

"The World for Christ."



Monthly Letter Leaflet.

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

VOL. VII. TORONTO, JANUARY, 1891. No. 9.

SUBJECTS FOR PRAYER.

JANUARY.—For all branches of this society ; That each member may be able to consecrate time and money to the work of Foreign Missions. For all sister societies in Canada, Great Britain and the United States. For rulers, that their hearts may be disposed to seek the good of the Kingdom.

“God hath chosen the weak things of this world to confound the things that are mighty.”—1 Cor. i. 27.

Day of Special Prayer.

THE day of Special Prayer for the removal of indifference and other discouragements in the work of the W.F.M.S. agreed upon by the Annual Meeting in April last will, by appointment of the Board, be observed on January the 9th, the day set apart by the Evangelical Alliance for intercession on behalf of Foreign Missions. Societies will use their own discretion as to holding a special meeting for this purpose ; where such a meeting does not seem practicable the day will be remembered by members of the Society in private prayer pleading with God that the indifference towards the work of this Society which still prevails

among many women in our church may be removed, that those who are not in sympathy with us may be brought to see clearly their duty and privilege in this respect, and that all those already engaged in the work may be quickened to deeper earnestness and to greater effort.

DR. WILHELMINA GRANT FRASER AND MISS ROSS, our missionaries, who left Canada for India some time ago, sailed on the 22nd ult. from England for Bombay, per steamship Roumania.

Visit of Mr. and Mrs. Watt.

MR. AND MRS. WATT, for more than twenty years missionaries in Tanna, New Hebrides, visited Toronto on their way to resume their labours after a year's furlough in Scotland. The island of Tanna, as all who have read the autobiography of Mr. J. G. Paton are aware, is a field of exceeding difficulty and danger. Notwithstanding persistent and violent opposition, the work of Mr. Watt and other missionaries has been blessed to the conversion of not a few of these poor people. There are now from four to five hundred professing Christians on the island, most of them learning to read, and about seven hundred in all who attend worship. The rest of the population, numbering seven thousand, are still cannibals and savages.

A meeting of the ladies convened by the Board was held on December 1st in St. James' Square Church, Mrs. MacLaren presiding, to hear an address by Mrs. Watt. All were delighted with the brief but clear account of the work which she presented, and with her graphic descriptions of the people, their religion, customs, dress and appearance. The condition of the women is very degraded and their suffering severe. It is, however, a remarkable fact that though the men are much given to drunkenness, the women are altogether free from this vice. When Mr. and Mrs. Watt entered Tanna, four years after Mr. Paton was driven out, they encountered great hardships and dangers from the persistent hostility of the natives. The first ten years were "dreadful years." There were earthquakes of frequent recurrence, annual hurricanes, and constant peril. Repeatedly threatened with fire and death, scarcely a night did they lie down to sleep

without apprehension. In these trying years the native teachers who accompanied them from a neighboring island, were an unspeakable comfort and support to the missionaries. They were their body-guard, and for a long time the only link between them and the fierce and cruel population of whose language and habits they were ignorant. Mrs. Watt said that although Christian people possibly do not overestimate the sacrifices made by missionaries, they certainly under-estimate the devotion and self-denial of native teachers, who cheerfully endure losses, hardships and persecutions such as cannot easily be conceived of. She spoke in the highest praise of the character and exemplary lives of the converts. The change from heathenism is so great that there is no room to doubt its genuineness. Moreover there is among the Tannese no gloss of civilization which often passes for Christianity here. They carry their religion into every-day life in a way which might rebuke more favoured Christians. After singing a hymn in the native language, Mrs. Watt closed her address by earnestly craving the prayers of the society for Tanna. A standing vote of thanks was tendered to the speaker, and the meeting was closed with prayer led by Miss Wilson.

Special Notice to Secretaries of New Auxiliaries and Mission Bands.

IMMEDIATELY after the organization of an Auxiliary or Mission Band the newly appointed Secretary should send to her Presbyterian Secretary the name of Auxiliary or Band, date of organization, name of Organizer, name of President, Treasurer and Secretary, with post office address of the latter. The Presbyterian Secretary will then forward the information to the Home Secretary, in order that the true increase for each month may appear in the *Letter Leaflet*.

If any Auxiliaries or Mission Bands have not received their share of the Fourteenth Annual Report, will they kindly communicate, as soon as possible, with the Home Secretary. Occasionally a parcel of reports goes astray, but unless the Auxiliary or Band for which it was intended makes known to Presbyterian

or Home Secretary that it has not been received we naturally conclude that it has reached its proper destination.

Through the medium of the *Letter Leaflet* the Home Secretary desires to thank the kind friends who returned copies of the Twelfth and Fourteenth Annual Reports. By doing so they have made it possible to supply those who had need of them and have materially helped us in the work.

Somebody is Watching.

“ I THINK I will stay at home to-day from the missionary meeting. I am tired. I shall influence no one. I have nothing of special interest to say if I go. There will be only a few there, though *many* might go as well as not. I seldom excuse myself, and am sure my time is much more occupied than that of many of the women in our church.”

So said a certain member of a Woman's Missionary Society a few months ago. But no sooner were the words spoken than the good faithful prompter, conscience, began to work, and this is what it said : “ *Don't* be discouraged. If *you* fail, those who usually stand with you through summer's heat and winter's cold, through sunshine and through storms, may lose heart. Go for His sake, whose you are and whom you serve.”

What was the result ? Weary in mind and body, but cherishing the always strong desire to discharge each known duty, the lady made ready for the coming meeting. It was strange how there came into her mind one helpful item after another from the month's reading that she would carry. Strange how she wondered she could have ever *thought* to stay at home. Nothing daunted, though a call for a member of the circle was unavailing, *because a sister of the church had come to spend the afternoon*, nor yet because another “ *must go down street to-day*,” she hastened to the place where the few were wont to gather. Prayers were offered in the hush of the holy place, the songs of Zion rose from grateful hearts, earnest words were spoken by those who were humbly and devotedly doing their part to carry out our Saviour's

last commission, and the meeting ended. Had anyone been influenced that day?

Several weeks after, this note came to her who had well-nigh ailed to be in her accustomed place: "My dear friend,—I send a dollar, and I want to tell you that the last time I saw you pass to the afternoon missionary meeting, I watched you out of sight, and made up my mind that I would keep a reckoning and would put a little into the collection for the meeting. every time, whether I was there or not. My friends made so much fun of the mite-box you gave me, that I had to hide it, but I am not so much afraid of it as I was. I don't know why it isn't as sensible as keeping a diary. It is a sort of diary written in the sign language that the angels understand." Sister, *Somebody is watching.*—*Sel.*

NORTH-WEST.

A New School Building at Cote's Reserve.

CROW STAND SCHOOL, *August 2, 1890.*

MISS E. M. ARMSTRONG.—It seems hardly possible that two months have passed since I received your kind letter, yet it is so.

My failure to reply at once is not the result of want of appreciation of the interest in our work and sympathy for us expressed by you and the ladies of your society. Such letters are very encouraging and always make each one's duties seem wonderfully light.

The mail which brought your letter brought us also the sad news of my sister's death. It was necessary for me to go to Winnipeg at once. I did not return until the first week in July. During my absence, my sister Mattie, who had come out in April to visit and help me, had charge of the teaching. Mr. John Black, the former teacher, gave her some assistance.

On July the 4th a picnic was given to the children and their parents. Upwards of three hundred people were present. A very pleasant afternoon was spent by both whites and Indians. All took an active part in the sports. The tug-of-war caused a pleasant excitement among the Indians. It has altogether had

such a happy influence over parents and children, that I think a picnic will be an annual occurrence at the Crow Stand.

The new school building is rising as rapidly as possible under the circumstances. At present work is stopped, the workmen being engaged putting up hay. I do not think much will be done before 1st September.

We are so very crowded in this house that every delay in the building of the other one seems an age.

The new building is of stone and will have two class rooms and two small private rooms on the ground floor. The second floor will have all the girls' bedrooms.

Miss McLean has been away for four weeks' holidays. Part of the time I had charge of her department. Her duties are by no means light, and some of them are very unpleasant. We were all very glad to see her back again.

She had taken one of the little girls home with her. The visit among white people has made a great improvement on the little thing. She chatters away to us now in English where, before, we could scarcely get an English word.

Just now we have only fifty-two children in the school. Some of the big boys are helping with the hay and a few are sick. I think in another week we will have sixty children in the school.

Though the children are far from what we would like them to be, yet I am getting very proud of them. I cannot mention any one thing in which they excel. It is their general deportment that I *feel* pleasanter. I think the *gentlemanly* germ is slowly developing in the boys.

The poor plant will need *years* of shielding and nursing before any fruit will be seen.

Oh! there are so many difficulties to fight, that we often get discouraged, but again, we have much to be thankful for. I do not think our people are nearly as bad as many of the Indians in the North-West. We have a very nice Sunday School. Quite a number of grown-up people come. Just now I have a class of women, I have one of them interpret for me. They are very attentive, and say they try to do what is right, but know they fail often. They need a great deal of encouragement and sympathy to lead them to look to Jesus for help. We can only scatter the seed in faith and leave the harvest with Him.

I am afraid I have not given you much information about our school, though I have written so much. I think Mr. Laird knows better what you would like to know.

Indeed it is most helpful to know of the prayers of so many women being offered in our behalf.

Miss McLean and my sister join me in thanks for your kindness.

Extracts from Letters.

ARMDALE MISSION, *August 22, 1890.*

MISS C. B. MCKAY.—We are very much pleased to hear from you again.

I did not receive your first letters, they must have gone astray. I am again teaching, after three weeks' holidays. I have very few attending at present, all the larger ones are helping their parents make hay, consequently this leaves me with only the smaller classes.

My father is not very well again; all the rest of the family are well.

We are pleased to hear you are again preparing clothing for us. The nearest station is only thirty miles from here so we will be able to get them earlier. Our chief Mistawasis is well, he is always pleased to hear any little message that is sent to him from the ladies of your societies.

I have thirty-two pupils enrolled this quarter, fifteen boys and seventeen girls, they are all learning well. The Indian agent inspects every month. I received a new supply of school material this summer from the Government, which will enable me to carry on my work much better. The old woman I spoke of in my letter last winter is still alive and well, she came to church last Sabbath.

Sept. 2nd.—I have 35 pupils enrolled this quarter, and they keep me very busy. We received a new supply of stationery for my school from the Government, and the children are quite delighted with their new books and slates, and take great interest in their work. I take them over to the church every day where we sing to the organ. They have learned to keep time splendid.

ly and can sing several hymns, such as, *Jesus loves me, When He Cometh, Near The Cross, He Leadeth Me.* They are very quick in learning any new hymn they hear. The old woman I wrote about last winter is still living and quite smart. She came to church last Sunday, after service she came over and had dinner with us, I told her I had written to the ladies about her that she was the oldest woman on the reserve. She said, "I wonder what they would say if they saw me." The chief Mistawasis is well, he often speaks of the kindness that is shown him through the ladies of the W. I. M. Society. Last Monday most of the men and women came to the churchyard to plant flowers on the graves of their friends and relatives. They take great care of them, each person his or her own, and they keep them nice all summer through.

God, the Source of Strength.

EDMONTON, N.-W. T., *Sept. 15, 1890.*

MR. M. ANDERSON.—Yours of August 11th to hand, and many thanks for your kindness and interest expressed in the accomplishing of the work in which we are employed. Since we have been raised out of the mire in which some of our heathen brethren still remain, we feel it our duty and also a privilege to assist in raising them to the same level and freedom which we have so long and peacefully enjoyed, it is a proof that we are trying to imitate Him in His message of love and mercy to fallen humanity.

We hope that our combined efforts may accomplish the object at which they aim, that the glory of our God may be increased and His praise be universal, so that our earth might be as a second heaven below, and that all people and nations may be ready to meet our Lord and Master when he cometh to take unto Himself those whom He hath redeemed into His own established and eternal kingdom.

We feel deeply indebted to Him for the encouragement and progress which has already been attained, but we long to see all the evil by which we are surrounded overthrown, His power and

love established in our hearts, that we may dwell in brotherly love one with another and enjoy those pleasures which the world can neither give nor take away.

We pray, therefore, that each may still continue in the good work given us to perform, and feel it a duty and a privilege for us to be so engaged when trying to promote His cause and kingdom in our midst, but like Him we have to look for trials and oppositions that we may feel our own weakness and rely more assuredly upon His guidance and strength, we thank you therefore for the supplications you have made on our behalf, and trust that they may be realized and that our work might become more fruitful. Our hope and trust is in God, by whose help we alone can overcome the trials and hinderances by which we are now beset, and who alone can renew the hearts of those places under our care.

The Indian Woman's Missionary Society.

BEULAH, P. O., Man., Nov. 3, 1890.

MR. JOHN THUNDER.—I got your letter quite a while ago, but I have no chance to write to any one. Same time our Missionary was telling me that those ladies of Board was so many trouble was upon them so. I don't feel like to give you more trouble with this poor composition. But I am glad to tell you the works of Indian W. F. M. S. They were get long well. They have meet on every Thursday sewing and they were talking about the work and also praying to God and asking the blessings etc. I understood they are get along far better than last year. Ourselves we were visiting around the reserve every Tuesday and give out the our poor reference wherever we go. Mrs. Harvie: There some old Indians live in this reserve who were been strong whole of their owned customs yet. But what we knew that words of God is like the seed. So the Missionary were trying sowing the seed into the their hearts. It will be the seed rising up by and by and they may become to see the Light of God and say "What shall I do to be saved." I always to wishing to see those kind Ladies in Ontario, but I know that I couldn't do that in this world. But what I know I could see

them in the Heavenly Home if I do the right into the sight of God in this world.

May the Lord help you into the work, which the Lord given you to do.

Mrs. Harvie, I did not asking you to write to me if you have no chance don't write.

Trinidad.

TUNAPUNA, *Sept. 15, 1890.*

REV. DR. JOHN MORTON. Please convey to the W. F. M. Society (W. D.), my sincere thanks for their contribution of \$300 so kindly voted to work in this district. As in former years Red Hill School will be a first charge on this grant. Mausica and St. Helena schools which your Society enabled me to open will be met out of the Government grant and ordinary revenue. Circumstances have caused me to move forward with great rapidity and open four new schools. Three of these are in rented houses, and I hope for this year, to get from Government grants and other sources, enough to carry them on. I will not now confuse you with too many names, and particulars. The fourth school is at a place called St. Thomas' Village, Chaguanas. The owner of an adjoining estate gave me a site and contributes \$4 a month. Application has been made to the proprietors of another estate for \$4 a month, I erected a suitable building which is doing good work for young and old. In going thus forward I had to leave my estimates for the year behind and your contribution was a great boon. At the end of the year now so quickly approaching, I will, (D. V.) report in detail as to the expenditure of the \$300.

We were offered the use of a house on El Gocons estate which is four miles from this, and not in the direction of Chaguenas. and yesterday afternoon we had a delightful meeting there. The place was crowded with men, women and children. I have placed a Catechist on the estate and besides Catechists' work he will teach a Hindu school in the morning. The work is opening up before us month by month. Men and means are needed, and most of all the Divine Blessing.

REV. DR. MORTON'S letter was accompanied by one from Mrs. Morton, from which we gather many encouraging facts connected with mission work in Tunapuna. In describing the methods and progress of the work in this district, Mrs. Morton says:—"You will understand that when we took up the new district of Tunapuna, there were no Christians, and no inquirers, and therefore nothing to be done, except to visit the heathen, attend to the schools, which increased in number gradually, beginning with one; and instruct the young men and women who accompanied us to the new scene of labor. Things have changed now. That was nine years ago. We have now two churches, eight good school-houses, including St. Helena and Mansiqua, built by your society, forty communicants, twelve schools, besides the superintendence of the E. Indians in three Government schools, and seven catechists to be guided and trained. Most of the catechists, teachers and monitors have been raised up within the district itself, and within the time mentioned. These results among an almost illiterate people represent a great deal of persevering toil, as a moment's thought will assure you. The character of our work is changed from what it was when we had only heathens around us, but it is harder not easier. Dr. Morton's time is largely given to training in the Scriptures (principally in Hindi) the catechists and teachers. He has not much time to visit the Heathen."

Of her own special work among the women and girls Mrs. Morton writes hopefully, and as follows:—"I have three women's meetings weekly at different stations, and when I can find time I have a meeting announced on some estate, where I go with the catechist or Bible women, and generally secure in this way an audience of from thirty to forty. My women's meetings are poorly attended, the great drawback is that those who work by the day, not by the task, are very often just returning from the field at six o'clock, when our meeting is over. Still I teach as many in an afternoon meeting of two hours as I could by going to their houses, and have a much better opportunity with them. I visit one school each week, superintend the sewing in all, teach the singing of the native hymns to all within my reach, and on Sabbaths am on duty till 5.30 p. m., with about forty minutes for luncheon. Added to this I have my little

“Home” to look after. I have had five girls, the same five since the middle of January. For three months we rented a small house, since that I have them in the basement storey of our own dwelling-house, formerly used as a school-room.”

On the whole Mrs. Morton's heart is cheered and encouraged by the results that have attended the establishment of this training school for girls. One has learned to play the accompaniment to the native hymns on a small organ, has a good knowledge of the Scriptures, is able to make a lesson profitable and interesting to a class either in English or in Hindustan, and is well acquainted with household work. Another, who knew nothing when she entered the home but cane piece work, will soon read the Bible well in Hindi, sews well, and is learning to be smart about washing, ironing, cooking, etc.

The girls are looked after by a colored woman, who is an active and well-disposed person. They worship with the family, though several of them do not understand much English, and daily receive religious instruction. Our prayers are asked for a blessing in this school, and that the way may be opened for its enlargement and more efficient working, if it be God's will.

Acknowledgment of Clothing.

CROWSTAND SCHOOL, KAMSACK P. O., N.-W.T.,

November 17, 1890.

REV. G. A. LAIRD.—Your letter of inquiry regarding clothing shipped from Lindsay Presbyterial Society came to hand last mail. We have received this clothing all safe. We are all greatly pleased with the large supply of useful articles that have been forwarded, they will aid very materially in keeping the school children comfortable during the winter months. I am unable to write at any length at present but hope to after a little. Please convey our sincere thanks to all the kind donors for their labor of love.

Perhaps before now, you have heard of the somewhat serious sickness that has visited our school and the reserves. For several weeks the school was turned into a hospital, all the children

being down with scarlet fever, happily it was not of a malignant type and after several weeks of anxious watching and careful nursing all have been restored to health and the school is again going on as usual. Many of the people, however, are still suffering from the effects of the disease. You may imagine that our hands have been pretty full, as this trouble broke out just as we were using every effort to get the new school as nearly completed as possible before the cold weather came on. In the circumstances I could not get an Indian to volunteer to go after the clothing, and as we were completely out, and the children had to have a complete change before the school could be reopened, I got a man and team at a cost of \$15.00 to bring the clothing to the reserve. We do find it very inconvenient to be so far from a railway station I assure you. Our stone building is much larger than at first intended. It is 30 x 40 feet and three floors. We found that our first calculation would not give us sufficient room, and when the Government inspector came he strongly advised that an additional storey be put on. This has been done, it has given a good deal of additional work and thrown the work later, I fear it is too late to plaster this fall, but we look forward to having it finished just as soon as possible and the prospect is that it will be filled with children. At present we are not able to accommodate all who wish admission.

FILE HILLS, ASSINIBOINE, *December 3, 1890.*

MR. ALEX. SKENE.—The clothing shipped by the Brockville, Kingston and Glengarry Presbyterian Societies, and also a box from Belleville Missionary Band, are now in our hands, arriving in good order. Please thank the ladies for their generous response, to my request for "a good supply." Half of last year's supply still on hand, and have received this year a considerable quantity of unmade clothing, I think with the exception of boys' pants and boots we will make out. As to the quality of the clothing everything is *good*, in fact the greater part deserves to be classed as extra, and I might add for the most part suitable. As to next year's requirements, I shall write to you before Christmas and let you know what we shall require.

Birtle Indian School.

BIRTLE, *Nov. 13, 1890.*

MR. G. G. MCLAREN.—Your letter of the 6th inst., and a case of goods was received at the school to-day. I did not see the dray man, who would have the bill, but I suppose it is the case the shipping bill of which you enclosed. I have not had time to examine the contents yet, this being mail night I thought I would reply at once, but they will doubtless be found most useful. I thought the people of London had been very liberal when they made their last shipment and had done their share for one year, but it appears their supplies are inexhaustible. You will kindly convey to them our most sincere thanks for their help.

27th.—On the 25th inst. I received a number of large bales of clothing from Lanark and Renfrew intended largely for the Indians at "Bird Tail" to be distributed by Mr. McArthur. I have sent him word they are here.

INDIAN AGENT'S OFFICE, INDIAN HEAD.

October 15, 1890.

MR. W. S. GRANT, INDIAN AGENT.—In reply to your letter of the 23rd of August last, which I received in box of clothing, I beg to say that M. T. McLean having resigned, I have taken charge of it. I also beg to thank you on behalf of the Indians for your kind presents, and I may say that the Indians are very grateful for same.

PRINCE ALBERT, *December 7, 1890.*

MISS BAKER.—Your kind note received last week. The box of clothing has also reached me safely, have not yet opened it, but will do so next week, and commence distributing. Thanks inexpressible to the ladies of Huron Pres., who so kindly contributed, and to all the ladies who so kindly aid in the work. They can scarcely realize how invaluable their assistance is,

indeed, I do not think the schools could be carried on without their liberal supply of clothing. Great is the good being accomplished by the W.F.M.S., and great will be the reward. Will write after New Year.

OKANASE RESERVE, MAN, Dec. 5, 1890.

REV. MR. FLETT.—Your letter of 14 Oct., came duly to hand, and lately the six bales of clothing for which receive my best thanks. The goods sent are very much such as we required, and I do not think you could have sent me more suitable clothes.

For next year you could not do better than repeat this year's bale, but please send more yarn. Our girls are great on knitting, and are looking well dressed now and healthy. They are attending school regularly, and each year sees them getting nearer the level of the white man. Your work I consider is quite as good as that done by any of our missionaries and is more appreciated by the Indians. Coming through the hands of the missionaries it also gives them a great deal more influence.

Wishing you all success in your good work.

Report of Committee of the W.F.M.S. of Supplies of Various Kinds Forwarded to the North- West Indian Reserves in 1890.

The work was arranged in three divisions viz:—Boarding schools, day or smaller schools, along with the reserves; reserves alone, or scattered Indians. The response has been, as usual, hearty and loyal. The returns are not yet complete, but shew nearly 20,000 pounds of new and good second-hand clothing to have been sent, besides other donations.

All the Presbyterian societies have contributed to the North-West. Ormiston Auxiliary and Mission Band to Trinidad and Toronto Mission Bands to India.

The list is as follows:—

Barrie Pres. Soc.—To Assiniboia Reserve. There being no missionary in charge, Mr. Grant, Indian Agent, undertook the distribution of the clothing for the Indians. Four bales and one box, weight not given.

Brockville Pres. Soc.—To File Hills Reserve 390 lbs. clothing for women and the aged and infirm from ten auxiliaries, consigned to Mr. Alexander Skene.

Bruce Pres. Soc.—To Muscowpeting Reserve, 395 lbs. clothing for women and the aged and infirm from six auxiliaries, consigned to Rev. W. S. Moore.

Chatham Pres. Soc.—To Round and Crooked Lakes Reserve, 850 lbs. clothing for children in school. Consigned to Rev. Hugh McKay.

Glengary Pres. Soc.—To File Hills Reserve, 435 lbs. clothing for women and aged and infirm. Consigned to Mr. Alex. Skene.

Guelph Pres. Soc.—To Stoney Plains Reserve, for school 1,050 lbs. Consigned to Mr. M. Anderson.

Hamilton Pres. Soc.—To Côté and Kesekoos Reserve, 600 lbs. clothing for the children in school. Consigned to Rev. Geo. Laird.

Huron Pres. Soc.—To Prince Albert, 500 lbs. clothing for children in school. Consigned to Miss Baker.

Kingston Pres. Soc.—File Hills Reserve (weight not given), for children in schools, four boxes and four bales. Consigned to Mr. Alex. Skene.

Lanark and Renfrew Pres. Soc.—To Bird Tail Reserve, 1,245 lbs., principally for women and the aged and infirm. Consigned to Rev. John McArthur.

Lindsay Pres. Soc.—To Côté and Kesekoos Reserve, 390 lbs for women and the aged and infirm. Consigned to Rev. Geo Laird.

Maitland Pres. Soc.—To Round and Crooked Lakes, 1,150 lbs. clothing for women and the aged and infirm. Consigned to Rev. Hugh McKay

London Pres. Soc.—To Birtle Industrial School, 1,920 lbs. Consigned to Mr. G. G. McLaren.

Ottawa Pres. Soc.—To Round and Crooked Lakes Reserve, for boarding school 700 lbs. Consigned to Rev. Hugh McKay.

Owen Sound Pres. Soc.—To Muscowpeting Reserve, 250 lbs. clothing for women and the aged and infirm. Consigned to Rev. N. S. Moore.

Paris Pres. Soc.—To Côté and Kesekoos Reserve, 825 lbs. clothing for children in school. Consigned to Rev. Geo Laird.

Peterboro' Pres. Soc.—To Portage La Prairie, 1000 lbs. clothing for children in boarding school, contributed by sixteen Auxiliaries and four Mission Bands. Consigned to Miss Walker.

Stratford Pres. Soc.—To Round and Crooked Lakes Reserve, 800 lbs. clothing for women and the aged and infirm. Twelve Auxiliaries and one Mission Band contributing, also a parcel from Tavistock where there is no Auxiliary. Consigned to Rev. Hugh McKay.

Saugeen Pres. Soc.—To Okanase Reserve, 310 lbs. of clothing for children in schools. Consigned to Rev. Geo. Flett.

Toronto Pres. Soc.—To Muscowpetung Reserve, 1,330 lbs. clothing for children in boarding schools, contributed by eighteen Auxiliaries and one Mission Band. Consigned to Rev. W S. Moore. Also to Stony Plains Reserve, 620 lbs. of clothing for women and the aged and infirm. Consigned to Mr. Magnus Anderson. And to Central India from Mission Bands, one case and one trunk containing prizes for our schools there, contributed by nine Mission Bands. Consigned to Miss Rodger.

Note.—The names of Auxiliaries and Mission Bands contributing the above supplies, were not—except in a very few cases—sent to the Supply Sec., consequently could not be embodied in this report. C. M. JEFFREY, *Sec. of Supplies.*

Supplies for 1891.

Clothing for Indian women and children in our Canadian North-West; presents and prizes for children attending our Mission schools in India, and also for pupils in connection with the Missions in Trinidad.

DEAR FRIENDS,—The Board of Management has tried to

make the best possible arrangement for affording you an opportunity to supply this need of the Indians.

Lists of articles particularly required will be sent to Presbyterian Secretary, but strovg. warm, good, second-hand clothing for women and children, yarn, knitting needles, blankets and quilts are required for all the Reserves. New goods are preferred *not made up*.

Assiniboia Reserve.—The Soc.* in the Pres.* of Stratford to provide for school.

The Soc. in the Pres. of Huron for women and the old and feeble.

Birtle.—The Soc. in the Pres. of Ottawa to provide for school, forty children, between the ages of five and sixteen, Mr. G. G. McLaren.

The Soc. in the Pres. of Brockville to provide clothing for women, and the old and feeble, Rev. John McArthur.

Coté and Kesekoos Reserve.—The Soc. in the Pres. of Toronto and Orangeville to provide for school, sixty children between the ages of five and sixteen, Rev. G. A. Laird.

The Soc. in the Pres. of Maitland to provide for women and the old and feeble. Population about 500, Rev. G. A. Laird.

File Hills Reserve.—The Soc. in the Pres. of Guelph to provide for school, twenty children, between the ages of five and sixteen, Mr. Alex. Skene.

The Soc. in the Pres. of Barrie to provide for women and the old and feeble. Population 400.

India.—The Soc. in the Pres. of London to provide gifts and prizes for our schools in Central India.

Mist-ta-wa-sis Reserve.—The Soc. in the Pres. of Hamilton to provide for school, twenty children, also clothing for women and the old and feeble.

Muscowpetung Reserve.—The Soc. in the Pres. of Lanark and Renfrew to provide for school, forty children, boys and girls between the ages of five and sixteen, Mr. Crawford.

The Soc. in the Pres. of Lindsay to provide clothing for women and the old and feeble, Rev. W. S. Moore.

* NOTE.—Soc. stands for society or societies, Pres. for Presbytery or Presbyteries.

Okanuse Reserve.—The Soc. in the Pres. of Paris to provide clothing for school, fifteen children, boys and girls, between the ages of five and sixteen, Rev. G. Flett.

Pasquah Reserve.—The Soc. in the Pres. of Owen Sound to provide for women and the old and feeble.

Portage la Prairie.—The Soc. in the Pres. of Sarnia to provide clothing for school, twenty children, boys and girls, between the ages of five and sixteen, Miss Walker.

Prince Albert.—The Soc. in the Pres. of Chatham to provide for school, also for women and the old and feeble, Miss Baker.

Round and Crooked Lake Reserve.—The Soc. in the Pres. of Peterboro' and Bruce to provide for school, forty children, boys and girls, between the ages of five and sixteen.

The Soc. in the Pres. of Saugeen and Whitby to provide for women and the old and feeble. Population 900. Rev. Hugh McKay.

Stoney Plains Reserve.—The Soc. in the Pres. of Kingston to provide for school, thirty children, boys and girls, from five to sixteen years of age.

The Soc. in the Pres. of Glengarry to provide for women and the old and feeble. Population 190. Mr. Magnus Anderson.

Trinidad.—Ormistown Auxiliary and Mission Band and the Auxiliary and Mission Band in Quebec to provide some gifts and prizes for children in the schools there.

In regard to the Soc. in the Pres. of Brandon, Minnedosa, Regina, Rock Lake, Winnipeg and Columbia, the Committee have made no allotment, considering that in consequence of their position they are liable to frequent appeals for assistance from the Indians and Chinese.

Note from Supply Committee.—It is earnestly requested that at the annual meetings of the *Presbyterial societies*, committees be appointed to receive and pack the supplies for the North-West, and see that only clothing of good quality be forwarded.

The addresses of missionaries and directions for shipping will be given in the June Leaflet.

MISSIONARY STUDIES.

(Ninth Paper.)

By MISS FERRIER, CALEDONIA.

You will be ready to say, surely no one else would venture to go to Erromanga after hearing of the sad fate of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon, but faith in God and love to the Saviour make good men ready to run any risk, make any sacrifices to make known the way of Salvation ; and no sooner did the news reach Nova Scotia than Mr. Gordon's young brother, then studying for the ministry, said, "Send me to take his place," and his widowed mother was willing to have him go. So, in 1864, when he had finished his college course he too went to Erromango alone, asking none to share his danger. He too lived among the fierce natives, quickly learned the language, preached the Gospel to all who would listen, and translated portions of Scripture.

He always felt that sooner or later he was likely to share his brother's fate and so it proved. One day in 1872 while busy revising his translation of the Acts, just as he had come to the account of Stephen's martyrdom, a native came in pretending he wanted something. Mr. Gordon rose to get it, when the savage struck him a deadly blow on the head with a hatchet. One of the man's children had died, and as Mr. Gordon had given him medicine he was blamed for the death, and so another martyr went up to God from that blood-stained isle. Still it was not given up. Three months after Mr. Douglas Gordon's death the Rev. Mr. Robertson and his wife arrived and took up the work, and by and by the blessing came. The population of the island, about two thousand six hundred, was settled in two divisions about twenty miles apart. One of these divisions, one thousand people, began to show a desire for Christian instruction, and after a time they cast away their gods and gave up their cruel heathen practices and the missionaries' hearts were gladdened by a good many of these poor people, the murderer of Williams among the rest, professing their faith in Christ. Mr. and Mrs. Robertson are still labouring in Erromandga. A martyr memorial church has been erected near where the Gordons are buried, schools and houses

for native teachers have been established all over the island, and it is hoped that ere long Erromanga will be as completely christianized as An-Neityum. In his report of 1887 and 1888 Mr. Robertson says, "We have the comforting thought that the light of God's Holy Word has been shining in at least thirty villages for years." There are now two hundred and fifty church members and large numbers attend public worship. But he also writes of a time of great sickness, in about seven months eighty people had died, some of whom he hoped were trusting in Jesus. Among these were three good faithful teachers. Mr. and Mrs. Robertson had, by giving medicine, nourishing food and personal care, been the means of saving many lives, but this meant hard, trying work for themselves. Mr. Robertson says, "I have been simply overwhelmed with work of all kinds, and Mrs. Robertson even more so. I get some rest in the evenings, but that is the time when the sick come or send for medicine, tea and bread, and Mrs. Robertson must see to the tea and bread or there would soon be none to give. She was also trying to bring up, on goat's milk, two little babies whose mothers had died, and had so much to do all day that she had no time to rest, though she has been for years in poor health.

In the spring of this year, '89, Mr. Robertson with his family went to Australia for the benefit of his wife's health which, it is hoped, rest and change, and the pleasure of seeing three dear children, will fully restore so that she may be able to resume her work.

QUESTIONS.

When the news of the death of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon reached Nova Scotia who offered to take their place? Give particulars. Tell of his work among the natives. For how many years did he labour? Then what happened? Tell the circumstances. What missionaries arrived three months after? What is said of the population of the island? What did the people of one of these districts do not long after Mr. Robertson went? Who amongst others became a Christian? What buildings have been erected? What does Mr. Robertson's last report say of the progress made—church members, schools, etc.? What of the time of sickness and of their consequent labours? Why did they lately go to Australia?

Increase.

Presbyterial Societies.

- ORANGEVILLE....*Hillsburg*.—Faithful Willing Workers Mission Band.
SARNIA*.....*Forest*.—Pansy Mission Band.
BARRIE*.....*Stayner*.—Friends of India Mission Band.
“.....*Gravenhurst*.—Northern Lights Mission Band.
HAMILTON.....*Christie*.—West Flamboro' Mission Band.
TORONTO*.....*Davenport Road Mission School*.—Mission Band.
BROCKVILLE.....*Roebuck*.—Auxiliary.
KINGSTON.....*Snow*.—Road Auxiliary.
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Now and Afterward.

Now, the sowing and the weeping,
Working hard and waiting long ;
Afterward, the golden reaping,
Harvest-home and grateful song.

Now, the long and toilsome duty,
Stone by stone to carve and bring ;
Afterward, the perfect beauty
Of the palace of the King.

Now, the training, strange and lowly,
Unexplained and tedious now :
Afterward, the service holy,
And the Master's "Enter thou !"

—F. R. H.

* These Bands have been organized for some months, but not reported until now.

NOTICES.

THE Board of Management meets on the first Tuesday of every month, at three o'clock p.m., in the Managers' Room, Knox church, Toronto. Members of Auxiliary Societies, or other ladies interested in the work and desiring information, being introduced by a member of the Board, are cordially invited to attend.

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 questions 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. James Maclellan, Treasurer, 10 Murray Street, Toronto.

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, 142 Bloor Street West, Toronto.

All requests for life membership certificates should be sent to the Recording Secretary, Mrs. G. H. Robinson, 625 Ontario Street, Toronto.

Directions about The Monthly Letter Leaflet.

1. The year begins with the *May* number. 2. Subscription, 12 cents a year, *payable in advance*. 3. Subscription may begin at any time (one cent a copy), but must end with the *April* number. 4. All orders and money to be sent through the Presbyterian Secretary to Mrs. Telfer, 72 St. Alban Street, Toronto.

PUBLICATIONS.

- No. 29. The Mother at Home, by Pansy, 3 cents each.
15 cents per doz., or 2 cents each.
- “ 22. The Beginning of It.
“ 21. A Study in Proportion.
12 cents per doz.
- “ 37. What is Foreign Missions' Rightful Share.
“ 32. An Appeal from the Mother of a Missionary.
“ 33. The Society at Springtown.
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| 31. A Transferred Gift. | 13. Thanksgiving Ann. |
| 26. Po-Heng and the Idols. | 12. Why we did not disband. |
| 25. A Plea for our Envelopes. | 10. For His Sake. |
| 24. The History of a Day. | 7. Mrs. Pickett's Missionary Box. |
| 23. A Partnership. | 3. Voices of the Women. |
18. Five cents in a tea cup.
8 cents per doz.
- No. 28. Bringing up the Ranks to the Standard.
“ 27. A Lesson in Stewardship.
“ 17. Why we should keep up our Auxiliaries.
4. The Importance of Prayer.
2. Giving, and Giving up. No. 10. Missionary Thank-offering Story.
Free.
- No. 36. Objections to Missionary Work.
- “ 35. How much do I owe. No. 39. Scattered Helpers.
“ 34. Our Hour of Prayer.
“ 38. The Silver Sixpence.
“ 5. Questions Answered.
“ 1. Self Questioning.
Prayer Cards.
Envelopes to Auxiliaries formed since Annual Meeting.
Mite Boxes, 1 cent each.
Envelopes, one large containing 12 small, 1½ cents each
Map of North-West, with Indian Reserves marked,
unmounted and unvarnished, 25 cents.
Muslin Map of Honan, \$2 ; Formosa, \$1 ; Trinidad, \$1.
To be obtained on order. All postage prepaid.
- For above apply to Mrs. Telfer, 72 St. Albans Street, Toronto.
Applications for Annual Reports to be made to the Home Secretary, Mrs. Shortreed, 224 Jarvis Street, Toronto.