

THIS IS THE VICTORY



EVEN OUR FAITH."



# Monthly Letter.

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SUBJECTS FOR PRAYER.

"Thanks-giving, Thanks-living, Thanks-offering."

JAPAN.

From Miss Blackmore.

KARUIZAWA, Aug. 11th, 1897.

Early in this month Miss Hart and I went on a little trip to Nagano and Uyeda for the double purpose of holding women's meetings at those places, and also of seeing as much as possible of Nagano District, and gaining as much definite information as we could respecting the best opening for work in this province.

We intended, if it seemed best, to go on as far as Matsumoto, but finding that we could not reach that city without walking about thirty miles over the mountains, and also

receiving information that made us feel that a visit from us could have little practical result, we decided not to go.

Our visit to Nagano station was most satisfactory. Rev. B. Hashimoto and wife are doing faithful work there, and Shimada San, our Bible-woman, who is spending her holidays at her home, has gotten a firm hold on a number of women and children, and is making good use of her advantages.

Like Kofu, Nagano is situated on a plain with many outlying towns and villages. The plain, however, is much smaller than that of Yamanashi, so the distances are not nearly as great. Mr. Hashimoto has already begun work in several outside places, and there is good promise of growth and extension.

The people to whom we spoke about opening a school in Nagano are all anxious for us to do so, though they admit that after a few years, when the railway reaches Matsumoto, we would doubtless have a larger school there. In Matsumoto, however, our church can scarcely be said to have a beginning; there is no settled worker, but an evangelist visits the place occasionally, while there is a flourishing Methodist Episcopal Church of twenty years' standing. In Nagano we have a prosperous church; for this reason we are inclined to consider Nagano city the place for the establishment of our school. I do not mean that this has been decided, but we are trying to obtain all the information possible.

So many pleasing little things occurred on our trip. At Uyede, Kuni Ito (a pupil of the Azabu school), met us with the pastor at the station, and went to the meeting with us. When the people gathered we were surprised to see seven teen little girls file quietly in and seat themselves in two orderly rows. Evidently they were quite at home in the church. I asked O Kuni San who they were, and she replied that they were her Sunday school girls. She then explained that the pastor is so busy on Sundays, having to preach at Tenaka as well as at Uyede, that he had no time to have a Sunday School and there was no one else at all to do it, so

she went alone every Sunday morning and taught these children. It is not yet a year since O Kuni San herself became a Christian, and it made us glad to find her taking her place as a Christian worker in her own town.

*September 9th.*

Our ladies arrived safely on the 6th. We had one executive meeting that evening, and decided that Miss Washington should accompany Miss Robertson to Kofu, and Miss Sifton remain in Tokyo. Miss Robertson and Miss Washington started the next afternoon with Miss Preston. They intended to spend the night at Hachioji the railway terminus—so as to get a good start the next morning. We had a heavy down-pour of rain all day yesterday, and this morning a typhoon gave us a rough shaking, but we hope the Kofu ladies were too far in among the mountains to be affected by the latter.

From Miss Preston.

KARUIZAWA, JAPAN,

*August 20th, 1897.*

Our holidays are almost over and I am looking forward to seeing all the Kofu friends again, although vacation has seemed very short this year.

Here, with Misses Munro, Blackmore and Hart, it has been a quiet, restful summer. We have enjoyed the religious services very much. In the early part of the summer we had the pleasure of listening to Mr. Speer, Secretary of the Presbyterian Mission. He gave us some most helpful addresses. Then we have had the usual Sunday services. The morning Sunday School is very interesting. There is quite a large infant class, and it is most refreshing to hear and to see the little ones. But the greatest treat is Dr. Ashmore's Bible-class on Hebrews. Dr. Ashmore is a veteran Baptist missionary from China, a learned man and a very fine Bible student.

His exposition furnished much new thought and fresh insight into the Word.

Last year was a prosperous one in our work. "Hitherto the Lord hath helped us," and we look to Him for continued guidance and help.

A number of our girls are teaching little children during the holidays, and I think they will do much good. They seem to be very fond of this kind of work, and though some of them may not be able to impart very much, yet I am sure some seeds of truth are sown that will doubtless bring forth much fruit.

We are looking forward to the coming of the new ladies and Miss Robertson's return.

Mr. Kobayashi is the same earnest, warm-hearted man as ever. His help in Yamanashi is invaluable, and in our school-work we find him a tried friend and true.

## CHINA.

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From Miss Brackbill.

CHENTU, *July 12th, 1897.*

I am sending herewith the reports for the year ending June 30th. I have been busy at them until twelve o'clock for the last two nights, as there were so many interruptions during the day.

You will see that the account is made out in Chentu taels. It is far easier to keep it this way, as most of the money is paid out so. It would be a great boon to us if there were a uniform currency throughout China, as we not only have the Chentu "taels" and "cash," the value of which is constantly changing, but Hankow taels, Shanghai taels and Mexican dollars, and, when travelling up the river, to these are added Ichang, Chung-king and Kia-ting taels, none of which are alike.

In no case have we gone beyond the appropriations, ex-

cept the hospital repairs, and that was afterwards granted, and in many cases have kept far within the limit. We are particularly glad that we were able to do so this year, when there was so much building and so many expenses to be met. The "Ting" and dormitories are still to be built, and we shall be obliged to do it at once, as they are sadly needed. We shall be very glad when it is all done, and we can settle down to regular work; but it is a necessary part of the work, and we cannot here hire architects and business men to do it for us, but have to go out ourselves and oversee every bit of it from the time the rough log is brought in until it is put in the proper place in the house and painted.

Another girl baby of six or seven months was thrown in the ditch near here this week, and some of the scholars came in to ask if we would take it in. Having no authority from home, and being so very busy just now, we could not possibly keep it, but had it brought in, washed and cleaned, and fresh clothes put on it, and sent a coolie over with it (taking our card) to a foundling home near here. It was saving life, but what that life will be in the future it is hard to tell, as they are sold from there for immoral purposes and as slave girls. However, we told them we might be able to take it a few months from now, as we are hoping to hear from the Society concerning this work.

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Will Branch Corresponding Secretaries please send names of new "Auxiliaries and Bands" to Mrs. Bascom, Secretary Literature Committee, 189 Dunn Avenue, Toronto.

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### REVIEW OF LEAFLETS.

"*A Powerful Factor*" shows the influence of Roman Catholicism in the Lower Provinces, and is taken from a recent number of the *New York Tribune*. Price, 1 cent each; 10 cents a dozen.

*“Missionary Exercise.”*—Arguments in favor of and against missionary work. Compiled and arranged by one of our own officers, and not only Auxiliaries, but Mission Bands and Epworth Leagues will find this exercise useful and instructive. It is arranged under three heads: 1st, Objections answered; 2nd, Shall we withdraw any of our missionaries? 3rd, Excuses met for not being members of Auxiliaries. Two copies are needed for those wishing to use it for programmes. Price, 3 cents each; 30 cents per dozen.

*“Winding up a Horse”* is based on the story of a missionary's horse that would not start on a journey without having his ear wound up by a cord. The writer contrasts those Christians and congregations who wait for some external pressure in the form of a returned missionary or one of our missionary secretaries to “wind them up,” so they will feel like giving to the missionary cause, with those churches who need no such winding up, but are all alive and always on the alert; who, from the pastor to the humblest member, pray from the lips, from the heart, *from the pocket*, “Thy Kingdom Come.” This leaflet has been placed on the free list.

*“Christian Missions and the Temperance Reform.”*—This leaflet was written by Mrs. Thornley at the request of our Literature Committee. The writer takes as her text the topic laid down for special prayer on the 17th day of each month, in the Cycle of Prayer: The suppression of the Opium and Liquor Traffics; that the Holy Spirit may arouse Christians to a true conception of the wickedness of these traffics, and the extent to which they hinder the growth of the kingdom of God.” The object of the leaflet is threefold: (1) To enable us as missionary women to get that very limited conception, which printed facts and figures can give, of the enormity of the evils wrought in heathen lands by the liquor and opium traffics; (2) To estimate, if possible, the resulting hindrances to the evangelization of the world; and (3) To devise a practical method of help. The degradation

and ruin caused by opium in China and India is lightly touched on; while the writer deals more thoroughly with the liquor traffic in Africa, telling of the enormous consignments of spirituous liquors sent there from Christian countries and the dreadful results. In conclusion, it is shown that the responsibility rests on the Christian countries, and that England, Canada and the United States cannot with consistency protest while there is so much guilt on their own skirts. The remedy is to make clean the inside as well as the outside of the platter. Every member of the W. M. S. and the W. C. T. U. ought to order a number of copies of this excellent leaflet for circulation. Price, 2 cents each; 15 cents per dozen.

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## NOTICES TO AUXILIARIES.

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Will Corresponding Secretaries who order Annual Reports and MONTHLY LETTERS please remember that, by direction of the Board of Managers, the remittance must accompany the order. Price of the Annual Report, ten cents a copy.

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The Literature Committee at Room 20 and the Branch Depots in Sackville, N.B., and Winnipeg, Man. (for addresses see foot of last page), are prepared to receive deposits of \$1.00 for the literature to be used in connection with the Suggested Programme, and will send the necessary literature whenever called for by the programme as long as the money lasts. 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.

## Suggested Programme for December Meeting.

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### Subjects for Prayer and Study for the Month.

#### MEDICAL MISSIONS.

- I. Opening Exercises, "God's Book is like a well-filled drug store, containing a medicine for every ill."—*Dr. Geo. Dorokontt.*
- II. Regular Business.
- III. Hymn.
- IV. The Watch-Tower.
- V. Reading—Why send Medical Missionaries to China?\*
- VI. Outlook of the Medical Missions of the Church in China.
  - + { 1. Description of the new hospital erected by the General Society at Chen-tu.
  2. Encouraging Reports from the Woman's Missionary Society's Hospital.
- VII. Three Minutes for questions relative to Medical Missions.
- VIII. Hymn. Prayer.

To be read by the President immediately after the Subject for Prayer is announced :

In a carefully tabulated list of Medical Missionaries serving in various lands, Dr. Derokontt states that there are over 500 qualified medical missionaries in active service. Of these the United States have sent out 246, Great Britain 174, Canada 21.

As a denomination, the Presbyterians in America have the largest number of medical missionaries, while the van is led in Great Britain by the Church Missionary Society, and in Canada by the Presbyterians.

At the General Board meeting of 1890 it was decided to open up a new foreign mission, and West China was the field decided upon. In September, 1891, our first contingent, under the superintendency of the Rev. V. C. Hart, D.D., left for their distant sphere of labor. At this time a new departure was made in sending not only evangelistic but also medical missionaries, as the healing art was an open door to the people, of which advantage must be taken. Drs. Kilborn and Stevenson had the honor of being the first medical missionaries sent out by the Methodist Church. (The noble efforts of Dr. Bolton among the Indians of the Port Simpson District are not forgotten. But Dr. Bolton went out on his own responsibility, the Church at that time not seeing its way clear to take hold of this department of work; since then it has shown its sympathy by making a yearly grant towards Dr. Bolton's medical work).—*Miss McGuffin*.

Miss Gifford, a graduate of Trinity Medical College, Toronto, and the pioneer medical missionary of the Woman's Missionary Society, was sent to China in 1893.

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\* See *The Missionary Outlook*, Sept., 1897, page 130. Price 2 cents.

† See *The Missionary Campaigner*, December. Price 2 cents.

Please enclose 2 cents additional for postage and wrapping.

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 Lands, 80 cents, beginning with January number; Illustrated Christian World, 75 cents; Message and Deaconess World, 50 cents; The Door Cross and Medical Missionary Record, \$1.00—to missionaries and student volunteers, 50 cents.

## LEAFLETS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE.

Please Send Remittance With Order.

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

(A signifies Adult; J, Juvenile.)

	Each	Per do
Christmas Cantata for choir and school, or quartette and chorus .....	.10	
Countries—* A Powerful Factor (French-Canada) .....	.01	.10
China. By Dr. J. T. Gracey .....	.15	
India. By Rev. E. Storrow. In two parts .....	.35	
Metlakahla .....	.05	.25
Our Work Series—No. 2. Our Chinese Rescue Home; No. 3, Our Work in Japan; No. 4. Medical Work Among the Indians in B.C.; No. 5, Manners and Customs of the Indians of Simpson District, B.C.; No. 6, Manners, Customs and Religion of the French-Canadians; No. 7. Trials and Triumphs of Methodism in the North-West; No. 8. A Beacon-Light in Japan; No. 9, Present State of the Work Among the French-Canadians; No. 10. Some Facts About our French-Canadian Mission; per 100, 75 cents.....	.01	.10
The Chinese Women of this Country .....	.01	.10
The Claims of India.....	.02	.24
The Needs of South America.....	.02	.24
Woman in China .....	.01	.10
Woman's Rights in India.....	.01	.10
Women of the Lower Congo .....	.01	.10
Countries—(A J) Who will Open the Door for Ling To?..	.02	.15
(A J) Question Book Series—Japan and Korea, China, Chinese in America, Mexico, India, Siam and Laos, Africa, Persia, South America, and Syria	10 in set, 50c.	.05
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* If They Only Knew..... 75c. per hundred	.01	.10
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Personal Responsibility (Narrative).....	.02	.20
Not for the Heathen Merely, but for Christ.....	.01	.06
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Why Our Society did not Disband .....	.02	.20
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Winding Up a Horse .....	free	
Wing—A Talk on Mite-Boxes.....	.02	.20
A Tithe for the Lord..... 50c. per hundred	.01	.10
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*What is That in Thine Hand (poem) .....		.01 .10
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