

WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA. (Western Section.)

SPECIAL NOTICE.

TORONTO, April 1st., 1886.

The Tenth Annual Meeting of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, Presbyterian Church in Canada (Western Section), will be held in the city of London on Tuesday and Wednesday, 20th and 21st April, 1886. The meetings will be held in St. Andrew's Church. The ladies will meet on Tuesday at 10.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m., and on Wednesday at 2.30 p.m.

The Board of Management will meet on Wednesday at 10 a.m. A Public Reception will be held on Tuesday evening.

Ladies who intend being present will kindly send their names and addresses to Mrs Blair, 50 Alma Street, London. Certificates to travel at reduced rates can be had on application to Mrs. Campbell, 194 Richmond Street West, Toronto.

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FOREIGN LETTERS.

EXTRACTS FROM MRS. JAMIESON'S.

TAMSUI, Dec. 5th, 1885.

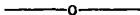
Things are with us much as when I wrote last. Mrs. Mackay and the children have gone to stay a little while with Dr. M. and the students in the country. We hear the Doctor is busy and hard pressed during the day, and teaching students at night.

We have known him now long enough to think all is well if he gets two or three hours sleep in a night; many a night in Hong-kong he did not get one hour.

We saw Rev. Tan's picture in the *Record*; it is more natural than that of Rev. Giâm, but you can have little idea of them from pictures. Not they alone, but the whole band are men of whom any church might well be proud. Of course, I can't judge of theology and science and philosophy, but I know they can tell us the history of everything around us - stars, mountains, rocks, the sea with its wonderful creatures, the birds, trees and flowers; they know the Bible, and Chinese history and Chinese characters, and English history and geography (*real* geography— all about the countries and their productions, and the different classes of people). We have heard some of them preach, and I once saw Sun-à get down off the platform and extract teeth, while another dispensed medicine.

Old and young are all being taught and directed in their studies. Only to see it ought to awaken the most laggard soul. One mind leading higher, deeper, farther into every mountain of truth, and, so far as able, the others must follow. But that is only what *we see*; they tell us we don't know anything about the teaching and drilling they have had all these years.

In Tamsui we don't always hear the same man preach, but one thing I know—reverend or not reverend, when we can understand we get good, wholesome *common sense* gospel; and to go hungry down to the chapel in the hospital and get real food, enriched by the preacher's own experience, is something to be thankful for, especially among people buying and selling, and carrying burdens.



INDIANS OF THE SIOUX RESERVE TO OTTAWA AUXILIARY.

BIRD TAIL, SIOUX RESERVE, Jan. 13th, 1886.

The Indians of this Reserve desire me to tell you that they are very grateful to the ladies of your Society for their most handsome gift of clothing. Money has been very scarce with us this year, and we thought we were going to be badly off for

clothing during the winter, but now we are all well clad and comfortable. We are not "Treaty Indians," and so find it very hard to make both ends meet sometimes, but we do our best in the way of hunting and farming. We were very glad to see the bundles of yarn; our women and girls have been very busy making mitts and socks, and now almost every one has a pair, and we feel very proud of them.

We would also like to tell you that should there be any more fighting between our people and the "Whites," we shall remain loyal at all costs; we will die on the white side.

We have a new church and school-house now; the school has been open for two years. Our children already understand a little English, and we hope that they will in time grow up to be like the white people, giving up the old, bad ways, and learning to do that which is right and good.

Next year, if you should think of sending us anything, we shall be very glad of some dolls and pictures. Of the latter we are very fond, but we cannot spare money to buy them; our children make their own toys, but they much prefer those made by the white people. Our children were so much pleased to find the little packets of sweets in their pockets.

Then we would like to tell you about our farms. When we first came here the Government gave us a few implements, some calves which are now working oxen, a few cows and some seed wheat. This is the first year that we have had enough wheat to sell; the price paid for it is not very good, but still we are encouraged to go on, and hope for better times.

There is one other thing we would like to say to our white sisters. If they like to help us next year, we would like to send them the number of our people on the Reserve, how many men, women and children and their ages, as perhaps it would be easier to fit them with clothes. We have one man called "Cankage," or "Big Log;" he weighs 230 pounds, and nothing is big enough for him. Another man is very tall, and comes too far through his clother. Then we have many big women. Will you tell us if it would help you to have a list?

With very many thanks for your most kind gift, and also for the letter contained in the box (the letter was translated and

read to all the people in church on Sunday; they were all very pleased with it, and thank you for your prayers and good wishes),

We remain, your very grateful friends,

(Signed for the Indians)

CHIEF ENOCH, MALIPIG-A-HADINOPE.
J. G. BURGESS, *Teacher.*

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EXTRACTS FROM MR. MCKINNON'S, Farm Instructor.

PIAPOT'S RESERVE, Feb. 6, 1886.

I must say that the clothing is going to be a great benefit to the Indians, as there are a great many old widows and orphans on this Reserve.

The school-house is not started yet, but as soon as the warm weather comes, it will rush.

I propose that Mr. McKay should visit these Reserves often, as he is a great favorite, much liked by the Indians, and is making great progress with his school at Crooked Lake.

The farm team teamed out the boxes, so that there is not any expense on this score.

The boxes are sound and in good shape, so suppose the contents are all O.K.

I have a fine warehouse, and can store such goods as may come from time to time.

The only proposal I would make is, goods such as blankets, quilts and such like, would be a great benefit.

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MR. GRANT, Acting Indian Agent.

ASSINIBOINE AGENCY, INDIAN HEAD,
February 5th, 1886.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 25th ultimo, and in reply beg leave to give the information sought for.

I received five boxes of clothing, also one bale; two from Toronto, one from Carlton, two from Hamilton, and one from Clinton. The articles were suitable and had been well packed.

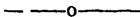
In this district there are from 280 to 300 Indians, men, women and children, and naturally if one article does not fit or suit one, it does another.

I had no additional personal expense, the Indians themselves being only too glad to freight from the railway station.

I have store-room in sufficiency for storing articles, if at any time more should be forwarded.

I think I may safely say that this has been the most comfortable winter that these Indians ever experienced in their lives, being well and sufficiently clad.

The school commenced here is making great progress, and the women have learnt the art of knitting socks, mitts, etc., using the needles and wool sent by the Society. The latter articles are now eagerly sought after; they are certainly a very prudent gift, as it instils an industry, and tends to make their homes more comfortable.



EXTRACTS FROM REV. H. MCKAY'S.

BROADVIEW P.O., ASSA., Feb. 14th, 1886.

To assist us in our mission work among the Indians of the North-West, we have received clothing from the following places: Seaforth, Mitchell, Kincardine, St. Mary's, London (South), Harrington, East Zorra and Brooksdale, Paris, Galt, Guelph, Lucknow, Ripley to Piapot; Listowel, Toronto, Uxbridge, Kingston, to Fort Kelly; Ottawa, Maxville, Port Hope, Ormstown, Gananoque, Prescott, Grafton, Owen Sound; also three boxes which we were able to trace to Drumbo, but received no letter; also a special box from Mr. Gale, Toronto.

The articles were, in the main, such as we required. We received more of men's clothing than any other kind—not many women's skirts, also few pants for schoolboys. We have a store-room at the railway station, Broadview, where we have still a large quantity. The yarn is still in the store-room; we have used but little of it, as there are few of the Indian women who

are able to use the knitting needles. The boxes were all well packed, and came to hand in good order.

In many cases we found it difficult to trace the box to the station from which it was sent. If there was a card tacked on the outside of the box saying who sent it, we would be able to acknowledge the receipt of it upon its arrival.

The W. F. M. S. have sent us very much this winter; they have clothed many a poor shivering body; and if they could hear the expressions of gratitude and thankfulness that we have heard, they would never regret that they had engaged in this good work. The work has been made pleasant to us. We are often made happy when visiting among the poor homes of our people, and meet with the hungry and naked ones; happy, not because they are cold and hungry, but because we are able to give them to eat, and clothe their shivering bodies; happy, because of the interest the Church has shown in mission work, and because it has heard more distinctly than ever the words of our blessed Master: "Give ye them to eat." "When thou makest a feast, call the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind."

We have to record, with sorrow, the loss which our mission has sustained in the unexpected death of our dear brother, Mr. Livingston. He did much to strengthen and help us in our work since we began this mission. His last day of perfect health was spent in company with his good wife in visiting at the wigwams of the Indians, seeking out and clothing the needy, and the sad event which led to his death occurred at Round Lake, as we were planning the fitting up of a school-room for the Indian children. The event is from the hand of a loving Father, who is too wise to err, and we would bow in humility.

We are not able to give a full report of our school in this letter; only a few facts. We opened school on December 1st, and purpose continuing four months. The number of our scholars has been twenty, but for the rest of the term the number shall be less. We have engaged the service of Jacob Bear again this winter. He acts as assistant; his wife is matron, and his daughter is cook.

Our school has been most interesting, and we are much encouraged in the work. The children are as easily managed as white children, and make just as good progress in their lessons,

One boy has read through the first part of the first book in two months. I send you some examples of their writing. They have not finished their first copy-book yet.

You shall also see some specimens of the little girls' sewing. I would like to send you specimens of their housework and cooking, but I can't.

Last week they have been busy in their spare hours making up dresses for themselves. Last night we had a party, and they wore those dresses; they looked so pretty and were so happy. We sang a number of Cree and English hymns. I am sure you would have enjoyed hearing them sing, "I am so glad that Jesus loves me." The little boys were nicely clad, and all enjoyed themselves so much.

These are the children who have been neglected; these are the lambs that have been left in the cold and in the storm to perish. Are they worth seeking after? Is there anything that is Godlike about them? Have they souls that can never die? Are they to be hunted and shot down like wild beasts?

ROUND LAKE, N. W. T., BROADVIEW P. O.

Feb. 1st, 1886.

The little boy to whom you sent the suit of clothes is the best clad now in the whole band. I can't tell you how much he was delighted on receiving such a gift. He very soon threw away the old rags he had about him (scarcely enough to make a good mop), and he went about among the tents showing his new clothes, saying "I am almost a white boy." This little boy was ill for some time in the spring—illness caused by exposure in the cold winter—but as the weather grew warm he recovered. I frequently saw him, and gave him some medicine and clothing, and we soon became friends.

The boy wishes much to come to our school, but the old chief, who is a leader in dark paganism, is afraid to let him come. The poor old chief still prays to the north wind and to the thunder. He thinks he is able to see a little light in his heathen worship, and thinks it would not be wise to give away that in which he sees a little light and take that which is all dark to him.

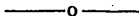
He says he would like to see his father when he dies, and if he becomes a Christian he thinks he would go to a different country and would never see his father.

I trust you shall still continue to think of the poor Indian, and pray that the Great Shepherd may gather some of the lambs that are lost on the dark mountains of heathenism.

I thank you with all my heart for the interest you have manifested in our work.

We are busy in our school; the Indian children learn fast; they are very fond of singing and music. If you heard them singing some of our hymns, you would think you were listening to a sabbath school of white children.

NOTE.—Valuable contributions of clothing were sent to the Indians from Balderson Auxiliary and “Formosa’s Helpers” Mission Band.



NEW SOCIETIES.

EAST CHURCH AUXILIARY, Toronto, organized.

GRANION AUXILIARY, in Stratford Presbyterian Society, by Mrs. Gordon.

THAMESVILLE AUXILIARY, in Chatham Presbyterian Society.

BOBCAYGEON AUXILIARY, in Peterboro’ Presbyterian Society, by Mrs. Finlay, of Lakefield.

• Five Mission Bands have been organized in Lanark and Renfrew Presbyterian Society within the past few months, two of them this month. Names are:

ST. ANDREW’S CHURCH MISSION BAND, Perth.

KNOX CHURCH MISSION BAND, Perth.

ST. ANDREW’S CHURCH MISSION BAND, Almonte.

ST. JOHN’S CHURCH MISSION BAND, Almonte.

“MISSION BEES” MISSION BAND, Pembroke.



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