

"THIS IS THE VICTORY
EVEN OUR FAITH."



Monthly Letter.

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SUBJECT FOR PRAYER.

India.

JAPAN.

From Miss Preston.

KOFU, April 8th, 1896.

I have been waiting for some time to send you extracts from letters that I have received from S— A—, our first graduate in English from this school. She was in the school for a little while after her graduation, which took place last year, before the summer holidays. She was leader of one of our class-meetings in the school and superintendent of one of our Sunday-schools, and now she has a little Sunday-school in her home. She is the only child and a wealthy heiress. Her father is looking for a husband for her. He will not consent to her being baptized at present; he is probably waiting until her marriage arrangements are completed. *He seems to realize that a Christian husband*

is best for her; he himself thinks his daughter will never give up her faith, but be a Christian all her life. I will enclose two letters just as they are, and extracts from others. We enjoyed the visit from Miss Blackmore and Miss Wible very much. Our closing exercises passed off successfully. The governor of the province and various educational dignitaries were here. We had four graduates, two of them in English as well as Japanese. One of these continues her studies in our Azabu school. Four of our students were baptized in March. We have the prospect of a large number of students this coming term—we hope, the largest in the history of the school. Another girls' school is being started, however; it remains to be seen how formidable a rival it will be.

We are having holidays now, but they are busy ones, as there are odds and ends of work to be done in preparing for the new term. The boarders and new students enter on the 11th.

We are very grateful for the prosperity God is giving us. May He continue to be with us here, and may He continue His manifest presence in power and blessing with you at home.

Extract from a letter written by S—A—, a graduate of the Kofu school, to one of her teachers.

ICHIŌ MURA, February 21st, 1896.

“I will tell you what I do every day. Every morning, after I took my breakfast, I go to my uncle's house, and there my aunt teaches me sewing. At night I study ‘Kobugo’ (Japanese literature) and writing. But on Sunday I stay at home; lately my parents allowed me to rest on Sunday, and my father came to me and said it is good thing to work on Sunday. He persuade me hard, but I did not hear his word. Since that time he never say again about Sunday; so on Sunday I always read books and study Bible. I can get great help from my note-book, which I made in my Bible lessons.

“I asked my father about the Baptism, but he said he will allow me some time, but not yet. At my uncle's house when I prayed before my dinner all the servants laughed at

me very much at first, but now they do not laugh at all. Truly by prayer we can get strength from God. Every morning I used to read Matt. xxiv. 14. He told them to preach the Gospel to all nations. I believe my duty to God is to tell the Gospel to my friends and neighbors. I am sorry that I did not my duty well. Please pray for me."

From another letter:

"My happiest time in the day is the time when I pray to God. I found that the home life is very much harder than the school life. But I am praying earnestly to God to guide me in true way. I am trying to show my faith while I am busy."

From Miss Beavis.

PORT SIMPSON, February 4th, 1896.

DEAR MRS. STRACHAN,—

Our Christmas entertainment for the children of the Homes was much enjoyed by them and their friends who were with us. We had quite a programme, consisting of singing, recitations, etc. Their motion songs and club swinging to music furnished by the girls pleased the parents very much. It was remarked by some that the improvement each year was very noticeable. Our chairman called upon some of the friends to speak to the children. Victoria, an old chieftess, said she wished she could be born over again, so that she might have the many advantages which these girls enjoyed.

The children have had good health until recently, when we were visited by a mild form of la grippe, from which all recovered quickly, except one of the larger girls, Fanny Ryan. But we are hoping that under Dr. Bolton's careful treatment she will soon be quite well again.

One of our girls, Minnie Offett, who left the Home some time ago, on account of ill health, after spending the summer in the hospital returned to her parents, and shortly before Christmas left, as she expressed it, before dying, "to go to Heaven to be with Jesus."

Our numbers are not very large, but those who are here are having a more thorough training, so that when others come they will be a help to them in a great many ways, and we trust those who leave us from time to time may be made a blessing to others who have not had the advantages they have. We are expecting two more children soon.

The people are scattering again, as food and fuel are getting scarce. They go over to a place called Works Canal, where halibut and game are quite plentiful, and fuel can be obtained with little labor. We are glad to be able to say that the children are improving in all departments of the work. Remember us at the throne of grace, that we may be drawn nearer to our Saviour, so that we may lead the children to a full consecration of themselves to Christ.

From Dr. Bolton.

PORT SIMPSON, B.C., March 6th, 1896.

DEAR MRS. STRACHAN,—

For some time I have thought of writing you some account of our work here, but from the pressure of other duties it was postponed. Miss Spence, too, has not written you for some months. She sprained her right wrist severely last October, and has done little writing since, and is only lately fully recovered.

During the fall and early part of the winter we had not so very many patients in, but since New Year our beds have been almost constantly full. Just now we have nine. These include a man from Bella-Bella, from whose neck I removed a tumor weighing four pounds; a boy from Hartley Bay, on whom I performed excision of the knee-joint; and a woman from Port Essington, who, on admission, was in a very low condition with heart disease and dropsy. These cases are all doing well. We have attempted more serious surgical work this year than formerly and have been blessed with good success. These operations are hard on the nerves when one has no other surgeon with whom to divide the responsibility. But we all draw strength from our invariable season of prayer before the operation. This soothes and assures the patient and strengthens the nerves and hearts of the operator and assistants, and who can say that a measure of our success is not due to the direct answer to prayer? We have not the appliances and do not claim the skill exhibited in the larger hospitals, yet our results would compare well with any. Let us give the glory where it belongs, to our Heavenly Father.

Miss Spence and Miss Lawrence have been very faithful and have spared neither time, energy nor sympathy. Their work is toilsome and often disagreeable, and yet it has been done with a cheerfulness and self-sacrifice that has been gratifying to me and beneficial to the patients, and I am sure acceptable to Him for whom above all they labor. Miss Spence has been on duty part, or all, of almost every night this winter, and urgent duties often interfere with her hours of rest by day. Then we had an epidemic of la grippe in January, afflicting all the children under six in the village, and a few grown people. Our own three children were ill from it, and I myself was confined to the house for ten days in the midst of it. During that time Miss Spence visited about twenty cases daily, outside the hospital, taking temperatures, reporting symptoms, dispensing my prescriptions, etc. Time for evangelistic work is limited with us. Miss Lawrence led a devotional class at the Girls' Home weekly, while Miss Spence helped with singing, attended women's prayer-meetings, etc., and took an active part in Woman's Missionary Society Auxiliary work and Woman's Christian Temperance Union, etc. Then we have a very interesting Sunday-school, attended by all the "white" children in the place, about twenty-four. We hold it in the hospital, i.e., our living room. I am generally present. We have three classes, use Miss Spence's organ, and the children are very attentive, and we hope some good seed sowing is accomplished.

We are all very sorry to lose Miss Lawrence, and I am sure she is loath to leave us just now, but she had made arrangements and had given me ample warning, and it is due chiefly to my negligence that we are left as we are. I may say that the young lady I had hoped would temporarily fill her place is with us now as a patient.

I trust Miss Stevenson, of whom I wrote you, will be along without any delay. She comes highly recommended for the position.

Mission work in general is progressing. The "Home" seems to be doing nicely.

Suggested Programme for July Meeting.

- I. Opening Exercises. "The evil forces of every Christian nation are tremendous enemies of the missionary work."
- II. Regular Business.
- III. Hymn.
- IV. Subject for Prayer for the month: That covetous hindrances to Christianity may be removed.

A million and a quarter acres of the earth are devoted to the cultivation of tobacco. Nicotine is a virulent poison. Two drops are enough to kill a large dog, eight drops will kill a horse in four minutes.

Mr. Kelso, Vice-President of the Toronto Humane Society writes, as follows:

"The cigarette and tobacco business is completely demoralizing many lads between the ages of seven or eight and twelve years. I lay great stress upon the cigarette evil, because in order to force the sale, certain manufacturers place an immoral or highly suggestive picture in each package—always an actress or a female performer scantily dressed. Boys often buy the cigarettes for the sake of these pictures, and the smoking habit thus grows on them. I have myself seen pictures of the most degrading character that have been taken from cigarette packages. In a very short time boys started in this way become so initiated into all that is bad that sooner or later they become a public menace."

An American firm sold \$60,000 worth of these pictures in one year.

- V. Reading: "Opium Dens in Lucknow."*

"The introduction and sale of opium extends to all the cities and villages of China, the Chinese expending on it more than \$50,000,000 every year."

Miss Powar, an Indian Christian lady, of Bombay, says: "Opium is given to children only three or four days old, and hundreds of thousands of children are yearly poisoned by it."

VI. Hymn.

VII. Reading: "The Deacon's Cider" (a true story). †

VIII. Discussion: Whereas, in Canada the right of the majority to rule is a fundamental principle of government, are we individually or as a society responsible for that traffic in death, the rum trade? How do our fathers, brothers and sons vote?

When the first Christian martyr fell down and gave up the ghost, being stoned by the Jews, there was one standing by, who lifted no stone and stirred no hand against him; but afterwards, praying in the temple, seeing with the new vision of the redeemed, he cried out in an agony of repentance: "I, Lord, I also stood by consenting unto his death."

And so shall many Christians one day look with new eyes upon the rivers of blood now surging almost up to their doors, and cry "I, Lord, I also stood by consenting," and some shall add, "and kept of the raiment of them that slew."

IX. The Watch-Tower.

X. Sentence Prayers: On the subject for prayer for the month.

Benediction.

INCREASE.

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* See "Onward," February 29, 1896. Price one cent.

† Leaflet, "The Deacon's Cider." Price one cent, at Room 20. Please enclose two cents additional for postage and wrapping. The Room will be closed as usual during August. Kindly send all orders by July 25th.

REPORT OF THE JAPAN WORK OF THE W.M.S.

From Jan. 1st to March 31st, 1896.

TOKYO BRANCH.

School.—The term has been an uneventful one. We have tried to pick up one by one the threads dropped last year. Only 53 pupils have been in attendance, and we have been able to send out only 10 to the Sunday-school work.

The girls have given of their leisure to the making of garments for the poor from old clothes. In this way three warm coverlets and fourteen garments have been provided, and thankfully given to needy babies, aged people or sick.

The King's Daughters' charity school has had an average attendance of 38.

The 13 little ones in the Orphanage continue well-behaved and healthy. At the close of the term the eldest, now a girl of fifteen, was sent to the Girls' School to learn to be a servant.

The young lady from the Girls' School who has been teaching sewing in the Orphanage had to leave Tokyo, a victim of consumption. She now lies at the verge of Life Eternal. For more than half the term the sewing lessons have been discontinued, but one of the teachers from the Girls' School, though not a Christian, has volunteered free lessons from the first of April.

Evangelistic.—During the last three months work has been going on among the women of four of our churches, namely, Azabu, Kobikicho, Ushigome and Shitaya. Meetings have been held in each of these places and also in Negishi, Kaki-garacho and Atagoshita districts, under the supervision of the pastors of these churches. Besides these, meetings among the poor in Azabu are held three times a week in as many districts, and a weekly meeting for the servants of our house and school is conducted by the matron.

Since January 1st 660 visits have been made to the homes of the women, and 771 persons talked with. Of these 313 were non-Christians, and 32 heard the Gospel for the first time. Fifty-eight meetings have been held, with an average attendance of 5.5 women and 2.5 children.

(Continued next month.)

NOTICES TO AUXILIARIES AND MISSION BANDS.

Room 20 will be closed as usual during August. Please send all orders by July 25th.

The Literature Committee has pleasure in drawing attention to the revised catalogue of leaflets and other publications. About thirty new leaflets are presented. The Committee hopes that the arrangement under subjects will render it easier to make suitable selections.

Manuscripts for loan can be procured from Room 20. Subjects: "Chinese Religious Faiths," by A. W. Briggs; "Systematic Giving," by A Systematic Giver. Postage and wrapping, 3 cents each. The manuscript to be carefully enclosed in paper, and returned the day after it is used.

The Literature Committee of the W. M. S. will be much pleased to receive donations of books on missions, mission work, or biographies of missionaries, for use in circulating and reference library established at Room 20. Friends will kindly send only those which are up to date.

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*, 9 months, 60 cents (subscriptions to this periodical may begin at any time during the year, but must continue till December and then end); *African News*, per year, 75 cents; *Message and Deaconess World*, per year, 50 cents; *Heathen Woman's Friend*, per year, 50 cents; *The Double Cross and Medical Missionary Record*, per year, \$1.00—to missionaries and student volunteers, 50 cents per year.

NOTICE TO AUXILIARY PRESIDENTS.

In the April number of the *Missionary Outlook** you will see a plan of work mapped out for "The Students' Missionary Campaign." Their arrangements are very complete, and one of their number has been appointed to each district west of Montreal. These students have kindly consented to speak in the interest of the W.M.S. Auxiliaries, Circles and Bands desiring their services for Sundays, conventions or other meetings, will please communicate with the students at the following addresses: *Montreal Conference*, C. W. Service, B.A., Aultsville, Ont.; *Bay of Quinte Conference*, S. C. Moore, Lindsay, Ont.; *Toronto Conference*, T. E. E. Shore, B.A., 166 St. George St., Toronto, Ont.; *Hamilton Conference*, Charles M. Marshall, Abingdon, Ont.; *London Conference*, A. C. Tiffin, Nile, Ont.; *Man. and N.-W. Conference*, Edward Michener, Wesley College, Winnipeg, Man.; *British Columbia Conference*, Morley C. Peart, B.A., British Columbian College, New Westminster, B.C.

E. S. S.

* Sample copies of the April *Outlook* may be had by writing to the Mission Rooms, Wesley Buildings, Toronto.

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