

This is the Victory



Even Our Faith."

Monthly Letter.

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Subjects for Prayer and Study for the Month :

"Africa—The Extinction of the Liquor Traffic, the Opium and the Slave Trades."

Japan.

INFANCY THE TIME TO BEGIN.

From Miss Jost—Kofu.

I WAS telling Miss Robertson last night that I knew just exactly the kind of a letter I would like to send. It would be about my year in Kofu, and although it might not make its readers all long to come to Kofu to spend their remaining days in the "Eiwa Jo Gakko," yet it certainly would make them feel that contentment does not depend so largely as some people think on being surrounded by an extensive circle of friends, or on social pleasures. To live ten months of the year with nothing more exciting to break the monotony of every day life than the church services or the occasional literary meeting of young school girls, would, at one time, have seemed a very dreary prospect to me. But we three, far away from any other English-speaking person, have lived so contentedly during this time, that we are sure we will return

after vacation eager to repeat the experience and happy to be allowed to do so. This does not mean that we have become superior to social enjoyments, or that lonely times, when the sight of loved faces would not mean to us more than I can express, never come, but it does mean that we love our work and the days pass far too quickly for all we want to do. More than this, it means that our Best Friend is with us, and that we in Japan as well as you in the Homeland find "to do His will is rest."

I can hardly believe that the year is so nearly gone. Next week, pupils and teachers will be separated and the school will have taken on the dreary aspect usual to schools in holiday time. It would be gratifying to know that the girls were carrying in their hearts to their homes all the good things they have heard within these walls during the year. Some must go, we are sure, and with this we will have to be content. Even the forgotten lessons are not altogether lost, I believe.

A thought came to me from somewhere last winter that has been quite a bit of comfort to me. It may amuse you, but here it is. In filling a bog, many cartloads of sand or stones are lowered which sink out of sight and are apparently lost, and yet the bog could not be filled without them. I think sometimes that my work is like those lost loads of stones. In my women's meetings this winter, even when I have talked as simply as I possibly could, I know some women have not understood. They have not grasped the meaning, though the words were plain. Yet, though these talks are apparently lost on them, it helps me to believe that because of them the women are a little nearer understanding by and by. When we are at home, we are apt, I think—or at least I was—to imagine the people as feeling their need of Christianity, and as eager to embrace it after hearing about it. Such is not the case. They do not feel the need of it, and when they first hear, too often it seems but an idle tale. Of course, there are exceptional cases. Then, too, the minds of the women in general are so untrained—so little used to thinking—that new ideas enter slowly.

This, however, will be better by and by. The importance of educating their women is being felt by most Japanese to-day, and already, from an intellectual point of view, there is a great difference between many mothers and daughters.

As you know, the older girls in our schools go, two by two, on Sunday afternoons to different parts of the city to teach the little street children.

Last Sunday I went with two of them. Just as O Tomo San began to teach, a big, stout woman with a loud voice—a woman

such as I had not seen in Japan before—came in at the side door and stood listening. She stayed until the close, listening most intently, and when some of the little ones would get restless and prevent her from hearing so well, she would throw out her great, gruff voice at them and terrify them into silence. The lesson was about Zacchaeus and the "Golden Text," "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." As the children repeated the text again and again, I did so hope that the words would linger in the mind of that poor woman and make her want to hear more. The girls said, coming home, that the children were much more orderly than usual. They wondered if it was the effect of her presence or mine. These little Sunday Schools are very interesting to me. I often wish my friends at home could visit one. The little wriggling, squirming morsels of humanity that attend them, nearly always with more wriggling and squirming morsels on their backs, would delight the heart of anybody who could rise above their dirty little dresses, faces and hands. Many of them are so cute and bright. It is very funny sometimes, when we are passing through the streets, to meet two groups of children—one addressing us in language anything but polite, and giving us information about our ancestors that we never learned from any other source, and the other group, composed of some of these little Sunday School children, bowing low in their very best manner. I regret that honesty compels me to add that sometimes the bows are followed by suppressed giggles that assure us they are not growing too good to be natural. Poor, poor, little children! Our hearts ache for them often. The girls who teach in these Sunday Schools are themselves taught the lesson on Saturday evening. They really seem very earnest and anxious to do good in this way.

A SPECIAL APPEAL.

Miss Hargrave, of Nagano, Japan, writes under date of August 14th, 1900.

I write to ask if you can do anything toward having our need in Nagano supplied. We want something in the way of Bible pictures for use in our daily Bible lessons with the little ones.

For the past two years I have had the use of the "Royal Scroll," published by Powers, Fowler & Lewis, of Chicago, sent by Dr. and Mrs. Nichol, of Montreal, for use in the work here.

I must now pass it on to the Shidzuoka Branch, so am at a

loss for pictures for next year, having only what will supply the need until the end of December.

I write to you, thinking that by so doing I will be sure to secure the best selection, also thinking that you may know some generous heart who would like to supply the Nagano kindergarten with the pictures, as I believe there are those interested in the work who are glad and willing to help in these special ways.

If nothing better can be secured, then I would like to have another "Royal Scroll," though I would like something in which the Old Testament pictures are larger.

Miss Blackmore says, in reference to the foregoing. "I heartily endorse what Miss Hargrave has written."

A postal from Miss Blackmore, under date of September 6th, in regard to the new arrivals, expresses great satisfaction at "such a fine reinforcement." Miss Laing was to go to Kanazawa, while Miss Howie and Miss Forrest remained in Tokyo.

"BLEST BE THE TIE THAT BINDS."

From Miss Howie, Tokyo, Japan, Sept. 5th, 1900.

We are at last in Japan, and I am so glad to be here, although I enjoyed the journey very much indeed.

At Vancouver Mr. Emberson and Mr. Prudham looked after our baggage, so we had no trouble there.

Mr. Norman was the first one to meet us, and it was a great surprise to him to find his sister on board, as she did not expect to go till later.

Shortly after, Mr. Borden, Misses Alcorn, Jost and Hart came, and, although not acquainted, I felt at home as soon as I saw them.

When we reached shore the jinrikisha men attracted our attention, and all felt that we never wanted to ride in a jinrikisha and have those poor men pull us around, but I noticed that before we reached Azabu we became quite resigned to our new mode of travelling. Indeed, I thought my man rather enjoyed the journey, as he passed the others in going up the hill and fairly galloped after he reached the top. I sat back, and instead of pitying the "poor man," admired his agility and wondered if he would land me safely at the school, for he seemed to have a total disregard for all obstacles and acted as though we had the right of way.

I have already met Misses Alcorn, Jost, Robertson and the Tokyo workers. They all gave us a warm welcome and I am feeling quite at home already.

AND AGAIN "BLEST BE THE TIE THAT BINDS."

Indian Work.

*Letter from our New Missionary, Miss A. Jackson, Kit-a-maat,
B.C., August, 26th, 1900.*

I HAD a very pleasant trip out, although I did not prove a very good traveller either by train or boat, but the pleasant "stop-overs" with friends at Winnipeg, Morley, Banff, Vancouver and Victoria gave me a chance to rest by the way. I enjoyed my stay with Miss Morgan and Mrs. Snyder very much, and was greatly interested in the work there among the Chinese. My heart was touched with sympathy as never before for this branch of the work, as I met with those who had been rescued from such lives of degradation, two of the girls in particular, about seventeen or eighteen years of age. As I considered what an influence for good the lives of those girls would have on others in future years, I thought the W. M. S. would be rewarded doubly for what it had done, even if they were the only ones rescued. Miss Morgan was so kind and sympathetic. She gave me fresh courage to go on, and it was such a help to me, a stranger in a strange place and going to a strange land.

I arrived at River's Inlet just in time to assist in caring for Mrs. Raley, who was very ill, and to give Miss Long a chance to go down to Victoria. Mrs. Raley has improved in health very much since we have returned home, and is able to be around again most of the day. After spending a week at the Inlet we all returned to our homes at Kit-a-maat, arriving there on the 15th of August.

I am very much pleased with the Kit-a-maat village and the Home in particular. I was surprised to find it so comfortable, considering how expensive everything is here, especially the freight and labor. I think it is a marvel what Miss Long has done here, with only such assistance as the teacher could give after her other duties, and from Mr. and Mrs. Raley.

There is system and order and comfort for the girls. While much has been done, there is still a great deal more before the Home is finished as we would like to see it, but we are hoping to go on with the improvements as opportunities and means are at our disposal.

Miss Long has been so kind and considerate in planning for my room, which is furnished very nicely, and, after we get

really settled to our work with the children, I am looking forward to a happy home life together, working for our Master.

As you remember us in prayer, let the burden of your thought be that Christ's prayer for His disciples and all believers may be fulfilled in us, that we may be one, as the Father and His Son Jesus Christ are one in us. More and more I realize what it means to have so many remembering me in prayer, ever since I left home it has been such a source of strength to me.

Miss Long writes. "Miss Jackson is so helpful in every way. I am sure we shall get on well together. I wish you could see our rooms they are cosy."

Mr. Raley says: "Miss Jackson is splendid, whole-hearted and faithful. We all like her, and so do the children without exception. Miss Long and Miss Jackson make an excellent team, and you need have no fear about the future usefulness of the Home while you have looking after it such devoted ladies."

Under date of October 20th, Miss Paul writes from Port Simpson, B.C.

"Everything is going on much as usual in the Home; the girls are improving every year in morals and in knowledge. We have forty-three now, and one girl is out for a vacation.

"We are preparing for our annual examinations, a written one in November and an oral in December, together with a display of work. Besides the ordinary school subjects, there will be a written examination on the Bible and on the catechism. I hope the girls will do as well as they did this summer at their promotions. We are all well."

"SAFE HOME."

Chinese Work in British Columbia.

From Miss Morgan, Victoria, B.C., October 6th, 1900.

LAST evening I returned from the mainland and now hasten to write of my experiences.

Miss Sugizaki (the Bible woman) has been doing good work in Steveston, where she spent two months. We made a number of calls together and then had a nice meeting in our

church. The women were very much interested and seemed to appreciate what has been done for them. The fishing season may last until December. I was sorry to bring Miss Sugizaki away, but after consulting with Mr. Kaburagi we thought it best for her to spend a while in Vancouver, as there are said to be a great many women there.

You will be sorry to hear that Martha is very, very weak. I stayed off at Ladner's to see her, and if possible to bring her back to Victoria, as Mrs. Snyder felt that she would like to nurse her. Lee Sing, her husband, was, however, unwilling, but made a half promise to bring her later. It seems hard for the poor girl to die away from the touch and sympathy of Christian friends.

I found three other very bright Chinese women at Ladner's. One speaks English well. One does all she can for Martha, but there are days when she is too busy to see her.

A note from Mr. Tom Chue Thom to Miss Morgan says. "Mrs. Lee Sing (Martha) died on Friday and was buried here (New Westminster). The Rev. J. F. Betts and Mrs. D. Robson took the funeral service in the Chinese Mission Church. Lee Sing want me to tell you Martha die well, she trusting in the Lord. Lee Sing thank your teachers what you have been done to her. Good-bye. God will bless your work."

From Mrs. Snyder, Victoria, October 8th, 1900.

We now have five Chinese girls in the Home and are having very good order. We think they are making good progress, both in study and work. Bessie is much more obedient; indeed she is much improved.

I have obtained Mr. Chan's consent to teach the girls Chinese, and, as I shall be in the room, I hope to learn something myself. I cannot spend much time on the language, but shall gain all I can as I find it very convenient in the house. I did not know I could get along so well until last week; I had to converse with the Chinese school teacher, when I made him understand me and also knew what he said in reply, but of course it was slow.

Suggested Programme—January, 1901.

Subjects for Prayer and Study:

"The Missionary Societies of the Methodist Church. Our duty towards them."

- I. Opening Exercises. {
 Doxology.
 Read Subjects for Prayer and Study.
 Scripture Lesson.
 Hymn.
 Prayer.

- II. {
 Regular Business.
 By-law for Auxiliaries: "That Auxiliaries be responsible for the presentation of the work of the W. M. S. to the Epworth League once a year."
 To be read by the President, who will appoint two members of her Auxiliary to visit the League at as early a date as can be arranged for.

III. Hymn.

- IV. Catechism—Subject: "Our duty towards the Missionary Societies of the Methodist Church."*

Written by the Rev. A. Carman, D.D., at the special request of the Committee on Literature.

- V. Exercise. † {
 Pray. (Read note on Prayer, written by Mrs. Ross.)
 Sing—"Help me to watch and pray,
 And on Thyself rely;
 Assured if I my trust betray
 I shall forever die."
 Study. (Read note written by Miss Palmer.)
 Sing—"To serve the present ages,
 My calling to fulfil,
 O may it all my powers engage
 To do my Master's will."
 Give. (Read note written by Mrs. Willmott.)
 Sing—"Arm me with jealous care
 As in Thy sigh: to live,
 And oh! thy servant Lord prepare
 A strict account to give."

VI. Prayer.

*Price 2c at Room 20, and the depots. Do not fail to give the answers to these questions to members who will read them intelligently and effectively.

†See notes enclosed with Catechism. This exercise should be carefully arranged for. We suggest that the reading be done by the President, the Secretary and the Treasurer, since they sit in view of the meeting.

Two cents additional to be enclosed for postage and wrapping.

News of Our China Missionaries.

MISS BROOKS called on our Vice-President, Mrs. Carman, and at the Deaconess Home, on November 12th, while passing through Toronto on her way home from China. Miss Foster is in Chicago for a short time, and Dr. Killam is still in Japan. These ladies have been advised by the Board to take their furlough now, that they may be ready to return to China as soon as the country is settled. Miss Brackbill is assisting our ladies in Japan, being appointed to school work, while Dr. Henry and Miss Brimstin, who are also in that country, are making profitable use of their enforced absence from China by employing their time in language study. Miss Laing has gone to Kanazawa, and Miss Forrest is in Tokyo.

News from the Training School.

MISS KISSOCK, of Hamilton Branch, Missionary under Appointment to Rivers' Inlet, B.C., is at the Methodist Training School in Toronto. She expects to leave for her field of work in the spring.



MISS PETITT, of Hamilton Branch, and Miss Deacon, of N.B. and P.E.I. Branch, Missionary Candidates, are also in the School.

Smoking Stunts the Growth of Boys.

Whatever difference of opinion there may be upon the advisability of smoking for men, there is none as to its pernicious effect upon boys. It affects the action of the heart and reduces the capacity of the lungs. Young men who are being trained for athletics are not permitted to smoke by their trainers because, as they say, "It is bad for the wind." The argument that will appeal most forcibly to your boy is that smoking will stunt his growth. It has been proved that youthful smokers are shorter and weigh less than their comrades who do not smoke. Cigarettes are particularly injurious. Nicotine, the active principle of tobacco, is said by chemists to be, next to prussic acid, the most rapidly fatal poison known. The tender tissues of a growing boy cannot absorb even a very small quantity of it without most injurious results.—February *Ladies' Home Journal*.

The Slums' Greatest Curse.

LOW SALOONS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR A GREAT PART OF THE
VICE IN CITIES.

"The greatest curse of slumdom is unquestionably the low saloon, where men with manhood sapped away, and women trodden down into the very dust, gather night after night to laugh and dance and drink, flinging away their poor, blighted lives in reckless revelry," writes Mrs. Ballington Booth, in the February *Ladies' Home Journal*. "It is ghastly merry-making—laughter without sound of mirth, dancing without step of agile feet, and a drinking that maddens the desperate brain and burns the parched lips. I have spent hour after hour within these places, talking to the hopeless women, and the utter despair of their life is something never to be effaced from the memory of those who have seen the bitterness of the poor soul behind the mask of brazen indifference. I have never gone down into these shadows and come back the same. I have always felt older after each experience, and life has been sadder to me forever afterward. Had my purpose been that of sightseeing or of 'doing the slums,' the cost would indeed have been too dear a one to have paid, and I would never have undertaken it."

Notes from Room 20 and the Depots.

The following gratifying note concerning the Flag Exercise has been received at Room 20.

OIL CITY.—"The 'Flag Exercise,' prepared and published at Room 20, has been successfully given by the Junior League of this place. The children acquitted themselves admirably, both in song and recitation, and we know of nothing that could arouse a deeper missionary spirit than this 'Exercise.' Parents and friends were not only delighted but deeply moved to see the boys and girls, so early in life, falling in line with this great missionary movement."

**THE FLAG
EXERCISE.**

Send to Room 20 or the Depots for a sample copy, price 5c. The twelve Large Flags required, and as many small Union Jacks as are necessary, can be rented from Room 20 for \$1.00, and the return express charges. The flags are to be returned the day after being used, care being requested in packing them.

"THE STORY OF THE YEAR."—The Board of Managers, at its recent annual meeting, authorized the Literature Committee to issue the "Story of the Year." This will contain news from our mission fields, an account of the work of the Supply Committee, and some general news and statistics of our Society's work during the year just closed, in addition to photo-engravings of the new missionaries who left for the field during the year. Organizers will find it invaluable in acquainting strangers with the work of our W.M.S. It will probably be ready in the early part of January. Price, 5c per copy.



Copies of the Subjects for Prayer and Study to be used by the Woman's Missionary Society and the members of the Forward Movement for Missions till September, 1901, have been printed. Price, 8 cents per dozen on paper, 50 cents per hundred; on a two-page folder, with the name of the person in charge of each month's programme added, \$1.90 per hundred. If special printing is desired for the back of programme, write to Room 20 for estimates.



A VALUABLE aid to devotion is found in the leaflet, "Pray Without Ceasing," by the Rev. Andrew Murray. Subjects for prayer, helps to intercession, together with a short account of the author's life, make up a pamphlet of forty-one pages. Price, 3 cents.



MAPS of Japan and China have been prepared in outline, which is to be heavily traced with chalk or crayon, and the points of interest added as required. The maps are on manilla paper, 34 x 46 inches, and are 5 cents each. For 5 cents additional, a small printed map of Japan will be sent to assist in locating our mission stations and the natural features of the country. For China, the public school atlas can be used in connection with the Annual Report.

<p>OUTLINE MAPS.</p>



THE Literature Committee at Room 20, and the Branch Depots in Sackville, N.B., and Winnipeg, Man. (for addresses see foot of last page), will receive deposits of \$1.00 for the literature to be used in connection with the Suggested Programme for Auxiliaries, and will send the necessary literature whenever called for by the Programme as long as the money lasts, and without it being necessary for the Auxiliary to write for it. The usual charge of two cents, for wrapping and post-

age, will be deducted for each parcel. Subscribers will be notified when their deposit is expended.



THE new BINDER, to hold two years' numbers of the OUI-LOOK, has only to be used to be appreciated. It is the most convenient binder made, as single copies of the magazine can be inserted and removed at pleasure, without disturbing the rest of the contents. Price, in strong cloth covers, 60 cents, postage and wrapping 15 cents additional.



WHEN your Auxiliary is planning for a systematic gathering of small sums, do not forget to send for collection envelopes. One large, containing twelve small, one cent.



ALL of the above may be ordered from Room 20 or the Depots. For addresses, see foot of catalogue.

FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENT.—If you are preparing for a Christmas entertainment, send to Room 20 for a copy of "Christmas Selections," containing sixty-two pages of poetical selections for young and old. Price, 15 cents, or for a copy of "Gloria in Excelsis," by President J. E. Rankin, of Howard University, Washington. It contains carols, choruses, quartettes for men's and women's voices separately, and solos. The whole cantata may be presented, or selections only may be given. Price 10 cents, at Room 20.



THE ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1899 AND 1900—The Annual Report is ready, and orders are being filled as rapidly as possible. Price 10 cents, at Room 20 only.



SUBSCRIPTIONS for the following missionary periodicals will be received and forwarded by MISS OGDEN:

Missionary Review of the World, per year, \$2.25, *Gospel in all Lands*, per year, 65 cents. (Subscriptions to this magazine may begin at any time, but must close with June or December.) *Message and Deaconess World*, 50 cents.



WILL our friends kindly arrange to send their orders, if possible, before December 20th, or after January 1st, as there will be less likelihood of delay in the receipt of packages when ordered before the holiday season.