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UNITED CHURCH

" The World



for Christ.

P.S. 8V 2570

Monthly Petter Penflet

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

Vol. XI.

TORONTO, MARCH, 1895.

No. 11.

Subjects for Prayer

MARCH.—Special prayer in prospect of our Annual Meeting, that all our Auxiliaries and Mission Bands may begin the year with renewed vigour and increased numbers. Thankful acknowledgment of the Lord's goodness in extending the work, and confession of our shortcomings.

"And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying: All power

is given unto Me in Heaven and in earth.

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

"And, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world."—Matt. xxviii, 18-20.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

To Secretaries.

Presbyterial Secretaries are requested to forward their finished reports to the Home Secretary as soon as possible after their Annual Presbyterial meetings.

Annual Meeting.

Members of the Society are especially requested to read care-

fully the following notices:

The Nineteenth Annual Meeting of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Presbyterian Church in Canada (Western Division) will be held in Central Church, Toronto, on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursd. y, April 16, 17 and 18, 1895. On Tuesday afternoon at 3 o'clock there will be a devotional meeting in the church, at the close of which delegates will be enrolled and billetted. The Nominating Committee will also meet on Tuesday afternoon at the close of the meeting. On Tuesday evening a conference of the Board with Presbyterial Secretaries and Treasurers will be held, beginning at half past seven, at which questions may be asked and subjects of interest to the Society considered. On Wednesday and Thursday the proceedings will be in much the same order as last year.

A cordial invitation is extended to delegates from every part

of the Society throughout the Western Division.

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

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

her substitute.

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

members of the General Society to be entitled to vote.

These names must be sent in not later than April 8th, that entertainment may be provided. Secretaries are also requested to furnish their delegates with a copy of their credentials to present at Toronto.

Notice of Motion for next Annual Meeting from Hamilton Presbyterial Society.

To distribute the Presbyterial reports in printed form at the opening of the Annual Meeting, and move that they be taken as read, in place of hearing them read by the various represen-tatives from the Presbyterial Societies. The reason urged for this proposed change is that, if adopted by the Society, time will be gained for addresses and for the discussion of practical subjects.

Railway Regulations Regarding Reduced fares To Annual Meeting.

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

1. The railroad companies have agreed to the following terms viz.: One way first-class fare for round trip, if 300 or more delegates attend, who at the railway station, on starting, obtain from the ticket agent a standard certificate of purchase of first-class full fare one way ticket, and on return present the said certificate at the railway station. duly certified and signed by the Home secretary at the conven-One fare and a third, if the delegates number from 50 to 299, and one fare and two-thirds if less than 50 attend: the return trip to be made by the same route as the going trip.

2. All delegates, therefore, travelling by rail, even if the distance be short, will, on string, ask from the agent, at least ten minutes before the train is due to leave, a "standard" certificate of purchase of ticket. No other form of certificates

will be recognized.

3. If more than one Company's line is travelled over, an additional certificate should be obtained on purchasing ticket at point of

junction. ASK YOUR AGENT FOR A THROUGH TICKET.

4. "Certificates procured from the agent at starting point more than three days (Sunday not included) prior to commencement of meeting (April 16th), and certificates presented more than three days (Sundays not included) after date of close of meeting (April 18th), will not be honoured for tickets for return trip.

5. "Certificates that bear date of purchase of ticket for going trip after the last day of the meeting will not be honoured for return passage."

6. "Certificates are not transferable, and the signature affixed at the starting point, compared with the signature to receipt for ticket, will enable the ticket agent to detect any attempted transfer."

7. "No refund of fare will be made on any account whatever, because of failure of the delegates to obtain certificates or to

observe the requirements of the same."

8. All members of the Society attending the Annual Meeting can secure the reduced railway rates, but only credentialed delegates will be provided with entertainment.

Supply Notice.

The Supply Secretary wishes to inform those societies who are anxious about not having received the refund on freight to the North-West that the reason for the delay is, that the missionaries, to whom the goods were sent, have not as yet forwarded the necessary receipts. As soon as these arrive the matter will be put right.

Treasurer's Statement.

RECEIPTS.		
Jan. 8.—Balance in bank hand	\$1,904	33
" " hand	1	00
" 12. Subscription. Mrs. Stewart	2	00
" 22. Chinese class, Lethbridge, for mission		
work in China	18	
" 23. Carp Aux., Ottawa, P.S	21	60
" 31. Fenelon Falls Aux., Lindsay, P.S	106	50
Feb. 2. St. Andrew's Church Aux., Sherbrooke,		
Quebec	40	46
	\$2,094	54
EXPENDITURE.		
Jan. 22.—Postage or Life Membership Certificates	1	60
Feb. 5.—Balance in bank	2,092	94
•	\$2,094	54

E. MACLENNAN, Treasurer.

Note to Auxiliaries.

The Board has learned with regret that in several instances, owing to a misunderstanding, the question of dividing its funds

has been raised in Auxiliaries.

The fact has been overlooked that the W.F.M.S. is auxiliary to the Foreign Mission Committee and that money once paid into the treasury of any branch cannot honestly be touched for any other purpose than that for which it was given.

It is in the power of any member as long as the money is her own to give or withhold as she thinks best, but once given it

cannot be withdrawn.

There seems to be a misapprehension too in some quarters as to the financial position of the Society, in spite of the fact that the Board has taken great pains to keep the members fully informed by publishing monthly in the LETTER LEAFLET an exact statement of receipts and expenditure. Such statements as that the W.F.M.S. "has more money than it needs" and that "we have more than we know what to do with," are being

unfortunately made.

The truth is that in April last, we were able to pay to Dr. Ruit the sum of \$10,000 to enable him to pay the salaries and necessary expenses of our missionary women for the current year, as far as it would go. The estimate given by the F.M.C. as to what they will require for our work this year is over \$40,000. (See LETTER LEAFLET, Nov., 1894.) To meet that we have the \$10,000 already paid to Dr. Reid, a balance in his hands of \$4,662.08 unexpended from last year, on account of unforeseen delays in putting up buildings in India for which purpose it was set apart, and \$2,092.94 now in the Bank. It will thus be easily seen that if our Auxiliaries do not remain faithful and loyal, the Society will not be able to meet the liabilities incurred on its behalf by the Foreign Mission Committee.

Letter Leaflet Notice.

THE LETTER LEAFLET year ends with the April number. All orders for the May issue must be in the hands of the Secretary of Publications not later then April 12. The circulation of THE LETTER LEAFLET has now become so large, that, unless in very exceptional cases, it can no longer, after this year, be mailed to individual addresses in any Auxiliary. This arrangement refers

only to individual subscribers within Auxiliaries, Mission Bands and Scattered Helpers Bands. THE LEAFLET Secretary (an officer which every Auxiliary should have) will find it a good plan to place the LEAFLETS in the pews on Sabbath.

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

above date.

Increase.

Presbyterial Societies : GLENGARY. Vankleek Hill Mission Band.

LONDON..... Belmont Auxiliary. OWEN SOUND ... Kilsythe Mission Band.

Life Mombers added in February.

Mrs. James Hammond, Atwood. Mrs. Wm. Sproule Sr., Roxborough.

Mrs. Uriah Sham, Avonmore.

Miss Bella Milne, Erramosa.

Miss M. McTavish, South Mountain.

Mrs. E. G. Malloch, Perth.

Miss Ormiston, Knox Church. Woodstock.

Miss Maud Gertrude Conklin, Northern Lights, M. B., Sunnyside, Man.

Miss M. Winnifred Darling, Wayside Gatherers M. B., St.

James Sq., Toronto.
Mrs. J. J. Gartshore, Topp Auxiliary, Knox Church, Toronto.

Miss Daisy Peebles, Home Circle M.B., St. Paul's Church, Hamilton.

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.

CENTRAL INDIA.

A Dav's Work.

FROM DR. MARGARET MCKELLAR.

Neemuch, Central India, Nov. 29, 1894. With health and strength renewed, there is joy in giving each day its due share of work. Many months ago I was asked to give an account of one day's wo ', so I will just tell you what I did yesterday.

Nov. 28th. Got up at seven, which was early, as this is the cold season, and the sun had arisen but twenty minutes before; dressed, ate chota-haziri, and spent the remainder of the hour, until eight, in communion with God. The longer we live in India, and the busier we become with work, the more need our own souls feel of a quiet preparation time, a waiting upon God for "our daily bread." If our own souls are not satisfied and overflowing, how can we give to the loveless masses around us? I have heard it said that some missionaries make an idol of their work and I fear too often I have made such of mine, but I am trying now to act upon "Restore thy soul with stillness as is meet and when the sun bids forth, haste not to show your

strength, but kneel for blessing ere you go."

From eight to nine I had my helpers in to teach them. The first few minutes as spent in reading the texts for the day from "Daily I'c" then prayer for guidance and blessing upon the day's work. Anatomy is the subject which I am teaching them just now, not minutely, but so that they may have a general idea of the subject. Last examination Louiebai succeeded in taking 88 per cent., while Inu Jamer got 72 per cent. which would be considered very good, even in a medical college at home. At nine the breakfast bell rang. From half-past nine to ten I wrote three business letters and at ten started off in my two-wheeled covered cart to the city in answer to an urgent call to come and see a critical case. I found the woman in great pain, the result of carelessness on her own part, a few days before. Gave her what was needed and returned to the camp dispensary, where between thirty and forty patients had been gathering since nine o'clock. There they sat on the floor, in true Eastern fashion, listening to the Gospel message. other half hour the dispensing began and while the Biblewoman sang, read and talked to the decreasing numbers in the waiting room, we attended to their bodily ailments as they came one by one in answer to the dispensary bell. We have great difficulty in getting them to come in time and tried shutting the door at eleven thinking that the following morning they would come early. Some did come earlier, but others did not return at all and I felt that it was just so many opportunities lost of making the Gospel known, and that it was not what Jesus would have done. "He is faint and weary never and He turneth none away. ' So the door stands open until all who come are treated. At one I returned to the bungalow, wrote three country chits (notes) for the mail, and a letter to our landlady with whom we were having trouble over the bungalow and from whom we had received an order to received an order to received an order to received the time until two I spent showing t'e darzi (dressmaker, which happens in this case to be a long, lean, lanky Hindoo of six feet or more) how to do some work. Do I hear you say "How extravagant for a missionary to have a dressmaker?" Not so in this case, for he is only making over a dress, which was bought and made in Ingersoll over five years ago.

At two I took my warm bath, which is more of a necessity than a luxury in India, for often, from press of work, it would be neglected, if it were not for the thought of the dirty places we have been into and our close contact and handling of some of the unwashed multitudes, in our medical work. Two-thirty the tiffin bell rang, and, for the first time in the day, we three.

Miss Duncan, Dr. Turnbull and I, sat dean together.

After receiving my mail I started off to the city again, a distance of a mile and a half, to the disper ary which is open from three to six or until all are served. Wednesday at 4.30 is our prayer meeting hour at church, and, as I do not wish any of the Christian workers to be absent from it, I am Biblewoman, doctor, compounder, dispenser and all, myself that day. Among the patients were three very interesting surgical cases. One a dear little girl from a village who had, last February, been burnt very badly on the leg, below the hip joint. After months of intense suffering, they put their bigotry and heathen superstition aside and brought her to me about three weeks ago. first day she came, she was literally covered with flies, and the smell was so bad that the rest of the patients would not sit in the room with her, so she, poor li'tle lamb, had to be taken to the far side of the compound, until I got her leg dressed. her mother orders to wash her clothes well, before coming the next day. It was hard to persuade them, for the first few days, that time was required to undo all that had been brought on by neglect. But they have been rewarded, as the daily ride from the village, a building-up tonic and antiseptic dressings have wrought a marked change, in herself and the burn, which is covering over beautifully with new skin. The little girl is very bright and happy and has not missed a day since the treatment began. Yesterday she said she wanted to come to our bungalow to see where I lived. I was much shocked with ter mother one

day, for although a Brahmin she is very ignorant, as what I am going to tell you will show. One day when she saw how nicely the little girl was getting on, a very miracle to her, after the former treatment of the viliage hakim, she kneeled before me in an attitude of profound worship, with clasped hands and prayed me to give her power to go to and from her village without getting tired, and to take the pain out of her knees. "You have power as God has." It made me feel very badly to think that that was all she knew, and I hastened to tell her that I was only a woman like herself. It is so easy to win the people to ourselves, but alss! not so easy to win them to Christ.

But this is all by the way. After singing a number of Hindi hymns, reading and talking over one of the Bible lessons from "Peep of Day" (which they can understand mucı better than the whole story from the Bible), and prayer, I treated them all, then returned to the bungalow and from there started off a mile in the opposite direction, beyond the station, and visited three houses. By that time it was quite dark and six-thirty, so, on arriving home, and seeing that the horse got his right portion of grain, I prepared a number of bottles of medicine and wrote letters to be sent with them to the station people this morn-

ing.

Seven-thirty is the dinner hour, and once more the three of us sat down, to part, as soon as the meal was over, to our separate rooms, as it was the night to write home mail. Ten-thirty brought a few quiet moments "Alone with Jesus" before going to bed. I slept a little but about 12.30 was wakened by Miss Duncan's asking me if I did not hear something like a snake crawling on the matting near my bed. We listened and sure enough there was somethin; and as we concluded it was near my bed, Miss Duncan got up and came near with lamp and mountain stick in hand, while I sat up bravely on my bed and made suggestions as to where the sound proceeded from ! There is a cloth nailed down on the floor over the matting so that we knew it must be between. By and by we saw something moving and Miss Duncan was on it at once and lo! it was not a snake, but a great bug of some kind which Miss Duncan described in the midst of our laughter as being "a hard-soft thing." You laugh at our fright, but it was only a few nights before at 9.30 that I went into my study and there in the corner of the room was a coiling snake. It made my blood run cold although on being killed we found out that it was not a poisonous one.

As you can imagine, such a midnight experience was not very conducive to sleep.

Dec. 13th. Ihis letter should have been off two weeks ago. Were I writing an account of any one day since it would not be in every respect like the one I have written, but there is one characteristic which all the days have in common and that is that they are full of work.

Last Council meeting Dr. Turnbull was appointed to Neemuch, for the present she has taken the camp school work off Miss Duncan's hands and both of them are hard at work studying Hindi and Urdu for the coming examination which is less than three menths off now. When Dr. Turnbull's examinations are over and she is free to do medical work, we will then be able to visit regularly the many villages which are round about Neemuch and which one medical woman cannot possibly overtake and do the camp and city work too.

We were all glad to learn that Dr. Oliver and Miss Campbell were on their way out to us. We in Neemuch are prepared to make room in our hearts and home for Miss Campbell and to

give her a hearty welcome in our midst.

Opening of the New Girls' School Building.

FROM M:SS DUNCAN.

Neemueh, Dec. 27, 1894.

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I am sorry that I have kept the readers of the LETTES LEAFLET so long unaware of the important event which I shall try to tell you about now—namely, the opening of the Neemuch girls' school.

You will remember in what a dirty, unhealthy place Miss Jamieson was forced to carry on her school-work for so long, and so you may be sure it was with joy that we vacated the old place, and met for the first time on Oct. 1st in our new, clean,

inission building.

Some attempts had been made beforehand at beautifying it and it looked very nice with its bright colored mats and pictures. To throw some interest around the occasion, most of the Christians, the missionaries and the ladies of the station had been invited. The former were all present besides many of the friends and parents of the children, but considering the long, hot drive to the native city, it was not astonishing that only one of the latter came out. However, we were glad of her presence

and she seemed to enjoy seeing the children as it was all so new to her. The scholars, about forty, were seated in rows on a mat on the floor and rose as we entered to salaam us.

After the opening prayer and hymn, I tried to explain to the children something of this love of the people of our land for them, in that they had contributed money to build such a nice school-house. I told them how often those in our land who loved the true God, thought of their brothers and sisters in faroff India who worshipped idols of wood and stone. How sorry too they were for them and how they longed and prayed that they might be brought into a knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus, and that although they could not see them in this world they hoped to meet them in the bright world beyond. The children then wished me to send their salaams to those kind friends in Canada. We had some more hymns and kindergarten songs and after distributing native sweets among the children, we left the teachers to entertain the visitors for some time longer while we took our friend to see some of the city zenanas, as she

had never been in the city before.

I will try and picture the school-house to you. It has three doors at the front, two opening into little wings on the right and left corners, and the larger one in the centre, opening off a little verandah set between the two projections. Inside all forms one good-sized room, the main parts being joined by an arch and the walls so built as to form two other little wings at the right and left to correspond somewhat with those at the The one at the left has a door to it and makes a nice little private room. The walls inside and out are white and clean, and the whole building presents quite a contrast to the mud huts round about it. It is built quite close up to them at both sides, there not being even a passage way left to the back of the school. From the back windows we have rather a pretty view, for we look across a green field of grain and vegetables to the river which is quite wide at this point. On the road skirting its banks we can see many a train of camels and people continually passing, and on the further shore an idol temple is set up under a tree.

One Sunday I took my little class of girls into the private room above mentioned, to have a quiet time with them undisturbed by the noise of the other classes in the large room. I accomplished my purpose, but thoughtlessly did damage by it, for the parents of those girls have not allowed them to come to

school since. They evidently thought I took them in there to do some of the many things which they say will make Christians of them, such as spitting in their mouths or something else as ridiculous. We have to exercise every precaution to win these poor dark superstitious people to have confidence in us. They regard anything new with suspicion, and since they hardly know what it is to be disturbed by noise, must have thought I had some such intention. I need not say that I have shunned that room since on Sundays.

The day before Christmas we closed our school for eight days' holidays. We are not having our large prize-givings just now, as we considered it advisable to postpone that for a few months, but the children of each school were made happy by native sweets, and over thirty of the poor chamar children received a good warm jacket. The almost naked condition of these children during the cold season had roused my pity and so I had had these made ready for that day. It was quite a time of rejoicing amongst them and the parents who crowded around

seemed very grateful.

On that day I had a little adventure which I may tell you about here as it is so fresh in my memory. After leaving the chamar school, I drove in my covered shigram to the city school: and, after the door of the cart had been opened for my exit, to deposit something under it for safe keeping, I pulled up the far corner of the cushion on which I had been sitting all morning, To my horror I saw a snake curled up under it! Its eyes gleamed at me as I looked at it and I did not take long to get outside. A crowd gathered round and soon the reptile was dislodged from its snug corner and killed, but it took a long while o die as it appeared quite lively for some time after its head had seen smashed. At the school and at home I received many words of sympathy over my escape. Many of the natives said that it was by the mercy of God that I had been saved, and others that the 'Malik' had not allowed it to bite me. It was found to be a very poisonous snake-a karait. It was a very pretty black and white one, with twenty-nine stripes on its back. Dr. McKellar bottled it, to keep, I suppose, as an Indian trophy.

On Christmas we had a very happy time. Most of our Christians came in to say salaams and to present us with the usual gifts of fruit, etc. All seemed bright and happy, rejoicing over the fact that our Saviour Jesus had come into the world.

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We are looking forward eagerly to Miss Campbell's arrival. We, in Neemuch, were especially glad when we heard that she had been appointed to be our co-worker. Her steamer is expected in Bombay to-morrow, so we shall soon have the pleasure of welcoming her amongst us. Kindest regards to the ladies of the Board and warmest New Year's greetings to all.

NORTH-WEST INDIANS.

Thanksgiving at the Regina Industrial School.

FROM MISS NICOLL.

Regina, Nov. 23 1894.

Your very kind and welcome letter of Oct. 26th to hand Personally I feel most unworthy of the very warm welcome extended to me by the W.F.M.S. through yourself, but my life is in the Master's hands and if He use in any way this unworthy

servant, to His name be all the glory and praise.

It scarcely seems possible that it is almost three months since my arrival here and yet it is. I had just arrived about 9 o'clock in the morning of Sept. Ist., the day on which you came. Connected with this day, also, are Peter and Tom, the two "Blackfoot" boys who came from the barracks to the school, and whose appearance with their long hair and untidy clothing contrasted so strongly with the appearance of the other children. They are both in my room in school and Peter the more sprightly looking of the two is getting along very well. He can talk enough English to make himself understood, can count, add, make figures and write very well, and also knows quite a number of words by sight. Tom is not so clever but he does his best.

Little Herbie, as you may have heard has been very ill. He now seems somewhat better. This evening I was carrying him around in the school-room, and he busied himself looking at pictures. One was a picture of five tuilps and without a moment's hesitation he pointed to them and named them Miss Cumming,

Miss Nicoll, Miss Russell, Miss Law, and Mrs. Leckie.

Richard, the little lame boy, is full of fun and is much

brighter in school, than he was at the opening of the term.

Last Saturday evening when passing through the hall, little Emma came up to me and lisped "Miss Nicoll, mesay John iii, 16." So I asked her to repeat it and although she could not say some of the words at all plainly, she went through it all.

These little ones seem to become almost a part of one's very

life. They are so affectionate and many of them so happylooking. Only this afternoon, I was thinking here we are with 125 children (52 of them are in my room) just like one big family, and this home seems just like a little world in itself. We are so busy from six or seven o'clock in the morning that we have

scarcely time to think about anything outside.

Last Monday evening Mr. McLeod gave a number of magic lantern views from the Life of Christ. On Tuesday in the school a number of questions were asked about them, and, in the senior department, Mr. Munroe asked them to write the names of as many views as they remembered. Two of the boys wrote fifty-seven out of fifty-nine. On the last Bible History examination Wm. Genialle took 100 per cent., Sarah Favell 93, and a few others between ninety and one hundred.

Yesterday being Thanksgiving day, all work in the school and shops was suspended. In the morning the boys spent about three hours on the ice, having apparently a very jolly time. At 10 o'clock,'rigs were at the door to take the girls out driving. This is something they always enjoy, and they were no less joyful than usual yesterday. In the afternoon a number of boys went to the reservoir to skate while the girls enjoyed themselves around home.

Perhaps, the best part of the day's proceedings was the even

ing service. At about 7:30 all were called into the school-room and the service began.

The evening before, Mr. McLeod had asked the children to write out on a slip of paper something that they were thankful for, and it was very gratifying to see the large bowl full of "Thanksgiving papers," as Mr. McLeod called them. These are a few of them:—"'I am thankful for clothing," "I am thankful for food and shelter," "I am thankful for this school,"

are a few of them:—"I am thankful for clothing," "I am thankful for this school," "I am thankful for this school," "I am thankful for this Thanksgiving-day," "I thank God for sparing my life to see this Thanksgiving day," "I have very much thankful when I see this day," "I have very much pleasure I see this day, thanksgiving; I wish again I would have much thankful, and we should have thankful for holy-day," "I am thankful God that he have bless us all this day," "I am thankful for Sunday," "I am thankful to God for sparing me to have another thanksgiving day and for his kind care," "I thank Thee that I receive another Thanksgiving day and reading our Bible."

You will notice that the English in some is not very good

but these have been copied word for word as they were given. In all there were nearly eighty of these offerings and it would have done you good to have heard one of the children take part in the prayer service.

You will understand that while there are so many pleasant things about the work there are also very many discouragements, but last evening it was suggested that we be a Thanksgiving school this year and I hope we may all be helped by God's grace to look on the bright side and leave the rest with Him.

Again I would thank you for your kind letter and your prayers. May God bless you in all your service for Him and may He

abundantly bless the Board of the W.F.M.S.

Synopsis of Letters received recently from Missionaries, Teachers and Helpers in the North-West.

CROWSTAND, Dec., 27th.-Rev. W. C. Whyte writes: "You will be glad to learn that our new church was opened for divine service on the 16th inst. The circumstances of the opening were very happy, except that I had all the work to do myself. We had a good attendance of Indians. The children practised a number of psalms and hymns for the occasion, and they sang very nicely, and with a will, 'All people that on earth do dwell, 'I to the hills,' and all the others. I took for my text, Josh. 24: 15, and pressed on the people the necessity for a definite decision for the true God. At the close of the service, White Hawk and John Severeight spoke of their satisfaction at seeing the church opened. Nearly all the people waited for the afternoon service. The collection amounted to \$5.85. This is the first collection so far as I know ever taken up at an Indian service here. The interest shown by the Indians in the church opening, and the close attention paid to the preaching of the gospel, were very encouraging and gratifying. The services of last Sabbath were also very well attended. We expect to make the afternoon service more like a Sabbath School for the grownup people. Mr. McVicar has promised to give some instruction in Cree singing, and in the reading of the Syllabic. John Friday, is making some progress in learning the Syllabic, and I hope that before long he will be able to read the Bible in Cree. William Fidler is still making progress in his English reading. I have been able to do a good deal of visiting on the reserve this fall. I generally try to spend at least two days of the week in this way. You will be glad to hear that Janem, who was married shortly before your visit, is now in her own house, and that she has it very comfortably arranged, and that she keeps it in very good order. There are now 34 treaty pupils on our roll. The number for which provision is made by the Department has been reduced to 30. Of the 34, 27 were in attendance last quarter. Besides these we have 5 non-treaty children making the number on our roll 39. Four small boys have been added since August, and we have now quite a large class of little folks. Mrs. Lochart is getting along nicely with the industries under her care. The children are getting on well with their straw hats. We are feeling quite satisfied now that they will be able

to supply all our hats for next summer."

Miss Kate Gillispie, Teacher, in an interesting letter, dated Jan. 3rd, gives a description of the Christmas Entertainment given by the school children, and the New Year's dinner at the Mission House, for the children and their parents. At the former, Mr. Whyte was appointed chairman, on motion of Willie Shingoose, an Indian boy of eleven years of age, seconded by Max. Ke-ka-we-zas, another boy of about the same age. Each child, even the voungest, gave a recitation. A number of the parents were present, and, although they could not all understand what was being said, their faces displayed feelings of pleasure and pride at hearing their children sing and recite. "At the close of the entertainment the children went home for their Christmas holidays, and visiting with their friends, until New Year's day, when they returned, and seemed happy to get back. The parents and friends came with them, and Mr. Whyte gave them all a New Year's dinner. After dinner, there was a Christmas tree which afforded pleasure to both parents and children." Mr. McVicar's Cree Syllabic class numbers 13. Miss Gillespie, has joined it, in order to assist in singing the hymns at the public services. About 100, including the children, were present at the preaching on the last Sunday of the old year, some of the Indians driving over 10 miles to be present, and all giving good attention to what was said. The small children. numbering 10, have been formed into a Kindergarten class, to which instruction is given in a separate apartment for an hour daily. "Yesterday," Miss Gillespie says, "we made chains and envelopes, and they were very much delighted with their work. Little Johnston, who always wants to know what Jesus thinks

about everything asked, 'Jesus like to see me make envelope?' It is so pleasant to see the confidence these dear little ones have in us." William Fidler can now read in the other Gospels, as well as in St. John. Mrs. Severeight has passed away recently, trusting in the Lord Jesus.

Miss Henderson, Matron, replies kindly to the letter of greeting sent by the Board, and earnestly asks that the members of the Society would remember her in prayer, that she may have grace and strength for her duties and responsibilities, which are

as yet comparatively new to her.

BIRTLE. - In a letter recently received, Mr. Neil Gilmour say "I would like to let the readers of the LEAFLET, know how our little band of these 'children of the prairie,' in whom they take such a deep and practical interest, spent their Christmas. During the day, the children were taken out by detachments for a sleigh ride, and at 12 o'clock a good dinner, including roast turkey and pudding, was served, and in the afternoon music and games were enjoyed. After supper all repaired to the school room, where it was known the Christmas Tree was to be seen. The Tree, lighted by many colored wax candles, was literally bowing under the weight of bright and useful presents, for which largely we have to thank kind ladies in the East. meeting was called to order by Willie Oliver, aged 10 years, who said there would be no chairman's speech, but a short programme, which he hoped would be enjoyed. After the entertainment, which consisted of songs, readings and recitations, a tremendous noise at the door announced the arrival of Santa Claus. He was ushered into the room amongst thunders of delighted applause, though in case some of the wee folk, there was added a spice of fear. One little chap said afterwards: 'Very much I fraid him, that one, nearly I run.' When Santa Claus had distributed the presents, we all repaired to the girls' sitting room for prayers, after which to bed. If the kind ladies in the East could have been here to enjoy with us the enjoyment of these Indian children, they would have felt in some measure repaid for their labour of love, and would have received a new impulse for future exertions along the same line."

ROUND LAKE.—In writing, under date of Dec., 31st, Mr. Geo. W. Sahlmark, Teacher, says: "Christmas was looked forward to by all the children, especially the little ones, who ex-

pected a visit from Santa Claus. Christmas Eve was spent in various amusements, singing, playing games, etc. On Christmas day we had a aire dinner, prepared especially for the children, and the following day all went home for their holidays. We have had 20 pupils for some time, and all are making satisfactory progress. We are glad that the Committee at Winnipeg has authorized us to take an additional number of five pupils. Harry and Edward are doing excellent work. Mr. McKay has just come home from visiting on She-sheep's reserve, which is about 35 miles away. The Indians are ve y poor and needy, and the clothing sent by the W. F. M. S. has been much appreciated, especially by the old and feeble. The majority of the Indians are still in pagan darkness."

LAKESEND.—From letters to hand, we learn from Rev. W. S. Moore, that Mrs. Moore holds a Sabbath School, with a regular attendance of sixteen, and that a number of the children on Pasquah's Reserve are still at home, and would either return to the Lakesend school if it was reopened, or go for the summer months to a school in the church on Pasquah's Reserve. speaking of his work among the adult Indians, Mr. Moore says. Last Sabbath I had to go to Piapot's, twenty miles off, and, in order to be in time for service at 11 o'clock, had to be up and getting my horse ready ere the stars had ceased twinkling in the frosty morning sky. Nothing worthy of note occurred on the drive, save that in passing Muscowpetung's camp, I counted ten out of the sixteen houses comprising the village, to be newly whitewashed, which was a very pleasing sign of better days ahead. I arrived in time for service and found nine only waiting to hear the good news. One woman, a consumptive, asked for baptism, but I left it over for a future occasion. After service I drove back to Lakesend, and in crossing the lake on the ice, noticed that the stars were again twinkling. service on Sabbath and only nine at it does not not seem to be much to overtake in one day, yet thus has the past Sabbath been spent." Mr. Moore has recently accepted an appointment to Mistawasis, and will probably be leaving Lakesend in the spring, to take the place of Rev. A. W. Lewis, who is returning to Nova Scotia on account of Mrs. Lewis' health. We pray that these changes may be overruled by God for the advancement of His kingdom.

REGINA.—Miss H. Cumming who accepted the position of Matron on the departure of Mrs. Leckie, writes in response to the letter of greeting from the Board: "It was with a heart filled with a sense of my own weakness and unworthiness that I undertook the work. But when I gave myself to God, it was to go wherever He might lead me and to do whatever He might want me to do, knowing that my sufficiency is of Him and that He has promised to be our strength in our weakness. I feel sure you will remember me at a Throne of Grace." The Christmas celebration was a most delightful one in every way, and will long be remembered by the pupils. The health of the children is very good, with the exception of two little ones who are sericusly ill, and Miss Cumming is kept very busy in looking after the house-keeping for this large family of 125 or more.

BIRDTAIL RESERVE. - Rev. J. McArthur, of Beulah, missionary to the Indians on this reserve, writes touchingly of the departure from this life of Deyanne David, aged 20 years, and the only surviving child of Mrs. David, the President of the Indian W. F. M. S. on the Reserve. Devance had been educated at the Church of England Indian School at Elkhorn. She understood English well, could read the Bible, and previous to her death expressed her strong faith in Christ as her Saviour. Her bereaved and lonely mother will have the prayerful sympathy of every member of the society. Mr. McArthur says; "Mrs. David's husband and whole family of eight children are now all lying in the cold grave and she is left alone. The children all died when they got to be about twenty years of age. Any one can easily see on Mrs. David's face indications of the very many burdens she has upon her heart, but she bears her sorrows with calmness and Christian resignation to the will of her loving Heavenly The Christmas entertainment, which was held on Christmas eve, was a very great success. Colored cards, sent by friends in Ontario, were distributed to each one present; and, to the aged and helpless, useful presents were given. All present partook of refreshments, each one carrying home something for Christmas day. Generally all the Indians on the reserve, whether pagan or Christian, attend this Christmas festival, and each one contributes or aids in providing refreshments. After the social a short service was held, Mr. McArthur presiding, when, after singing and prayer, addresses were given by John Run, Isaac Thunder, Big Hunter, Mrs. Big Hunter, and Mrs. David, who

from the fulness of her heart, spoke of her daughter's character and faith, of God's goodness to her, and of her hope beyond the grave. "Many of those present listened with bowed heads, and appeared to be taking home to their hearts the words spoken." Mr. McArthur closes a most interesting letter by giving an illustration of the removal of prejudice from the minds of the Indians with recard to the education of their children.

MISTAWASIS, Jan. 10th.—Miss McIntosh writes: "Last quarter the attendance at school was very good, the average being 15. Nearly all the girls have finished their dresses, and several of them have knit nice warm stockings for themselves. Jemima Johnston and Annie Bird received fifty cents for being the best knitters. Catherine and Christabel Dreever, twenty-five cents each for second best. This was the money offered by Mr. Keith, the Agent. The Christmas Tree was held on Friday morning, the 22nd Dec., when every child received a present, and all were made very happy."

ROLLING RIVER RESERVE.—In a letter dated January 18, Mr. Wright, missionary, gives a very full account of the work of this, his first year, on this Reserve. After giving a touching story of the death of an aged Indian woman, who had been deserted, and left to die alone, in a hut, but for his kindness he says :- "I am much pleased in reporting some of the successes that have crowned your efforts, that is the W.F.M.S.. for we are doing only a very small part of the work. The Indians who wish to be helped are well clothed this winter: the huts have been well washed with lime, and the walls decorated with colored pictures and Christmas cards, sent by Mission Bands. Mrs. Wright has started a knitting and a sewing class. She has now seven women and two men: one man can knit with four needles, the other is plodding on with two; the old women are making mats by sewing scraps of cloth, and pieces of waists, useless for the Indian women, together. We had our first Christmas Tree on the 26th Dec., and, though the day was bitterly cold, we had a good turn out. They came about 2 o'clock and, before Santa Claus arrived, had a lunch prepared by Mrs. Wright and her sister. I spoke to them about the glad news of the Christmas time, and they seemed to have a new interest in hearing about the Saviour's birth. We had a speech from one of the conjurors. It amounted to, how glad he felt when he was eating, and he would try to do some of the things

I told him. As it is now just one year since I arrived in Rolling River, perhaps a short account of the work done will be interesting.

"I came on the 23rd of January, and, after shovelling the snow and dirt out of the house, hung up a couple of quilts and my sleigh robe over the door and window. I then chinked and plastcred between the logs and in a couple of weeks time Mrs. Wright and baby moved in. The Interpreter came on the 1st of March. We visited the Reserve during the week and on Sabbath, March 4th, held our first service in one of the huts. Since then we have had two services each Sabbath, excepting a few in the summer when the Indians were away, and a prayer meeting each Wednesday. Attendance at service ranges from six to twenty-four. A marked difference is seen on the Indians during service. first it was the "order of the day" to smoke and talk whenever they felt so inclined. The blankets were rolled tight around them and hats and fancy caps kept on. I noticed for several Sabbath past that the caps have been taken off as soon as service began, and not a pipe was touched until the benediction was pronounced. Up to the 1st August, when I started work at the new mission house, our principal work was visiting. called on every family once a week, persuaded and helped them to put in gardens that turned out well. One man had 40 bushels of wheat. The building of the mission house started quite a building fever among the Indians and seven new log houses went up during the fall. I hope that by another year we will be able to report a school, for I am afraid we cannot persuade the parents to send their children to any of the Industrial schools, until they understand more the value of education and learn to trust the white people."

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

Acknowledgments of Clothing.

FROM MRS. RUSSELL.

Mhow, Central India, Nov. 29, 1894.

The Mhow box held a delightful surprise for us in the number of useful and bea utiful presents the ladies so kindly sent us for the children (boys and girls) under our immediate charge. I know when they are distributed many little hearts will be made glad by your kindness; and who can tell but mayhap some of the

gifts may be the means of turning some of these little ones to our dear Saviour. It is so nice to have the presents in time for the Christmas distribution when the schools close for a few weeks.

We feel quite proud and very thankful when we look at the

contents of our box.

Mrs. Russell then alludes to her health not being very strong and her baby's illness for a few weeks, and says "I know not what I should have done but for the kind friends the dear Father has sent me," and then specially mentions Miss O'Hara. "But in spite of many difficulties we have much to gladden our hearts, and though we get weary at times, we are very happy. I believe God will yet bless very abundantly our work in Central India." "I think we could stand almost anything if we could but see precious souls born anew into the light of our precious Saviour's presence."

"Will you kindly thank the ladies for Mr. Russell and myself for their kindness in sending so many presents; may the year 1895 be one of greater zeal and more abundant success in the work so dear to your heart and bring to you all much blessing

and happiness."

FROM MR. BEATTIE.

Virden, Dec. 8, 1894.

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The church-house is built and Peter is living in it, and as far

as I can learn the Indians are highly pleased.

The Indians who were not away hunting came in a body as son as they knew the clothing had arrived, and we had a busy day of it. What was left we stored in the church. We have had daily visits since from women and men asking for clothing, but, with few exceptions, we waited till Peter appeared and let us know their needs and then endeavored to supply them.

I am glad to see the Indians looking so comfortable and happy in their new clothing, and I am sure if the ladies who so kindly sent the supplies had seen how poorly they were prepared for the cold winter at the beginning of the season, and how different they are now they would be proud of their work; and I have no doubt but the present of clothing and the building of the mission church will give an impetus to our spiritual work among the poor heathen.

FROM MR. ALEXANDER SKENE.

File Hills, Assa., Jan 10, 1895.

Though busy I must write a few lines to you. The children are pleased with the testaments, and I hope will be much bene-

fited by the study of them.

Mr. and Mrs. Wright are leaving File Hills. Mr. Wright has been transferred to Touchwood Agency. Mr. Wright goes at once, but Mrs. Wright and the children remain here until spring. His successor is a Mr. MacNeil, formerly Agency Clerk at Battleford We have met both him and his wife, and hope that the friendly relations now existing between us and the Agency may continue.

We have had a beautiful Autumn. Our children enjoyed the skating on our little lake, and are all in good health. During the past ten days we have had winter. Mercury going as far as

40 below. Still we have been quite comfortable.

This year the supply of clothing for the reserves, was much less than usual, but having same over from last year, the shortage was not felt; however, should a small supply be sent next year we will have no surplus to draw upon. I regret that any misunderstanding should exist as to our requirements in the clothes, and would say to those who think we get toe much that when they stop the supply of clothing they had bettergo a little farther and recall the missionaries. In many cases the clothing sent by your Society is all our Indians have between them and 40 below. I might say much more, and give many reasons why clothing should be sent to our poor Indians, but my letter is too long now.

FROM MISS FRAZER.

Indian School, Portage la Prairie, Jan. 15, 1895.

I received your latter of January 1st in due time, with enclosed shipping bill for clothing sent from Salt Springs, N. S. The bale proved to be a valuable one, and will save us many an hour of work, as we were just talking over the matter of dresses for the spring. We certainly could not have received anything we stood more in need of. We thank v u for your kindness in remembering us and also wish you to convey to the ladies of Salt Spring, N.S., our most sincere thanks for, and appreciation of their labor.

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Since the beginning of the year the ladies of the W.F.M.S. are following your suggestion by having a meeting at the Indian church every Thursday afternoon, to teach the women to work. Two meetings have been held. The first day seven came after a good deal of coaxing. The next week the number doubled, knitting and sewing being taught on both days. We found all very apt at sewing, but knitting is a foreign art with all but a few who used to come to the school for a lesson some years ago. It was very anusing to hear the exclamation of "sica" (bad) from them whenever a mistake was made.

Volunteers are asked for at each W.F.M.S. meeting, two going with one of us each week. Mrs. Brown is going in place of one of us this week as she knows them all so well. We think it will be quite successful as all show willngness to learn. We have been holding a prayer-meeting one evening a week and have noticed when going around to the different tipis, the women knitting or sewing instead of sitting idle, and we hope that much

good will result from this work.

Rev. Dr. Robertson spent a few days in Portage the last week of December. He kindly conducted the service at the tipis on Sunday December 30th. The church was well filled and we all enjoyed the service very much. He and Mr. Wright visited the school the following Monday and he expressed himself well pleased with the interest shown by the Indians on Sunday. He thinks we must have a bell for the church in

stead of going around to gather them every Sunday.

The children are all well and happy. Those of them who spent a week at home at Christmas were very glad to get back again, Emma and Jessie coming two days ahead of time. We were very glad to notice that all came so much cleaner than formerly. Some of them tried hard to keep their school clothes clean and tidy. One little girl tood us how her mother had bathed her and washed all her clothes the day before she came tack. This is very encouraging I think, for in former years such a thing was never thought of by them; and we trust that these little ones may in time influence their parents more and more for the better—not alone in cleanliness of body but cleanliness of heart.

The weather has been very cold the last couple of weeks; we find it impossible to keep the house even comfortable. We are lamenting the loss of a few choice plants we had. I placed them on a chair quite close to the coal stove one night, and retired

with the thought that our plants would be secure at any rate, but I found in the morning that they along with everything else were fiven solid. I must not omit thanking you for your Christmas remembrance. I am so glad to have the different photographs. Miss Laidlaw joins with me in sending kindest regards to you and all the other ladies of the Board.

FROM MRS, LECKIE,

Fergus, Out., Jan. 22, 1895.

Before leaving the school I undertook to write and acknowledge the receipt of the bales of clothing sent to the school by the Presbyterial Society of Stratford and the bales sent for the Indians at Indian Head by Maitland Presbyterial. They all arrived in good order. The new material, the warm quilts, and the splendid clothing for the boys and girls, were very acceptable. We were especially thankful for so many stockings, for it takes a great many pairs to keep 125 children in stockings.

About the beginning of November a number of the Indian Head Indians came to the school to see their children. were a number of women and children in the company, and we had the pleasure of seeing every one of them leave the school warmly clad. One would hardly credit the change the clothing made on them. We used the girls' bath-room for a dressing room, and we took one or two at a time and had them put on, in the place of their rags, warm underclothing, dress, coat and The first one that was attended to, wanted to put on everything on the top of her dirty rags. After one of the girls, that was acting as interpreter, explained to her the right way to put on the clothing, it was not hard to get her to put them on the right way. She was very much pleased with herself after she The poor creatures were all thankful for the clothing given to them. One of them stroked her warm coat affectionately, and said in her own language, "It fits me just the same as if it were made for me." Another one said. "We are like white women now." After they all went downstairs to the front hall Mr. McLeod told them, that God had put it into the heart of kind ladies far away to send them the warm clothing they had received. I am sure that every one of those poor benighted Indians are very grateful for what the ladies of the Maitland Society have done for them.

NOTICES.

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

Letters concerning the organization of Societies, and all matters pertaining to Home work, are to be addressed to Mrs. Shortreed, 224 Jarvis Street, Toronto. The Home Secretary should be notified at once when an Auxiliary or Mission Band is formed.

Letters asking information about missionaries, or any 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. Maclennan, Treasurer, 10 Murray Street, Toronto.

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

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 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 66 Wellesley 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 Presbyterial Secretary to Mrs. (Agnes) Telfer, 72 St. Albans Street. Toronto.