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of fact

"The World



for Christ."

Monthly Letter Leaflet

WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY, PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA
(WESTERN DIVISION)

VOL. XII.

TORONTO, FEBRUARY, 1896.

No. 10.

Subjects for Prayer.

FEBRUARY.—For those ladies who have offered themselves as missionaries, that others may come forward, and for those who are in training for the work; also that the liberality of the Church may be such that there shall be no lack of means to send them. For all colleges, schools and hospitals connected with our Missions.

"Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."—II Tim. ii. 15.

"He which soweth sparingly, shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully, shall reap also bountifully."—II Cor. ix. 6.

"The entrance of Thy words giveth light."—Ps. cxix. 130.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

To Secretaries.

Presbyterial Secretaries are requested to forward their finished reports to the Home Secretary as soon as possible after their annual Presbyterial meetings.

Annual Meeting.

The Twentieth Annual Meeting of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Presbyterian Church in Canada (Western Division) will be held in St. Paul's Church, Peterboro', on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, April 21, 22, and 23, 1896.

A cordial invitation is extended to delegates from every part of the Society throughout the Western Division.

In past years considerable difficulty has been caused the Billeting Committee through the names of delegates not being properly certified to and forwarded in time; the Board has therefore decided again this year to appoint a COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS, the Convener of which is Miss Isabella L. George, 277 Jarvis Street, Toronto, to whom the names of all delegates must be sent by the Secretary of the Society they are to represent, giving also the Presbyterial Society to which the Auxiliary or Band belongs.

Letter Leaflet Notice.

THE LETTER LEAFLET year ends with the April number. All orders for the May issue must be in the hands of the Secretary of Publications not later than April 12.

Change of Address.

Attention is called to the change of address of the Secretary of Supplies. Mrs. Jeffrey has removed to No. 4 Classic Avenue. (See Standing Notice.)

Notices of Motion.

The following notices of motion were read at the Conference of last Annual Meeting of the General Society. During the year correspondence regarding them has been carried on with the Auxiliaries of St. Andrew's, Kingston, and St. John's, Brockville, but as the notices of motion have not been withdrawn, they will be brought before the Society for discussion and decision at next Annual Meeting.

FROM ST. JOHN'S AUXILIARY, BROCKVILLE.—“Inasmuch as a great part of the money given by the members of the W.F.M.S. comes from their husbands, and inasmuch as there is a scarcity of funds reported in the general Foreign Mission of the Church, and inasmuch as the avowed aim of this Society as expressed in its Motto is, “The World for Christ” and not some part of it,—

“Therefore be it resolved, that we the ‘Woman's Foreign Mission Auxiliary of St. John's Church, Brockville,’ recommend the amendment of our Constitution by the elimination of that clause, which requires that all moneys collected by our Society be devoted to the sole use of the women and children in heathen lands, and that we strongly urge upon the Executive of the General Society, the desirability of taking such action at the next Annual Meeting of the said Society in April.”

“This has been carried by an unanimous vote of the members of our Society, held in St. John's Church, Brockville, March 21st, 1895.”

MRS. JAMES GRANT CAMERON, *President.*

MRS. JAMES CRANSTON, *Secretary.*

FROM ST. ANDREW'S AUXILIARY, KINGSTON.—“That inasmuch as the reports and estimates of the W.F.M.S. show that the wives of some of the missionaries engage actively in mission, and even in medical work, which is recognized by annual grants of money, this work be further recognized by the Board of the W.F.M.S. meeting the difference in salary between a married man whose wife engages in the work, and an unmarried man, thus releasing a comparatively large sum for the use of the F.M. Board, on the express condition that it is to be used in extending the work by opening up new stations.”—ANNIE E. DIKSON, *Secretary St. Andrew's Auxiliary, Kingston.*

Life Members.

- Mrs. W. McKay, Thamesford.
- “ Gibson, St. Enoch's, Toronto.
- Miss Ethel Tennant, Chalmers Church, Toronto.
- Mrs. H. A. McNaught, Knox Church, Monkton.
- Miss Mary Ormiston, Columbus.
- Mrs. P. H. Bryce, MacLaren Auxiliary, Toronto.
- “ J. McNaughton, “Eager Helpers” M.B., Newcastle.
- “ Louis H. Jordan, St. James Square, Toronto.
- “ Wm. Gordon, St. James Square, Toronto.
- “ James Ward, Renfrew.
- Miss Anna Logie, “Eager Helpers” M.B., St. Paul's, Hamilton.
- Mrs. F. Curtis, Atwood.
- “ MacGillivray, Chalmers Church, Kingston.

Increase.

Presbyterial Society :
SARNIA Lieury, “Busy Bees” Mission Band.

Treasurer's Statement.

RECEIPTS.

Dec.	2nd.—To balance in bank	\$1,461 10
“	“ —Miss Sinclair's expenses	2 25
“	9th.—St. Andrew's, Que., W.B.F.M.	40 00
“	17th.—Two Life Members' fees	50 00
“	30th.—Additional from Saugeen Pres. Society	565 86
“	“ —West Lorne Auxiliary, London Pres. Society	25 00
Jan	2nd.—The Sarah McLelland Waddell Memorial Fund, to be added to interest from investment.....	3 00
	“ —Haynes Ave. “Lend-a-Hand” Mission, St. Catharines.....	16 00
		<hr/> \$2,163 21

EXPENDITURE.

Dec.	4th.—Freight on goods sent to Mistawasis Reserve, and Albern School	27 68
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Dec.	4th.—Furnishings for the new school at Alberni.....	\$ 140 63
"	" —Foreign Sec., postage.....	1 00
"	" —Sec. of Supplies, postage.....	1 55
"	17th.—Freight on goods sent to Birtle and Round Lake...	19 22
"	18th.—Supplies for Round Lake and Birtle	75 67
"	31st.—Postage on L. M. Certificates and Letters.....	2 18
"	" —Freight to Montreal on goods sent to India.....	3 63
Jan.	6th.—Balance in bank.....	1,891 65
		<hr/> \$2,163 21
	W. A. MCGAW, <i>Treasurer.</i>	

Meetings of Presbyterian Societies

PETERBOROUGH: The annual meeting of Peterborough Presbyterian Society will be held in Cobourg, on Tuesday and Wednesday, Feb. 11th and 12th, 1896. Three sessions will be held on Tuesday. Mrs. McCrae, of Collingwood, and Rev. J. Frazer Smith, M.D., late of Honan, China, are expected to deliver addresses at the second and third sessions respectively. Two sessions will be held on Wednesday, at which special attention is to be devoted to Mission Bands in a series of papers prepared by Mission Band workers.

ORANGEVILLE: The annual meeting of the Orangeville Presbyterian W.F.M.S. was held in St. Andrew's Church, Orangeville, on Tuesday, January 7th. Owing to the morning being stormy and the trains delayed, only a short devotional meeting was held in the morning. At the business meeting in the afternoon it was agreed: To send clothing to the North-West in June, instead of September. That a Presbyterian Mission Band secretary be appointed in each society. That this Presbyterian think it wise to read reports at the general meeting after the devotional meeting on Tuesday. Mrs Campbell being anxious to resign the office of President, Mrs. Elliott, of Hillsburg, was elected President for the coming year. Other officers were elected as follows: Mrs. Fowlie, Erin, 1st. Vice-President; Mrs. McRobbie, Shelburne, 2nd Vice-President; Mrs. Scott, Inglewood, 3rd Vice-President; Mrs. Neilly, Hornings Mills, 4th Vice-President; Mrs. Steele, Orangeville, Treasurer; Mrs. Myers, Orangeville, Secretary. Miss Sinclair, returned Missionary from Indore, entertained the ladies by telling them of her experiences in India. Her address was full of information, the ladies showing their appreciation of and interest in her work by asking her numerous questions at the close of her address. Mrs. Olliver read a paper on "Prayer;" Mrs. Scott sang "In the Secret of His Presence." Then, followed a discussion on "How shall we increase the prosperity of our Auxiliaries?" by Mrs. Crozier and Mrs. Farquharson who each threw out valuable suggestions. The evening session was opened by

devotional exercises by Mr. Farquharson, Rev. Mr. Hamilton presiding. Mr. Knox rendered a sacred solo with fine effect, after which Mr. Hamilton introduced the speaker, Rev. R. P. Mackay, who gave a short but most suggestive and thoughtful address on medical missions. The choir sang "One Sweetly Solemn Thought," and the meeting closed with the Benediction pronounced by Mr. Mackay.

SAUGEN: The eighth annual meeting of this Society was held in Knox Church, Mount Forest, on Dec. 10th. A large number of delegates were present. In the absence of the President, Mrs. Aull, of Palmerston, Mrs. Young, of Clifford, occupied the chair. The following officers were duly elected:—President, Mrs. Aull, Palmerston; and also three Vice-Presidents, viz: Mrs. Barrington, Mount Forest; Mrs. Morrison, Cedarville; and Mrs. Ramsay, Mount Forest. Mrs. MacGregor, of Mount Forest, was re-elected Treasurer; Secretary of Supplies, Mrs. Munro, H.rriston; Secretary, Mrs. Bowie, Mount Forest. At the afternoon session Mrs. Barrington occupied the chair and read an address of welcome to the delegates, to which Mrs. Munro replied. The reports of Secretary and Treasurer were then heard, and were most cheering, showing an advance both in the interest taken in the work and in the amount contributed. These facts are very encouraging considering the hard times now prevailing. Miss McCulloch delighted the audience in her rendering of the solo "Eternal Rest." Greetings were then received by letter from the Baptist Women's Mission and also from St. Paul's Society. Mrs. W. J. Gilroy was present and gave a most affectionate greeting from the Methodist W.F.M. Society. A trio, "Light of the World," was then sung by Misses Hughes, Steward and Sheppard. This was followed with an address by Mrs. Bowie on "How to extend the Missionary Spirit in our Auxiliaries and Congregations." Mrs. Ketchum favored the audience with a solo, "Consider the Lilies," which was very much enjoyed. Mrs. Morrison, of Cedarville, read an excellent paper on "Prayer." It was resolved that this Society recommend the reading of Presbyterian reports at the close of the devotional hour on Tuesday at the Annual meeting, and also that a Mission Band Secretary be appointed as suggested. At the evening meeting Rev. G. Munro, presided. We were privileged to hear an address by Rev. J. Frazer Smith, M.D., Honan, China. Dr. Smith said that one of the greatest hindrances to the work is the "utter carelessness of the people" and surely this should lead us to importunate prayer for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the dark hearts of the heathen that they may be aroused from the fearful lethargy into which they have sunk, and receive the message of salvation ere it be too late. This Society has sent 1,150 pounds of good warm clothing to the North-

west and has raised this year \$816.47 for the funds of the W.F.M. Society. Mrs. Ramsay, Mount Forest; Mrs. Edmisson, Rothsay; Mrs. Munro, Harriston; Mrs. McVicar, Dromore; Mrs. Cameron, Harriston; Mrs. Young, Clifford and Mrs. Scott, Arthur, took part in prayer during the meeting.

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.

CENTRAL INDIA

Programme of Meetings in Connection with the Opening of the Canadian Mission College, Indore.

Friday evening, November 22nd.—Opening of College by Colonel Barr, Agent to the Governor-General for Central India.

Saturday, 8 a.m.—Addresses by Rev. J. F. Campbell and Rev. E. R. Fitch; 2 p.m.—Addresses by Rev. T. Wynkoop and Mr. Anand Rao, Mhow; 6 p.m.—Addresses by Rev. Dr. Kellogg in English, and Rev. W. A. Wilson, M.A., in Hindi, with Magic Lantern on Egyptian Antiquities, etc.

Sabbath, 8 a.m.—Sabbath School Gathering—Addresses by Rev. T. Wynkoop, Mr. Balaram, Mr. Franklin and Rev. Dr. Buchanan; 4 p.m.—Celebration of the Lord's Supper—Addresses by Rev. Dr. Kellogg and Rev. T. Wynkoop; 6 p.m.—Addresses by Rev. Dr. Kellogg in Hindi, and Rev. A. P. Ledingham in English.

Monday, 8 a.m.—Addresses by Rev. W. J. Jamieson, Mr. C. P. Anketell and Mr. Jagrup Paul; 2 p.m.—Addresses by Rev. N. H. Russell, Mr. Balaram and Mr. T. Franklin; 6 p.m.—Addresses by Rev. Dr. Kellogg.

A Safe Journey and a Warm Welcome.—The College Opening.

FROM MRS. LEDINGHAM.

Indore, C.I., Dec. 4, 1895.

I was very glad, indeed, to receive your very kind letter. We often spoke as we were coming out of the dear friends at home who would be praying for us, and the prayers were answered, for we had a most delightful journey, with altogether only four of five days of rough weather. We were most comfortable on the "Asia" and also on the "Furnessia." I am sure that if we were coming out again, I would choose a small ship rather than a large one, for with few passengers all become acquainted, and the ship becomes for the time almost homelike. On the "Furnessia" we had about forty passengers, and we all became well acquainted, and on

the "Asia" we had twenty-eight or thirty, and were almost like one large family. We met together in the saloon every morning for prayers, which is a thing seldom possible on board ship. Our boat was very nice in every way, and being well laden did not roll or toss much. I am giving you all these particulars because, while I was in Toronto, I was a little in doubt of the Anchor Line steamers, but I would never again hesitate in choosing one of them. Mrs. and Miss Jamieson and I roomed together, and we became almost like sisters during our month on the ocean.

We received a very hearty welcome from all the friends in Indore and later from all the missionaries in our field. We were fortunate, you know, in arriving in time for the Council Meeting and College opening, and were very glad to have the pleasure of meeting all our missionaries so soon. Mrs. Wilkie brought us right up to her house and we are still with her, although her house is so small, but we hope to get a bungalow by the beginning of the year. Mrs. Wilkie has been quite poorly for a few days with a bad cold and fever, but she is much better again. She and Mr. Wilkie had a very busy time before the opening of the College, trying to hurry on the work, and they are both suffering more or less the result of it now.

I am glad to say that their efforts were crowned with success and the College was finished and everything in first-class order for the opening. The place looked so pretty too; we got a carpet for the platform and aisle, and then massed plants and flowers around the platform. I was so glad, for Mr. Wilkie's sake, that the meetings were so successful. They were really everything that they could be and far beyond our highest expectations. Friday night, at the first meeting, the place was crowded, many even left standing. The meeting I enjoyed most was Sunday morning, when the Sabbath-school children were gathered together. There must have been over eight hundred children in the hall, and how interested they all seemed! What a great work has already been done when so many children are under regular instruction, and what boundless possibilities open up before us!

We feel how weak we are in ourselves here in the midst of these heathen people. It is a great comfort and source of strength to know that at home you are all remembering us in prayer. Not one of us can realize the full power of prayer, and the special need of it was brought so forcibly before me last Sunday night when five natives came to Mr. Wilkie begging to be baptized, when they were received and baptized before the close of the service. How we need to pray, almost without ceasing, that they may be kept strong, for they are in the midst of so many temptations,

and their own relatives and friends are all so eagerly trying to make them go back to their old ways. We realize, also, how pure and holy our own lives should be when we in such great measure represent Christ to these people. We are able in ourselves to do nothing, but if the Holy Spirit takes possession of us and works in and through us, there is no limit to what we can do, and we will never be discouraged. I am sure I shall like India very much indeed, and hope to spend many happy years here.

A Hearty Welcome to India.

FROM MISS CHASE.

Indore, Nov. 22, 1895.

How very kind of you to send letters to greet us on our arrival. It was so cheering and just like a little bit of home to get them. We have finished our long journey at last and are comfortably settled in our new home. Dr Thompson left us at Mhow, to stay for a day or so with Mr. and Mrs. Russell, but we expect to see him once more before he gets finally settled. Quite a number of the missionaries met us at Mhow station to shake hands and give us a welcome, and others met us at Indore for the same purpose. So it felt quite bright and home-like, especially as we had not seen one Canadian person since leaving home.

As the council-meeting and college opening were going on, no one could meet us at Bombay, but Dr. Oliver and Miss White met us at another station along the line, the name of which I cannot remember just now. It was the place at which we were to change cars, and it was a very good thing they did meet us there, or we would have gone on to Calcutta without knowing it, as the guard does not come to tell you where to change, nor does anyone come to the car to tell you what station you are at when the train stops.

You don't know how very, very kind every one is to us. We feel quite at home already. At present there are five in our bungalow—Miss White, Miss Dougan, Miss Grier, Miss Ptolemy, and myself, but Miss Dougan is leaving us very soon and then our family will consist of four members.

We are to have our first lesson in Hindi to-day. Mr. Wilkie told us we were very plucky to begin so soon, but he doesn't know how tired we are of doing nothing ; it seems so refreshing to have something to do again. Last night we attended a Hindi prayer-meeting led by Mr. Johory, and the small knowledge we had acquired on our voyage helped us to sing the hymns and understand a word or two here and there in the discourse. After that, there was an English prayer-meeting in Mr. Wilkie's private room. It made rather a queer feeling come over me, because the les:

prayer-meeting I was at before that was at home. I am beginning to understand already how God watches over his missionaries, He seemed to be so distinctly and personally present in that prayer-meeting, and when Mr. Wilkie was praying you could see at once that he was speaking face to face with God. There seemed no barrier between at all, but such a distinct loving presence, listening intently to every word, such as you often feel in private prayer. Oh you don't know what a great, great privilege I feel it to be allowed to come out to this special work. On the way out, the gentleman who sat next me at the table told me that missionary work in India was a failure, and that the natives never really left their own religion, etc., etc. But I wish he could have seen that roomful of bright faces at Mr. Johory's prayer-meeting and heard them sing.

To-morrow evening (Friday) there is to be a tea-meeting in honor of the Ledinghams and of us; Mr. Johory announced it after prayer-meeting last night and you should have seen the delighted smiles that went around.

There is a great change in the temperature between day and night here at this season of the year. While the sun is shining the heat is quite intense outside, but as soon as it sets, a chill falls, and it soon gets quite cold so that you need your heavy wraps if you go out. One needs to be very careful about catching cold, I caught quite a cold in my head the first night I was here by not putting enough warm clothing on. The day had been excessively hot, so that the evening coolness felt very pleasant and rather tempted one to indulge too long in the luxury of being cool.

TRINIDAD.

The Story of Yissuph.

Miss Blackadder writes under date Nov. 9th, enclosing a letter to herself from Joseph (or Yissuph) on the subject of his baptism and public profession of Christianity. She says:

The young lad who writes is a Mohammedan, whose father was a pleader in the law courts in India. The father died, and the mother could not bear the painful life of a widow in India, so meeting the Trinidad recruiting agent, she and her little fatherless boy, Joseph, the writer, came here, and were put on Orange Grove Estate, where Miss Morton for years carried on a Mission school.

When I came to Tacarigua, this lad was reading the alphabet cards. He attended school, worked in the fields, made good progress, was engaged as monitor, passed his examinations, and when Mr. Cropper opened the Maraccas school, Joseph took charge. He did well, got on nicely with the pupils. At the last examination for entrance to the Training School,

he passed. He has worked hard, and you can see from Dr. Grant's letter that he has conducted himself as a student should.

For a long time he has loved and trusted in the Lord, but his Moham-
medan friends and his mother were so opposed to his becoming a Christian,
that he shrank from a final break with them all. But you see faith has
gained the victory over weakness, and he will I trust do good work for the
Master.

The following portion of Joseph's letter to his friend and former
teacher, will be of interest, especially to our young people :—

San Fernando School, 4th Nov., 1895.

DEAR MISS B.,—I hope you are feeling better than what you felt
some days ago. I am really sorry for not letting you know about my
baptism ; no doubt Dr. Morton told you about it. Miss Fisher's boy and
I were the only boys among the rest of the students who were not baptized,
and we felt that it is time that we should be converted. I did believe on
Jesus before, as you know, by reading and hearing the beautiful sermons
preached concerning Christ. I hope that God may bless me and those
that fear Him. I took the communion just the next Sabbath with three
others, professing Christ in public. I hope it may be the Lord's desire
to help me in keeping His commands. I think hardship happens to peo-
ple for the best. No doubt if it wasn't for my father's death I won't
have been in Trinidad, and my dear mother won't have had to work so
hard in the Estate, as the day when she went with the basket on her head
and the little boy beside her, weeping together for her old home ; and she
won't have had the occasion to take another partner as a helper, as she
thought he would have been, but I am sorry to say he is not. And yet it
has happened for the best to us. If it was not for Trinidad I won't
have been converted and won't have known Christ. The day when I got
ready to baptize I remembered my mother, and tears came out of my eyes
to see that I was going to follow the better road and my mother left in her
paganism. I only wish that I may be able to convert her. I hope God
will bless her and show unto her that I might be her comfort, as my desire
is to be her comfort, by the help of God. I only hope that I might pass
as a teacher to take the care of the little ones, and to bring wandering
souls to heaven. May it be the Lord's pleasure to make me worthy of
such a good act. Tell Raunath to stick to his studies, and Chin also. I
do feel sometimes of the kindness of our missionaries. God has civilized
their forefathers in ancient days and they are civilizing us at the present
moment. Tell my mother that I am well.

Miss Blackadder also encloses the accompanying note from Dr. Grant in reference to Joseph's baptism :—

San Fernando, Oct. 31, 1895.

DEAR MISS BLACKADDER,—Just a line. Dr. Morton will probably have mentioned to you that he baptised Yissuph on the 2nd, and at his own voluntary application I admitted him to the communion, with three of my own boys now in Training School, on Sabbath last. I feel this year as if I had to do with a class truly converted. They are a great comfort to me. God bless the lads.

We have all been praying much, and some days ago a Welsh lad from Cardiff, son of a lately deceased captain, met our boys on the wharf and an attachment sprang up that has issued in this lad of eighteen years of ripe scholarship, and evident piety, joining them, and to-day he is acting for Mr. Jacob, and may continue to do so till the end of the year. He has quarters with the boys, and they mess together. He has been well brought up, has some means, and the risks apparently are small.

The captain of the barque is a friend of the boy's family, and he said that the boy's intense desire for the conversion of the men, exposed the lad not only to rebuffs, but the captain feared it might lead to personal injury some day—not a bad qualification for our work.

I am writing, however, to tell you simply of *your* boy.

HONAN.

Without Christ, and without Hope in the World.

FROM MRS. GOFORTH.

Chu Wang, Oct. 27, 1895.

We are to start from here for Chang-te-fu the day after to-morrow. We are all in good health and most thankful for all the way our dear Master has led us. It is now nearly two months and a half since we left dear Canada; such a long time to be traveling, but the way has been made easy for me by the kind friends raised up everywhere. God has been teaching us many precious lessons of faith and trust by the way he has undertaken for us. He has fulfilled to us very fully and very literally His promise "I will go before thee and make the crooked places straight and the rough places plain." The remembrance of the loving sympathy and prayers extended to us when we said good-bye in the Board Room will not soon be forgotten and will be a source of real power to us in our work.

I am so glad to be back again and to find so many bright welcome faces. As Mr. Goforth, Miss MacKenzie, the children and myself walked up from our boat the evening we arrived, it was really cheering to meet with kind words and smiles from *every one* we met. What a contrast to the jeers and mud-throwing of our first reception four years ago!

The Presbytery met the day after our arrival and we had the pleasure of all dining together for several days while the Presbytery lasted. We all felt most thankful for the gracious unity of the Spirit granted to us. May the Holy Spirit indeed keep us from all disunion.

In coming back to the work the terrible poverty of the people strikes one as almost hopeless. What can we say to poor creatures starving and almost naked? For three seasons their crops have been destroyed and it is simply impossible for me to give you any idea of what that means. Even when the harvest is good the people can scarcely live, and now that their crops have been destroyed their condition is most pitiable. Oh that the friends at home who sometimes feel tempted to grumble and complain at their lot could see what we see every day! We have a poor woman in the hospital here now—a Christian and a church-member—there is little hope of her recovery—she has only her little daughter to attend to her and it is most affecting to see the distress and care the poor mother has for her family of little ones at home with no one to care for them. We try to do what we can to help, but after all what we are able to do seems no more than a crumb of bread would be to a great starving multitude. But though their temporal condition is so hopeless how much more pitiable is the darkness of soul—no hope in this life and none in the life to come! Oh friends! let us be faithful and work *now* for their salvation. Just before leaving Canada I was asked more than once why should I be in such a hurry to get back! Oh why should we act as if the salvation of the heathen were a matter that could wait for *our convenience*! Generations are passing away—every day we hear of some one having died since we went home, and now God has so graciously given us the privilege of working again in this far dark land.

Pray for us—pray that God's Holy Spirit, the only source of power, may be ever with us to accompany the words and indeed *to give the right words*. Thank God for the encouragements and for the progress we hear of from all parts of the field. In a number of places women are asking for some one to go to them. We pray for you that God may bless all the Auxiliaries and Bands. May there be many *model Auxiliaries* in our Church.

I will try and write you about our reception in Chang-te-fu as soon as possible after reaching there.

Miss MacKenzie and I have most pleasant times at the language as I have constituted myself her teacher until we reach Chang-te-fu when our teacher Li will teach her. She is most diligent and has made progress that surprises us.

NORTH-WEST INDIANS.

Suffer the Little Children to come unto Me.

FROM MISS GILLESPIE.

Crowstand School, Nov. 6, 1895.

My letter will not be so joyful a one as I would wish it to be, as recently the death angel came into our midst and soared away with one of our precious little lambs. We were all loath to part with our little Willie and he was one of my Kindergarten class, too—but who can describe the sore hearts of the parents? His father is Mr. McVicar—you remember him? He is a graduate from Winnipeg University. Mr. McVicar is Mr. Whyte's interpreter and lives in that little log house close by the school, where John Friday lived when you were here. They had only two children, Willie, about eight years old, and little Tola. It was hard indeed for them to part with their only boy. But our Father saw best to take him to himself and although their hearts are bleeding, they are submissive to the chastening hand. Willie was sick for a number of weeks and for some time past death was evident to us all; but his father still cherished a hope until within a few hours before the last. It was on Sunday evening that death set in; but after the first bad attack he seemed to revive very much and his father said he thought he was all-right for that night at least; so we left and went to our beds; but after midnight Mr. Whyte and Miss Carson were aroused by the grandmother, and by the time Miss Carson reached the hall-door she was met by Mr. McVicar who told her that "Willie is no more." The funeral was a sad one. We were all mourners and each felt the loss a personal one, as little Willie had endeared himself to us all. It was with difficulty Mr. Whyte preached the sermon, and feelingly directed the parents to the only source of comfort. Mr. and Mrs. McVicar are for the present stopping at her father's, until they, as Mr. McVicar said, "get over it a little."

After they left the girls took great pleasure in going over and cleaning up the house for them so that on their return the place would not have the sad look of the funeral day about it. They white-washed the house and left everything looking quite bright and cheerful.

With this one exception the children have all been having very good health so far, and I am very well satisfied with their progress in the school-room. At the end of this month I intend to promote Betsy to the third book and five from primer II, to the second book.

We had quite a novel baptism at church a few Sundays ago. When Mr. Whyte was receiving the promises from the parents, they did not give him a silent nod of the head, or a formal "I do," but the father in a very sociable manner expressed his willingness to do what was required

of him, and turning to his wife addressed her in Indian ; his look and tone saying " Why of course we will promise to do that," and the father of the secon child made quite a lengthy speech when it came his turn. The whole thing was so informal and home-like, that I quite enjoyed it. On the same Sunday we partook of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper and William Fidler for the first time came forward. He is a fine man and is making strides forward. We were speaking about himself and his home one evening, and he told me that he was anxious that his two little girls should grow up good and that they wouldn't talk roughly. He said that was one reason why he wanted them to come to school when they are a little older. His ambition touched me and I thought it worthy of the highest commendation.

A Precious Life Spared.

FROM MRS. MOFFAT.

Industrial School, Regina, N v. 26, 1895.

We have had a good deal of sickness this fall—six cases of fever—three boys and three girls. John Sieveright was the only serious case among the boys. For days we did not think he could get better. He has a better constitution than most of the children, but I do believe that his life was spared in direct answer to prayer. He is a good boy, a member of our Christian Endeavor, and we had all hoped for such great things from him that we felt dreadfully when we thought he was dying. In all his raving he never spoke Indian, always English. His dreams, in his delirium, are all so real to him yet, that he speaks of them as if they had really occurred, and isn't it strange how little they, the Indians, think of the mother? He thinks he was in heaven three times, it was all so lovely, he wanted to stay there, but he was "bothered," because his father and Katie (his sister) were left behind, never a thought of the mother. It is pathetic to hear how he seems to take Christ right into his life. He says "I told Christ, and he knew just what I meant; He understood all about our Indian ways." John seems to think himself that his life was spared that he might go out and work among his own. He is gaining every day and will soon be his old self again. The girls have not got off so well, though they only had low fever. Their lungs are affected now and the doctor does not think they will ever be strong again. Their mothers came to nurse them and were anxious to take them home for a change. Lucy and Martha have already gone, Sarah will go as soon as she is stronger.

We had a short thanksgiving service on Thursday night; the children all wrote on slips of paper something they had to be thankful for. One

boy of ten wrote: "I am thankful for all the hard names I have learned in I and II Samuel. I think it was lovely, for we have been stumbling over them so at morning prayers the last three weeks." Katie Steveright's was, "I thank God for sparing my brother," and John's own was, "I thank God for sparing my life from death."

Our school is very crowded this fall ; we have four new girls and two boys from Birtle. Two boys from Cotes, and ten girls from the Elkhorn school are with us, while their building, which was destroyed by fire, is being rebuilt. I did miss Mrs. McLeod very much, I cannot tell you how kind they have all been to me.

I hope, not only for your good wishes, but also for your prayers, that I may be successful in the work here.

Blessed are the Dead Who Die in the Lord.

FROM MR. ARTHUR.

Lakesend, Ft. Qu'Appelle, Assa., Nov. 2, 1895.

Miss McWilliams has told me of your desire that I write an account of a Sunday's work, and I heartily comply. First let me tell you of a funeral I attended last Tuesday. Annie Stevenson, daughter of my interpreter, and who spent three years in this school, died of consumption. She has been failing all summer but was a very cheerful and hopeful invalid. In our talks she would clearly state her firm hope in a life with Jesus and would smile peacefully when I told her that even through the dark valley He would be beside her. At the early age of thirteen she is gathered home. Her mother said she was willing to part with her though the parting was a sore one. Never have I seen such intense grief—the little children clinging about their father while, with tears streaming down his own cheeks, Mr. Stevenson tried to comfort the little ones telling them that Annie had gone to Jesus.

Our Sabbaths are very different here. Last Sabbath I spent on Pasquah's and at the Mission building. The ford was frozen over, not strong enough to carry a man and two strong to row a boat. I got a door and pushing it ahead of me and putting half my weight on my hands I crawled across on my knees. Rather undignified, but I crossed safely and after a six-mile walk arrived at Pasquah's Camp. I visited some of the houses and then we assembled, nineteen of us, in Benjamin's teepee. Our subject was in Luke 4: 18 where Chris' declares his mission in the language of Isaiah, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me." The attention is all that could be desired and I am hopeful that beneath that silent ex-

terior the Holy Spirit is working on their hearts. They seem well pleased with singing though few join us.

After service I was told that a sick man wished to see me. I found a young heathen, Me-minih-kan, suffering from some form of gastralgia. I examined him and promised to send him medicine. An old squaw with sore eyes next wanted something to cure her. I sent her a wash of boracic acid and water. Then I started for the Mission and arrived at 2:30, ate dinner, and began service at 3. Miss McWilliams holds Sunday School from 2 to 3. Our attendance here is made up of white settlers and half-breeds with the school children, usually about 30. This service is in English and is helpful to ourselves, as it is hard to enjoy a service where an interpreter comes between speaker and hearer. To-morrow, if all is well, we go to Piapot's and Muscowpetung's Reserves, and shall give you an account of this day on Monday.

Mrs. Arthur and I started out shortly after eight o'clock and after a twenty-mile drive reached Piapot's at 11. It was one of our small attendance days, only eight came out, while there were 21 the day before. I could not find the rest. The attention was good. Here I feel we need a house for worship very much. They have their little quarrels just as white people have, and when one such occurs they take the same means of "having it out," that is, refuse to visit, etc., and they make this an excuse for not coming to the house of a man with whom there has been any unpleasantness, even when I invite them.

On our return we came to Muscowpetung's Camp and had a good attendance, 20, the house full. The attention was all that could be desired. I tried to engage them in conversation on the subject of discourse but not one said a word. About 4 o'clock we started for home and reached here at dark, feeling well prepared for our dinner, as we only had a luncheon eaten on the way from Piapot's. There are mingled feelings of satisfaction with the attention, and fear that the Word does not reach the soul, but with hopeful hearts we leave the work with Him who says, "My word shall not return unto me void."

Many Signs of Improvement.

FROM MR. W. J. WRIGHT.

Rolling River, Dec. 17, 1895.

I will now try to write a few lines about our work. I do not know as I will be able by the few small encouragements that I may mention, to encourage you as we feel encouraged. We are able to lay hold on God's promises and we see in the near future a great change by the grace of God on this Reserve. Can the prayers of so many of God's people fail to be answered? No. "Whatsoever you ask th Father in My Name He will

grant it." Can we not ask the conversion of these poor people in Jesus' Name, for whom He died. *Yes we can. Pray on, work on, and watch on.*

We are quite encouraged by the way that the Sabbath services are attended. Last Sabbath morning 22 of us met together in the house of Jos. Despardy to worship God. When I tried by God's help, to compare our state as Christians with our state before we became Christians, from Paul's Epistle to the Ephesians, 2nd chapter, a great interest seemed to be taken by both men and women. I am glad to be able to tell you that we hardly ever miss one of those who live on the east of the river from the service, and they come without having to be gathered up on Sabbath morning. On the west of the river it is quite different yet; they are still afraid of the medicine men, and while some would like to attend services, they are afraid to. The attendance here is from 8 to 16, yet we are encouraged by the stand that some of the medicine men have taken. Wapa Capo was one who spoke very much against Christianity. He has for the past two months been at the service every Sabbath save one. He has to drive about three miles to the service. He is the first one who has given us any help with the singing of the hymns. He started to study the Syllabic with us last New Year, and he can now read very well. Monito Achinin attends quite regularly. The head medicine man (Penace), who a little over one year ago told me that he did not want me to pray for the Indians, tells me now that he believes in the Christian's God as the only God, and the one from whom he gets all things. He says that he is trying to serve Him in as far as he knows, but he is afraid to come out to the services. *Pray for him.* He thinks that if he does what the Spirit of God teaches him, that is what is required of him. I pray that before long the Spirit will show him that there is life in the Word.

Encouragements in the way of preparations for the winter are great. Although we did not get all the new houses finished, yet a number of them are comfortable. Ka Kak Kwases' is the best; it is 15 x 16 ft., with a good upstairs, and a kitchen 15 x 15 ft., and a good shingled roof on it all. The work was all done by himself, with what little help we gave him, such as laying the foundation and showing him how to build. It is furnished with a new cook stove and a few chairs. There has been a number of new stoves bought by the Indians this fall. We had very good potatoes. Some of the Indians had as much as sixty-five bushels, others not so much.

The Indians made a very good hunt this fall, securing a number of moose, elk and deer, and also a lot of minks, rats, etc. I feel quite safe to say, that we have double the hay put up this fall that has ever been put up in one fall before. Four more Indians have asked for cattle from the Department. These are all marks of civilization.

Dear Mrs. Harvie, as this will likely be the last that I will write you this year, I wish you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Asking you to pray that the coming year may be our harvest, and that we may be kept just such as God can use to His own glory.

Bright Hopes for Future Usefulness.

FROM MR. M'PHERSON.

Elphinstone, Okanase Mission, Dec. 2, 1895.

I am glad indeed that we have taken up our mission work, and like it very much, and pray earnestly for God's blessing on our labours. It is a very great help to us to know we have your prayers, and all the members of your good Society, besides other kindred Societies throughout the Dominion.

We have two services for public worship every Sunday, the first at 11 a.m., the second at 3 p.m.; the attendance at the former has averaged 55, and at the later 45, which is very good, considering the number that are away hunting just now, and they are very attentive listeners. We have also Sunday School at 10 a.m. I am sorry to say the attendance has not been what I would like. The children stay at home to get a ride to church with their parents. I expect an improvement in the attendance, but don't look for a full attendance till next spring. We have prayer meetings every Wednesday in one of the homes; the average attendance has been 25. When the meeting is near hand, the attendance is very good, but when far away it falls off.

The day school has been well attended, and Mrs. McPherson is busy with the girls, getting new petticoats made for all the women and girls in the Reserve, as Christmas gifts from your Society.

I am very glad to be able to say we have every reason to be pleased. We have been kindly received by all the Indians, and they are glad I have come amongst them, and what is much better, they are anxious to hear and know all they can about Jesus. There are four of the Indians that lead in prayer, and I always ask one at each service to lead us, and two at prayer meetings. Mr. Flett has also been very kind, and I am sure wishes us God-speed as his successors.

My Word Shall Not Return Unto Me Void

FROM REV. JOHN M'ARTHUR.

Beulah, Dec. 12, 1895.

After I left Toronto during my three weeks visit to Western Ontario, I gave thirteen addresses, principally on our great mission work, and visited about fifty families. The more the people heard of our mission work the more they wanted to hear, and it was a great pleasure to me to give any in-

formation that I could. I could only wish that I had three months instead of three weeks to speak of the work.

The work on this Reserve I am thankful to say continues to have its encouraging aspects. During the last eleven months nine marriages have taken place, six of these marriages were of those who had been living together according to the heathen Indian's idea of marriage, which allows the Indian to put away his wife at his pleasure. In some cases the Indian may give the woman sent away some small part of his small possessions, but they appear to realize the evil consequences of their old customs, and the advantages and blessing that follow a proper observance of the sacredness and binding nature of the marriage tie. During the same period six persons have been received on profession of faith, and two new members added to the W.F.M.S. The members of the Auxiliary are greatly encouraged by these additions, and I think their contributions will be in advance of what they have been doing for a few years. Henry Enoch and his wife, the parents of your baby Jean, were the last two received on profession of faith.

Since I started to write this letter, a young man named Edward Hanika (meaning Edward Long), called on me with Henry's daughter and a marriage license, and now they are married. We earnestly pray that it may be a happy marriage. The young man has asked to be baptized. All that I could say to him was that I would be pleased to baptize him when I had good proofs of his sincerity, and believed him to be a proper subject for baptism.

Mrs. Big Hunter is well, but Big Hunter has not been very well since last summer. Mrs. Big Hunter with the help of another stacked their wheat, and now she takes the wheat to market, cuts and draws the wood and hay, and attends to the horses and cattle. Martha Thunder, the only daughter of Isaac Thunder, is not well; she came home from Regina a few weeks ago.

Maggie Gray, who was married to James Gray last summer, and who, with her husband, was, on profession of faith, received to the Lord's Supper, had a daughter about fourteen years of age, who was attending the Regina School. A few weeks ago word came that her daughter was very ill. The mother went to see her daughter. In a few days she sent us word saying that her daughter was very sick, and that her heart was full of sorrow, she said she was reading the Bible and praying, and asked our prayers on behalf of herself and daughter. She has been able to get her daughter home, and shortly after the girl came home she asked to be baptized. Last Sabbath, many of the Indians being away from home fishing, I thought we would have our regular service

in James Gray's little house instead of in the church, and have the baptism at the same time. But there were more people than the house would hold, so we had the regular service in the church, and an after service in the house. About sixteen or seventeen Indians attended. One of these, a medicine man, and his wife, came to see the sick girl. We had a short but impressive service in that small Indian house. Though much in advance of the old Indian tepee, our environments showed very little of the comforts that we consider a necessity in our homes. But the rudest hut that God is pleased to bless with His presence has more of comfort and true happiness in it than the richest mansion where there is no love or fear of God, and although the extra service left me no time to take dinner before the next service, yet I felt I could say with Peter when on the Mount, "It is good for us to be here, for I believe God was with us in that humble Indian home. Maggie Gray, the mother of the girl, after the baptism, said she wanted to say a few words. She said when she went to Regina and saw her daughter she had little hope of ever seeing her home alive. But she made it a matter of prayer to God and she believed God had helped her and granted her request, she said I have seen other friends die, but I never had a child of my own die and this is my only child and the thought of her being taken away from me loaded my heart down with sorrow. I don't know much, but I know God, and I read His word and pray to Him, and I leave everything in His hands. I want you also to write to Rev. Mr. McLeod, at Regina, and thank him for his kindness to us. They did all they could for my girl before I went there, and they did all they could for me and my daughter as long as we were there. As I drove away from the house I felt that poor Indian woman had borne good testimony to the Grace of God and the Christian religion before her fellow Christians, and especially before the heathen Indian and his wife who have not started to come to church yet, but they receive the missionary kindly when visiting them in their home.

We had a letter a few weeks ago from an Indian woman now in the States that cheered our hearts—a woman that was sent away from here in the most cruel and heartless way by her husband two years ago. She wrote us a kind letter and asks for her certificate of Church membership, which shows that in her very trying circumstances she clings to her religion and the God of her help and comfort.

The Holy Spirit Moving upon the Hearts of the Young.

FROM REV. HUGH M'KAY.

Round Lake, Whitewood P. O., Assa, Dec. 11, 1895.

I have just been reading your kind letter to Mrs. McKay, and I am now to spend an hour in writing to you. It is 7 p.m., at 8 the bell will ring and I must stop. I fear you will be weary before you get through reading.

Mrs. McKay went up this evening to visit her mother; the day has been bright and beautiful. The snow has disappeared in the valley and the cattle are all feeding out. Mrs. McKay is kept very busy with our large family, she works too hard. I persuaded her to go out this evening, so I try to take

her place, and with one eye upon the little ones and the other on "the pen, I write. The only help Mrs. McKay has is one cook, and the help of the little girls. Mary and Flora are good and do what they can—the rest are small. Willie (teacher) is in his room hard at Greek; Harry, Edward, Neil and Stanley are preparing lessons for to-morrow. Flora and the little girls are busy darning stockings, Colin and Augustus are at the barn, the other little boys looking over some pictures, Mary and Agnes are in the kitchen. Here is a glimpse of our home as I am writing. Jacob has been away during the past month. It would be nice if he could send you a short sketch of his trip. He visited File Hills and Qu' Appelle, and returned yesterday.

We have at present 24 at the school who have been regular in their attendance. We have taken two little boys, half-breed, non treaty. The parents live about 20 miles up the valley; they are very poor and have a large family and no opportunity of sending their children to a day-school. These little boys have been with us three months; they are active little fellows, aged 8 and 10.

We had a very interesting day about a month ago at our communion. We would like to tell you all about it but would weary you; however a little about each one who joined with us on that occasion might be of interest to you. One of our little girls, Mamie, came to me on Sabbath morning and said, "I would like so much to be baptized; would you baptize me?" "Why do you wish to be baptized?" I asked. She said, "My father, before he died, said he would like if I should be baptized when I would understand it. I think I understand it." I asked, "Is there any other reason?" She said, "Yes, I want to be a Christian." There were about 70 present at our meeting, and in the meeting I asked Mamie if she thought God loved her. She said, "Yes." "How do you know?" She repeated, "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son that whosoever believeth on him shall not perish but have everlasting life." Mamie is a dear little girl and tries to do her duty. I would like also to tell about Edward, who was baptized on that day, and about Henry and Gilbert and John, who united with us for the first time in communion. Jacob and Gaddie acted with me, forming a kind of Session, and eight young people met with us in the session room and we had an interesting conference with those young people. I was much pleased with Gaddie's address. He gave a few words of advice to those who were taking a stand for Christ. He spoke about paganism trying to get them back, about the weakness of their own hearts, the strength of the devil and their old habits and temptations, but "look up," "look up," "look up." "If God be for us who can be against us," Mrs Harvie, we can't tell you how much we have

been cheered by that meeting. And the meeting in the evening was not less interesting. Although the number was scarcely so large, we all enjoyed the presence of the Master and we were made glad by the fulfilment of the promise, "Lo I am with you all the days." We trust that a few have opened their hearts and the King of Glory entered. But, oh, why so few? Why should any heart reject Him, who is the chief among ten thousands, the altogether lovely. We see before us day by day a multitude with tottering steps, bowed heads, clothe with rags and filth on the way to the grave. They hear from heaven a voice clear as a silver trumpet calls: "Look unto me;" "why will ye die?" and the only reply is, "We are going to the grave."

The old chief, Kewistahaw, is not as well as he was when you saw him. He is getting old and about blind. He is pleading with his people to become Christians.

I do not think we shall have a feast with the Indians as we had last Christmas. We are to have a little gathering next Friday; examination in the school. We have invited Col. McDonald, our Agent, and the farm instructors, and Rev. Mr. Redden, of Moosomin, to have dinner with us and take part in the examinations

We have not made the improvement in our buildings. We have been hesitating about using the money appropriated. We would like if we could make the improvements without asking so much help. We had a good crop, our cattle have done well, we had a good attendance at school, and I thought that we should have a little in the treasury when accounts are balanced in April, which balance we might use in improvements.

I am thankful to say that my health has been good, only suffering with a bad cold, during the past two weeks. Two weeks ago, on Sabbath, I had a drive of eight hours, thermometer 20 below zero, and I was chilled when I got home.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

Acknowledgments of Clothing and Gifts.

FROM REV. GEORGE ARTHUR.

Lakesend, Ft. Qu'Appelle, Assa., Oct. 23, 1895.

The clothing has been received from Orangeville, Whitby and Glen-gary Presbyterian Societies and the greater part distributed. The Indians seem very glad to get a warm coat or quilt and some of the older people, who can neither speak nor understand English, attempt to show their gratitude and many a "Tank-you" I have received.

The attendance on Sabbath services at Piatot's has trebled since the clothes came and I am glad to say that the increase was not mainly of "expectant ones," but of those who had received their present. At Muscowpetung's our attendance was double that of previous Sundays. Among these, however, I notice less thankfulness, and a disposition to grumble; but at any sign of my intention to withhold the present, they become very well satisfied. The Indians speak very often of the good quality of the quilts. They like those made of woollen patches, as a spark from their fire does not so easily set fire to them as to those wadded with cotton and covered with calico patches.

The old chief Piatot has been to our services regularly lately. He had very sore eyes—conjunctivitis. I gave him a wash and then some salve which has done good. He is very reticent, so I cannot tell exactly what his motive is in coming.

December 5,

We are now in a position to appreciate the carpets and paper so kindly sent for our use. You ask if they have added to our comfort. Does one ever need to be told that sunshine is pleasant, or that furs are a protection against these searching winds? Certainly our home is more homelike and far more comfortable than it was without carpet or paper. We appreciate the kindness that prompted the gifts not only for our own sakes but for the children's as well. I believe that the example of a comfortable home is not a small factor in an Indian child's education, and this fact is a strong plea for the maintenance of our boarding schools. We are now a comfortable little family; we have our lame one, our delicate one, our noisy ones, our quiet workers just as a family at home might have.

Many old women have been helped and are very grateful. The hoods and skirts suited best; but until dress reform or other agency restores the bodies of Ontario ladies to the ample size of their sisters of the prairie, their second-hand waists and basques are useless to the Squaw. There is something amusing in turning over a score of 22 inch waists to fit a 38 inch woman standing before one. The clothing was, with the exception of a few waists, all suited to our needs, and several of the articles were new and others neatly mended. There was a good assortment of garments; a few skirts more and a few vests less would have made the entire shipment suit our needs. The school supplies are sufficient for the present; if our school grows to fifteen, as I hope, we shall be short. I received a bale from Nova Scotia consisting chiefly of children's clothes. I hope to prove a better correspondent during the winter months.

FROM MR. NEIL GILMOUR.

Hurricane Hills Mission, Dec. 24, 1895.

I am glad at last to be in a position to write of the clothing forwarded by the Saugeen Presbyterial Society for distribution among the helpless, the women and the children of the Assiniboine band of Indians, whose reserve is located to the south-east of Indian Head on the C.P.R.

The delay in sending this acknowledgment was unavoidable. You are aware that I was quite recently appointed to the work here. I arrived on Saturday, the 30th of November. Owing to unavoidable delays, it was not found possible to get the permanent mission buildings erected this fall, so for use during the winter months a very small temporary building was put up. The material in this building will be used in the construction of the larger building, to be begun as soon as Spring opens. I mention this here to explain why it was not found possible to distribute the clothing more gradually, and possibly more deservedly. Because of having no room for storing the clothing, we were forced to open it all out and give it away at once.

In the distribution of this clothing I was very much assisted by Mr. Halford, the Agency clerk. It was a pleasing task to open out bale after bale of these goods, nearly all of such excellent quality. The quilts could not have been better; made of good, strong material and well quilted, they could not have been better suited for the purposes they are put to. The stockings, the mitts, the underclothing for small children, the dresses and the little coats and vests were the very things that were needed. The stocking yarn, of which a generous supply was sent, was among the most suitable things that came, because the majority of these women are splendid knitters, and were delighted to get the yarn. A bountiful supply of women's waists and jackets was sent, the only fault in them being that they were in many cases too small for Indian women, who are a low, broad-set people. There was a scarcity of women's skirts, an article which is very much prized by them. A goodly supply of flannels and flannelettes was also sent, and this material Mrs. Halford is very kindly cutting up into garments for small children. The parts are pinned in place, and they are given to the mothers to make up for their children. I must not forget to mention the dolls. If the good-hearted little girls who sent these knew how much their little brown sisters of the prairies prize a doll, they would feel as much enjoyment in the giving of them as our little Indian girls do upon receiving them.

Had the kind ladies of your societies been able to stand with me on that day, and witness the procession of old, decrepit women who filed in two by two to receive their portion of the clothing, some of them stone-

blind and bent double with age, and with scarcely an article of clothing, save an old dirty blanket—I counted fifteen such,—I say, could the ladies have seen all this misery, and the eagerness with which these poor creatures put forth their thin, bony arms to receive their share of the clothing, they would have had a new sense of the importance of the great work of relieving suffering and misery, which they so successfully carry on.

In the name of these Indians I thank the ladies of Saugeen Presbyterian Society for the bountiful supply of clothing they have furnished.

FROM REV. W. BEATTIE.

Virden, Dec. 2, 1895.

The clothing came to hand in good time. Last year I had Peter's advice and assistance in distributing. This year I waited for a time, thinking the new missionary would soon arrive; but at last the Indians got wind that I had the clothing. The cold weather was just upon us, and I thought it time to begin giving out. They came from the Reserve, big and little, old and young. I attended to the wants of the old and feeble squaws first, then the children. What was left I divided among the more able-bodied, male and female. We had not so much clothing this year, but sufficient to give all a little; and they were grateful and well satisfied. The winter promises to be a long and cold one, and the gifts of the ladies will go far to make the poor aged squaws and little ones comparatively comfortable. The toys—and one junior society sent quite a supply—I have reserved, and will give them to John to present at Christmas to the children. Our ladies here will do something in the way of a tea, so the little Indians will be able to follow the whites, and have their Christmas tree. I suppose they will have a pow-wow in connection which will rival any Santa Claus entertainment.

FROM REV. HUGH MCKAY.

Round Lake, Whitewood P.O., Assa., Nov. 25, 1895.

I am sending you the shipping bills. The clothing has been received in good order. We received a good supply of heavy strong quilts for the poor, old and helpless ones on the Reserves. Those quilts are strong and warm and will be a great comfort to many of our brothers and sisters who are suffering in the cold winter.

Many are very poor and the prospects for support during the present winter are not good. Their grain was frozen, and from their gardens they gathered very little.

Dec. 11, 1895.

Did I say anything about the goods from Montreal? It was the best that we received this season. We have been assisted much by their help and kind words; I would mention again the valuable assistance received from the other Societies, especially for the old and sick people on the Reserves. Those thick, warm, strong quilts are more valuable than silk and eiderdown. Many a poor old person will say, "God bless my kind sisters far away who have taken pity on me in my poverty and misery."

We are all well at the Mission. Mrs. McKay is kept as busy as a mother with a large family. She joins me in kind greetings to you.

NOTICES.

The Board of Management meets on the *first Tuesday* of every month, at 3 o'clock p.m., and on the remaining Tuesdays of each month at 10 a.m., in the Board Room of the Bible and Tract Societies, 104 Yonge Street, Toronto. Members of Auxiliary Societies, or other ladies interested in the work and desiring information, may attend a meeting if introduced by a member of the Board.

Letters concerning the organization of Societies, and all matters pertaining to Home work, are to be addressed to Mrs. Shortreed, 224 Jarvis Street, Toronto. The Home Secretary should be notified *at once* when an Auxiliary or Mission Band is formed.

Letters asking information about missionaries, or any questions concerning the Foreign Field, as to Bible-readers, teachers, or children in the various Mission Schools, should be addressed to Mrs. Harvie, 80 Bedford Road, Toronto.

Letters containing remittances of money for the W.F.M.S. may be addressed to Mrs. W. A. McGaw, Treasurer, Queen's Hotel, Front Street, Toronto.

All requests for life-membership certificates should be sent to Miss Bessie MacMurchy, 254 Sherbourne Street, Toronto, to be accompanied in every case by a receipt from the Treasurer of the Auxiliary into which the fee has been paid.

All correspondence relating to the sending of goods to the North-West, or other Mission fields, will be conducted through the Secretary of Supplies, Mrs. A. Jeffrey, 4 Classic Avenue, Toronto.

All letters to the Board not directly bearing upon work specified in the above departments should be addressed to Mrs. Hugh Campbell, Corresponding Secretary, 220 Richmond Street West, Toronto.

The President's address is, Mrs. Ewart, 540 Church Street, Toronto.

Notices of Prssbyterial meetings intended for the LETTER LEAFLET may be sent to the Editor, Mrs. Geo. Hunter Robinson, 592 Markham Street, Toronto.

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For above apply to Mrs. Telfer, 72 St. Albans Street, Toronto. Postage and express paid.
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1. The year begins with the *May* number. 2. Subscription, 12 cents a year, payable in advance. 3. Subscriptions may begin at any time (one cent a copy), but must end with the *April* number. All orders and money to be sent through the Presbyterian Secretary to Mrs (Aqnes) Telfer, 72 St. Albans Street, Toronto. Payable at Toronto General Post Office.

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