Agra. Miss Kansingh is now engaged in medical mission work in the Canadian Woman's Hospital at Indore. From a perusal of the paper, the readers of the LEAFLET will learn, and doubtless with very great satisfaction, the opinion of an educated native Christian woman upon the relation of the medical to other departments of Mission work:—

We see that through the medical mission work, the cause of Christ is greatly enhanced and improving throughout India, and this state of things has taken place only by means and agency of medical work. By this I mean, that now difficulties of every kind, and obstacles have been removed out of the way of evangelical work which in time past were a great hindrance and obstruction in the spreading of the Gospel of our Beloved Saviour Jesus Christ. Our Redeemer, when He was upon this earth, undertook both works in His hand, namely spiritual and corporeal or physical. He never allowed the sick people to depart from Him (after their bodily diseases were healed) without giving them medicines for their souls. In the same manner He now desires that all His true disciples also, who are engaged in medical work, may imitate and follow His excellent example. He wishes that by dispensing medicines for the bodily sickness and infirmities they also at the same time apprise and announce to all the heathen patients about the Saviour and Physician of their souls. And especially we, who are medical workers, should think and consider well in our hearts, that this is our incumbent duty and that for this very purpose we have learned and been brought up in this profession and are now working in the mission fields, that the cause of Christ may be greatly benefited by our exertions and labours. By being engaged as medical officials in the Mission, God has graciously given us a very good opportunity of revealing and making known to all the heathen people the blessed name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, especially in India where we see so many different nations and different manners and customs prevalent among them. It was very difficult and impossible in olden times to get an entrance in their midst and in their houses, and preach the name of Christ. But now, thanks and praise be to that Almighty God who has facilitated our admission and access in their midst and has made easy all those difficulties. And all this has been accomplished merely through the Medical Mission work in India.

Before the arrival of European lady doctors to India, a great many poor helpless Indian women, yea, thousands of them, who never heard the name of the Saviour, perished through the ignorance, violence or cruelty of Indian midwives. But now this violence and cruelty has decreased to a great extent, and are abating and diminishing daily, since the missionary lady doctors have come to India. Besides the blessing of God is showered on their exertions and the light of the knowledge of God and the gift of salvation through His Son Jesus Christ is spreading far and wide through-

out India. In short, both the works, namely, healing the diseases and infirmities of the sick, and saving their immortal souls and winning them for Christ, are progressing and flourishing in this country. Now every difficulty and impediment of dispensing medicines and preaching the gospel is removing far away and every facility of access even in the houses of Indian chiefs and rajahs, is attained by the medical mission officials, who thus find an excellent opportunity of preaching the blessed name of the Lord and His gospel in their midst, which formerly by any other means was altogether impossible. It can be clearly seen that the medical mission workers have surmounted this difficulty and have totally overcome this impregnable fort in India, which by any other plan or contrivance was quite impracticable to conquer.

The strongest gate of iron was broken and thrown open by Lady Dufferin, namely, the Hindoos and Mohamedans who had formerly an aversion for the education of their wives and daughters, now-a-days most gladly and willingly allow them to be instructed in the medical school, and we can now see a number of Hindoo and Mohamedan girls of noble family and position studying medicine in the Medical School, established and opened by Lady Dufferin at Agra. And although there is a great prohibition and restraint for speaking about religious matters to them, nevertheless a great change has taken place in their manners and conduct, etc., merely by living together with the Christian girls of the Medical College there. They, of their own accord, without being invited and persuaded, come and join in the prayer meetings and very gladly listen to the Word of God. Some of them even read the Scripture for themselves, and, like Nicodemus, love the Saviour Jesus Christ, and I should say that all this is the result and consequence of medical work. Had not the medical work been organized in India, how hard it would have been for enlightening the minds and hearts of these heathen females, who are now brought to the light and knowledge of the One True and Living God, and the only Redeemer of all mankind, through the efforts and means used by the medical mission work.

In these days the medical mission work of the Canadian Mission, Indore, is in a prosperous and flourishing state, i.e., bodily and spiritual medicines are daily dispensed among the Indian heathen females to a great extent. They even express their desire of hearing the Word of God, and these patients pay great attention to the preaching of the gospel, and even admit that whatever is said to them about the Saviour and salvation is quite valid and true. There was a time when it was too difficult to preach the gospel to a single woman. But now what a wonderful change has taken place, that thousands and tens of thousands of females come for the sake of medicine and willingly hear the name of our Saviour Jesus Christ. So now we who are the medical mission workers, both European and Indian, should by no means lose this good and excellent opportunity, and besides, we ought not to neglect in preaching the glad tidings of our beloved Saviour to the heathen patients who daily attend our hospitals, because to whom much is given, of him much shall be required also, and whoever takes these talents and hides them in the earth like that wicked and ungrateful servant, he only prepares himself for severe punishment. If we say that we have simply to distribute medicine to the patients, and besides this have nothing else to do with them, because that is only our duty and profession, and we are paid for our labor, or if we are only

desirous of getting fame and honor, and have an ardent desire of acquiring riches and wealth, if this is only our aim and intention, then it is of no use at all to learn medicine and to become a proficient and skilful medical worker. Dear sisters, we should be anxious and care much more for giving spiritual medicine for the saving of souls rather than for the healing of sickness of the human bodies. Suppose only one patient comes to our dispensaries, could we not speak to that one sick person about the Saviour. We should remember and always bear this in our minds and hearts, that for this very purpose our beloved Christ has chosen us and given us a good opportunity of learning such an excellent work, that having taken this weapon or arms we may fight with Satan and fulfil the will of Christ. God has blessed all the mission workers in their respective duties and works in their allotted fields, but more especially to a very large extent His blessings are showered and poured on the exertions and works of the medical mission workers of Indore Mission.

Now, dear sisters, ten talents are delivered to every one of us; we should earn and gain twenty talents more from them, and fight with the enemy, and we ought not to be lazy and slothful in our work for which we have been called. We should not be idle but strive to save souls and win the world for Christ, that when our Lord cometh He may find us cautious, alert, and watching, and that finally we may enter into His eternal bliss through our Lord Jesus Christ.

HONAN.

Women and Girls Receiving Instruction.

FROM MISS M'INTOSH.

Ch'u Wang, Honan, Jan. 14, 1896.

When I wrote you last we were in Japan, and a few days later, in the midst of a pouring rain, we reached Shanghai. While there we had the privilege of meeting Mr. and Mrs. Hudson Taylor, of the China Inland Mission, and other friends. Saturday, Nov. 9th, we arrived in Tientsin, a place which, to me at least, brought back very vividly sad memories of days gone by. Several times during the week we spent there I found myself in the quiet little spot which marks the resting-place of our beloved sisters, now in glory. My thoughts were not all sad however, for, in imagination, I pictured them as rejoicing over the fact that others had come back with me to take up the work which they had laid down. May we, like them, be found faithful and we "shall receive the crown of life."

"Asleep in Jesus, peaceful rest,
Whose waking is supremely blest:
No fear, no woe shall dim that hour
That manifests the Saviour's power."

After a three-week's journey by house-boat we reached Ch'u Wang on Dec. 8th, exactly two months after our departure from Toronto. For several reasons it was deemed advisable that we should remain here for this winter and go on to Hsin Chén when navigation opens in the spring.

Dr. McClure has been having a large number of patients daily coming for treatment, and, as many of these were women, who remained for a longer or shorter time in the compound as in-patients, we had an opportunity of teaching them of the one true God. Mrs. MacKenzie has a class of girls who come regularly every afternoon for instruction. Mrs. McLennan,

too, up to the time of her illness, had a class of younger girls. Many of these girls are exceedingly bright and interesting and learn very rapidly. One part of my work which I enjoy very much is the daily meeting with the three Christian women who live in the compound, namely: Mrs. Wu (the Bible-woman), Mrs. Wang, and little Mrs. Lin. We study together a short portion of Scripture, and then each one leads shortly in prayer.

Last Thursday Mrs. Wu and I went out to a village some forty li away where there are a number of native Christians. The names of some six or eight women have been recorded as candidates for baptism, and it was these women we went to see. We left here at noon and arrived there shortly before dark. The news of our arrival however was soon noised abroad, and crowds of men, women and children filled the yard in a very short time, all eager to see the foreigners. Next morning, immediately after breakfast, they came again, and continued coming, almost without intermission, until evening. Three or four of the native Christians in turn preached to the men in the yard, while we received the women in the house. Of course, with so many people coming and going, we could not do very much in the way of teaching those who were really interested and anxious to learn, but we could and did invite them to come to Ch'u Wang after the Chinese New Year to study.

That evening both men and women met together, as their custom is every week, for prayer. It would have done your heart good, as it did mine, to see this little group of a dozen or more all met together to worship our King, Jesus. I believe that besides this week-day meeting they gather together for service three times every Sabbath. This village is as a bright spot in the midst of the surrounding darkness, and our prayer is that the Truth may spread until many of the other villages in that district may be enlightened by the Sun of Righteousness. Early on Saturday morning we started for home, arriving about twelve o'clock, much pleased with our two days visit.

Pray that we may have showers of blessing in Honan this year. We want to see souls saved, and "He is able."

NORTH-WEST INDIANS.

Good News From the Far North.

FROM MISS BAKER.

Makoce Was'te Reserve, Prince Albert, Feb. 10, 1896.

Many thanks for your very kind letters, always so full of sympathy and encouragement. We fear that you, as well as our many kind friends in the East, will think us very tardy in giving definite information concerning our new home and the work being carried on in this far distant field.

In last September, as you are aware, Prof. Hart visited all the Reserves in this section. It was then decided to erect, at once, a small dwelling house on the Reserve for the use of the teachers. Rev. Mr. Rochester and Mr. Young were most energetic in carrying out the instructions given by the Winnipeg Committee, and to them we owe many thanks for the successful completion of the building.

From the time that it was decided to build up to the present, Miss Cameron and I have scarcely had a leisure moment, so many things to do that

could not possibly be left undone. Our winter set in very early, the river being frozen over the first week in November. We will only add, that after enduring many hardships we took possession of our little Mission home the second week in November.

Many friends have asked "Where is your Reserve located?" It is situated on the North Shore of the Saskatchewan River, about ten miles from Prince Albert. After crossing the river at that town, the trail wends its way through tall pines, or black stumps until you reach the Reserve. The first house to be seen after leaving Prince Albert is the log cabin of our chief. At a distance of half a mile from his cabin, on a high hill stands our little dwelling. Now cast your eyes around and you will see a rolling prairie, a pine forest completely encircling it. It was called "Round Plain." When Prof. Hart was here we had a gathering of the Indians, he asked the chief what name he wished given to the Reserve. He replied: "The land we beheld, and lo, it was good." As this was too long a name it was shortened to "Makoce Was'te (Good Land) Reserve."

One house has proved quite warm. It is lathed and plastered on the outside, which does well in our dry climate. The Ladies' Aid of St. Paul's Church, Prince Albert, furnished double windows, which have added much to its warmth and comfort. We have one room below, good size, with two bedrooms above, a small kitchen added, at back, with a store room above it. Our school-house, as it is at present, we cannot use on very cold days. We then have to teach in our house. For this and other reasons, we will hail the spring with delight. We are one mile from Sturgeon River, a branch of the Saskatchewan; so, for this winter we have to depend on melting snow for all purposes, no easy matter in this cold climate. A small tank was put in, but it was too late to be of any service this winter; but it will be ready for the spring rains and be such a blessing. We will then perhaps be able to get a well dug which we will appreciate.

Although the place is isolated, it is much more satisfactory, as regards the work, to be on the Reserve. The Indians would not believe that we really meant to live among them, until they saw the house being built. All on the Reserve seem kindly disposed, and we do not fear them, the only danger is from the liquor traffic. May the time soon come when it shall be banished from our land.

For the first season, those who came last spring have done very well, each family raised about forty bushels of potatoes, besides other vegetables. They had a lovely field of wheat, of which they felt so proud, but most of it was badly frozen; would have had about 300 bushels. Jockie and Hecanhdes'ka are down at the encampment cutting wood. They were here for about three weeks, when we moved up, and were quite a help to us. They expect to settle here in the spring. As yet we only number about thirty in all. Very few of the old men feel disposed to settle down, but the young men will as soon as they can break away from parents and start for themselves. Several of the lads who were at school, while it was held at the encampment, and whose parents have not yet consented to come, are full of the idea that as soon as they are (tanka) big they are coming to own a farm. One, a lad of fourteen years, said to his mother, "Well I am going to Miss Baker's to talk with her about taking up land." He came and seemed to think himself quite a man; his mother is a widow and he an only child. She would like to come this spring but fears that Tanyanhdinagin (how beautifully he stands) is too young for them to get

on. Another, an orphan boy aged twelve years, whose name is Nas'kas'ka (the one who stirs up the ground with his foot) was here on a visit last autumn. Before leaving he took a board, wrote on it, "This is Nas'kas'-kas land," and set it up where he had made his choice.

We promised all the lads down at the encampment, who had been at school, an invitation to our Christmas tree. So afraid were they of missing it that for two week before the time, every two or three days, a deputation arrived (walking a distance of about fourteen miles), to inquire when they should come. Sammy is here; his mother lives on the Reserve. He has a little brother, George, about seven years old, in school—a bright boy.

We have three girls in school, sisters, in whom we are much interested. The eldest, Anna Was'te wi (Good Sun), aged sixteen years, an invalid, not larger than a girl of ten, has been a martyr to scrofula since three years old. Never had any medical treatment until last summer, excepting Dakota conjuring, etc. With medical treatment and nourishing food, she has much improved, but can never be well. The second, Katie Wi Ite (Sun face), ten years old, is a very bright girl and making rapid progress. She thinks our house a palace, and never wants to go home. One Sabbath we were holding Sunday school in our room. When we were speaking of Heaven she was very attentive. We asked her what her idea of it was. She waited, cast her eyes all around, and then said, "I think it must be just like this tepee." Mary Winyan Was'te (Good Woman), aged seven years, a dear little girl, has been ill for several weeks; a severe cold has settled on her lungs. The Doctor says with the most careful nursing and nourishing food she may possibly recover. We are doing all we can, but her surroundings are so much against her. It is so difficult in their little cabin to secure proper temperature, etc., and they are so ignorant of the laws of health. When the weather permits she is rolled in blankets and brought over to our house for the day, a change which she enjoys. Our enemies tell her parents her sickness has been caused by sending her to school. Either Miss C. or I, visit her morning, noon and evening, and then before we go to bed; carry over her food and administer her medicine. We do hope she may be spared, yet we know our loving Father does all things well.

On Sabbath we have quite an interesting Sunday school; the children enjoy coming, and their parents are willing to have them attend. We keep urging the latter to join us also, but as yet, only the mothers have done so. It is pleasing, however, to see an influence at work in favor of Sabbath keeping. We see our living here is doing good in that respect.

There has been a great deal of sickness which has occupied our time very fully. The matter and method of caring for the sick among our Indian population is one that requires very serious consideration. They are dying rapidly for lack of proper care. Cottage hospitals, it seems to me, would meet our pressing needs; say, one on each large Reserve—even a room or two at each mission station would be a great boon.

We intended speaking of several other matters, but find we have written at length, so will close, thanking you and all the ladies for kind assurances of sympathy and prayers. Although isolated, we are both happy and contented. Your kindly interest, so affectionately expressed, is most helpful and sustaining. Miss Cameron joins in warmest love.

P.S.—Have been having very cold weather. Could not get this sooner to the post office. Some days thermometer sinking to 50° and 60° below zero.

“Precious in the Sight of the Lord is the Death of His Saints.”

FROM MRS. MOORE.

Mistawasis, March 9, 1896.

Since writing to you a few weeks ago, Mrs. Dreever, who I said was recovering from her illness, suddenly relapsed, and after nearly two weeks of suffering (about four weeks of illness in all), passed into the eternal rest. We feel her death to be a very, very great loss to this mission. I feel sure the ministers who have previously been in charge here—Mr. Nicol and Mr. Lewis—can testify that the mission has sustained a severe loss in the departure of one so good, so capable, and so willing, cheerful and useful. She was telling me a short time ago how sad the people were when Mrs. Nicol died, and thought it hard that one so useful should be so soon called from them. We little knew that she herself should be so soon laid to rest. “How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out.”

Almost the whole congregation assembled at the church on Tuesday morning, and the body of one greatly beloved was tenderly laid to rest to await a glorious change on the resurrection morning.

“Of all His own He loseth none ;
They shall be gathered one by one.
He gathereth the smallest grain ;
His travail shall not be in vain.”

A Visit From John Thunder.

FROM MISS FRASER.

Indian School, Portage la Prairie, Feb. 13, 1896.

John Thunder has been visiting us. It is over seven years since I saw him. He has not changed very much in personal appearance, but any one can see that the Gospel has wrought a wonderful change on him. He went with us on Sabbath afternoon to the Mission church and gave an address, which, it was evident to everyone present, produced a deep impression, due doubtless to his great earnestness; he also played and sang a hymn in Sioux, which would be enough to melt the heart of anyone. It was indeed encouraging to us to see one formerly a heathen testifying to his race the power of the grace of God as it is in the Gospel of Christ. He spent a few nights at the tepees, and held a prayer meeting one night. The rest of the time he spent among them. He told me he was much struck with the earnestness of David and Peter, and was astonished himself at the change which the Gospel produced on the whole band. But while we have reason to rejoice at what has already been done, there is much need for prayer and labor for further success in our work. “But our help is from God.”

INDIANS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Heathen Neglect of the Old and Feeble.

FROM MRS. SWARTOUT.

Ucluelet, January 21, 1896.

Friends in the East are apt to think that we get lonely away in a place like this, but with me time passes very rapidly. The trouble is that I can not get enough work done. How thankful I should be that God has given me strength to do the work; for some years ago I was not able to do it. We have got a nice new schoolhouse built here now, which is so much better than having school and service in an Indian's house.

Some of the people have very good houses, about the same as white people; and a few of them keep them very clean, but the rest are very dirty. In fact, when we go into some of their houses, it is hard to find room to put down one's feet without stepping on dishes, pots, or pans. But I hope there will soon be an improvement in this department. I have been trying to set them to clean up their houses, and I intend doing more of this kind of work as soon as the rainy season is over.

One thing I dislike very much among the Indians is that they care very little about the old people. When they are unable to carry wood and catch fish, they say they are no use; so they do not bother with them. Last summer we found an old woman in a house that had no window in it to let the sunlight in, and she was all alone and blind, and had been there for two or three months, with no fire and very little to eat. The dirt and smell were almost more than one could stand, and yet the Indians standing round would not help us make her clean and comfortable. But we did not have to care for her long, for she soon passed through the dark portals into her eternal home. I sometimes wish I had nothing else to do but take care of these poor old sick ones, and help others in their houses, and so on. But, having my own work to do and also to sew for two children and myself, I have not very much time left.

I hope you will continue to pray for us that we may be faithful in the work which the Master has given us to do.

Working in the Midst of Difficulties.

FROM MRS. RUSSELL.

Ahouset, B.C., March 4, 1896.

Ahouset is about thirty miles further up the coast from Ucluelet. We came here on the 7th December from Ucluelet. The school started in eleven days after we got here. They thought that was a long time. The scholars went to work and have done well. The majority of them are bright and clever, and learn to read, write and sing quite readily. Three or four boys are already reading in part ii. of the first book. One boy in particular learns very fast and understands well what he is reading. We nearly

always talk in English to him and he speaks it very well. He is a fine young fellow and we are hoping great things from him. Mr. Russell is making him his teacher in the language. There has been a good deal of liquor here this winter. I believe there always is at this time of the year, as a good many Indians go to Victoria and come back on the schooners when they are coming to take them out sealing. They manage to bring a good deal of liquor back with them, about half the men on the ranche were drunk for several days. Some of the women were drinking too. As soon as they start to drink they want to fight and smash things. Nearly all one night Mr. Russell had to be out to keep the men from killing one another, and as I sat in the house I could hear the windows smashing, the men fighting, and women and children crying. The men never offer to touch Mr. Russell, no matter how bad they are. I am not afraid of them for myself as I never let them in the house when they are drinking. Although they break other windows sometimes, I know they will not touch ours, or they would not touch me if they did come in. I am glad to know that there are a few, even among the young men, who will have nothing to do with liquor. Our Sunday services are not yet as well attended as we would like to see them, but they are gradually increasing. We are sadly in need of a school-house. We hold school and services in a corner of a house where two families are living and there is always more or less noise. It is rather lonely, but as I always have something to do and have lots of company from the Indians I do not mind it much. We are one hundred miles from our post-office but as the captain of the boat kindly brings us our mail, we get it every ten days. I like it here and like the work very much.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

Acknowledgments of Clothing and Gifts.

FROM MISS ROSS.

Mhow, C.I., February 12, 1896.

The presents for the children came to hand in good time. The distribution in the bazaar school took place on the 14th of January in the new girls'-school building, which we have occupied for the last fifteen months. There were 131 girls present, also a large proportion of the mothers and several English ladies. The room was nicely decorated, and in the rear, in a conspicuous place, stood our motto: "The World for Christ." The children entertained the audience with a programme consisting of hymns, recitations, a dialogue pointing out the sin of stealing, and a little song on ploughing, sowing and reaping. The dress of one wee girl who recited amused the English ladies very much. She wore part of a white lace curtain, which did duty as a sari. The girls were dressed in their best, and many of them looked very nice indeed in their gay-coloured saris. They sat in rows on the floor, and behaved much better than on any former similar occasion. The visitors gave them great credit for their good behaviour. Each one received either a doll or a piece of print, and the

mothers and children looked grateful and happy. Before the close of the two happy hours we spent together, each received some native sweetmeat, which added to the general satisfaction, the mothers also sharing in this treat.

The distribution in the two village schools, Kishna-poorā and Garib-poorā (village of the poor), took place several days later, and the little folk were much gratified. We bought a lot of Turkey red for Garib-poorā, and several of the girls seem much more civilized since receiving their little gift. This village is on the outskirts of the Mhow cantonment. The school was opened on the 1st of October. The children were wild and unruly, and knew nothing of what school is. When asked to close their eyes during prayer, several of them fled from the room. They still run in and out in a very unschool-like fashion; but yet there is a marked improvement in their general behaviour.

On Wednesday afternoons I try to get the mothers together to tell them of salvation through Christ, but their minds are so full of dark superstition that the Gospel as yet is to them an idle tale. But we thank God that we know that our Redeemer liveth, and that His Word will not return to Him void.

Very many thanks to you all for the box of gifts, which help so much in the work. If the dear girls at home could only see the satisfaction and pleasure that their pretty dolls give to the little maidens here, they would feel well rewarded for their willing service.

For next Christmas, in addition to the dolls, we would be glad of 60 or 70 strong bags, which could be distributed, for bringing the books and slates to school.

FROM MISS M'WILLIAMS.

Lakesend Mission, Feb. 26, 1896.

The Bibles you so kindly sent for the children arrived safely, and should have been acknowledged sooner. Our children have all been sick with bad colds, some requiring very close attention and poulticing; and I have been alone in the house with ten sick children, and the matron so sick with a cold that she could not do any of the night attendance, and found the cooking and kitchen-work all she could manage during the day, as they were all too sick to help her. I have been very well, however, and have not had any cold all winter,

I had intended writing you some time ago about our Christmas tree. First, I planned to get a *green tree* if possible, as the bare, leafless willows seemed so unlike the ones we had used at home; but, the evening before, Mr. Arthur brought one of the poplars in, as it was impossible to get any green ones. Miss Jackson, Mr. Arthur, and I trimmed it, and it looked very pretty indeed.

About two weeks before Christmas, my sisters and sister-in-law had made up a box for us, and had sent it. It contained our Christmas plum-pudding, large enough for all and for several meals besides, and several cakes. And then some ladies from our Auxiliary in Guelph (Chalmers' Church) sent a number of packages of candies and nuts. There was an abundant supply for all the children—tree and all—for Christmas and New Years, and for all the grown-up children present on Christmas Eve at the

little entertainment. We did not require to buy any sweetmeats, which was quite an item. The remainder of the box was filled with old cotton suitable for bandaging and dressing sores, this being the third supply I had received from friends to whom I had written for it. I think, if I may be allowed to make a suggestion, that all Presbyterians preparing school supplies should be asked to send a liberal supply of old cotton, as, if other schools are like this one, it is an *actual and daily requisite* in considerable quantities, and none, so far as I am aware, came here in the supplies last year.

At 8 p.m. on Christmas eve, we started our programme. The parents seemed very much delighted with the singing and recitations by their children. Then the distribution of prizes from the Christmas tree took up considerable time. Miss Dickie, a friend of mine, had sent us a barrel of apples and a liberal supply of booklets, and I had purchased something for each school child then in attendance—books wherever I thought they would be suitable. Mr. Arthur had bought books for the older men who attend the services here—whites and half-breeds—and so the tree looked quite well filled. The meeting broke up shortly before twelve, all seeming to have enjoyed it. The children, I know, enjoyed it thoroughly.

I had a rather strange experience the week before last. Some weeks ago Mr. Arthur and I went over to Pasquah's Reserve to visit the sick boy, son of John Plans, an Indian. Every week since I have gone over on Sabbath afternoon, immediately after Sabbath School or service, and have done what I could for the poor little fellow, who, though two years of age, was not any larger than some babies I have seen of only two months. On Thursday, February 13th, they sent over for Mr. Arthur, as the baby was dying and the mother was frightened; but he was at the Fort. So I put the school in charge of Miss Jackson and went over, taking Flora McKay to interpret. The father was away, the baby very weak, and the mother seemingly quite nervous. I did what I could, and waited with her until her husband arrived home. I thought probably the baby would last a day or two longer. Next morning, just about daybreak, two young Indians came to tell us that the baby was dead. I let them in and took them down to the furnace-room, where it was warm, as they seemed half frozen, it was such a bitterly cold morning. When they got warmed, they went to the little graveyard near here that belongs to this Mission and dug a grave, and then came back here for breakfast. Just as we were at worship, the little funeral arrived, and the Indians came in for breakfast. This seemed so different from the custom in India, where no food would be partaken of until the funeral would be over and certain rites of purification gone through with. (While the men were at breakfast, the horses attached to the sleigh in which the little coffin was, turned and trotted back half way home before they were caught.) After breakfast, I knew by the way the Indians were talking to each other and looking at me that they had some thoughts of my supplying Mr. Arthur's place at the funeral; and, as I certainly did not wish to do that, I went up to my bedroom. Pretty soon an Indian came up and right into my room and told me the sleigh was ready for me. I explained to him I could not take Mr. Arthur's place, and that I did not wish to go and take any part, but was quite willing to accompany them. He said John Plans wished me to go, as he did not wish to bury his boy without someone present. Should we not rejoice that even a few have gotten thus far? I went; and when we got to

the grave, John Plane stood beside where I was standing, and they brought the little coffin and laid it, not in the grave, but just at our feet, and then stood looking at me. I had prayed for guidance before I left, and it seemed then as if there were only one thing I could do. Using the Indian, who could speak English, as interpreter, I said a few words, and then prayed a short prayer; and they laid the little body away on the hillside. We trust the little spirit is with Jesus.

FROM MISS JOHNSTON.

Alberni, B. C., March 24, 1896.

The girls and I moved into the new Home on the 5th of March, just five months after the formal opening. The work of getting the furnace in and plumbing done was much delayed for various reasons, and we could not move in until all was finished. Having given Mr. Swartout the two rooms assigned him in the old building, we were very much more crowded than ever before. We felt so sure of being in the new Home for Christmas that we did not mind the crowding for a few weeks, but it has been so much longer than any of us thought! However, it only helps to make us realize more fully our blessings since coming into this, and this new Home is a great blessing to us.

The girls seem to take more pride in doing their work well; it is much better done, with less trouble; and, when one moves through these large, well-ventilated rooms, one's heart is filled with gratitude to the Giver of all good things.

This has been my first experience in opening boxes sent from Toronto, and the contents far exceeded my expectation. If I could find words to express my thankfulness for the quilts alone, those whose love and patient labour furnished them would feel repaid; but when I think of all the other good things, I can only say, "Thanks be unto Him." We were so glad to see so many games, toys, and books. Our little folks are very fond of pictures. We had several cases of sickness just before and after moving, and the coloured scrap-books were so nice for the convalescents. We all appreciate the kindness of our young friends in the East who have so kindly remembered the little Indian boys and girls.

Since writing you, one of our little girls, Minnie, has gone, we doubt not, to be with Jesus. She was ill about six months. Now another one, Polly, is daily growing weaker, and we feel that ere many months have passed she, too, will have joined the band around the throne of God. Kenneth is a little better than he was. He is still with his father and mother.

I regret exceedingly not having mentioned the receipt of the stove. We received it in very good condition. There was one little break, which we were able to have repaired, and I do not think that it could be too highly recommended. It is a very good stove.

The members of the "Clover Leaf" Mission Band, Frederickton, N. B., sent us so many useful things besides what came from Toronto that we do not need anything in the way of clothing, so far as I can estimate at present.

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. Grant, Home Secretary, 540 Church 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 questions concerning the Foreign Field, as to Bible-readers, teachers, or children in the various Mission Schools, should be addressed to Mrs. Shortreed, Foreign Secretary, 224 Jarvis Street, Toronto.

Letters containing remittances of money for the W.F.M.S. may be addressed to Miss Isabella J. George, Treasurer, 277 Jarvis 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.

All correspondence relating to the sending of goods to the North-West, or other Mission fields, will be conducted through the Secretary of Supplies, Mrs. A. Jeffrey, 4 Classic Avenue, Toronto.

All letters to the Board not directly bearing upon work specified in the above departments should be addressed to Mrs. Hugh Campbell, Corresponding Secretary, 220 Richmond Street West, Toronto.

The President's address is, Mrs. Ewart, 540 Church Street, Toronto.

Notices of Presbyterian meetings intended for the LETTER LEAFLET may be sent to the Editor, Mrs. Geo. Hunter Robinson, 592 Markham Street, Toronto.

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78.	Duties of Officers of Auxiliaries and Mission Bands.....	Free
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For above apply to Mrs. Telfer, 72 St. Albans Street, Toronto. Postage and express paid.
 Applications for Reports to be made to Mrs. Shortreed, Home Secretary, 224 Jarvis Street, Toronto.

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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. Payable at Toronto General Post Office.

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