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"Whatsoever he saith unto you do it."

MONTHLY LEAFLET

OF THE

Canada Congregational Woman's Board of Missions.

Vol. 4. MONTREAL, FEBRUARY, 1898.

Price 100
a year.

SUBJECTS FOR PRAYER.

"For Guidance."—Ps. 32 8, Ps. 37. 23-25, Deut. 31 8; Isa. 41. 10-13.

TOPICS FOR AUXILIARY MEETINGS IN "LIFE AND LIGHT."

February—Christian Explorers and Pioneers in Africa.

March—The Zulu Mission.

THE MONTHLY LEAFLET.

All communications and letters from the missionaries intended for publication should be addressed to the Editor, Mrs. Sanders, 31 Metcalfe street, Montreal, P.Q.

Editorial Paragraphs.

Received up to date, 906 subscriptions to the MONTHLY LEAFLET, 4th Volume.

Miss Kyle, Secretary of the Women's Board of Missions, Boston, writes:—The missionaries' salaries have been slightly increased to put them upon the same basis as those received by the gentlemen. For 1898 we ask you accordingly to give \$487.50 each for the two Misses Melville instead of \$475 as before," so that for the remainder of the C. C. W. B. M. year (from January 1st to May 31st, 1898), the amount due for salaries will be \$406.26 instead of \$395.84 as before, an increase of \$5.21 on each salary for this period. Of the \$600 pledged for Home Missions, only \$47.24 has been paid, leaving a balance unpaid of \$552.76.

The Superintendent of Literature, Mrs. Moodie, 185 Mance street, Montreal, has procured a quantity of Canadian Mite boxes, 1 cent each, therefore, there will be no delay in filling orders.

From *Frank H. Wiggin, Treas. A.B.C.F.M.*

I am pleased to note the action of your Board by which you assume a share of the expense of sustaining the Cisamba Station in addition to the salaries of the Misses Melville. The appropriation for educational and evangelistic work at that Station was \$50 for 1897, and in consultation with our foreign secretary

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it seemed to us that one-half of this sum could fairly be said to be the expense of that work as conducted by the Misses Melville. In addition to this \$25, it should also be stated that a part of the salary of our business agent at Benguella should be included in the Misses Melville's expenses. One-eighth of this sum should be added to the above mentioned \$25, making the total additional expense for the Misses Meville \$110.50.

From Mrs. Currie,

90 GERRARD STREET EAST,
TORONTO, ONT.

I have on several occasions sent goods to Africa by way of England, the last twice being through Barbosa & Co. (See January MONTHLY LEAFLET.) All articles such as sheets, pillow cases, quilts, etc., are better packed in a bale made of canvas-wrapping, such as wholesale houses use. Carpet or quilt coming next the canvas, and other things inside, made tight. From 42 to 46 inches is good length and circumference what a man could put his arms easily around. Weight, 100 pounds, 120 pounds being allowed as two men's load. Books and the like to be placed in a box, which should go free of duty. Charges for a 100-pound bale and a 60-pound box from Toronto to Benguella was \$10.23, and from Benguella to Cisamba \$12.75. (1 bale, 2 men; 1 box, 1 man.) This is cheaper than I have ever been able to send goods before, and this is the result of years' experience.

From Miss Margret M. Melville.

CISAMBA, Oct. 18th, 1897.

DEAR CANADIAN FRIENDS,—Last month I was enjoying a very pleasant visit with Mrs. Read at Sakanjimba but returned home four weeks ago. The next morning a number of the children came for kindergarten. They had heard that I had reached home and, child-like, thought not of aching bones, after eight hours the previous day in the tepoia and seven hours two days before, for I stayed for a day's visit at Ocilouda, one of the stations of the English Mission, where Mr. and Mrs. Lane and Mr. Hill are in charge. By and by they consented to go home when I had promised to visit their villages and tell them when we would begin. How anxious they are for school. But some of those very children were in this morning and when I asked "Why they had not come for the last few days?" One little fellow said "The old men of our village will not allow it and say if we come, they will take a whip and whip us." I said "But you want to come, do you not?" He answered "Yes but they will not allow it." The school is very encouraging but not so large in numbers as we would wish to see. The work is much hampered by lack of material. We save every colored card

which comes off a piece of cloth—that on which the number of cards is written and every colored wrapper on our tins of condensed milk as well as every cover of pamphlets or catalogues. Then we take brown wrapping paper and cut it into squares or pricked work instead of the cards commonly used. We happened to have some *fine* woollen yarn of bright colors with which to sew this paper when pricked, but this is also almost finished. Perhaps some of the ladies have scraps left from their fancy work which we should be so glad to have. If a teacher in Canada needs to be inventive, one here needs that gift magnified hundredfold. For blocks we have taken match boxes and covered them with paper. They are not the orthodox “gifts” of the kindergarten, but they can be used to build houses or fences. They are very soft and will last only a short time. Reading and writing have been introduced for those who wish to learn. You will wonder why I say “for those who wish.” It is because some would remain away altogether if they were compelled, and we think it wise to allow them to work at something else during that time. If they first learn the love of Jesus they will soon wish to learn to read His word. Dear friends, your interest in and love for these children is great, make them special object in your prayers. We will feel the spirit working if you pray for them in earnest.

From Miss Helen J. Melville.

CISAMBA STATION, Oct. 18th, 1897.

MY DEAR CANADIAN FRIENDS,—We are now at the beginning of our rainy season, for which we are thankful. One gets very tired of dry weather; everything is so parched and dry; also when one has several months without vegetables, you begin to long for them. We would most assuredly enjoy a dish of potatoes, corn or turnips. However, our time is coming. We are busy having our garden dug and planted, and we hope for a good harvest, if it is only preserved from the locusts, which have been in the country for the last seven years. The women have begun to cultivate their fields; they are busy digging and planting their corn, beans and potatoes. The other morning my sister went out to open the chicken house door. The chickens did not come rushing out as usual, so she went in and found a hen that had little ones dead and one of her chicks also another half-grown one near. She lifted the dead hen, and there were three live chicks under her. She caught two. The other one ran over to the other side of the house. She went after it, and saw something black in the corner. She thought it was another hen dead, but as she looked she saw its eyes and then its cheeks puff out. It was a snake. It did not take her long to retreat

and call the boys, who killed it. It was about four feet long and as large around as my arm. It had eaten six little chickens, stung the mother and two chickens, killing them. The day before a snake, very much the same, only a little smaller, was killed at one of the boys' chicken houses. It had stung and killed one of his hens.

From Rev. W. T. Currie.

CISAMBA, Oct. 15th, 1897.

MY DEAR FRIEND,—We propose to let Dr. Ross arrange for the building and equipment of the Memorial Hospital, as it will be under his care, if sent next spring to this station. We hope to make doors and windows in our carpenter shop during the wet season, so as to be ready to build next dry season after the arrival of the Doctor. We are sure our friends in Canada will all see the wisdom of such a delay and not consider that valuable time is thereby being lost. Our young evangelists have also finished a tour through our large parish. They have visited not only the Bihean villages, but also a number—Valuimbe along the Kukema River, and Ovimbangala villages along the Kuanza River. With scarce an exception, they have been well received. Their reports have been very encouraging, and indicate that the people are beginning to understand the Gospel message. As for the young men they are learning to note the providence of God in caring for His servants. This week two of them went into a district only once visited before. The people received them gladly, and in the evening gave them plenty to eat. In the morning they expressed sorrow at not being able to offer the same, because they had no Ombelela (relish) for the mush. The boys went for a walk in the bush. They were about to return when one suggested that they go a little further. A few yards ahead one of them aimlessly broke a stick by the path and disturbed a wounded hare, which they soon bagged and carried back to their host. They went to some villages and preached, and on their return at mid-day the hare, nicely cooked, was served to them with plenty of mush, and their host was more than pleased to be invited to share with them. "Now," said one of the young men, "What was it made us go a little further when we thought to turn back? What was it made us break that stick and disturb the wounded hare if God did not intend us to take it for food?" As Abraham saw the ram caught by the horns and ready for the sacrifice, so these boys saw the wounded hare ready to make their dinner. The young men are also beginning to mark the unfolding of the great work before them. One day, after wandering about, they came upon an Ovimbangala village with a good number of people. They explained their mission, and asked permission to speak, but the

ef would not believe that they had come such a distance for
 other purpose than to tell them about God. He grew sus-
 picious and frightened, and at last left them unwilling to listen.
 They went away with heavy hearts. Soon a stranger, driving
 cattle, met them and entered into conversation. They told
 how they had gone to tell the words of God in a village near
 and had been turned away. The stranger proved to be one
 who had lived near to Cilume when the pioneers of this mission
 first arrived there. He told them how they dealt with the
 people; met together to sing and speak and how he had wished
 to know what words they were discussing, but they were not
 able to speak the language. The boys told him many things.
 He assured them a welcome if they would come to his village.
 They would go and tell the chief that "there was no reason to be
 afraid; these were good words he ought to hear." In one village
 they heard a woman telling her companion that "she had left
 a pot of mush on the fire and it was burning." She said,
 "Let it burn, I want none of my fellows to hear these
 words better than I." After singing a hymn in one of the most
 important villages visited, they were asked to sing again. A
 young man, standing near, said, "You think this is good, but if
 you went to Cisamba on Sunday you would see a very large
 house filled with people, and when the women and men all sing
 together these songs, your heart would be filled with wonder and
 you would feel like following these words." At another village
 a little child came up and greeted them, though they never
 remember to have seen him before. Then the little one called
 to his companion, saying, "Come, let us respond to the words of
 Jesus." He then followed the boys to the visiting place in the
 village and took a seat near to them, and seemed to listen with
 intelligent interest to the whole service. Such things as these
 have seem to indicate to the young men that there is a quiet
 work going on, the extent of which they do not know, and show
 them the importance of living the truth, for they know not who
 has heard the word, is thinking of the truth, and looking
 to their example. Pray that they may be kept steadfast
 and endowed with the power of the Spirit.

From Mrs. (Rev.) W. T. Currie.

CISAMBA, Oct. 20th, 1897.

DEAR MRS. SANDERS,—It has been raining all morning—an
 unusual occurrence for the beginning of the wet season. It is the
 custom here—if rain falls all day—for friends to send each other
 presents. For instance, a chief will send his friend an ox,
 this year, and next year the friend will return the compliment
 by sending either a slave, or an ox, or a load of rubber, or a pig,
 according to his means. It may easily be surmised that an

entirely wet day does not occur very often. I have just chased after a large hawk, which swooped down on our hen yard where there are several broods of chickens. He got caught in the wire fencing but managed to free himself before I reached the yard. The rain has made all sorts of insects rather lively. The white ant, in its winged stage, is coming up in clouds under the stone in our kitchen. A few minutes ago I went on our front verandah, and there are columns upon columns of army ants hurrying over the steps. Whether they meditate a night attack remains to be seen; a little petrol (very little, as it is a scarce article), sprinkled along the sills often proves an effectual barrier. We often hear it that white ants drive out army ants, but our house seems to accommodate both pests. The former seem to have their headquarters right under the house. It needs vigilant watching a constant overhauling of boxes, trunks or furniture to prevent their destructive inroads. They even attack eucalyptus trees which other insects leave severely alone. We are looking forward to the next caravan more eagerly than usual, for provisions are rather low. No flour—scarcely any tea—no rice (some tins we had we sent to those who had children to feed). The cows are all dry at this season. It is too early yet for vegetables. Our boys scour the country for greens. Manioc leaves make delicious spinach, but are scarce. Sweet potatoes and yams can occasionally be had, but the natives do not care to sell them just now. At present there is very little sickness among the natives. One man was brought here a couple of weeks ago in a deplorable condition. He had been out shooting in the woods, and, having placed his gun against a tree, proceeded to climb the latter. By some means the charge in the gun went off and lodged in his neck. The bullets have since come out of his mouth through his throat. The burns on his chest and neck were extensive, but are healing up. His mother came in to see me yesterday, and was profuse in her grateful admiration of the "white man's" skill in curing her son. She had never been in our house before, and seemed afraid and awed by everything. Lumbo's mother, Nacimena (who is here for treatment), was amused, and took delight in pointing out pictures to her, asking me after a while to wind up the music box. That was the finishing stroke. Nothing would persuade her to go nearer "a thing that played all by itself!" she retreated into the kitchen. Later she ventured once more to come in with Nacimena, who took up some picture book always at hand for visitors, juvenile or adult. Presently a stranger asks, "Are these their fetish books with which they heal people?" "No," said the other woman, "these

words of their God." That opened the way for a little talk. Oh! the density of their superstitions, will it ever clear from their darkened minds? Even those who have heard truth often cling to their fetishism as if it were their life. A lad, one of our brightest pupils in the kindergarten, died the other day, simply killed by fetish practices. He was a pale child and had been worn to a shadow almost by fevers. His mother, a sister of Salusuva and Vita, came to stay with him. He was recovering slowly but surely. Still the mother thought some evil influence must be at work, so she took him off to a distant village, where they taha'd (enquired of the spirits), and discovered that someone was jealous of the large crop she had in her field, and so had caused her child to be sick! The process of removing this baneful influence from the lad was much for the little strength he possessed, and he sank under it. At the funeral they taha'd again, and said that the spirit of the elder sister's child whom she refused to nurse when its mother died had come and taken her own child. The class of women in Sunday class is both encouraging and discouraging. The former because they care to come at all and are attentive, as a rule, the latter because they do not, to all assurances, give up heathenism.

Some of them seem to understand what they ought to do. On Sunday the question arose, "What can we give to God?" An old woman said softly "We can give Him our lives." Another said "our hearts." If they only would! We shall think of all our dear Canadian friends Christmas day, and send them our Christmas wishes to you all.

Surver's Acknowledgments, Dec. 20th, 1897 to Jan. 20th, 1898.

TORONTO BRANCH.—Toronto Broadview Avenue, \$1 and 30 subscriptions M. L., \$3; Junior, S. C. E., \$1; Toronto Zion Thankoffering, \$15, and undesignated, \$4; Toronto Bond street, \$35, and 50 subscriptions M. L., \$5; Mrs. Currie, 10 subscriptions M. L., \$1; Y. P. S. C. E. for the education of one of Mrs. Currie's boys, \$10; Mrs. Hay's S. S. class, for salaries, \$10; Mrs. Hay for the education of "Wanga," Cisamba, \$10, and the Bessie Heyward's Mission Box for kindergarten, Cisamba, \$10; Toronto Northern, 100 subscriptions M. L., \$10; Bowville Auxiliary fee, \$10, Thankoffering \$2.10, and 20 subscriptions M. L., \$2; Stouffville, 12 subscriptions, \$1.20; Pineville, 24 subscriptions, \$2.40; Toronto Olivet Auxiliary fee, \$10, and 20 subscriptions M. L., \$2; Parkdale Mission Band \$5.

WINDSOR AND HAMILTON BRANCH.—Hamilton Emmanuel, 12 subscriptions M. L., \$1.25, Thankoffering \$5, and for Mr. Currie's Mill, \$1; Scotland, 34 subscriptions M. L., \$3.40; Brant-

ford 30 subscriptions M.L., \$3; Paris Auxiliary, \$5; E. Thankoffering for salaries, \$70, and 10 subscriptions M.L.,

OTTAWA BRANCH.—Cobourg Thankoffering, \$4; Hopetown 10 subscriptions M.L., \$1, and undesignated, \$8; King's First church "Girl's Own" Mission Band Thankoffering, \$2; Maxville, 10 subscriptions M.L., \$4; Maxville, M.B., Cheevers fee, \$5; Ottawa, 21 subscriptions M.L., \$2.10, and (Rev.) J. Wood, Thankoffering for Cisamba, \$2; Lanark and 10 subscriptions M.L., \$1; Cobourg 13 subscriptions, \$

GUELPH BRANCH.—Guelph for Home Missions, \$8.45; Foreign Missions, \$7.73, Thankoffering, \$7.60, undesignated cents, and 50 subscriptions M.L., \$5; Y. P. S. C. E., \$2; Mission Band "Bright Stars," \$5; Mrs. Budd, \$1, Mrs. B. \$1, Mrs. Jos. Gouldie, \$1, Mrs. J. W. Lyon, \$1, and Maddock, \$1; Fergus Congregational Church "Ladies A" \$8.90; Garafraxa, 18 subscriptions M.L., \$1.80; Belwood subscriptions, \$1.80.

LISTOWEL BRANCH—Kincardine, 10 subscriptions M.L. Listowel, 20 subscriptions, \$2.

ONTARIO (MISCELLANEOUS).—Vankleek Hill, Mrs. W. McKillican, \$1; London Southern Church, 10 subscriptions M.L., \$1; Hawkesbury, Mrs. G. H. Higginson, \$1, and 5 subscriptions M.L., 50 cents; Port Perry, Miss R. Horton, 5 subscriptions, 50 cents.

NOVA SCOTIA.—Milton, Mrs. Tupper, \$1, and 12 subscriptions M.L., \$1.20; Brooklyn, 38 subscriptions, \$3.80; Liverpool, subscriptions, 90 cents.

NEW BRUNSWICK.—Sheffield Academy, 15 subscriptions M.L. \$1.50; St. John, 18 subscriptions M.L., \$1.80.

QUEBEC PROVINCIAL BRANCH.—Cowansville, 31 subscriptions M.L., \$3.10; Melbourne, 20 subscriptions M.L., \$2; Fitchburg, 7 subscriptions M.L., 70 cents; Granby, 30 subscriptions, M.L. \$3; Montreal, Emmanuel, 102 subscriptions M.L., \$10.20; Mrs. Madley's S.S. Class for Foreign Missions, \$3.02; Moncton Calvary Thankoffering for salaries, \$40; Zion Mission for kindergarten supplies, Cisamba, \$1; Embro Auxiliary Swedish Church, \$5.

QUEBEC (MISCELLANEOUS).—Waterville, 20 subscriptions M.L., \$2; St. Andrew's, 10 subscriptions, M.L., \$1.

Total for Ontario, \$337.12; Quebec, \$71.02; Nova Scotia, \$6.90; New Brunswick, \$3.30, Grand Total, \$418.34.

(MRS.) FRANCES A. SANDERS, Treasurer C. C. W. B. 131 Metcalfe Street, Montreal,

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