

"THIS IS THE VICTORY



EVEN OUR FAITH."



Monthly Letter.

PUBLISHED BY

The Woman's Missionary Society of the Methodist Church, Canada.

ROOM 20, WESLEY BUILDINGS.

Vol. XVI.]
No. 4.

TORONTO, APRIL, 1899.

[Price 5c.
a year.]

EASTER-TIDE { "I gave my life for thee,
What hast thou given for Me?"

Japan.

MISS BLACKMORE writes from AZABU, TOKYO,
December 31st, 1898.

THE school term just closed has been a quiet, uneventful one in our school. Sixty-eight were in attendance at the close—a slight increase.

Of those who have withdrawn, two had been for some months on trial with a view of becoming supported students, their full fees being paid in the meantime by their friends; but on our deciding they were not of sufficient promise to justify an expenditure of mission money on their education they withdrew. In two other instances the grandmothers did not approve of the girls being sent to school, and though they were happy with us and the other members of the families thought it good for them to remain, the grandmothers' voices and votes prevailed.

Two of our pupils have received baptism. One is the

eldest daughter of the Orphanage, who, on becoming old enough to earn her living, was taken into the school as servant, but, as she showed herself worthy, she has been given the advantage of further education in the school.

We are especially thankful for freedom from serious sickness among the girls. With no Dr. Macdonald to come by day or by night as formerly, we have dreaded illness, but thus far God has guided us.

We are much disappointed in not having been able to secure a lot for our school before the end of the year, but God knows all about what we need and what is best, so we wait His time.

Orphanage.—Two little girls have found a home with us since September. One is the child of an old man who has been taken on as a servant in the school, but as the mother is dead we put the little girl (about ten years of age) in the Orphanage, the father paying one-half of her support from his wages.

The other child seems to have no living relatives. The mother was a Christian, and when dying was most anxious that her child should be placed in a Christian orphanage, but the priests of the place took her to the temple. There she lived for some years as a little beggar. A man who had known the mother, and of her wish regarding the child, desiring to save her from the certain evil life for which the priests designed her, brought her to us. It is one of the fairy tales of real life that the matron of our orphanage had been an intimate friend of the mother when this child was a little baby. At first, when questioned she seemed to have no recollection of her early home, but at evening prayers, during the singing memory was awakened by the once familiar tune, and the tears rolled down her cheeks. When the matron began to teach her to say a prayer she broke into a fit of violent sobbing, and said, "My mother used to teach me like this."

A good place was offered for one of the older children in a Christian family with the sister of one of the teachers in our school. She is employed as a little nurse-girl, and is giving good satisfaction. So one by one our children are being settled where they can earn an honest and respectable livelihood.

China.

Extract from letter of MISS BRACKBILL, CHENTU, *December 26th, 1898.*

AS I am leaving here this week,* I have handed all books and accounts to Miss Foster.

Some time ago we dismissed one of our school-teachers as we were not satisfied with the work she was doing, and we did not think we were justified in spending the money for the small number who were attending. Some of her pupils have continued to come to the other teacher, but we have not a large number of outside scholars coming at present.

Our little girls are making rapid progress and the woman who is in their school is a *real teacher*.

The hospital work (dispensary) was opened several weeks ago, but the numbers of those who come for treatment are still small.

The orphanage still has the four children and they seem happy as the day is long. Annie, particularly, seems better than she ever has been.

The country is still in a very disturbed state and soldiers are constantly being sent down to Y mantsi's stronghold. The city itself seems quiet though there are soldiers watching the streets, and the work goes on as usual.

Indian Work.

MISS CLARKE writes from PORT SIMPSON, B.C.,
January 5th, 1899.

THE annual report had scarcely left my hands when two cases of measles developed, whereupon the Home was strictly quarantined, and remained so for seven weeks. The record of those weeks forms a never-to-be-forgotten chapter in our Home history—a record of days and nights of toil and anxiety, of death, and sickness near unto death; and, on the other hand, I am glad to say, in the majority of cases, of full restoration to health.

* On her well-earned furlough.

During the most critical period, Miss Spence had to be our visiting physician, and when death came was the one friend free to come and go at will. Her ready help and kindly sympathy comforted and cheered immeasurably. Other friends did all in their power, but quarantine rules kept them on the outside.

There were twenty-two cases, twenty of whom recovered. One of the twenty has been in the hospital ever since, but is growing strong again, and will probably soon be well enough to return to us.

Matilda McKay, who had been consumptive for nearly three years, died October 29th, the end hastened, no doubt, by the attack of measles, from which she rallied only to sink again. Matilda was just twenty, and had been an inmate of the Home for thirteen years. Unusually clever with her fingers, she quickly learned to do fine and beautiful work, of which many specimens remain to speak of her talent and application. When at all well she was never satisfied unless supplied with a piece of work. Her last bit of work, a small crocheted doyley, remains unfinished, the last stitch having been put in about four weeks before her death. We miss Matilda, still cannot but rejoice that she is at rest after the weary years of weakness and suffering. When told she would never be up again, she said she was not afraid, though afterward the memory of past sin for a time cast a shadow which an explanation of the nature of repentance and pardon soon removed. Her end was peaceful, and we believe she is with God safe in her heavenly home.

Martha Flora, aged twelve years, with us for less than a year, died at her own home late in November. Her case was similar to Matilda's, though the decline was much more rapid. Martha's death made the fourth from among us within four months.

The first week in December the school examination was held. The girls did exceptionally well, which was greatly to their credit, so soon after the serious break in school work, occasioned by the recent illness.

It was impossible to make preparations for a public entertainment at Christmas, so only the mission people

were invited to be present at the distribution of gifts from the Christmas tree. Through the kindness of friends in Alliston, Yarmouth, Wallbridge and Kingston, the children were made happy with nice gifts, of which the books, I believe, are more prized than any.

On Thursday, December 29th, the parents of the girls, to the number of fifty, were invited to dinner at the Home, and to hear the girls sing and recite afterwards. The people seemed to appreciate the entertainment, and in their speeches a number expressed most kindly sentiments toward the Home.

In the midst of the festivities German measles broke out among the girls, and within the past two weeks twenty-seven have been down with the epidemic. This variety of measles proves but a slight malady, affecting its subjects only a few days at most, and then not seriously.

Boxes, barrels and bales have been received from Tweed, Cherry Valley, Wallbridge and Yarmouth; dolls from Alliston; and scrapbooks, dolls and fancy articles from Kingston; also scrapbooks from Roland, Manitoba. To the kind friends who have labored to send so many valuable gifts we tender our most hearty thanks, and trust that their bounty may return to them in manifold blessings. The knowledge that Christian women and children, for the love of Jesus, are willing to give of their time and means to make them comfortable and happy, is having a good effect upon the girls. I believe many are looking beyond the gifts to the spirit which prompted them, and seeking to emulate that spirit by being good and doing good.

MISS CLARKE writes from PORT SIMPSON, B.C.,
January 20th, 1899.

WE are back to regular duties again, and the girls are all well, so the work is not pressing as heavily. Miss Elliot and myself are quite well, but Miss Paul finds it difficult to keep about. A vacation is what she really needs, but that is out of the question for anyone until a fourth worker is secured.

Lumber has been ordered for the woodshed, fence and

tank. The present winter has been very wet, and the frosty periods not protracted, so the supply of water has been abundant. Last summer being exceptionally dry, it had to be carried from a distance over rough ground for fully half the time.

I am very well satisfied with the conduct of the girls and progress made, still we can all see where many improvements are to be desired. I believe without a single exception the girls truly love the Home, and are zealous for its reputation and honor.

It occurs to me that I have not told you that Nellie Atanasse, the heroine of the lawsuit, was married in November. Martha Scott, another of our girls, was married shortly before Christmas. Martha is a nice girl, though far too young for marriage according to our ideas, which do not coincide with those of the Indians by any means.

Lizzie Green's and Lizzie Bradley's first babies were baptized the same Sunday, and looked very pretty in nice robes made of their respective mothers' wedding gowns, one of cream cashmere and the other of dotted white muslin.

The New Year has brought to me genuine happiness in my work, I think more than has at any time fallen to my lot. I pray that God may give to the Home such a year of true prosperity as it has never known, and that the girls may be led into close fellowship with Christ, living day by day His life, and doing the will of their Father in heaven

Increase.

TORONTO CONFERENCE BRANCH.

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NEW BRUNSWICK AND PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND BRANCH.

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Newcastle "United Workers" Mission Band.

Notices to Auxiliaries.

"OUTLOOK" SUBSCRIPTIONS.

WILL subscribers kindly remember that *Outlook* subscriptions are not to be sent to Room 20. Address REV. A. SUTHERLAND, Methodist Mission Rooms, Wesley Buildings, Toronto.

THE following leaflets are out of print: Experiences of Some Mite-Boxes, Have You a Mite-Box? The Voices of the Women, The Grace of Liberality.

THE Literature Committee has added to the catalogue a new pamphlet by "Layman" on "Giving." It will be found useful by Superintendents of Systematic and Proportionate Giving. Price, 10 cents per dozen; 90 cents per hundred.

WOMAN'S Missionary Society writing paper, letter size, 100 sheets in a pad, 45 cents; note size, 30 cents; post cards, per dozen, 15 cents.

OUR EASTER THANK-OFFERING ENVELOPE.

The Manitoba and North-West Branch has, at the request of the Literature Committee, prepared an envelope and appeal to be used for gathering our Easter Offering. (Please notice the space left on the envelope for writing a text.) Price, 5 cents per dozen; 15 cents for 50; 25 cents for 100. For Mission Bands the envelope is pink, but without the appeal. Price, 3 cents per dozen. Two cents additional for postage and wrapping on each package. This applies to both Auxiliary and Mission Band orders.

They can be obtained from MISS OGDEN, Room 20, Wesley Buildings, Richmond Street West, Toronto, Ont. Also from MRS. C. STEWART, Box 121, Sackville, N.B., or MRS. CALDER, 187 Smith Street, Winnipeg, Man.

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, nine months, 60 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.

The Literature Committee at Room 20, and the Branch Depots in Sackville, N.B., and Winnipeg, Man. (for addresses see foot of last page), are prepared to receive deposits of \$1.00 for the literature to be used in connection with the Suggested Programme, 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 postage, will be deducted for each parcel. Subscribers will be notified when their deposit is expended.

OUR GOLD PINS.

The Literature Committee has arranged to have our Woman's Missionary Society and Mission Band Pins made in gold for life-members. The star is attached by links to a pin which is topped by a small gold ball, and makes a very suitable gift for a life-member. The pins are \$3.50 each, and the order is to be accompanied by a voucher of life-membership from the Recording Secretary of the Auxiliary or Band to which the member belongs. It will be well to order at least three weeks in advance, to allow time for correspondence and unforeseen delays.

NOTICE TO MISSION BANDS.

THE suggested programme for Mission Bands will in future be published in *Palm Branch*.

Send subscriptions for *Palm Branch* to MISS S. E. SMITH, 282 Princess Street, St. John, N.B. Single copies, 20 cents; in clubs of ten, to one address, 10 cents each.

Suggested Programme—May.

Arranged by Mrs. J. B. WILLMOTT.

- I. { Hymn.
Scripture Lesson.
Prayer—for the teaching, guidance, and inspiration
of the Holy Spirit throughout the meeting.
- II. { Minutes.
Correspondence.
Treasurer's Report.
“We shall never acquire any great capacity for joy, the
blessed peace of God will never possess our hearts and
minds as long as we shrink from self-denial.”
- III. Hymn—“Cast thy bread upon the waters.”
- IV. The Watch Tower.
The President will read—The subject for study and
prayer to-day and during this month is “China
and the Chinese.”
- V. Paper* (five minutes)—“What our Church is doing
in educational and evangelistic work in China.”
- VI. Prayer for these departments of the work, and the
missionaries, *by name*.
“For God is my witness that without ceasing I make mention
of you always in my prayers.” Rom. I. 9.
“We give thanks unto God always for you all, making men-
tion of you in our prayers.” I. Thess. I. 2.
(N.B. The members expected to offer this and the following
prayer, should be notified before the meeting, that they
may inform themselves of the work.)
- VII. Solo†—“I'll tell Jesus, He will Know.”
- VIII. Paper* (five minutes)—“The Jennie Ford Home and
Hospital work.”
- IX. Prayer—For these institutions and the workers in
charge.
- X. “Foot-binding.”†
- XI. Hymn—“Jesus, Master, whom I serve.”
- XII. Silent prayer—That the Holy Spirit may cause us to
realize our personal responsibility for the salvation
of the lost and sin-ruined of every nation.
- XIII. Announcements.
Closing prayer by the Vice-President.

* Material for these papers will be found in the Annual Reports of the General and Woman's Missionary Societies.

† “Foot-binding,” price one cent. “I'll tell Jesus,” four cents. Please enclose two cents additional for postage and wrapping. May be ordered from Room 26 and the Depots.

LEAFLETS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE.

Please Send Remittance With Order.

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

(A signifies Adult; J, Juvenile.)

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Also, MRS. C. STEWART, care of Rev. Dr. Stewart, Sackville, N.B.

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NOTE Please note that no Monthly Letters or Reports are to be ordered from the Branch Depots. Write to Room 20, Wesley Buildings, Toronto, for them.