

This is the Victory



Even Our Faith."

# Monthly Letter.

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## Subjects for Prayer and Study for the Month:

August—"African and Jewish Missions."

September—Our Boards of Management. Officers and Committees. All Sister Societies.

## Japan.

### EDUCATIONAL WORK.

*Report for the Quarter Ending March 31st, 1900.*

TOKYO.

THE recent promotion examinations in the school show that good classwork has been done through the year. Three girls were graduated from the full course. Two of these having been supported by the Society, enter at once on their duties as helpers—one going to Kofu to assist in the school work there, and one to Nagano. We hoped that the third, though a full-pay pupil, would remain with us as a helper for a time, but her father has called her home. She has been in the school twelve years, and we trust has developed a Christian character that will enable her to walk in the straight path of right through the difficulties and temptations which we know she must now meet. As these girls go out from the school we look with

dismay at the vacancies which they leave in Sunday School work, King's Daughters' Society, etc., etc., and with anxious misgivings arrange for the responsibilities which they have carried to be passed on to younger and less experienced girls, and then we smile at our own fears as we remember not so very long ago, with the same feelings we saw the "now graduates" first step into these positions, and how as the months passed they grew into the full measure of the demands made upon them. School closed with seventy-nine names on the roll—one, a trained nurse, having withdrawn shortly before, because her services were required in the hospital.

**KING'S DAUGHTERS' SCHOOL.**—Mrs. Ito's place had to be supplied by a very young helper, so both teachers this quarter have been more inexperienced than those who previously carried on this work. The President of the King's Daughters' Society was appointed Principal of the school, and the work has gone on very well. We have not thought it wise to encourage new pupils to enter, as these are always harder to manage. The boys' class had to be dropped, as neither of the young teachers was strong enough to undertake it in addition to work with the girls.

**ORPHANAGE.**—One of the pupils of the girls' school was married early in the New Year, and asked to have one of our orphans for a little maid in her new home. We hesitated as we had no child large enough to really go out to service, yet we did not wish to lose so good an opening. However, Mrs. Hara said she did not mind the child's being small, and we knew she would be kindly cared for, so another of our little band has started out in life.

Our orphans are gaining a reputation. A few weeks ago a teacher in the school for deaf, dumb or blind children, asked if we would let him have one for his home, saying he had heard of their being well trained children. As he is not a Christian his request could not be entertained.

I. S. BLACKMORE.

#### SHIDZUOKA.

Our prayer for the last three months has been for wisdom to make the best use of each hour of every day. There was so much work that could be done, and to have wisdom to choose out of much we longed to do what would tell best for eternity has been the strongest desire of our hearts.

Mrs. Large and Mr. Miyama visited Shidzuoka in the early part of the year in the interests of the temperance cause. Having heard much of the good results which followed their

work in other towns, we expected the same benefit here, nor were we disappointed.

Mr. Miyama, besides being a temperance worker, is also an evangelist, and wherever he goes, preaches Christ.

Mr. Miyama's public temperance meeting was held in the church on Tuesday evening, March 4th. As our boarding pupils, whose homes are in Shidzuoka, are allowed to visit them on the first and third Friday of each month, returning on the following afternoon, one of our girls went home on the afternoon of the fourth, determined, if possible, to get her step-father and step-brother to attend the evening meeting. She came in a little late bringing both men with her. The step-father was much impressed with Mr. Miyama's earnestness, and the truth of his words. The next morning at six o'clock a prayer-meeting was held in the church. To this the girl came, bringing her step-father. The man there decided that he would give up drinking wine himself, and also that never again would he offer it to a guest. At this time he was preparing to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of his grandfather's death. A number of guests had been invited, and he had had a wine-bottle and wine-cup made for each guest. He had also put aside ten yen to be spent in wine. As he had pledged himself never again to offer wine to a guest, he sent the ten yen as a present to the school to be spent in any way we wished. After consultation with teachers and pupils, we decided to buy a tree. We got a beautiful weeping willow over forty feet in height, and as removing a tree in Japan, no matter how large, seldom puts it back, it is now in full leaf. In Japan willow trees are planted in front of hotels and tea-houses, and the waving branches beckon people to come. Some of our girls thought a willow tree a most appropriate one to be placed in front of our school, where it could stand, and "with its long hands call pupils to come and hear of Christ."

Mrs. Large was presented with the wine-bottle and cup which had been intended for the Buddhist priest in charge of the temple where the ceremony was to be held. A woman's meeting, addressed by Mrs. Large, was held in the church on Saturday afternoon, and sixteen women signed the pledge.

Sunday morning Mrs. Large addressed the teachers and girls of the school. Her earnest words will not soon be forgotten. In the afternoon, nearly two hundred children assembled in the church. They listened most attentively, and when at the close of her address Mrs. Large asked how many would begin to fight the wine and tobacco serpents, every child in the church arose.

The principal of the "Chu Gakko" (Middle School) in-

vited Mrs. Large to address his students. There are over five hundred boys in the school, ranging in age from fourteen to twenty-two. As Mrs. Large had arranged to leave Shidzuoka on Monday morning, it was impossible to do so then, so she promised to stop off a day in April, on her next trip through the country.

Mr. Miyama is a Methodist, and on Sunday evening he conducted a real home revival service in the church. The Christians were greatly blessed. The girls spoke particularly of the prayer of one man, who had been growing cold in God's service. It was as the prayer of a little child returning to its father. All our Christian teachers and older girls gave themselves anew to Christ, and eight of our younger girls decided to openly acknowledge themselves as Christians by receiving baptism.

The good work continued in the school, and seven more girls asked for baptism. Of these, two were daily pupils. Besides these, four other daily pupils have begun to attend the Sunday afternoon class-meeting. This interest among the daily pupils makes us especially glad, as it is always so hard to really come into touch with those who do not board in the school.

Among the boarding pupils, as far as we can judge, there is now not one who is not trying to follow Christ. Seven of the girls were baptized on Sunday, March 4th. Of the remaining eight, two have not yet permission from their families, and as the others are young, one of them having been in the school only about six months, we felt that it was better that they should wait a little longer, until they understand the way more perfectly.

Of the two who have not yet received permission to be baptized, one comes from a wealthy country home. Her parents are dead, and this little one is much loved by her grandmother. She entered the school a year ago, and her daily Bible-class teacher says. "During the past few months there have been times when O Iwa San could not understand the lesson with her *head*, but she always seemed to be able to understand it with her *heart*." Her brother, in answering the letter, in which permission was asked for her baptism, said that her family knew nothing about the Christian religion, but when the long summer holidays came, she could tell her grandmother all about the new religion, and could explain what baptism meant, and then her grandmother would decide.

The girls sometimes speak of O Iwa San as a "tsumi no nai hito," that is, "a person without sin." She has received Christ with such simple faith, and she talks of the time when

she can tell her grandmother about Him. She has a peculiarly beautiful disposition, and it may be God has sent her here to learn of Him, then to go back and begin a work in an old conservative family—a work which possibly might not be begun in any other way. She is one who will "adorn the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ." That, and her simple faith may help her so to present Christ that her grandmother may be won, not only to grant the asked-for permission, to acknowledge Him openly, but may herself be brought to Him.

M. J. CUNNINGHAM.

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### KOFU.

As the calendar has to be revised, new text-books considered, preparations for closing exercises thought about, and grading examinations conducted, the winter term is always the busiest of the year, the one just closed being no exception to the general rule. A number of girls who have been with us during the past year return to their homes, exchanging school life for one of domestic duties.

The routine work of the school varies little. The usual class, prayer-meetings and other services are well attended. Among the girls a growing knowledge of the importance of carefulness in little things is shown in the way many of them prepare their daily work.

Every Saturday evening the girls engaged in Sunday work have met together for preparation of the next day's lesson. Lately this meeting has been converted into a normal class, under Miss Jost's direction, in which a model lesson is taught by one of the workers to a class of little children gathered for the purpose.

Two more pupils have received baptism this term, one of whom asked that she might have the privilege of helping in the Sunday work among the children. She is one of two who were mentioned in a former report as having come in for English only, and became a Christian in spite of herself. The open heart responsive to the Father's message is surely hers, and a blessing she will prove wherever she goes. The other girl who was baptized has been long in the school, one for whom many prayers have been offered. It was a joy to see her come at last. Three others have expressed a desire for baptism, but in one case the parents have not yet consented. One of them said the influence of the school the few weeks she had been a boarder far outweighed what she had felt during the two years she was a daily student.

Five girls were graduated, one from the English course, who graduated in Japanese last year, three from the Japanese course, and one from the sewing department.

Already a goodly number of applications are on file, and we begin to wish for more room that we might accommodate all who wish to come. If success be counted by numbers we can certainly count the coming term a successful one.

MINNIE A. ROBERTSON.

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### NAGANO.

The average attendance for the past quarter has been twenty-five. Two items—the forming of a Y.W.C.T.U. Society, and the baptizing of three of our girls—mark the term, and give us great cause for rejoicing.

Ever since Mrs. Large's visit last fall, when she gave us some very earnest and interesting talks in connection with the temperance work, there has been an increasing interest in the temperance movement, and a desire to organize a "Y" Society. Early in February twelve of the girls signed the pledge; later eighteen more joined, and we formally organized, and elected the officers, having Mrs. Yamaji, a former pupil of our Azabu School, as president. This little band make the first organized temperance workers in Nagano. They are very much interested, and I am sure the future will find them making their mark in connection with the temperance cause.

The first Sunday in April three of our girls were baptized. Two of them are boarders, and one a day pupil. The latter is a doctor's daughter; she has a brother who is an earnest Christian. This makes five of our girls who are Christians, two being baptized before they came to us.

The Father has graciously owned and honored our efforts, I have no words to express my gratitude. When I look out and see much land yet to be possessed, my prayer is, "Help us that in future we may give a more willing and, in every way possible, a more perfect service.

*Kindergarten.*—There are sixteen names on the roll for the past term, but the average attendance has been only ten. January and February being our cold, snowy weather, the little ones often found it impossible to venture out.

Our head teacher, who was to have been baptized in April, has been absent for two months on account of sickness. We expect her to return by the first of May.

Three of "our babies" leave us to attend the public schools. We are sorry to part with them, but are glad to know that two

of them belong to Christian mothers, and all three attend our Church Sunday School, so we will still have a care over them.

The English Bible classes with the young men have been kept up, and have been very interesting. One young man, a normal student, who is in Miss Wigle's class, has asked for baptism, and two in my class are almost decided.

The social side of the work has claimed considerable of our time. Over two hundred and thirty-four visitors have been received in our home.

I have visited at all the homes of the kindergarten children, and at a good many of the homes of the school girls. The way is opening up, and we see many more opportunities than we are able to take up.

Asking for an interest in your prayers that the Father may continue to use us in His service here,

ISABELLA M. HARGRAVE.

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## EVANGELISTIC WORK.

*Report for the Quarter Ending March 31st, 1900.*

### TOKYO.

We are glad to be able to report an addition to our number of workers. Mrs. Kataoka, who has had six years of experience as a Bible-woman in the South, has been put in charge of the Ushigome District.

Kubo San is failing fast, still she works when she can. She is much loved and respected by all who know her, and will be greatly missed when her work is done.

A former pupil of our Azabu School, who is living in the Atagoshita District, has of late used her influence with success in getting a number of the neighbors to come to her home for a mothers' meeting. We trust it will be the means of much good.

The unusual severity of the cold this winter, the frequent snow storms, and the wide-spread prevalence of influenza, brought the attendance at the women's meetings during January and February down to two or three, a few times one only, so that the quarter's average is very small. I suppose the same reasons account for the smaller attendance at our Sunday children's meetings.

A few weeks ago Mrs. Hayashi succeeded in getting a children's meeting started in a part of the city where no Christian work is being done. There were twenty-six children and a

few grown folk at the first meeting. The attendance has increased to thirty-five.

During the quarter we have held fifty-three women's and thirty-six children's meetings, with an average attendance of six and thirty-seven.

We have had four requests for baptism. C. E. HART.

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#### SHIDZUOKA.

As another result of Mrs. Large's and Mr. Miyama's visit with us in February, a temperance society has been organized. Thirty-nine members are enrolled. Our aim has been to divide the responsibility of this work, and have the women of the American Methodist Protestant Church, also the teachers and older girls of the Jo Gakko, and our own church women represented. With these different agents using their influence, we hope to reach many outside of the churches.

The wife of the Principal of the High School is vice-president. She found it harder to give up tobacco than wine. So many recognize the evil effects of intemperance, but the custom of offering wine to guests is so universal it needs moral courage to be the first, or even the second, to banish it from the home. It is when they come to the point of signing the pledge, we find the hold this habit has on the people.

If only we can get the mothers to feel the responsibility of their own sons and daughters and "lend a hand" in this work. The inducements to drink are many. Even if the smallest boy is successful in his aim at the "shooting stand," he wins a glass. If successful a number of times, he receives a bottle, and after winning so many bottles he is entitled to a watch. It is not, however, only outside of the home "pit-falls" are waiting. Wine is used so extensively in the cooking it is more a natural appetite than an acquired one.

Our work along temperance lines is educative. May God help us to awaken the consciences of the people so they may see the awfulness of this curse. To this end scientific temperance is taught in our monthly meeting, and a regular programme prepared along educative lines.

In all our work temperance is taught. From three homes we have heard of the children returning from the Sunday School to tell their parents and friends it was not good for the body to drink and smoke. In one case, after seeing the picture of the wine cup with the snake curled up in the bottom, one boy was so impressed he said to his father when next he saw him drink, "Father, there's a snake in that glass." This



he repeated from time to time, and finally succeeded in getting his father to stop.

Our work is in the Father's hands, and when He wills, a token of encouragement is given to us. We are never utterly cast down.

BESSIE H. ALCORN.

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### KOFU.

The meeting held every two weeks in Kofu is particularly encouraging, both in increase of numbers and in the deepening interest shown.

At Matsushima, where meetings have been begun and closed several times, we have been obliged to close again. Usually only two women were present, one of these being the daughter of the house where the meeting was held. We shall make Bible calls at all the houses open to us, as often as possible, and start a meeting again when we can do so.

The three silk factories where we hold meetings closed in December, and will not re-open until the middle or end of June. In February we started a branch of the W. C. T. U. in connection with our women's meeting and at Katsunuma.

The members of our W. C. T. U. here at Kofu, together with the members of our other women's meetings, are beginning a night school for little nurses. Many a mere child is sent out of the house with a baby on her back, that she and the little one may be out of the way of the older members of the family, and these children wander the streets till late at night nowhere to go. As we are just beginning work among them, we will speak more fully later.

In a letter to the *Outlook*, written in March, we gave a full account of our temperance work among the children, so will not speak of that here.

During the term we have held 110 women's meetings, with an average attendance of 10; 35 children's week-day meetings, with an average of 24; 76 children's Sunday meetings, with an average of 29; 6 factory and special meetings, with an average of 78. We have made in Christian homes 234 calls, in non-Christian homes 261, and in new homes 8, giving a total of 503; baptized 3.

EDITH E. WASHINGTON.

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### NAGANO.

The evangelistic department of our Nagano work reports for the quarter. Women's meetings, 24; average attendance, 6. Special meetings, 2; average attendance, 33. Children's

meetings, 124, average attendance, 34. Visits, 131. New homes entered, 15. West Nagano free kindergarten average attendance, 13. Yashiro free kindergarten average attendance, 11.

Since Mrs. Large's and Mr. Miyama's visits to this district last year temperance work has been making steady progress. In Komoro Mr. Miyama organized a W. C. T. U. in December, which has now nearly thirty very earnest members. In Tanaka nineteen women have joined. One is a young woman whose father is a slave to both wine and tobacco, and whose little brother of five years, who likes to imitate his father and "see the smoke curl up" has already learned to like smoking so well that one day he smoked at one time all but one of a box of cigarettes. Of course he was very sick afterwards. It is, indeed, cause for great rejoicing that Parliament has recently passed a law forbidding the use of tobacco by any one under twenty years of age.

In Ueda we have formed a Y. W. C. T. U. of twenty-three bright young girls, and as we pinned on their white ribbon we prayed that He who is holy will help them to keep their souls and bodies pure and consecrated to His service. Here, as in other cases our hope lies in educating the children, and we are trying to enlist them in the Loyal Temperance Legion. At a children's temperance meeting not long ago the man of the house and two of his friends sat by the fire at one side of the room making free use of their bottles and cups, listening to our talk between times.

A recent number of the daily paper speaks of a Woman's Drinking Club lately formed in a city of this land, at which some of the women, especially the older ones, drink very heavily. How we long to make all the lovely young girls around us proof against any such fate. But there are many difficulties, and they all, young and old, need the prayers of their Christian sisters in other lands that divine strength may be given them in every time of need.

Laura A. Wigle.

## China.

*From Miss Foster, Chentu, April 13th, 1900.*

THE work of the past quarter has been quite satisfactory. The day-school has been very well attended since the Chinese New Year. The orphans have all had good health. Since the 1st of April two children have entered the Orphanage, making nine in this department. Eighty-five

street children and one hundred and fifty-three women have been taught in our Sunday School during the quarter. Oh, for more workers, so that I might give my whole time to the evangelistic work. I am counting the months till Miss Brackbill shall return to us. By that time Dr. Henry and Miss Martin will be able to help with the work. They are very diligently studying the language.

The boarding school has its usual number of pupils. They are all busy and happy in the work. We have all had good health during the winter.

I do wish you could come in some afternoon and see how happy we are in our nice home. The roses are all in bloom now, and these make our compound look home like.

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## Chinese Girl's Home, Victoria, B.C.

*From Mrs. Snyder.*

JANUARY was a very busy month, as our family was increased by Mrs. Dr. Chong, her daughter Victoria, and a Japanese woman named O Sata. Mrs. Chong came to improve herself in English, and it was decided by the Advisory Board that she should pay her share of the expenses for food, but in other ways be treated just as the girls.

The baby (Victoria) has proved a treasure to all, and we feel that her cute baby words and ways make the old house more home-like and the girls more gentle and loving.

O Sata was brought to us from a Japanese boarding-house with a request that she be taught English, but she soon tired of the restraint and one Saturday evening took "French leave," however, we insisted upon her returning the next week to wash her bedding before her trunk was given to her. Miss Morgan and the Japanese missionary said all they could to influence her, but she insisted on going, and we can only pray for the poor deluded girl. The last of January the other Japanese women left in the care of their husbands to take positions as servants, and our family settled down to five Chinese girls and the baby.

The work was very irregular during February on account of the Chinese New Year, and we are truly thankful it "comes but once a year," as it was a wearisome process. After three days of calling, climbing steep, dark stairways, sitting in dirty rooms, drinking untrimmed tea, and eating Chinese candy, I was forced to rest, and Miss Morgan finished the calling without me. I called at forty stores and homes, besides many

cabins, opium and gambling dens. When we returned tired out in body we had to be prepared to entertain the Chinese who called upon us, and each day we had a group of from five to ten visitors. It was during this time that Ah Yute fell into disgrace. While I was out one day she "took" enough tobacco to make two cigarettes, and when I returned I punished her by putting all the tobacco in the stove, and her look of real sorrow was ludicrous. She has had no tobacco since and seems to be in good health. She has always been very gentle and obedient to the teachers.

Ah You and Ah Kin are very easily managed, very helpful about the house, and have their English clothes almost ready for wearing. Bessie has really been much gentler and has shown more humility after her outbreak. As I was not feeling able to do double duty, Miss Morgan kindly undertook the home-work and school, while I visited the women on the mainland.

In Vancouver, with the help of Mrs. Fu Tuk, (Rose) and Mrs. Chan, the wife of the missionary there, I visited nineteen women and in each home they told me that Mrs. Chan had told them of Jesus. Rose accompanied me to Westminster. We were pleased to find Martha much better, and both she and her husband were very grateful for our care of her in the winter. With her assistance we gained an entrance into every home but one, and talked to eight women and two slave girls. In one home I cut a dress for a little girl at the request of the mother and then told her of Jesus—dressmaking and teaching hand in hand.

The Friday meetings have been held regularly with an average attendance of sixteen, and a great number of the worst class have attended them—no doubt with the hope of influencing the girls, but while we have tried to guard our flock we have also endeavored to send the truth home to these darkened souls.

The little Sunday School meets in the Home, with an average attendance of fourteen. The little girls are very quiet, but the boys very restless. The work though not large is moving along evenly, and we realize our work is not in vain, and that we have the prayers of sisters at home to strengthen our hearts and hands.

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*From Miss Morgan, Victoria, B.C.*

Since January we have registered eleven names in our "Home" school—eight Chinese and three Japanese, three of the former being day pupils who only attend occasionally.

The school work has been very satisfactory, our new girls having made good progress in their English. They are greatly interested in Bible stories, and have committed to memory in both English and Chinese a number of Bible texts. We have had what has been a very great pleasure to me and what I have long felt the need of, viz. : A Bible lesson taught in Chinese every day. Dr. Chong is a good Bible student and makes the Scriptures very plain to our girls. Several times when she has been absent I have taken the lesson myself, very imperfectly of course, but sufficiently well to give the pupils an idea of its meaning. We rejoice over the fact that our girls are well and happy, and appreciate the privilege of living in a Christian home.

The outside work has been, as usual during the winter term, very much interrupted by the Chinese New Year festivities. It was impossible to hold meetings or make profitable visits in February. During the first week of the new year we called on all the people in Chinatown we knew, which means a great deal of hard labor. One night three of us, in the company of a policeman, visited the opium dens. We began our trip at 12 o'clock p.m., and got home shortly after one. I was prepared to see horrors untold, and certainly the dens we entered were filthy and close, but I was agreeably surprised to find nothing more than I have often seen while by myself in Chinatown. Everywhere we were most kindly treated and asked to partake of their New Year's cheer, even to liquor and cigars.

In January and March we had our regular Sabbath meetings which have been held at six different places, averaging three meetings every week; then, during our week-day visits meetings were held in five homes. One hundred and forty visits have been made by myself and Dr. Chong. We have found five new women. The three homes spoken of in a previous report are still closed to us.

We have tried to rescue two more girls from Chinatown, but so far are unsuccessful. However, we have not given them up, and hope they may still be reclaimed.

The work among the Japanese women has been very discouraging; they are being imported to this country in large numbers for immoral purposes, and are so hedged in by their own countrymen that it seems impossible to reach them. The woman who was imprisoned in December gets her liberty next week; she must come to the Home until arrangements can be made to send her back to Japan where her husband wishes her to go. I visited her yesterday, and while speaking of the past and the temptations that would again assail her she said, with tears in her eyes, "Oh take me with you, I never want to see

the boarding-house again, nor go on the street alone." Constant contact with this kind of work makes the heart sick, and there are times at night when one's overcharged brain refuses to yield to nature's sleep.

The girls keep up their interest in the Mission Band. They have worked well this year. Last summer it was decided that each would try and earn special money for our Mission Band. To-day the earnings were brought in amounting to over eleven dollars. This money, together with membership fees, monthly collections, and the result of our sale last December, with one life membership, has made our offering for the year over fifty dollars. The delegate to the Branch meeting was also chosen to-day. The lot fell on Katie, (Mrs. Ah Tou). She is very much delighted at the thought of going. We want our girls to take turns in representing us at the annual meeting.

God grant that the hearts of our girls may go out in loving sympathy to their less favored and benighted sisters.

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## Tidings from the Indian Work.

*From W. T. Rush, M.D., Lak-Kalzap, Naas River, B.C.*

LAST week witnessed quite an important event in our village. The chief of the whole river, a very old man, was laid away in the Lak-Kalzap cemetery. On the morning of his death the cannon was brought into requisition and thundered forth the announcement that a chief had died. Report after report sounded up and down the river, bringing to Lak-Kalzap the people from the neighboring villages, of which there are three within close call. The body lay in state for a few days, and friends gathered to pay their last respects to the old chief. The funeral procession was led by the village brass band, which played the "Dead March," and played it well. (Music is the one branch of study that seems to be no trouble to these people.) Two men, presumably the tolulas, were dressed in conspicuous uniform and marched next to the band. A tolula is one whose duty it is to care for the sick person previous to death, and pay all expenses connected with the sickness and funeral. In return for his services he receives a certain sum varying according to the circumstances of the family of the deceased. Although honor is paid to the chiefs now, the position does not signify all that it did in heathen days. In the Christian village one man is about as good as another so long as he behaves himself. Rank is of secondary importance, and the motto of our village is "Equal rights to all and special privileges to none."

Every man is obliged to give three days' work each year for the improvement of the village, and failing to obey the order of the Chief Councillor a fine of \$1.50 per day is imposed upon the delinquent. An amusing incident occurred in this connection last year, when the people turned out *en masse* to fix the hospital. One man pleaded sickness, and the Chief Councillor told him that he must have a certificate from the doctor to that effect. He replied that he was not sick that way, but that his neck was stiff and he could not do the work assigned him, which required looking up most of the time. The Chief Councillor listened to his story, and told him that the council was a humane body and would not demand impossibilities from anyone. "If you are not sick enough," he said, "to get a doctor's certificate, come along with the others and I will see that you get work that will require you only to look down." This was an unanswerable argument, and the would-be shirker was forced to fall into line with the others. Last year three days were given by every man in the village to fixing up an unoccupied store for an hospital, which proved a boon to the sick ones during the small fishing season. This year the village grounds have been thoroughly drained and a new road cut through the woods to the cemetery.

Lak-Kalzap is laid out in the shape of a T. The majority of the Indian houses are on the river road which forms the horizontal portion of the T. The mission house, church and school-house are situated at the extreme lower end of the straight road which forms the vertical portion of the T, so that we have a rear view of the entire village. The natives are very proud of their home, and aspire to make it the chief place on the river. Already we have welcomed quite a number of new converts who have come to make this their home, and we are praying that the Lord will pour out His spirit upon us this winter and move mightily the hearts of the people. We ask you to continue with us in prayer that those now living away from the Saviour may be brought into the fold of Jesus Christ.

We organized a League this winter and have now over fifty members enrolled. Three meetings are held weekly, besides the regular Sabbath services, and several visits were made to the neighboring heathen villages during the winter, where the story of the Cross was again told and eloquent and fervent appeals made by various members of the League to their friends, and in many instances relatives, to forsake the ways of evil and come to the Saviour for pardon. Some of our leading members are excellent preachers and their native ability far exceeds anything I had ever anticipated. It seems unfortunate that the Church is using so few of these gifted fellows, but the training of such men for our regular work is not an easy matter

Missionaries to the fisher folk are seriously handicapped by the nomadic habits of the people, and we cannot expect an uninterrupted work for more than five months out of the twelve, and the long absence from school practically undoes what we have tried to do during the school term.

In the Woman's Missionary Society Homes at Port Simpson, Kitamaat and Chilliwack, the work goes on uninterrupted during the whole year and much is gained in every way. A similar work is carried on among the boys by the Parent Society, and in these institutions the teachers have the advantage in having their pupils with them the most of the time. This is particularly true in regard to the girls.

Our medical work includes the treatment of most of the common diseases to which human flesh is heir; pneumonia, rheumatism, heart trouble, and skin diseases playing the most important part among the adults, and measles, whooping cough, and kindred diseases among the children. The surgery consists chiefly of simple operations, but now and then a case comes along that occasions not a little anxiety, and requires the strictest attention. At a pot-latch, or feast, held in a large heathen village forty or fifty miles up the river from Lak-Kalzap about six weeks ago, a small cannon used on such occasions burst, owing to some mismanagement, and pieces of iron were hurled in all directions with great force. Several valuable cannon were smashed into kindling wood, so I am told, and one piece struck a spectator on the leg, tearing away completely the lower part, and hurling it against another's face, inflicting such injuries that will spoil his good looks for some time to come. Mr. McCullough, the English Church missionary at Aiyansh (Iance), gave the injured men such attention as he could, and sent the man with the shattered limb down to me. The accident occurred on Friday, but owing to the difficulties of travel at this season of the year the patient did not reach Lak-Kalzap until late Sunday night. The condition of the leg was such that I was obliged to amputate just below the knee joint. I operated under rather adverse circumstances, having nothing but native assistance. In spite of the fact that the patient spent the greater part of three days reaching here, and that strict asepsis was practically impossible, the man has made a good recovery, and what is left of his leg will be of considerable use to him.

The accident may be all for the best, for he and his wife have decided to come out on the Lord's side, and a number of his heathen associates have promised him that they too will give up their heathen ways, and go to live in a Christian village. Let us hope that they will keep their promise, and leave forever the service of the evil one.



A chief recently reclaimed from heathenism presented Mrs Rush with a number of curios which had been formerly used in the family in connection with their heathen customs. One was a large horn spoon, or rather ladle, beautifully carved and inlaid with colored shells. Another was a lip saucer used by the women of high rank in the tribe. This little saucer is cut out of stone, and somewhat resembles a small individual butter plate. In order to hold this in the proper position a hole is made in the lower lip and gradually enlarged until it completely encircles the saucer. If soup is too hot it is placed in this convenient receptacle, and when cool enough to eat the Indian woman tosses back her head and swallows her soup. I might add that such customs are rarely, if ever, seen now, but I have often noticed old women with large holes in their lower lips, which evidences their former habits.

The medical missionary meets with a variety of experiences. I have been treating an old woman for some months for an incurable disease, and to my surprise on opening the door the other morning I found a coffin in the room. I stepped over to where the supposed corpse lay and found my patient breathing quietly and much the same as she appeared on my previous visits. The friends explained that she could not live very much longer and that they were just getting her ready for burial. It is not an unusual thing for a man to buy his tombstone, and have it erected previous to his death but I never happened to meet another instance of just this kind before.

We have not had such a revival as the Lord graciously sent us last year, but there has been a steady increase from heathenism to Christianity, and about twenty people have left their heathen customs and come to live in Lak-Kalzap, a Christian village where the surroundings are more conducive to Christian growth.

Yours in the Master's service,

W. T. RUSH.

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#### REQUEST.

LET us remember in special prayer our missionaries in West China, that in these troublous times they may be kept in perfect peace. To-day as in the days of old, God cares for His children in times of danger and peril, for "as the mountains are round about Jerusalem, so the Lord is round about his people from henceforth even forever." The instant and earnest prayer of the early Christian Church to God for Peter in prison was answered. Paul and Silas prayed, and the God who delivered them is our God, the same yesterday, to-day, and forever. "For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth to show himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him."

## Suggested Programme—October.

### Subjects for Prayer and Study :

“THE FORWARD MOVEMENT FOR MISSIONS. GIVING TO GOD.”

- I. Opening Exercises.
- II. Business.
- III. Hymn.
- IV. The Watch-Tower.
- V. Question Drawer—Subject—“The History and Organization of the Forward Movement.”\*  
(*Questions will be found on the last page of the Leaflet.*)
- VI. A Comparative Study of the Missionary Income of the Church.\*\*
  1. Give the amount annually contributed by
 

{	(a) Subscription to the General Society.
	(b) Juvenile Offerings.
	(c) Ep. Leagues for the Forward Movement.
	(d) The Woman's Missionary Society.
  2. Give the amounts contributed by the above departments through your own Church, District and Conference ††
- VII. Bible Reading—Subject—“Giving to God.” †

\*Leaflet, price 5c at Room 20, and the depots.

\*\*See General Missionary Society's Report for 1898-99. Page xiv.

†See W.M.S. Report for 1898-99.

††See Missionary Reports.

‡MONTHLY LETTER, page 19.

## Increase.

BAY OF QUINTE CONFERENCE BRANCH.—Mission Band “Lady Roberts,” organized at McLean's, on the Spencer-ville charge.

NOVA SCOTIA AND NEWFOUNDLAND.—Mission Band “Mayflower,” in Maitland, N.S.

HAMILTON CONFERENCE BRANCH.—Mount Forest District, Letter Breen ; Milton District, Zimmerman.

## Bible Reading—Giving to God.

### I. WHAT SHOULD WE GIVE?

READ Matt. 22: 37. 1. What does this include? See 1 Cor. 6: 19, 20. It also includes my ability, time and possessions. 2. Read Matt. 25: 37-39; Acts 9: 36, etc., John 12: 2 and Luke 8: 1, 3, for suggestions as to some forms of giving. 3. "All manner of work," Ex. 35: 5-19. How many occupations are there mentioned in which men and women are able to serve God. Will not serving Him in these things give ample development to all our abilities, and full employment to all our time and means? Read 1 Peter 4: 10.

### II. DO NOT SAY YOUR GIFTS ARE TOO INSIGNIFICANT.

1. Recall the feeding of the five thousand from a slender store. (See John 6: 9, latter part, and Matt. 14: 18.) What resulted from placing them at Jesus' disposal? 2. Draw illustrations from the Bible of small things and humble persons being used by God--Moses' rod, David's sling, the captive maid in Naaman's household, a little girl watching an ark of bulrushes, etc.; also illustrations from your own observation and reading.

### III. PERSONAL THOUGHTS.

(a) Enumerate as many benefits as you can that may come to you through giving of your abilities, time and possessions to God's service. (b) What common-place talents do I possess that God can use? (c) How much of my money is at my Lord's disposal *now* if He wants to use it?

## Notes from Room 20.

THE successful debut of the "Flag Exercise," but recently added to the list of publications issued at Room 20, is most gratifying to the Committee on Literature. Arranged with the hope of interesting the younger portion of the Church in our own missions, and as a substitute for the aimless recitations, dialogues and music of so many entertainments, it cannot fail to find favor with the leaders of Mission Bands, Junior Leagues and Sunday Schools.

Mrs. Deacon, of Stanstead, Que., who had the pleasure of superintending its first presentation writes: "The juniors gave the flag exercise on Saturday evening; it was beautiful—everyone was charmed. We wished the juniors only to take part, and, as suggested, the recitations were cut down. The little folks did nobly; I wish you could have seen them. I

had no idea that forty children from four to fourteen years could be trained to do so well. One lady remarked, 'It is not often children have so much religion taught them for a public exhibition.' We are requested to repeat it, and will probably do so soon. If you prepare any more exercises I shall want to try them."

**THE FLAG  
EXERCISE.**

The *Stanstead Journal* says: "Then came the programme, showing much care and patient work on the part of children and teacher. This was an unusually pretty exercise, a combination of missionary hymns and recitations. The music was strikingly pretty and taking. The flags gave a pretty effect, and the children remembered remarkably well." Price 5 cents a copy at Room 20 and the Depots.

From *The St. Lawrence News*.—The Mission Bands of the Presbyterian and Methodist Churches united to give a novel entertainment in the Town Hall, Friday evening, February 23rd. Part of the programme consisted of readings and instrumental solos and duets, which were well received, but the unique feature of the concert was a flag exercise given by the members of the two bands. The audience was delighted by the exercise which was partly of the nature of a drill but, perhaps, more like a cantata. Interesting missionary sketches and statistics were read by the larger members, and these were interspersed with lively choruses, duets, etc., in which the flags were used with very pretty effects. The singing of the choruses was very hearty and worthy of special mention. Altogether this marks a new departure in Mission Band work in Iroquois, and one which may profitably be followed by more of the same character.



MAPS of Japan and China have been prepared in outline, which is to be heavily traced with chalk or crayon, and the points of interest added as required.

**OUTLINE  
MAPS.**

The maps are on manilla paper, 34 x 46 inches, and are 5 cents each. For 5 cents additional, a small printed map of Japan will be sent to assist in locating our mission stations and the natural features of the country. For China, the public school atlas can be used in connection with the Annual Report.



THE Literature Committee at Room 20, and the Branch Depots in Sackville, N.B., and Winnipeg, Man. (for addresses see foot of last page), will receive deposits of \$1.00 for the literature to be used in connection with the Suggested Pro-

gramme for Auxiliaries, 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.



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WHEN your Auxiliary is planning, at the beginning of the W. M. S. year, for a systematic gathering of small sums, do not forget to send for collection envelopes. One large, containing twelve small, one cent.



ALL of the above may be ordered from Room 20 or the Depots. For addresses see foot of catalogue.



#### BACK NUMBERS OF MONTHLY LETTER.

SUBSCRIBERS who wish to have complete sets of their **MONTHLY LETTERS** may secure back numbers by sending to Room 20. The following can be supplied. All of 1893, 1897 and 1898; 1890, January, March to December inclusive; 1891, January to September, October (1 copy), December; 1892, January, February, April (1 copy), June, July, August, September, October (2 copies), November, December; 1894, June (1 copy), August-September, November, December; 1895, January, February, March (1 copy), April (2 copies), June (1 copy), August-September, October, November, December; 1896, January (1 copy), February, March, May, June, July-August, October (1 copy), November. Price, 1 cent each.



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*, beginning with July, 40 cents. (Subscriptions to this magazine may begin at any time, but must continue till December and then end.) *Message and Deaconess World*, 50 cents.

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