

THIS IS THE VICTORY



EVEN OUR FAITH.

Monthly Letter.

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SUBJECTS FOR PRAYER—JANUARY.

The baptism of the Holy Spirit, that all may be led to renewed consecration to the work to which they may be called during the year.

All converts under the care of our Society, that they may be strengthened by the power of God and remain steadfast in the faith. *Phil. i. 3-6.*

INDIAN WORK.

From Miss Clarke.

COQUALEETZA HOME, CHILLIWACK, B.C.,

November 20th, 1893.

Though we have not yet learned the decision of the joint committee, still we are certain our stay in the Mission House cannot be for very long now. After many delays, the beautiful new Institute is almost completed, and though our prolonged sojourn in present quarters, through the kind helpfulness of Mr. and Mrs. Tate, has been very pleasant, still we are

anxious to be "fitting" and establishing ourselves under more favourable conditions.

It is almost two years since the old "Home" was burned. During the period intervening between that time and the present, more has been accomplished than we could have thought possible under the circumstances. Times without number have we tested the truth of the old adage, "Necessity is the mother of invention." For instance, when a medium sized room was required to do service as dining-room and boys' dormitory, we made three tiers of bunks on one side, moved in a couple of tables, and the thing was done. When there were more boys to accommodate, some more tiers were put up on the other side, and they, too, had a place to sleep, whilst by a little "pushing up" at the table a place for eating was also provided.

We have worked under disadvantages, still we are glad to know that our school is in better favour with the Indians than ever before. Numbers are applying for admission, and we anticipate no difficulty in bringing the number up to fifty immediately on opening the Institute.

Concerning our work of late, there is nothing remarkable or startling to relate. For several months we have been moving along in the usual routine, with little to mark one week from another. For the children, five and a half days' work and study, with a little recreation interspersed, Saturday afternoon for play, and Sunday a day of service and Sabbath rest.

It gives us much satisfaction to see in the children real development. The three eldest girls, especially, are growing to be so womanly and helpful. I think they truly appreciate the advantages they are receiving in this place, and believe we shall yet be rewarded in seeing them such women as we would wish them to be. The same spirit to a greater or less degree has a place in the heart of almost every child. We neither expect nor find perfection, yet we find enough that is good to make us rejoice in hope.

The all pervading law of work is a cardinal doctrine with us. We have no place in our economy for idlers. We put before each child the possibility of living an honest and respectable life before all men; but to do this, they must

needs make good use of the mental and physical faculties God has bestowed upon them. In a word, they must be honest, industrious and God-fearing, if they are to win for themselves happiness and success.

Some who have been here longest, have seen sufficient of such a life to find in it attractions above what the old, untidy, shiftless, ignorant manner of living can offer them.

The land under cultivation has produced abundantly. There has been a good supply of vegetables continually on hand. We have been able to provide the children with abundance of wholesome food, which, I think, accounts in a large degree for the excellent health maintained throughout.

CHINESE WORK IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

From Miss Wickett.

100 CORMORANT STREET, VICTORIA, B.C.,

November 2nd, 1893.

I have just returned from Chinatown and now shall answer your kind letter by giving you a short account of some of my visits there.

At the first place I entered to-day, live two Chinese women and two young girls in whom I am particularly interested. They are all so bright and very anxious to learn English, so while their fingers are busy learning to knit mits, they repeat over their stock of English words. It was amusing to hear the queerly pronounced greeting, "Are you well?" for the r's and l's are stumbling-blocks in their endeavours to master our language. As yet, I have been able to teach them very little of our great Redeemer's love; for I feel if I did not duly regard the great barrier of superstition and prejudice existing between us, my reception in these places would be more than "cold." The next place I came to was one of ill-repute, but knowing poor benighted creatures of our own sex were there, I could not ignore their wretched existence. So after mounting a long

staircase I entered a small room where four pretty young women were engaged in the mysteries of the toilette; but soon powder and paint were put away and they, too, manifested much interest in learning English. But, oh! I am so longing and trusting for the time when the same pleasurable interest will be evinced in hearing the words of Him whose love is o'er all His works. When in the midst of such surroundings how comforting it is to know that truly His Word shall not return unto Him void. But with these poor women in heathen darkness it must indeed be "Line upon line, precept upon precept." My next visit was of a more enjoyable nature. Each Wednesday we have a Bible-class at Annie's, and so again to day we spent another profitable time in the study of the book of books. Little A. Lin (the girl whose feet are bound) is always an attentive listener. Her father will not permit her to come to any of our meetings at the Home, but we trust she soon will have such a strong desire to come that his consent will at last be gained. His tender care of her proves his deep affection, so we are hoping she may be used of God to bring him to the feet of our common Saviour.

As all China-town dines at four o'clock, one can never do a great deal of visiting in an afternoon. But before returning to the Home I wended my way through another long, dark, narrow passage and up a rickety flight of stairs to an unusually tidy Chinese habitation. Here, as in most places, the principal article of furniture is the much cherished idol with all its belongings. It was amusing, though sad, indeed, to see how careful the mistress of this place was to attend to all the imagined needs of her "po sat" as she calls her idol; in front of his tiny glass house stands a glass of water and three cups of tea which she says he partakes of each morning; besides such things as oranges and candy are always kept on the same stand, and a little incense taper ever steadily burns. I have, however, seen very few so faithful to their "po-sat" as this poor woman. After telling her of the great love of our Redeemer I again said good bye, and made my last visit of the day at a place near by. Here the scene was quite different from any of the others; a thin pale woman with pipe in hand opened the door, and as usual, I found several

men inside, two of whom were engrossed in smoking opium, while another indulged in nothing more than a cigarette. So here again I was privileged to tell the glorious message of salvation. While speaking of the bright land above, one of the men, evidently thinking of the millions of his own countrymen, said, "Oh, not room enough there for every one." I so wished then again that my Chinese vocabulary would permit me to tell them clearly of our Father's great riches, but I trust the tracts left with them will make up for my deficiency.

We have now a class of four studying Chinese, Dr. Lang, from China, having lately joined us. Our lessons are now more interesting than ever, as just this week we have begun to read "The Pilgrim's Progress"; so besides the colloquial we are learning those wonderfully formed Chinese characters.

Report of the Supply Committee.

Extract of letter from Rev. A. Salt, Parry Island:

"I received a case of clothing from Brampton, and a case of hats. In my last trip to the north shore of Georgian Bay I took the above things with me in my sail-boat and distributed them to the Methodist Indians at Henry Inlet and Grumbling Point reserves. I was happy in doing it, for I did it after preaching, and if the donors had seen the happy looks of the receivers they would have been happy too.

"A box of clothing has been received from Port Hope. The clothing is done up in parcels for each Methodist family for Shawanga reserve. We are expecting the chief to come for them soon. A box from Teeswater has been shipped to my address, and contents will be distributed on Parry Island. I believe the Lord moved the kind Christian ladies to do these things for the poor Indians, and I am very thankful. The young people at Brampton remembered the missionary's family by giving to them a new quilt. Many of the Indian families on this Island do not get any interest money from the Government, and are in much need for comforts during the winter."

Suggested Programme for February Meeting.

- I. Hymn—"Shepherd of souls, with pitying eye," No. 711, Methodist Hymn-book.
- II. Prayer.
- III. Business.
- IV. Subject of prayer for the month: Japan, Korea and the Isles of the Sea. Psalm cxxvi. 2, 3. That God's especial blessing may rest upon every effort to christianize the people. Our educational and evangelistic work in Tokio, Shidzuoka, Kofu and Kanazawa. For Divine direction in the opening up of new work. 1 Sam. vii. 12. Psalm ii. 8. Isaiah xxiv. 15.
- V. Scripture lesson from the Book of Isaiah. Cheering words from the King. Isaiah ix. 7; xli. 18; xlii. 6, 7; xliii. 5, 6; xliv. 10; li. 6; liv. 13; lxi. 11.
- VI. Hymn—"On all the earth Thy spirit shower." No. 717, Methodist Hymn-book.
- VII. Our work in Japan, schools, Bible women, etc.¹
- VIII. Prayer for the prosperity of the Church in Japan.
- IX. Duet—"Come over and help us."²
- X. The Isles of the Sea.³
- XI. Roll call—Each member responding with a missionary item, or helpful thought gleaned from the programme of the meeting.
- XII. Benediction.

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1. Read "Our Work in Japan." Price 1 cent.
 2. "The Crusade s," cantata. Price 5 cents.
 3. See "Open Doors." Price 15 cents.

These may be ordered from Room 20.

PRAYER STUDY.

Of all isolated nations Korea has best earned its name as "The Hermit Kingdom." With a coast-line of 1,800 miles, a population of 16,000,000, within two days' sail of Japan, and only twenty four hours distant from the harbor of Chefoo, in China, almost in the track of the lines of steamships which trade with Tientsin, it has for centuries kept itself aloof from all other countries. Every avenue of approach, as far as western nations were concerned, was sealed, and the law of the land made it death, not simply to any foreigner found upon her shores, but even to any Korean who harbored a foreigner. Gradually she has thrown wide her gates not only to the Japanese, but to western nations also, and not alone for trade, but for social intercourse as well; and now invites the introduction of western arts and sciences, with schools and colleges taught by Americans for the education of her people.

In answer to the prayers of the Church, God opened Korea by treaty in 1882. Again and again from this open door came the call from converted Koreans in Japan to the Church of Christ that the Gospel be sent to their poor benighted brethren, but it was not until the fall of 1884 that the first Protestant missionary to Korea—a physician, Dr. Allan,—reached Seoul, the capital. Several others from the Presbyterian and Methodist Churches of America followed in the spring of '85. For some considerable time after the missionaries began work among them, the Government continued to interdict Christianity, and the only concession that for several years could be obtained was permission for English and American residents to hold religious meetings among themselves. But it is now more than three years since missions were organized in Korea, and there have been many native converts. Churches and Sabbath Schools have been started, and

children as well as adults have been born into the kingdom. Indeed the success with which God has blessed evangelistic work in Korea is wonderful, and the progress has been greater than in any other country since apostolic times.

Travellers are unstinted in their praise of the beautiful scenery in Korea. The country is mountainous and well watered, the valleys very fertile and well cultivated, as the people are mainly devoted to agriculture. There is great wealth of ore deposits, especially of gold.

The climate varies. The winters of the north are much like our own; the southern portion is affected by the warm currents which give Japan its tropical climate.

Its people are well built and strong, a loyal, contented race, not grasping, and rather too easy in disposition. They are intelligent, learning with great ease.

The native language of Korea possesses an alphabet and grammar, and is polysyllabic, thus strongly resembling English.

Their houses are well built and heated by a system of flues under the floor.

Rice is the staple article of food in the central and southern provinces, while wheat enters more largely into the diet of the northern people. Still the people eat much beef. Their cattle are as large and fine as may be found anywhere.

The king rules as an absolute monarch. His palace includes some hundreds of acres and is the home of more than 3,000 attendants. At night, when the state business is transacted, the palace is most brilliantly lighted with electric light. Should a king die the whole nation would be compelled to dress in white, the mourning color.

Korea is a pagan country—pagan in its life, its religion, its morals. A nation without a religion is Christianity's opportunity. When Christianity enters the field moral stagnation ends, and whatever may be the travail and sorrow which shall lead to triumph, or however long the final result may be delayed, the time will surely come when even the Korean will behold, in the benefits and blessings of the Gospel, the soul's true heritage.

HOME READINGS.

JAPAN.

- "Christianity in Japan," *Miss. Review*, May, '93, p. 374.
 "The Japanese Religious Press," " July, '93, p. 490.
 "The Religion of the Japanese
 Ainu," - - - - - } " April, '93, p. 255.
 "The Year in Japan," - - - - - " Oct., '93, p. 737.
 "The Student Y.M.C.A. in
 Japan," - - - - - } " Nov., '93, p. 809.
 " " Sept., '93, pp. 648,
 [690, 701.

KOREA.

- "Medical Missions in Japan
 and Korea," - - - - - } *Miss. Review*, Sept., '92, p. 706.
 "Korea. Its Present Condition," " Sept., '93, p. 658.
 "Presbyterian Mission Band
 in Korea," - - - - - } " Sept., '93, p. 665.
 "The To-day from Korea," " Nov., '93, p. 813.
 "Buddhist Monasteries in
 Korea," - - - - - } *Gospel in All Lands*,
 Aug., '92, p. 402.
 "The People of Korea," - - - - - " Nov., '92, p. 538.
 "A Journey in Korea," - - - - - " Nov., '92, p. 658.

ISLANDS OF THE SEA.

- "Australia and Other Islands," } *Gospel in All Lands*,
 Jan., '92, p. 41.
 "New Hebrides," - - - - - *Miss. Review*, Jan., '93, p. 52.
 "The Rev. W. A. Murray, of
 Samoa," - - - - - } " March, '93, p. 183.
 "The Islands of the Sea," - - - - - " July, '93, p. 481.
 "Evangelization of the Islands," " July, '93, p. 501.

Notices to Auxiliaries and Mission Bands.

The Board of Managers has arranged for an amalgamation of *Our Quarterly* and *Palm Branch*, a Mission Band quarterly hitherto published by the N. B. and P. E. I. Branch. The new publication is adopted as the official organ of our Mission Band Department, and will be issued monthly, for 10 cents a year, beginning with January, 1894, and will be known as *Palm Branch*. Subscriptions, by direction of the Board, are to be sent to Miss Ogden, Room 20, Wesley Buildings, Toronto, Ont.

The W. M. S. books may be ordered from Room 20, instead of the Book Room, as formerly. Price \$1.25 a set, or separately as follows, postage paid. Treasurer's book, 60 cents; recording secretary's book, 60 cents; corresponding secretary's book, 30 cents.

Back numbers of *Our Quarterly* at 50 cents a hundred may be ordered from Room 20. These will be found very useful in creating a missionary interest among Sunday Schools and Epworth Leagues.

Will friends who order literature from Room 20, kindly remember *not* to send three-cent stamps, if larger or smaller denominations can be procured. Remit by money order or bills when possible.

Formerly many Auxiliaries and each Mission Circle and Band have received one copy of the *MONTHLY LETTER* free; but at last Board meeting it was decided that no free copies should be sent out. Auxiliaries and Boards will therefore kindly take notice, and order from Miss Ogden such number as may be required. Price, five cents per year.

Subscriptions for the following missionary periodicals will be received and forwarded by Miss Ogden: *Missionary Review of The World*, per year, \$1.50; *Gospel In All Lands*, per year, 80 cents; *African News*, per year, 75 cents; *Message and Deaconess World*, per year, 50 cents; *Heathen Woman's Friend*, per year, 50 cents.

Free Leaflets.

Constitution for Auxiliary and Mission Band.

Duties of Auxiliary Officers.

Origin and Work of W. M. S., Methodist Church, Canada.

An Appeal to the Women of the Methodist Church.

Ten Reasons Why I Should Belong to a W. M. S.

Helps Over Hard Places, for Mission Band Workers.

Mrs. Pickett's Missionary Box.

What Thomas Henry and I Learned at the Board Meeting in London.

Scattered Helpers (Leaflets and Cards).

Christian Giving (one copy only).

Orders for free leaflets should be accompanied by two cents for postage.

Pasteboard Mite-Boxes, free—postage and wrapping, 3 cents each.

Folding Mite-Boxes, free—postage and wrapping, 3 cents a dozen.

Mission Band Life Membership Certificates, free—postage and wrapping, 3 cents each, or 6. for 12 cents.

Auxiliary Life-Membership Certificates, 25 cents each.

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Ways of Working Mission Bands for Boys02	.15

Please enclose 2 cents additional for postage and wrapping.

For the above, Address

MISS ANNIE L. OGDEN.

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