

"THIS IS THE VICTORY



EVEN OUR FAITH!"

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# Monthly Letter.

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Subjects for Prayer.

"Medical Missions." "Deaconess Work."

NOTE.—See Revised Cycle of Prayer.

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## REPORT OF WORK IN JAPAN.

*Quarter ending March 31st, 1898.*

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Nagano—Evangelistic work.—(Concluded.)

At Neda the work increases in interest. Three meetings held, average attendance twelve, and sixteen visits made. The Saturday class for schoolgirls is very satisfactory. The girls are regular in attendance and much interested, not only in the fancy work and English, but also in the Bible lesson. It is a delight to hear them answer questions on former Bible lessons, and we know their young minds are being stored with Bible facts. The more we see of the work, the more we are impressed with the importance of teaching children. The average attendance at the class has been eleven.

A Sunday-school and a woman's meeting were opened in February in the house of one of our Christian women who lives in a poor district. So far the attendance has been very good and people reached who are hearing for the first time. The average at the Sunday-school has been eleven, and at the woman's meeting nine, usually the little 9 x 12 room has been full. That one room is the woman's home, but she gives it gladly for the work and helps to gather the children in.

In Nagano and at Komoso, Tanaka and Yashiro thirty-six visits have been made, twenty-eight of which were on non-Christian women. Help has been given in the Sunday School here and at Neda. The English Bible-class has grown in numbers and interest, and the Sunday congregations have been somewhat increased by the attendance of the members of the class.

(Signed) MARION K. LAMBLY.

## Extracts from Letters.

### JAPAN.

Miss Veazey writes, under date of September 7th, from Azabu, Tokyo :

"You will know from the note sent by the last mail that I am once more in Japan in safety, and now I find myself established in my old room in Azabu, where I spent the first year of my former term in Japan. It was quite a surprise to find that I had been appointed to Tokyo, and to the school work after being so long out of it, but we have to be prepared for such surprises in our itinerating life, and I know I shall enjoy the school life again when once settled into it. My reception here was most cordial and the ladies have made me feel that they are really glad to have me back."

In a letter from Miss Hargrave we find: "All were glad to welcome Miss Veazey. She will be a great help in Tokyo this year. She is a bright spirit and we enjoyed having her with us in Kanazawa before we separated. We had a quiet, restful summer. The weather excelled itself, very little rain, only three or four days of the usual summer dampness, when things get sticky and mouldy.

"I returned to Nagano on the 2nd, and our school began on the 5th. Five of the former seven pupils re-entered, the two married women having removed to Tokyo. I have the same three helpers as last year and look forward to a happy season.

"Our school hours are from one to five p.m. Kawara San has the first two hours for sewing, then come the Japanese and English lessons. I will have the Bible lesson only three times a week and on Sunday, as I have meetings to prepare for and am trying to arrange some kindergarten Bible lessons.

"Having the school to attend to every afternoon except Saturday prevents me from going away on the train to the places where we had meetings last year, so in thinking how I could best fill in the mornings of each day I decided to organize a kindergarten class for three mornings a week, leaving the other two for visiting and Saturday for meetings.

"You may be amused at the idea of my taking up kindergarten work, as doubtless you know I never had special training in that line nor any practical experience, but it is simply a case of trying to use the power of "adaptation to circumstances" that I may utilize the opportunity the Master has sent.

"Mrs. (Judge) Chika, one of our Christian women, is very much interested, and will help to gather in the children. There is no such school in Nagano, and she has wanted me to inaugurate one. However, my present idea is not a regular school, but rather a means to an end. While we use kindergarten methods our object shall be to teach 'the old old story.' I feel it is the Father's leading, and it is so good to know none of the children will be too small to understand and appreciate in some measure the story of the Cross. What they learn in their tender years will not be forgotten, and while we may not have them with us for more than a year (as I do not now plan for a longer time than that) the seed sown in their young hearts will be cared for by the great Husbandman. Personally it will be a great satisfaction to have the same children four times a week (as they come to Sunday School) in a class, instead of only once, as is usual in our children's meetings here."

Miss Preston writes from Kanazawa, July 26th: "We

are having pleasant helpful holidays. Dr. Needham, a noted evangelist, is here, and he and Mrs. Needham are holding a series of meetings, taking the form chiefly of Bible readings, which are very profitable.

"The Presbyterians held their Council here as usual. It is very helpful to meet these veterans in the work with many of the familiar faces that one has seen in the years that are past.

"The work in general is very prosperous in Yamanashi. There are discouraging places, but there is so much to encourage."

Miss Blackmore sends a postal from Azabu, under date of September 8th: "We are back at work again, except Miss Munro, who is remaining a few days longer on the mountains. School opened to-day. Two new pupils entered, three applied and two came to ask how to make application.

"We had a typhoon night before last, which tore off 105 tiles from the roof, and a good deal of plaster from the outer walls, but did no serious harm.

"The Kanazawa ladies are detained here, not being able to reach Kanazawa either by train or boat."

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## CHINA.

From Miss Brackbill.

CHENTU, *July 11th, 1898.*

By last mail I sent the Annual Report, but as your letter of April 26th has since arrived, I feel constrained to write again to tell you how disappointed we are about new workers. We do hope that both a nurse and an evangelistic worker may be found to come out this fall. Of course, a doctor is also needed, and we are glad one is coming. Even after they arrive they should have the whole of the first year for the study of the language.

I have done what I could in the evangelistic line, but with all the other duties it has been very little at the most, and now we should have regular organized work going on, not only in the city but itinerating as well.

We have had a grant for a Bible-woman for five years and still are unable to secure one, and begin to think we will have to train one ourselves.

We do pray and trust that more laborers may be found for this needy field.

You evidently did not understand some part of my letter regarding the feeding of the beggars. They are fed every morning for about three months during the coldest weather. They are allowed in the city during the day, but at nightfall are obliged to go outside. Just near the east and north gates (outside) are mat-covered structures where they sleep huddled together like cattle.

The place where they are fed is an enclosure outside the city, surrounded by a wall with gates, and it was these gates I spoke of as being opened when the people swarm into the city, remaining during the day. What I referred to as having seen in some of the home papers, that there were no beggars in China, was an extract from a speech of Dr. Leonard's, delivered, I think, in Toronto.

Yes, there was trouble in Chung-King, or rather across the river from there, some time ago, one native Christian being killed and another injured. The matter has never been really settled, that is, the offenders have not been brought to justice.

We are all quiet here, though there has been a number of rumors, principally on account of some demands made by the French lately.

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## INDIAN WORK.

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From Miss Spence.

PORT SIMPSON, B.C., *Sept. 5th, 1898.*

No doubt you will wonder why I have delayed in reporting myself back to the work, but I only arrived in Port Simpson a little over a week ago. When I reached the Skeena I found Miss Lawrence prostrated with an attack of typhoid fever which delayed my home-coming three weeks. I cannot tell you how sorry I felt for the dear girl who, for five weeks of fever, lay on a straw bed without springs. We made her as comfortable as possible with pillows and tacked up sheets over the walls, to prevent the wind from blowing in through the cracks.

Miss Lawrence will go to Victoria for a few weeks during convalescence.

Miss Stevenson was married to Mr. Cole (a lay missionary) last week, and has gone up to the head waters of the Skeena, to carry on mission work.

Dr. and Mrs. Pope are here. The former will supply for Dr. Bolton while he is in Ontario.

Dr. Pope is a stranger, Miss Stevenson is married, Miss Lawrence is unfit for work. Do I not need your prayers?

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### THANKS FOR DONATION.

The Literature Committee desires to acknowledge with very sincere thanks a generous donation of the "Encyclopedia of Missions" (2 vols.), from a friend, to be used in the reference library.

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### INCREASE.

Hamilton Conference Branch.

Canfield Auxiliary.

Tapleystown Auxiliary.

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### EXERCISE.

Ques. 1. What are the greatest obstacles to mission work in heathen lands?

2. Who are responsible for the existence of both of these terrible curses?

3. How does the liquor traffic hinder the spread of Christianity?

4 Can you give any instance that will prove the truth of these last assertions?

5. Who constitute the membership of the Almela Church?

6. Why is the liquor trade of heathendom so difficult to destroy?

7. What is our duty as disciples and servants of Him who came to found the "kingdom of heaven on earth?"

## Suggested Programme—December.

## Subject for Prayer and Study for the Month:

“The Extinction of the Liquor, Opium and Slave Trades, and all Covetous Hindrances to Christianity.”

(To be read at the opening of the meeting.)

- I. Opening Exercises. “Nations are strong or weak just in proportion as their citizens are virtuous or vicious.”
- II. Regular business.
- III. Hymn.
- IV. The Watch-Tower.  
“Watchman, tell us of the night,  
What the signs of promise are.”
- V. The President will give the majority for prohibition in her own province† and read the following:  
Rudyard Kipling, one of the greatest writers of to-day, in his “American Notes” avows himself a prohibitionist. He had just seen some young people reeling out into the night from a music hall in Buffalo: “They were all fine children of sixteen and seventeen. Then, recanting previous opinions, I became a prohibitionist. Better is it that a man should go without his beer in public places and content himself with swearing at the narrow-mindedness of the majority. Better it is to buy lager furtively at back doors than to bring temptation to the lips of young fools such as the four I had seen. I understand now why the preachers rage against drink. I have said there is no harm in it taken moderately, and yet my own demand for beer helped directly to sending those two girls reeling down the dark street to—God alone knows what end. It is not good that we should let liquor lie before the eyes of children, and I have been a fool in writing to the contrary.”
- VI. Prayer: “That God will sweep the liquor traffic from our land for our sons’ and daughters’ sakes.”
- VII. Exercise: “The evil effects of the liquor traffic on missionary work.”\*
- VIII. Reading: “The Opium Curse.”†
- IX. Prayer: “May we each labor as though the battle for the extinction of the liquor, opium and slave trades and all covetous hindrances to Christianity would be lost if our part were not well done.”
- X. Hymn. Doxology.

† The returns cannot be furnished by Room 20.

\* See Questions on page 6. Answers will be found in LEAFLET. Price 5 cents, at Room 20.

† LEAFLET. Price 1 cent, at Room 20. (Please enclose 2 cents extra for postage and wrapping.)

## Suggested Programme for Mission Bands.

## DECEMBER.

I. Hymn: "Yield not to Temptation."

II. Scripture Lesson.

A story of four boys about fourteen years of age, who were taken captive and carried away to a strange country. They were given wine from the king's table, but they asked to be allowed to have water instead. Read what Daniel, chap. i, tells us about these boys.

III. Prayer: "That the members of this Band, and all the youths of Canada, may be as true to principle as was Daniel."

IV. Hymn: "Dare to be a Daniel."

V. Roll Call: Responding with Temperance texts.

VI. Regular Business.

VII. (a) Three thousand of Canada's brave subjects have this year fallen into drunkards' graves. Can we think of these homes with vacuum chairs, these lonely firesides, these ruined souls, without the tear-drop glistening? Do we care? What if it were your father, your brother—Can we do anything to overcome this evil?

(b) A five-minute talk suggesting methods of aiding in the overthrow of evil.

VIII. Hymn: First verse of "Throw out the life-line."

IX (a) What sum is annually spent in Japan for drink?\*

(b) What is the annual expenditure in Canada?†

(c) Tell about the great sin forced upon China by Christian England.‡

(d) On which side was the majority in the plebiscite election in your county?

X. Reading, recitation or solo.

XI. (a) Is the drink traffic carried into Africa? If so, to what extent?

(b) Tell us something of gin traffic in India.\*\*

XII. Closing hymn: "To the work."

XIII. Benediction.

\*No. 9. (a) Page 4, "Christian Missions and Temperance."

†No. 9. (b) " 15, " " " " "

‡No. 9. (c) " 3, " " " " "

§No. 11. (a) " 4, " " " " "

\*\*No. 11. (b) " 4, " " " " "

(To be obtained at Room 20. Price 2 cents.)



**NOTICES TO AUXILIARIES.**

Will Corresponding Secretaries who order Annual Reports and MONTHLY LETTERS please remember that, by direction of the Board of Managers, the remittance must accompany the order. Price of Annual Report, 10 cents.

Will they also have the subscription renewed if possible, as the LETTER will not be sent after the subscription expires, and the Literature Committee may not be able to supply back numbers to those who are late in renewing.

**New Leaflets.**

The Literature Committee would draw attention to eight new leaflets recently added to the list, also Excell's "Songs for Young People," which contains some excellent missionary selections. Several of the leaflets have been brought to the notice of the Society through the Suggested Programmes, but others are now mentioned for the first time. The new additions are marked by an asterisk (\*). A new leaflet, "The Importance of Mission Bands," by Mrs. Jackson, of the Manitoba Branch, is also being published, which organizers will find useful for circulation in places where it is desirable to form a Mission Band. This leaflet may be ordered from Room 20, and the branch depots. Price, 12 cents per dozen. Please enclose 2 cents additional for postage and wrapping.

**The Mission Band Pin.**

The Literature Committee regrets that it has been found necessary to increase the price of the silver Mission Band Pin to 15 cents each, \$1.50 per doz. Please enclose the usual 2 cents for postage and wrapping.

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, trial subscription, 3 months, 20 cents. Subscriptions to this Magazine may begin at any time, but must continue till December and then end. Message and Deaconess World, 50 cents ; The Double Cross and Medical Missionary Record, \$1.00—to missionaries and student volunteers, 50 cents.

## Music and Recitations Suitable for the Christmas Season.

Gloria in Excelsis. Price 10 cents. A beautiful cantata of moderate difficulty. Selections could also be made from it for a miscellaneous programme for Christmas.

The Christmas Treasury, No. 5. Price, 15 cents. A collection of recitations, exercises and dialogues.

May be ordered from Room 20 and the Branch Depots.

## LEAFLETS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE.

Please Send Remittance With Order.

Those Leaflets marked thus \* have just been added to the list.

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