

"THIS IS THE VICTORY



EVEN OUR FAITH."

Monthly Letter.

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SUBJECT FOR PRAYER.

THE CHINESE.

FRENCH WORK.

(Received too late for APRIL LETTER.)

Another school term is nearly over, and so swiftly have the busy weeks sped by that we cannot realize we are soon to enter upon the seventh and last month of this session.

The attendance has been very good, the average up to date being 66, one higher than last year. More than 100 applications were received, and about 80 of these accepted. Of this number we have admitted 76, 4 we were obliged to send away, and 3 have left owing to illness. 30 of the 76 are of Roman Catholic parentage, but were, in some cases, either Protestants, or favorably inclined to Protestantism when they came to the Institute. There is now but one left who seems firm in his adherence to the Roman Catholic faith. The most interesting and encouraging feature of our

work this winter has been the eager way in which these Roman Catholic students have sought the truth. The case of one girl is particularly interesting. She was a staunch Romanist, as are all her family, but when visiting a friend last summer she met one of our missionaries, and so heard of the Institute. Her interest was roused to such an extent that she besought her parents day and night to come to the school, and finally a very reluctant consent was obtained, without the knowledge of the priest. When she arrived we found her bright and intelligent, but so very delicate that the doctor, whom Mrs. Hall consulted, advised us to send her home again. We, however, decided to try to keep her until Christmas, hoping that she would, in the meantime, be led to see the truth. The result has been remarkable, and shows that God's hand was clearly leading her on. Not only has her health greatly improved, so that she is now able to attend all the classes and take her share of housework with the others, but spiritually the change is still more manifest. When she had been with us but a week she asked for a Protestant Bible, that she might study it by herself, and very soon she began timidly taking part in the girls' prayer-meeting by reciting texts of Scripture she had learned. After this came a request to join our Epworth League as an associate member, and soon she felt that this was not enough, she must become an active member. Finally came an earnest appeal to join us in taking the sacrament, adding, "I am going home a Protestant, even if I am turned away from my father's door. I can never be a Catholic any more."

Very solemn and touching was the sight when she, with five others who had been Roman Catholics, gathered with us at the Lord's table. The sacrament was administered by Rev. Telesphore Roy in our own chapel, and was partaken of by 45 of our number. While no special services have been held, a very earnest work has been quietly going on in the hearts of many of our students. One Roman Catholic boy, who has been but two months in the school, can scarcely be seen during recreation hours without his Bible, and we earnestly hope that he, too, will see "the truth as it is in Jesus" ere the close of the term.

Our Epworth League, organized in the autumn, has proved to be a source of great interest and inspiration to our young people, a number of them having shown marked ability in taking up the weekly topics. We hope that the training they are getting in this way will make them specially useful in the various mission fields, when they return to their homes for the summer.

Since Christmas we have suffered a good deal from illness, the grippe having been very prevalent. An alarming case of appendicitis cast a heavy shadow over us, as scarcely any hope of recovery could be held out by the doctors, but prayer was answered, an operation successfully performed, and little Esther, though still in the hospital, is slowly but surely improving.

As April examinations and the end of the session draw near the days seem to fly doubly fast, so much work remains to be done. Six of our students are preparing to write for the elementary diploma granted by the Protestant Board of Examiners, which, if they are successful, will enable them to teach in the government schools of our province. Three of them have been gaining practical experience during the winter by giving some assistance in the junior classes of the Institute.

ISABEL G. MASTEN.

CHINESE WORK.

Quarterly Report of the Chinese Girls' Home, Victoria, B.C.

I can scarcely realize that the time has come for my second quarterly report. The months, fraught with blessing, have seemed to roll by very swiftly. We entered upon the second quarter with seven girls, but, shortly after, I took Martha to New Westminster. On the evening of December 12th her marriage took place in the Mission Church, before a large gathering both of English and Chinese, to Thomas Lee Sing, a very respectable, energetic Christian, who had his cottage home in comfortable and tasteful readiness for his bride. Rev. T. W. Hall officiated. Martha has married well, and I have no doubt of her proving an amiable and judicious companion.

The next event of importance was an examination of the school before a few of the most interested of the English friends of the Home. Prizes were awarded according to merit, as follows: 1st prize for housework was carried off by Sarah; for deportment, Mitsi (Japanese); 1st prize for Bible class progress, Edith; 2nd prize, Emma; writing, Laura; writing and singing, Nellie—for the latter she received a lovely doll from Mrs. Teague; for general proficiency, Edith. The following ladies outside of the Home contributed prizes, presented by Mr. Chan, the Chinese missionary: Mesdames Pendray, Teague, McGuinness, Miss S. McGregor, and Mrs. Schooley, of Vancouver.

Tuesday evening of the next week Laura was led to Hymen's altar, in the presence of a large gathering of interested spectators. Ah Sun, the groom, is a member of the mission church. He and Laura attend the mission services regularly. They have taken rooms not far from the Home, consequently we see Laura often now. Her husband is very kind and indulgent, which suits Laura.

On December 26th we had all the married girls invited to a four o'clock dinner. The day being very inclement, not quite all came, but those that were present, with their little ones, had a very enjoyable evening.

During Chinese New Year's week, the girls were out to visit their married sisters in the afternoons, and sang at two entertainments in the different mission churches.

The school has been carried on since Christmas holidays with some evidences of progress.

The Friday afternoon meeting keeps up in attendance. To-day we had eighteen present, among the number an earnest Christian gentleman from Corea, who spoke beautifully on the Trinity to the girls.

Relative to Miss Wickett's missionary work in Chinatown, she is pleased to note that she has to-day conversed with some from whom she has hitherto been deprived of access. The families are greatly reduced, and, owing to the hard times, many of them have gone back to China. Our married girls keep in touch with the Gospel through the Home and mission services. The Sabbath-school in the Home is regularly held.

During the quarter we have had much to humble us, and much more to thank our Heavenly Father for. He has strewn our path with mercies, and proved our Sun and Shield as we have trusted in His Almighty Arm. S. BOWES.

INDIAN WORK.

From Miss Aiton.

COQUALEETZA INSTITUTE, CHILLIWHACK, B.C.

February 24th 1896.

The winter has almost gone, and I have many times thought I would write and tell you something about the way it has been spent here.

The last of October we received a telegram from the Governor-General stating that he would visit the Institute on November 5th, so we set to work to make the place look bright and cheerful with mottoes, evergreens and flowers, and on that day the vice-regal party arrived—Lord and Lady Aberdeen, with their children, Lady Marjorie and Hon. Archie Gordon. They carefully inspected the different departments, and expressed themselves as being well pleased with everything. They were much interested in the children, and remarked on the neat work done in the kitchen, sewing-room and laundry. After lunch we all went up to the school-room to hear the examinations. Addresses were then read, and His Excellency replied and told of his interest in the Indian work, then followed a talk with the Indians from the Reserve. After their Excellencies had planted a couple of trees in the lawn, they departed for the landing. Thus ended a very pleasant afternoon.

We have had revival services through the valley, and at the different appointments a good work has been done. They began in the Institute November 1st, and continued here till near Christmas. I never was in such spiritual meetings, nor where the presence of the abiding Comforter was so plainly taught. We were greatly blessed, both scholars and teachers, and had the joy of seeing the children

coming to Jesus. Of course, our life here is not all joy; we have had the sorrow of seeing some of His redeemed ones, who have tasted the joy of salvation, go back into the old ways of sin, and Satan appears to hold the fort for a season, but we claim them by faith for Him who bought them with His own precious blood.

At the close of the Coqualeetza meetings they organized an Epworth League, to be held in the Institute, thus giving us an opportunity of attending regularly. Eight of our girls and boys are active members, while the other larger children attend.

We held our missionary meeting in January. Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas were here, and talked to the Indians in Chinook; had a good meeting both with the Indians in the church and the children here. We have subscribed \$151.10. The children responded willingly to the call for money, and as their names were read out, every one, who had any money to their credit, gave, and several gave all they had. It was a very encouraging meeting.

We received "Greetings" from the Board of Managers, and thank them for their encouraging words. I am glad to tell you we all have health and strength for the duties that claim our attention.

SUPPLY COMMITTEE.

The Secretary of the Supply Committee reports that six or eight cases of supplies are needed immediately for the North-West. The special wants at present are: Home-made knitted socks and stockings, in wool or cotton, for men and children at Chilliwack Institute; towels for Hospital at Port Simpson; blankets for the McDougall Orphanage, and Sunday-school books for a mission in the North-West. Auxiliaries, Circles or Leagues desiring to contribute are asked to write to Mrs. Wm. Briggs, 21 Grenville Street, Toronto, Ont.

NOTICES TO AUXILIARIES AND MISSION BANDS.

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.

The Literature Committee expects next month to place several new leaflets on the list at back of the MONTHLY LETTER. Manuscripts for loan can also 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 is glad to be able to announce that Our Work, No. 4, on Medical Work among the Indians, by Dr. Bolton, is ready, and can be ordered from Room 20. Price, 1 cent each; 10 cents per dozen.

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.

Suggested Programme for June Meeting.

I. Opening Exercises. "The people of India must be told the glad tidings of that Saviour through whom alone true happiness can be found."

II. Regular Business.

III. Hymn.

IV. Subject for Prayer for the month : India.

"India is too fair a gem to adorn any but the brow of Christ."

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V. Prayer : For the 500,000,000 heathen women living in sad-eyed ignorance of the Christ who alone has given Canadian women their happy lives.

VI. Question Drawer.*

VII. Paper : Subject, "Leprosy." (Nature of the disease—
isolation of the leper—
asylums—Christian lepers—
children of leper parents.)†

VIII. Reading : History of Miss Reed (who has charge of the Chandag Asylum for Lepers). ‡

IX. The Watch Tower.

X. Hymn. Prayer.

*Find questions on page 9, answers in "India" of Question Book series. Price 5 cents, Room 20.

† For data see "Among the Lepers." Price 2 cents.

‡ See "European Lepers in India." Price 2 cents.

By kindness of the Toronto Auxiliary of the Mission to Lepers we are enabled to send out these most interesting leaflets at reduced rates. Please remember to enclose 2 cents additional for postage and wrapping.

QUESTION DRAWER.



1. How do Missionaries go to India? (1, 2, 3, Question Book.)
2. What is the population of India? (19, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 38, Question Book.)
3. Describe climate so trying to foreigners. (10, 11, 12, 13, 14, Question Book.)
4. What terror abounds "by day and by night" during the rainy season? (15, Question Book.)
5. By whom is India governed? (20, Question Book.)
6. Can the British officials in India teach Christianity? (27, Question Book.)
7. How do the women of the cities live? (45, 46, 47, 48, Question Book.)
8. What is peculiarly interesting about the customs of the people of India? (40, 41, 42, 43, Question Book.)
9. What is Caste? (56, 57, 58, Question Book.)
10. How does it affect the spread of Christianity in India? (59, 60, 61, Question Book.)
11. What is meant by child-marriage? (63, 67, 66, Question Book.)
12. What English society first sent missionaries to India? (88, 89, Question Book.)
13. What is the chief work of the lady missionaries? (102, 106, Question Book.)

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