

FOREIGN MISSIONARY TIDINGS

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

THE
WORLD
FOR
CHRIST.



"LO!
I AM WITH
YOU
ALWAYS."

Vol. III. (Old Series, Vol. XV.) TORONTO, APRIL, 1900, No. 12.

NEW SERIES

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.

President's address: Mrs. Shortreed, 236 Bloor St. West, Toronto.

Letters concerning the organization of societies, and all matters pertaining to Home work, are to be addressed to Mrs. Grant, Home Secretary, St. Margaret's College, 403 Bloor Street West, 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, also letters concerning supplies for India, should be addressed to Mrs. Bell, Foreign Secretary, 29 Prince Arthur Ave., Toronto.

All correspondence relating to work in the North-West and British Columbia including supplies, will be conducted through Mrs. A. Jeffrey, Secretary for Indian Work in the North-West and British Columbia, 62 St. George Street, 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.

All requests for life-membership certificates should be sent to Miss Craig 228 Beverley Street, Toronto, to be accompanied in every case by a receipt from the Treasurer of the Auxiliary into which the fee has been paid.

Letters containing remittances of money for the W.F.M.S. may be addressed to Miss Isabella L. George, Treasurer, 277 Jarvis Street, Toronto.

All correspondence relating to the business management of the FOREIGN MISSIONARY TIDINGS—all orders, remittances and changes of address—should be sent to Mrs. Telfer, 72 St. Alban's Street, Toronto.

Notices of Presbyterial meetings intended for the FOREIGN MISSIONARY TIDINGS may be sent to the editor, Mrs. J. MacGillivray, B.A., 72 St. Alban's Street, Toronto

Foreign Missionary Tidings.

Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, Presbyterian Church
in Canada.

(WESTERN DIVISION.)

VOL. IV.

TORONTO, APRIL, 1900.

No. 12

SUBJECTS FOR PRAYER.

April.—Special prayer in prospect of the Annual Meeting: That all the members of our Auxiliaries and Mission Bands may be stimulated to more earnest effort; that their members may be increased, and that each member may be able to consecrate time and money to the work of foreign missions. For all sister societies throughout the world. For missions to the Chinese and Japanese in Canada and the United States.

"And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

"Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world."—Matt. 28 : 18-20.

MISSIONARIES TO THE CHINESE IN CANADA.

SUPPORTED BY THE C.P. CHURCH.

British Columbia—Rev. A. B. Winchester, Mr. Colman, Mr. Ng Man Hing.

Ontario and Quebec—Rev. A. Thomson, M.D.

INCREASE.

Presbyterial Society—

Brandon and Portage la Prairie.. Ogilvie Auxiliary.
Guelph..... Acton, "Victoria" Mission Band.
"..... Hollen Auxiliary.
Whitby..... Bowmanville, St. Paul's Mission
Band.

LIFE MEMBERS.

- Mrs. Keefer, New Edinburgh Church Auxiliary.
 Miss Maggie R. Ferguson, Frankton Auxiliary.
 Miss J. A. Mather, Kincardine Auxiliary.
 Miss Margaret A. Henderson, St. Andrew's Church Auxiliary,
 Niagara Falls.
 Mrs. Catherine Knight, Cypress River Auxiliary.

TREASURER'S STATEMENT.

RECEIPTS.

1900			
Feb.	1.	To balance from last month.....	\$5,424 31
"	2.	" Sherbrooke Auxiliary, Quebec.....	50 00
"	5.	" Chalmers' Church Auxiliary, Quebec.....	100 00
		Stratford and Chatham Presbyterian Societies, for missionary's travelling expenses—refund	6 05
"	5.	" Lanark and Renfrew Presbyterian Society....	2,954 39
"	8.	" Lindsay Presbyterian Society.....	1,432 29
"	8.	" Saugeen Presbyterian Society.....	576 23
"	12.	" Ottawa Presbyterian Society.....	1,425 25
"	13.	" Nelson, B.C., Missionary Society.....	15 00
"	15.	" Bequest of late Hugh Gilchrist, Maxville....	250 00
"	16.	" Chatham Presbyterian Society.....	1,200 00
"	19.	" Glenboro' Presbyterian Society.....	337 08
"	21.	" Westminster Presbyterian Society, B.C.....	327 94
"	22.	" London Presbyterian Society.....	2,237 23
"	26.	" Moosomin Auxiliary, N.W.T.....	14 00
"	27.	" Mrs. John Thunder's sewing class.....	10 00
			\$16,359 77

EXPENDITURE.

Feb.	6.	By postage, Secretary for Indian Work.....	\$2 10
"	7.	" Ewart Missionary Training Home.....	200 00
"	8.	" Rev. R. H. Warden, D.D.....	8,000 00
"	8.	" Postage, life memberships.....	64
"	8.	" Postage, Home Secretary.....	2 75
"	21.	" Special medical treatment (Miss Turnbull)..	\$75 00
"	21.	" Paid for draft.....	25
"	28.	" Balance on hand.....	8,079 03
			\$16,359 77

ISABELLA L. GEORGE, Treasurer.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

With this issue we close the 24th year of our existence, and reach on towards our semi-jubilee. Special seasons suggest special opportunities. How may we show the reality of our gratitude for the years of success that have passed? Would we not answer, By greater usefulness in the Master's work? "If we mean only little things for God, we will have little trouble in doing them, and if we mean less things than that we will have no trouble at all; but if God has put a great thought into our hearts it will mean a sacrifice, a battle." God's Kingdom will come just in proportion as we put forth effort to bring it in. Let this effort be a noble one. Let us seek to bring all the women of our churches into sympathy with missions. There are women in our churches who frankly tell us Foreign Mission work does not appeal to them. It is these we would seek kindly and tactfully to arouse. Not Foreign work alone would we advocate, but rather the *Spirit of Missions*.

The work of our Society as a Foreign Mission body is developing rapidly, and as the work increases we need an increasing number of devoted women in our Auxiliaries willing to use their time, their means, and their influence. Can we refuse the call from India's open door and not push on to tell the Story to those unhappy souls! Can we say no to the pagan tribes in our great North-West who are calling. Show us the way to a nobler life as you have shown to our sister tribes. This in itself is a great Home Work.

The secret of our effort must be more faith in prayer, more personal influence. The whole subject is to come before the Annual Meeting at the Tuesday evening conference. Think over it, pray over it. Come prepared with fresh thoughts, noble impulses. We need enthusiasm, too, if backed by high resolve, unflinching faith in Him under whose banners we serve.

The result of our Famine Fund appeal has so far been gratifying to the Board. Up to date over \$1,700 has come to our Treasurer. By the decision of the Foreign Mission Committee, to whom we are auxiliary, the total Famine Fund is placed in the hands of the Joint Committee of the Presbytery and the Women's Council in India, who will apportion it to the various stations according to the need. The wisdom of this must be easily seen. Were we to specialize our gifts the distribution might be unfair, whereas our wish is to do the greatest good in the best way, so that none of our workers may feel they are individually dependant on the number of friends they have at home for the amount of sympathy and support they will receive in aiding the famine sufferers. The Foreign Mission Committee has notified all the missionaries that special gifts received

by them must be reported to the Treasurer in India, who will deduct the amount from their famine allowance, which virtually means that to send special contributions only causes the missionaries extra trouble in reporting and straightening up accounts. We want to deal EQUALLY and LIBERALLY with all.

Since our last issue the water famine has reached a critical stage at our Indore Mission. There is located the College, Mrs. Johory's school of over sixty girls, Miss Sinclair's Boarding School of almost 100 children, all using the one College well, which by the last mail had only six inches of water in it. Poor India! We utter again and again the prayer, "May God in His mercy send relief soon."

We appeal again to our Auxiliaries and friends for help, adding also the warning note, *Do not take it out of the Auxiliary funds, which are required to meet our Estimates for the year. Make it an extra.* Send subscriptions to the W.F.M.S. Treasurer, Miss George, 277 Jarvis Street, Toronto, who will forward it through Dr. Warden to the Treasurer in India.

From the far East to the far West come liberal gifts for the suffering ones in India. On the same day by the same mail our Treasurer received a contribution from Alberni, B.C., and one from Prince Edward Island. Many touching notes accompanied the letters: "Ten cents, the earnings of a very little boy." A contribution of \$4 is given by some of the poorest children in Stratford (negroes, Syrians, and Italians), who meet every Sunday in the home of one of our Auxiliary members. Also a contribution from the Indians at Portage la Prairie. The letter accompanying reads: "Last Sabbath there were forty Indian men, women and children in church and without exception all contributed. The most gratifying part of it was the genuine interest shown by every one; and we hope the good done by this collection will be felt not only in far-off India, but in the souls of every Indian who has been privileged to help. This is the second gift from the Indians. The first, and previously mentioned, was from the Reserve at Hurricane Hills. The largest contribution up to date is \$243.02.

Miss Campbell's letter on the famine sufferers should be specially interesting to our young people. Interest the children in our work and in the Tidings. Go over the letters and pick out interesting thoughts, and have one of the young people tell it in her own words. Mission Band leaders must be ever on the alert.

The list of our Missionaries in India published in last month's Tidings, was taken from our last Annual Report. We learn, however, from the minutes of the Women's Council in India that Miss

Weir has been transferred from Ujjain to Mhow to assist Miss Leyden. Miss Goodfellow has also been temporarily located at Mhow.

Special notices re the Annual Meeting will be found in this issue. We remind all that are going (delegates or not) to secure a *Railway Certificate*. No matter how near Ottawa you live, every certificate counts. Three hundred are required to secure the reduced rate of single fare. To those coming from the West the reduction means considerable.

The programme is nearing completion and we hope for an inspiring gathering. Besides some of our missionaries on furlough we expect to have with us Miss Blackadder, of Trinidad, supported by the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society (Eastern Division). Miss Blackadder is returning on furlough for the second time after twenty-four years of faithful service among the coolies of Trinidad. We hope also to have with us on the Wednesday evening one or more of the notable missionaries attending the Ecumenical Conference in New York.

A short note from Miss McLeod, Birtle, N.W.T., says: "We just want to let the ladies of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society know how we appreciate the new addition to the building, and what a help it is to the work. I find our nice cupboard and store-room such a comfort. The school work can now be so much better done than ever it was before."

The Tentative programme for Women's Work at the Ecumenical Conference, New York, has come to hand. It is much too long for publication. We only refer to points in it.

On Tuesday morning, April 24th, there will be three simultaneous meetings for discussions on Methods and Problems in the field: I. Evangelistic. II. For Educational Work. III. For Medical Work.

Some of those to take part are: Miss Duncan (Canada Presbyterian W.F.M.S. missionary from Neemuch, India), Miss Belton (Canada Methodist W.F.M.S. missionary from Japan), Miss Baskerville (Canada Baptist W.F.M.S. Missionary, Cocanada, India), Miss Parsons, New York; Mrs. Fairley-Daly, Glasgow, Scotland; Dr. Mary Bryan, India; Dr. Grace Kimball, Turkey, and others.

Tuesday afternoon—Three simultaneous meetings for discussions on Practical Methods and Problems in W.F.M. Work in Home Churches. I. Giving. II. Work for Young Women and Children. III. Literature. Those to take part: Mrs. Moses-Smith (President of Women's Board of the Interior), Mrs. Corbett Hayes, China, and many of the leading women of the American Boards.

Thursday, April 24th—There will be a large general woman's

gathering. Recommendations from the sectional meetings, addresses, valuable papers by Mrs. Moses Smith, of Chicago, on "The Place of Woman's Foreign Missionary Work in the Evangelistic Forces of the Church"; by Mrs. Duncan McLaren, Edinburgh, Scotland, on "The Responsibility of Women in Missionary Work"; Miss Barnes, of London, Eng., on "Literature." Greetings and responses from delegates of all the different societies.

Mrs. Thorburn, whom we appointed to represent the Queensland, Australia, W.F.M.S., is unable to go, and Mrs. Watson, of Hamilton, will take her place.

Subscribers are reminded that the F. M. Tiding's year ends with the April number. All orders for the May issue must be in the hands of the Secretary of Publication not later than April 8. Will Presbyterian Secretaries please see that the printed forms sent them by Mrs. Telfer are filled in and forwarded by the above date. Subscription is now 15c. a year, not 12c. See full explanation in February and March Tidings.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The twenty-third annual meeting of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Presbyterian Church in Canada (Western Division) will be held in Knox Church, Ottawa, on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, May 1, 2 and 3, 1900.

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

On Tuesday afternoon, at 2.30 o'clock, there will be a devotional meeting in the church, at the close of which the Presbyterian reports will be read. Afterwards delegates will be enrolled and billeted. The Nominating Committee will also meet on Tuesday afternoon at the close of the meeting. On Tuesday evening a conference of the Board with Presbyterian Secretaries and Treasurers will be held, beginning at 7.30, at which questions may be asked and subjects of interest to the Society considered.

Presidents', Secretaries', and Treasurers' substitutes will be welcome to the conference, on condition that they are members of the Society they represent. A pink badge will be provided for substitutes. The Board will meet for the election of officers on Thursday morning. Presidents' substitutes are not entitled to vote at this meeting.

CONCERNING DELEGATES.

The following representatives from each Society, in addition to the thirty-six managers, are entitled to entertainment: From the Presbyterian Society, the President, Secretary, and one delegate;

from the Auxiliary, the President or her substitute, and one delegate; from the Mission Band, the President or her substitute.

In accord with Article 8 of General Society Constitution, these delegates must be members of the General Society to be entitled to vote.

The Convener of the Committee on Credentials is Miss Margaret Craig, 228 Beverley 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 Presbyterian Society to which the Auxiliary or Band belongs. Secretaries are particularly requested to forward all delegates' names *early in April*. Those received after April 24th will be given billets upon arrival at Knox Church, Ottawa.

In sending names of delegates, please be particular to state whether or not a billet is desired. In case of any who may not wish to be billeted, the Secretary will kindly forward to Miss Craig the name and address of the friend with whom the delegate expects to stay. Delegates will receive notice from the Billeting Secretary of the names and addresses of their hostesses, *to whom replies should be sent in good time, stating explicitly when possible, the train by which guests may be expected to arrive*. The official billet does not extend beyond the three days of the meeting. It is hoped that in no case will the travelling expenses of delegates be paid out of missionary funds. Where it is found expedient to pay such expenses, a special fund should be provided.

RAILWAY TICKETS.

Instructions to members and delegates attending the Annual Meeting:

1. Please purchase a single full fare ticket through to Ottawa, OBTAINING, AT THE SAME TIME, FROM THE TICKET AGENT A STANDARD CERTIFICATE, AND WRITE YOUR OWN NAME LEGIBLY ON THIS CERTIFICATE.

2. If you cannot buy a through ticket, BE CAREFUL TO OBTAIN A CERTIFICATE FOR ALL TICKETS BOUGHT AT JUNCTION POINTS.

3. All, whether delegates or not, can avail themselves of this reduction, and it is requested that everyone will bring a certificate, even if the journey be very short, so that, 300 certificates being received, the benefit of the one fare rate may be procured for all.

4. Kindly hand certificates to the Railway Secretary upon arrival at the meeting. Tickets are good from April 27th to May 7th.

PRESBYTERIAL REPORTS.

Lindsay.—The annual meeting was held in the Presbyterian Church, Cannington, on Thursday, January 18th. All but two of the

twenty-one Auxiliaries were represented. Mrs. Ross, the President, presided throughout the meeting. The morning session was devoted entirely to business. The following officers were appointed for 1900: President, Mrs. Ross, Lindsay; Vice-Presidents, 1st, Miss Robinson, Beaverton; 2nd, Mrs. McDonald, Glenarm; 3rd, Mrs. Sinclair, Fenelon Falls; 4th, Mrs. Frankish, Uxbridge; Secretary, Mrs. Horn, Lindsay; Secretary of Supplies, Mrs. Stewart, Lindsay; Secretary of Literature, Mrs. Duncan, Woodville; Mission Band Secretary, Mrs. Baldwin, Sunderland; Treasurer, Mrs. Walker, Uxbridge. In regard to the notice of motion in the October Tidings to be considered by the different Presbyterials the following was decided: It is the opinion of delegates to the annual meeting, but we would suggest that cheap boarding houses be provided by the Billeting Committee for all delegates. We would also suggest that Article 8 remain the same.

At the afternoon session the reports of the Auxiliaries and Mission Bands were read by their respective secretaries. The general tenor of these reports was encouraging—a membership of 605, with an average attendance of about 300. Contributions were \$1,432.29. The money was dedicated to God in prayer by Miss Robinson, Beaverton. This was followed by a paper on "The Power of Prayer," by Mrs. McMillan, Woodville. Extracts of letters received from Miss Sinclair and Mrs. Nugent, two of our workers in India, were read, after which an address was given on "The Condition of Women in India," by Rev. J. Wilkie.

Two solos and a chorus from the Cannington Mission Band were given. In the evening a public meeting was held, which was addressed by Rev. J. Wilkie.

London.—The sixteenth annual meeting was held in Knox Church, St. Thomas, on January 31st and February 1st. The President, Mrs. McMillan, in the chair. There was a large representation of delegates. The summary of the year's work as shown by the secretaries was, on the whole, very encouraging. Two new Auxiliaries and one Band have been added, making a total of 56 Auxiliaries and 19 Bands; also four new life members. The offerings for the year are \$2,922.52, slightly in excess of last year. The educational and aggressive work accomplished through our Missionary Tidings is very gratifying, many reports alluding to the benefit derived from this source. Nine hundred and twenty copies are in circulation, being greatly in advance of last year. One noticeable feature of the work is the growing interest in preparing the clothing: 4,270 pounds, valued at \$1,677.75, were sent to the Industrial Schools. Very few failed to contribute, while the useful gifts from the Bands show plainly the pleasure it gives them to fulfil the words of the Master, "I was naked, and ye clothed Me."

A suggestive paper was read on Mission Band Work by Mrs. Bethune, also a paper on Syria as a mission field by Miss Webster. These papers are to be distributed among the Auxiliaries. Miss Laidlaw, of Portage la Prairie, gave an instructive talk on work in our North-West Industrial Schools. In the evening addresses were given by the Presbytery delegate, Rev. Mr. Reede, and Rev. Mr. Wilkie on "Educational Work in India." The officers for 1900 are: President, Mrs. McMillan, London; Vice-Presidents, Mrs. Currie, Belmont; Miss McColl, Westminster; Mrs. McKenzie, South London; Mrs. Reede, St. Thomas; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. McKenzie, St. Thomas; Recording Secretary, Miss Murray, Aylmer; Treasurer, Mrs. Thompson, London; Secretary of Supplies, Miss Hopkirk, London.

Toronto.—The fifteenth annual meeting was held in Knox Church on the 23rd of February. The first half-hour was a devotional session, and presided over by Mrs. Parsons, of Knox Church. The business meeting opened at 10.30 a.m. with Mrs. Gray, the Presbyterial President, in the chair. The growth of the Presbyterial is shown in the Secretary's report. When it was organized in 1885 it had 12 Societies, 7 Auxiliaries and 5 Mission Bands; in 1900 it has 91 Societies, 55 Auxiliaries and 36 Mission Bands. Nearly all reports speak of a growing interest in the work. The contributions for the year were \$5,895.04, and the number of "Tidings" circulated, 2,476. Over 4,000 pounds of clothing, valued at \$1,125.25, had been sent to eight stations in the North-West. The library has been of great help.

The motion to reduce the representation at the annual meeting was voted against, and it was agreed that could difficulties be removed the communion be dispensed at the annual meeting. The afternoon meeting was opened by Mrs. Ball, and addresses by Mrs. Shortreed on the International Union, the origin and growth, and that of Miss Dougan on work in India were listened to with pleasure; also a solo by Mrs. Douglas. The closing words were given by Mrs. Amos, of Aurora, who urged the meeting to be much in prayer for our missionaries. A standing vote of thanks was given to the retiring President, Mrs. Gray, for her long and faithful service in the Presbyterial. The officers for 1900 are: President, Mrs. Gregory; Vice-Presidents, Mrs. Gray, Mrs. Frizzell, Mrs. McMurrich, Mrs. Brown, Agincourt; Secretary, Miss Haig; Treasurer, Miss Reid; Supply Secretary, Miss Bradshaw; "Tidings" Secretary, Miss Crombie; Library Secretary, Miss Cavan.

Brockville.—The fifteenth annual meeting was held at Spencer-ville, February 26th and 27th. The President, Mrs. Dowsley, presided. A large number of delegates were present. Each one re-

ceived a copy of the lealet, entitled, "Ten Ways of Giving." The first session was devoted to business. The officers elected for the ensuing year are as follows: Honorary President, Mrs. Blair, Prescott; President, Miss Dowsley, Prescott; Vice-Presidents, Mrs. MacAlister, Iroquois; Mrs. McDougall, Spencerville; Mrs. MacArthur, Cardinal; Mrs. McLennan, Brockville; Mrs. Macfarland, South Mountain; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Gow, Cardinal; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Becksteadt, Prescott; Treasurer, Mrs. M. C. Gibson, Morrisburg. It was the decision of the meeting that the motion of the Huron Presbyterial be agreed to; also that the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper be dispensed at the annual meeting on the afternoon of the first day if it can be accomplished. Tuesday morning's session was devoted to the reading of the reports of Auxiliary and Mission Bands. The afternoon session was opened by a responsive Scripture reading led by Mrs. MacAlister. Mrs. Blair read an interesting paper, "Touring Among the Auxiliaries." The Mission Band of Spencerville gave a beautiful missionary exercise. Addresses were given on Mission Band work by Mrs. MacArthur, Cardinal, and Miss Mundle, Kemptville; closing words on loyalty by Mrs. Becksteadt Prescott.

The public meeting in the evening was largely attended. Rev. W. J. Bryan, B.A., presided. The Secretary's report showed an increase of two Auxiliaries, one new life membership. Seven bales of clothing, weighing 1,000 pounds, and valued at \$33, were sent to Okanase Mission. Five hundred and fifty copies of "Foreign Mission Tidings" are taken. Contributions for the year were \$1,669.88. Of this, \$1,600 was voted to the General Society, \$100 more than last year. Stirring addresses were given by Rev. J. Chisholm, Rev. Mr. Currie, of Perth, and Mr. A. C. Copeland (from the Yukon). Miss Jessie Martin gave a recitation on "India" in costume.

Ottawa.—The thirteenth annual meeting was held in St. Andrew's Church, Ottawa, on Tuesday, February 6th. The President, Mrs. Hay, presided at the morning and afternoon meetings. The business meeting in the morning was well attended, and the reports of Auxiliaries and Mission Bands were read by delegates present. The officers elected were: President, Mrs. Hay, Ottawa; Vice-Presidents, Mrs. A. G. E. Robertson, Kenmore; Miss Parker, Aylmer; Mrs. Hennessey, Poltimore; Mrs. Crombie, Fort Coulonge; Treasurer, Miss E. H. Gibson; Secretary, Miss H. E. Durie; Secretary of Supplies, Mrs. Crannell. A large number assembled in the afternoon. The meeting was opened with devotional exercises. The reports of Presbyterial Secretary, Treasurer and Secretary of Supplies were presented, and, while some notes of discouragement were sounded, there was much to give thanks for in the work of the year. After the adoption of reports Miss Harmon dedicated the offering to the

Lord in prayer. Amount sent to General Treasurer, \$1,595.81; value of nine bales of goods sent to Alberni, \$616.08. A most impressive and earnest address from Mrs. Hay was the chief feature of the afternoon session. Mrs. Gardner conducted a very interesting exercise given by the Juvenile Mission Band of Bank Street Church. Mrs. Alexander took charge of the Question Drawer, and Mrs. Ross gave a few earnest closing words on "Prayer." The advisability of having an Exchange Bureau was brought before the meeting by Mrs. Gardner. It was decided to establish one, and Miss Evans, of Ottawa, was asked to take charge. In the evening a public meeting was held in connection with the Presbytery of Ottawa, when another very interesting Mission Band exercise was given by the Paton Band of Knox Church, and earnest and eloquent addresses were given by the Rev. John MacNichol, of Aylmer, and the Rev. R. P. Mackay, F.M. Secretary, Toronto.

W. F. M. S. FAMINE FUND. SUBSCRIPTION LIST.

FEB.

Previously acknowledged, \$169.65.	
12—W.F.M.S. Chalmers' Ch., Elora.	\$ 7 50
"—W.F.M.S., Treherne, Manitoba.	11 40
"—Mrs. Cameron, Allandale.	4 00
"—"In His Name"	1 00
"—A friend of the needy.	1 00
"—For the famine fund.	1 00
16—Mrs. M. Ferguson, Cayuga.	1 00
"—Senior M. B. McNab, St. Ch., Hamilton.	1 00
17—"A friend", Chatham.	10 00
"—W.F.M.S., St. Andrew's Ch., Sherbrooke.	1 00
"—Margaret P. Kirkwood, "The Grange".	40 00
19—Miss Snively, Toronto.	2 00
"—W.F.M.S., Knox Ch., Dundas.	129 08
"—Anonymous. For the famine in India.	1 00
"—J. A. H., St. Catharines.	2 00
20—For the famine fund.	1 00
"—Earnings of a very little boy.	10
"—W.F.M.S., Woodville, additional.	4 00
"—W.F.M.S., St. Andrew's Scott.	16 40
"—W.F.M.S., John St. Ch., Belleville.	45 00
"—Wardrope Aux. and Chalmers' Ch., Guelph.	38 00
"—Mrs. K. Cameron, Alberni, B.C.	5 00
"—A mite from a woman of Prince Edward Island.	1 00
"—St. John's Aux., Almonte.	36 00
"—M. S., Toronto.	10 00

FEB.

"—Mrs. Catharine McClain, Toronto.	4 00
"—Mrs. Thos. Bryce, Toronto.	3 00
22—Two sympathizers, London.	2 00
"—Strabane Aux.	12 66
"Members of Knox Ch. Aux., Woodstock.	10 00
"Members of Young Ladies' Band, Knox Ch., Woodstock.	2 00
"—Mrs. Helen McEwen, Carelton Place.	5 00
"—Junior M.B., St. Andrew's Ch., Belleville.	5 00
23—"A friend"	5 00
"—Robert Steele, Clifford.	2 00
"—Auxiliary and Mission Bands, Stanley Ch., Ayr.	6 80
24—W.F.M.S., Caledonia.	33 60
"—W. F. M. S., Woodville. Additional.	4 00
"—A member of the Missionary Society, Millbrook.	1 00
"—W.F.M.S. St. Paul's, Peterboro'.	66 00
"—Eversley and Temperanceville Aux. and "Mispah" Mission Band, Eversley.	5 00
26—W.F.M.S., Ailsa Craig.	34 65
"—W.F.M.S., Knox Ch., Dundas, additional.	12 38
"—Miss M. Mitchell, Milton.	1 00
27—Mrs. Margaret I. Campbell, Embro.	1 00
"—W.F.M.S., St. John's Ch., Hamilton.	58 55

FEB.

"—Wardrope Aux. and Chalmer's Ch., Guelph, additional.....	\$46 55
"—Mrs. G. H. Robinson.....	1 00
"—Sunshine Weavers M. B., Leslieville, Toronto.....	2 00
28—Centreville Aux. South Monaghan.....	13 25
"—For the famine.....	71
"—Members of W. F. M. S., 1st Pres. Ch., Chatham.....	2 00
"—Mrs. J. M. McKay, Harriston... ..	2 00
"—Congregation and W.F.M.S., Zephyr.....	19 35

MAR.

1—From a friend.....	1 00
"—W.F.M.S. and a few friends, Moosomin.....	12 50
"—M.B. and boys in S. S. Class, Burnstown.....	7 00
"—A Friend, Renfrew.....	1 00
"—W.F.M.S., Knox Ch., Dundas, additional.....	101 56
"—W.F.M.S., St. John's Ch., Hamilton, additional.....	58 00
"—Mr. W. A. Mackay, Renfrew	10 00
"—Mrs. W. A. Mackay, Renfrew	10 00
"—W.F.M.S., St. Paul's, Hamilton	28 25
"—Mrs. Aman's Class, Stratford.. ..	4 00
"—W.F.M.S., Woodville, additional.....	3 00
"—W.F.M.S., Treherne, Manitoba, additional.....	11 80
1—St. Andrew's W.F.M.S., Toronto.....	32 60
6—"—Miss Scott, Toronto.....	10 00
"—Mrs. Knox, Drumbo.....	25 00
"—Mrs. J. Moore Hart, Toronto... ..	1 00
"—Mrs. Alex. Hunter, Cheltenham	1 00
"—Mrs. M. Holmes, Winchester... ..	1 00
"—Indians at Portage la Prairie... ..	8 00
"—Mrs. E. Brown, Portage la Prairie.....	2 00
7—Wardrope Aux. and Chalmer's Ch., Guelph, additional.....	30 80
"—Mrs. Bleakley, Bowmanville... ..	4 00
"—W.F.M.S., Heathcote.....	10 00
"—Mrs. Elder, Toronto.....	50
"—Mrs. R. Wilson, Toronto.....	5 00
"—Three members of Y.W.M.B., Knox Ch., St. Thomas.....	3 00
"—Mrs. Nisbet, Toronto.....	2 00
"—For Famine Fund, J.M.R., Toronto.....	5 00
8—Agnes Gow, Cardinal.....	2 00
"—W.F.M.S., Woodville, additional.....	2 00
"—Mrs. Haig, Millbank.....	1 00
"—Miss Haig, Millbank.....	1 00
"—Mrs. J. R. Wissler, Salem.....	2 00
"—Mrs. A. Derby, Vickers.....	1 00

MAR.

"—Miss Anderson, O'Hara Ave....	\$1 50
"—Mrs. J. Norwich and children, Sorauren Ave.....	5 50
"—For the famine sufferers in India.....	10 00
"—Sunnidale Corners, Sabbath School.....	5 00
"—Some members St. Andrew's Aux., Sarnia, and a few friends	21 00
"—A member of Knox Ch., Hamilton.....	1 00
"—Laurie Wilson, Toronto.....	1 00
"—Collected at a meeting of the Auxiliaries of Farrington, St. Andrew's, Zion Ch., and First Ch., Brantford, addressed by Miss Duncan.....	60 00
8—"—R. B. Morier, Brantford.....	2 00
10—"—Grant's School Aux. W.F.M.S.	9 75
"—Grant's School Mission Band	3 10
"—A.C.K., Sunnyside.....	3 00
"—Mr. J. E. Amos, West McGillivray.....	1 00
"—A Sympathizer, Morrisburg.....	1 00
"—Y.W.S. Chalmers' Ch. Kingston	5 00
"—W.F.M.S., Chalmers' Ch. Kingston.....	11 00
"—A member of Cooke's Ch., Kingston.....	1 00
"—Beulah, W.F.M.S., Williams-town.....	5 00
"—W.F.M. Worker.....	1 00
"—"Fear Not," M. B., Smithville	8 00
"—Few Members of St. Andrew's Aux., Ottawa.....	20 00
12—"—J. Knowles, jr., Toronto.....	1 00
"—Miss Saunders, Toronto.....	2 00
"—Miss Lynn, Belleville.....	2 00
"—Mrs. Tennant, Belleville.....	1 00
"—Mrs. Chisholm, ".....	1 00
"—Mrs. M. A. Northcott, Belleville	55
"—Mrs. Maclean, ".....	1 00
"—Mrs. J. L. Biggar, ".....	5 00
"—"In His Name," Morrisburg	3 00
1—"—W.F.M.S., Paris, additional.....	9 30
"—W.F.M.S. and Pansy, M. B., Lakefield.....	6 07
"—Margaret Fergusson, Cayuga... ..	5 00
"—John Fergusson, ".....	1 00
"—Mrs. Frost, Smith's Falls.....	5 00
13—"—W.F.M.S., Knox Ch., St. Mary's	10 00
"—W.F.M.S., Aurora.....	16 00
"—Thousand Island M.B., St. Andrew's Ch., Gananoque.....	3 10
"—W.F.M.S., Gravenhurst.....	14 00
"—W.F.M.S., St. James' Sq. Ch. Toronto.....	193 55

Total received up to March 13 \$1,758 06
Paid Rev. R. H. Warden, D.D., 1,758 06

THE FAMINE IN INDIA.

BY REV. J. WILKIE, INDORE.

CAUSE.—1st. Indirect. Hinduism is directly responsible for much of the poverty of the people. A large part of the people are always in debt, and so living on the verge of starvation on account of the heavy expenses they must incur in their marriages, etc. One in every ten of the people live by begging, which is an honorable profession there. It has been estimated that over 40,000,000 in ordinary seasons do not have more than one scanty meal a day.

2nd. Direct. The failure of the rains. Throughout our district we receive nearly our whole supply of rain in the months of July and August. This year almost none fell till towards the end of August, and altogether less than a third of the quantity we usually receive. Two crops are usually raised each year. The first is sown before the rains come on, and comes to maturity about the time the rain ceases. This is the crop that yields the principal food of the common people—the Indian corn, millet, etc. The second crop is sown in September, and depends on the water in the soil and the heavy dews that follow the rains. This is the time the wheat is sown.

This year both of these crops were almost a total failure. It was hoped that rains might fall in November or December, and so save in part the wheat crop; but in this the people were disappointed, and so followed of necessity the famine.

EXTENT.—In and all around our own mission field, north, east, south and west, in a district where are over 60,000,000. Already to-day over 5,000,000 are dependant on charity, and, as we can look for no crop till the next rainfall—July or August at soonest—the condition must of necessity become worse all the time. A large district where famine has not before been known is to-day suffering seriously, and if help is not sent soon many must of necessity die. The Government is trying to do what it can, and many of its officers making most self-sacrificing efforts to relieve the people. But the work is too great for the Indian Government, and an appeal is now made to Christian people to come to the rescue.

At first in our own field the cry for help came from those who flocked into our field from Rajputana to the north; and, though many of these have been taken back by the Princes to their own territory, many of these still remain in Central India. Some of these have been so pauperized that they refused to work, and were able to live by begging; but to-day the difficulty has become very much more serious. The food supply in Malwa has begun to give out, and so the people of Malwa itself are suffering seriously. For months the price of grain has been three times what it is in ordinary seasons, but the supply of work has largely failed except in the few relief

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camps that have been opened, where they obtain only sufficient to barely preserve life.

In addition to the want of food they are face to face with a water famine. Already our poor Christians in Indore have to buy what water they use. The river has dried up. In the Residency of Indore, with nearly 10,000 people, there are only two wells giving water. One of these is the well in the college compound. One month ago I heard there were three feet of water, but by last mail this was reduced to six inches! And yet the hot season, with its hot, scorching winds is only just beginning. It is hard to see what can be done, as the nearest large river is nearly fifty miles to the south of Indore, and it will be a costly effort to bring water from there by railway for those on the railway; and what for those living at any distance from it? Already cattle are dying by hundreds, and so the poor people will not be able to plough or cultivate the land, even when the rain falls. Many have already died from amongst the people, and those who are saved will be so reduced in strength that it will be some time before they will be able to do much.

What especially appealed to me during the last famine was the condition of the poor children. Thousands of orphans were left, some not more than 4 or 5 years old. The parents literally sacrificed their lives in their efforts to save the lives of their children. The horrid traffic in girls that the fiends in human form carried on made one indignant and anxious to save as many of them as possible. This is a subject that cannot be described, but yet the suggestion is enough to lead us to desire to save at least some of them; and especially so as we see the condition of those saved in the last famine. Some have been taken home after giving the most emphatic testimony to the power of Christ to save, and the greater part of those with us give promise of being useful workers in the mission. The missionaries of the United Presbyterian Mission to the north of us say that the famine children saved in 1877 have proved the backbone of the mission. This, we believe, will be the result with us also. A large number of them have been baptized, and show by their lives that no mistake was made in doing this. All are taught to earn a living for themselves, and so, if spared, will be useful members of the community and a support to the cause where they may be, whilst some of them will be active mission agents, that will amply repay in work all the Church has expended on them.

And then what of the object lesson to the heathen around us? What a contrast to the spirit of their own religion! Mrs. Johory's Industrial Home at Indore is a better sermon, and appeals to a larger number than any dozen of evangelists can preach: and it is there all the time before the people, who know what the children were when brought in, and what a change this Christian effort has wrought.

God is to-day speaking very loudly to India, calling it to repent-

ance and faith in the one true God. Is He not also speaking to the Christian world? May God help us to help them, and through them ourselves.

SUBJECT FOR MONTH.

CHRISTIAN CHINESE IN MONTREAL.

FROM MRS. THOMSON.

March 12, 1900.

If any of you have the March, 1899, number of the Tidings, kindly re-read the article, "Chinese Homes in Montreal," on page 331, to revive your memory relative to our families here.

Mrs. Lung's circle is increased by another little boy. He also has been given to God. Like his little brother, he is developing rapidly. Ah Dong, the older boy, a child of almost two years, displays an intense passion for books, pictures and reading. It is difficult to teach his mother unless I can find him asleep. He wants to receive as much instruction as she does to learn the words pointed out and pronounced for him, and will repeat them very plainly. He never wearies, no matter how long a time is spent over the lessons. He will drop anything he has in his hands and run to the book when it is brought out. These remarkably gifted brothers belong to our God. Will you not pray the Holy Spirit to take full possession of them, that Christ's thirst for the salvation of souls may be satisfied, and some of China's perishing people be blessed.

In the Heung family there is also another child, a little girl. How changed in appearance are both this mistress and slave girl since they have accepted our Lord Jesus! Their conversation and their dress are now so different. They are much interested in church, Sunday School and week-day religious meetings. Mrs. Heung's first clothes of Canadian pattern showed Oriental taste in choice of colors. Her felt hat was of brightest red, her dress of bright purple. I am interested to watch the constant development and change in taste since she is allowed to mingle with Christian people. Before purchasing this winter she said to me: "I think I will give my red hat to Ah T'soi (the servant), retrim it for her, and buy a black one for myself. I am ashamed to wear the red now. It will be all right for her, a young girl, but the mother of three children. I think, looks best in black. I notice all the Chinese Christian mothers wear dark clothes." She bought a black dress, too, and made over the purple for the girl, taming it down with dark trimming.

The merchant, with wife and adopted son, have just left here for Richmond, where we should be glad to have Christian people inter-

ested in them. Another eighteen-year-old wife is with her husband in one of our Christian boarding houses, hoping soon to go to New York, where his business is established. Both of them are attending our schools while waiting. If any of these people are near you, and uninstructed, ask our Lord if He calls you to teach them. If He does, and you accept the call, the work will prove to be a great privilege and honor. I am often astonished to find how unwilling some people are, who are apparently enthusiasts regarding foreign missions, to have anything to do with the heathen when they are in their own land at their side. Incidents related regarding the conversion of these Chinese and their Christian conduct, told of them when in China, would move to tears the same persons who are more than in different to the self-same individuals if they are met in our streets or in our churches. There is a difference between sentimentalism and personal, practical labor. These Chinese are worth working for. Many noble traits have we seen developed in them by the Holy Spirit. Many noble deeds have we seen them do. Untruthful, unreliable, tricky, indeed, they are as heathen, but the Gospel is the power of God to salvation to every one that believeth." Not only salvation from the penalty of sin, but from its power. "Thou shalt call His name Jesus, for He shall save His people from their sins."

Our Chinese Christian Endeavor Society is now our greatest encouragement in the work here. It is well attended, has some aggressive members, and we feel the Holy Spirit is using it as a blessing.

In closing I must give you an instance, displaying Christian character, that could be many times multiplied did time and space permit. The incident is connected with the beginning of our work in China when we lived in Canton as missionaries. Our first Chinese servant was a Christian man. He became such when living with a missionary family. About seven years he served them, half of the time away from China, as ill-health obliged his employers to return to their native land, whither he and his wife accompanied them. The wife was nurse to the missionary's children. He had become acquainted with her in that home, and married her, as he told us in his Oriental parlance, "because he loved her heart." He said her face was not pretty, a fact proved by the photograph of her he cherished. It was because of her death he was obliged to return to China with his two little sons, that his mother might take care of them. This widowed mother, his brothers, sister and their families throughout were heathen, and he was longing and praying for their conversion. An older brother was a teacher by profession, but poor health obliged his leaving his school. We permitted him to live with his relative, our servant, in order to daily attending our family prayers and be under Christian influence. He was very fond of reading and study, was, of course, given a Bible, and at the end of six months was a Christian, con-

verted through constant study of two Gospels, those according to Luke and John.

After he had been examined by the Session of the church, and was to receive baptism the following Sunday, making public profession of his faith in our Lord, we thought best to give him an inexpensive suit of cotton clothes, as his best were very much worn and faded, and we knew he could buy no others. I spoke on the subject to his brother, and immediately saw he was much embarrassed. He did not want to hurt our feelings by refusing an offer intended kindly, and yet evidently did not want the garments; so with thanks he said: "You know our mother is not a Christian, and I am hoping much will be accomplished by Ah Fook's baptism."

Of course we immediately understood his position, but to draw him out more fully said: "Yes, but Ah Fook does not know of our intention. He has already been received by the officers of the church, and expects to be publicly received in his old clothes." "Ah, yes," was the reply; "we know this, but my mother would never believe it." So, for the sake of his influence for Christ the old clothes were rewashed and mended and worn. The new ones were never obtained as a gift.

It is a year since I addressed you. Through all these months we have earnestly desired to have your prayers for us as missionaries, for the superintendents and teachers in our schools, for the poor, needy people for whom we work. We know there are people who include us in their ministry of intercession. Will you, dear women, also remember us.

JAPANESE IN THE UNITED STATES.

As far back as 1885 there were some 2,500 Japanese resident on the Pacific coast. Mission work was begun among them by the Presbyterian Board, Dr. and Mrs. Sturge, formerly of the Siam Mission being the first to take charge of this branch of work. The Japanese who came to California at first were students, but more recently there have been laborers, farm hands, artisans, etc., many of the students having returned home. Japanese women are also coming, and schools for them and for children are being opened. More than half of the whole number of these immigrants are persons who have been baptized by missionaries in Japan, so that the character of this immigration is quite different from the Chinese. These newcomers frequently bring letters from the church in Japan to the Presbyterian Mission, and are at once commended to the care of the Y.M.C. Association in San Francisco. A Japanese church has been formed, and is ministered to by a licentiate of the United Church of Christ in Japan. It has received altogether 216 members.

The Board has no more promising work than that among the Japanese of San Francisco. The entire expense, except for the salaries of the missionary and his assistants, is borne by the young men themselves. In the Japanese Y. M. C. Association there are 100 young men, each of whom pays \$6 yearly toward the work of the institution. A dormitory in this building accommodates thirty-five men. A second home on Sacramento Street is filled and well supported by the young men. Two preaching services, two Sunday Schools, and meetings for prayer are held every Sunday. Bible classes, temperance societies and Y.M.C. Associations have been started in various places on the coast. The Japanese Consul has shown much interest in the different branches of work.—Woman's Occidental Board.

LETTERS FROM OUR MISSIONARIES.

India.

LITTLE CHILDREN RESCUED FROM THE FAMINE. Story of Swazi, Munnl and others.

FROM MISS CAMPBELL, NEEMUCH, C.I.

The industrial work that has been thrust upon us in the home here is baby farming. We had until yesterday ten babies in arms. Then little Champa passed away, tired out with the struggle for life. After coming among us she seemed to get quite strong, and was able to toddle about, eating and sleeping well, when suddenly she had a sort of relapse, lingered a week and then passed away.

Up to the present we have taken in fifty-seven people. Of these, sixteen girls were sent to the American Presbyterian Mission, some died, some were sent to work, some went away again, and the rest are with us. We have sixty-six in the Home now, and seven in a small house on the compound, where we take in and clean up. Those who after a time do not care to stay with us are free to go away. There is a good deal of sameness in the stories of those who come. Their parents die or desert them. They wander about begging till they hear of us or some one brings them the policeman, who has been set apart for the purpose of picking up deserted children in the bazaar. There are a few, however, who are more interesting. Little Swazi, for instance. Her father (an old man) gave her up. He asked leave to stay till the rain should come; then he would return to his village, some hundreds of miles to the north of us. We had no shelter for him but the shed, which was certainly warmer than the open fields, where he had lain so long. He was very weak and ill, and we sent him afterwards to the charitable hospital, where they

refused to take him, and he was sent on to the poorhouse. The cart-driver said he jumped out and ran away, but we think they left him on the road on finding the distance to the poorhouse greater than they expected. We sent a man to seek him, but he was not to be seen. Swazi was so weak that she could hardly walk. Very soon the matron said: "Swazi will not live the day out; her feet are swelling." So in order to let her die in peace away from the noise of the Home, where they are all crowded together, we brought her to the back verandah, where it was warm and sunny. She, however, revived, and was brought into my study, and nursed there till strong enough to return to the Home. She is a mere shadow, but is slowly coming back to strength.

Another child was brought by the Chamar School teacher. He was returning home from school across the fields, and saw a scrap of humanity, about a year old, that had been thrown away to die or be devoured by wild beasts. There was really nothing of her to devour, however, for she was only skin and bone. Her limbs were mere brown sticks. She, too, was suffering from ophthalmia. He had her brought here; but we did not think she would live till morning. However, we burned her dirty rags, warmed and fed her, wrapped her in a blanket, and put her in a box in a corner. Next day she was bathed, dressed and named Munni. In a day or two she was strong enough to cry for food, and now she can laugh and crow, showing four white teeth.

Our policeman last Friday evening, which was very cold, sent in his salaams, saying he had brought another child. On going to the door he said: "I've brought a boy." "Oh," we said; "call the watchman. We'll send him to Mrs. Wilson. She takes in the boys." "But, Miss Sahiba," he returned, "it's a very small boy." We had mistaken the boy who carried the child for "the boy" who was lying in a bundle of old clouts on the ground. Turning back the rags we were horrified to see a tiny morsel—oh! so small, and so thin and so ghastly, who looked like a little old man. He opened his mouth wide, then began sucking the rags that had touched his wee, wizened face. The policeman enjoyed our consternation, and chuckled when we exclaimed, "What shall we do with it?" "Well," he said, salaaming respectfully, "Massi-ji" has just scolded me for bringing it here, but there's no one else who would care for it; and have you not told me to bring waifs here? I found it in the bazaar; the mother deserted it." What a hard-hearted mother, to desert a little child of three or four months! Rebecca Bai was still looking black, although had she seen it cast away in the street she would have been the very one to pick it up and care for it. It certainly was a puzzling question: a tiny child, homeless and starving and cold, and no place to put it. Already we were full to overflowing; already we had turned the cookroom into a nursery, and were cooking out of doors in the

sun, already we had told off all the cleverest girls for nurses to the injury of the rest of the work; but God had sent him to us, and we dared not refuse. So we introduced him to the nursery. He was given into the hands of the most capable girl, who rubbed him up with cocoanut oil, encased him in cotton batting, and pinned him up in flannel. His head, too, was done up in batting, and he was laid away in a box. The girls, to judge by the peals of laughter, thought it a sort of Barnum's show, and he certainly did look funny. They called him the Budha (old man). Then someone suggested Rui Lal, because he was rolled up in cotton, which name has stuck. Rui means cotton and Lal is a term of endearment. Rui Lal still lives, and, judging by his capacity for food, is likely to be a big man yet.

Yesterday a younger than he arrived, a wee girlie, 12 days old. Miss Landon saw her in the State Poorhouse. Finding that the mother was dead, and the aunt not caring for her properly, she asked for and obtained permission to take her away. But a difficulty arose regarding the accounting for the child. They did not like to write in their books, "Given to the missionaries"; it could not be reported, "Escaped," so they let the aunt come with her, and, I suppose, entered both as "Discharged." She also was assigned a box, a corner and a nurse in the nursery, and we trust she may prove a worthy possessor of the worthy name, "Asa" (hope).

THE FAMINE OUTLOOK DARK.

FROM MISS M'KELLAR.

Neemuch, C.I., Feb. 2, 1900.

The outlook for the next seven or eight months is blacker than we thought it would be a few months ago. Then we were all looking forward expectantly for the winter showers, but they, too, have failed completely, so there is nothing for us but to make the best of one of the worst famines that India has ever experienced.

We are buying wheat here just now at the rate of \$1.25 per bushel. You will understand from this how hard it is for the millions who are earning only from two to four cents a day on relief works to buy enough food to satisfy their hunger. There are over three and a half millions of people on relief work already. What the number will be by next June I dare not conjecture.

This is the season when we are accustomed to see the fields in Malwa all ablaze with the bright-colored poppy flower, but this year, with the exception of two or three little patches near some good wells, there is nothing to look at but the hard, chapped, brown fields, without a twig of any green thing; nor can there be a harvest of anything until after the rains break in June.

We don't begin to have the crowds of wanderers round about

that we had two and three months ago, as thousands of them have been sent back to the states from which they came. Thousands more are on relief works and in relief camps. In the Neemuch relief camp there are over 3,000 souls now, but still there are many needing our help. It is sad to see men, women and children driven by starvation to winnowing the dust off the streets, and following heavy-laden carts of wheat in the hope that they may find a few grains to eat. Sadder still is it to see them breaking up the excrement on the roads in the hope of finding some particles of undigested food, which they greedily devour. These are the sights that we see daily and are powerless to help. We do what we can, but after all what is it in the face of so much want and suffering?

BOXES ARRIVE SAFELY.

FROM MISS OLIVER, M.D.

Indore, Feb. 6, 1900.

Just a few lines by this week's mail to let you know that all the mission boxes reached us a few days ago, and in good order. I sent on those for the other stations, and they, too, will have reached their destination, been opened, and the contents rejoiced over. My share was most satisfactory and acceptable, as our stock of bandages had run very low. Please give my most hearty thanks to all who had a share in providing, and also to those of you who had the by no means light task of packing and sending off the boxes. What a beautiful supply of dolls, or rather I should say, what a supply of beautiful dolls!

FROM MISS M'KELLAR, M.D.

Neemuch, C.I., Feb. 8, 1900.

I am well satisfied with my share of the mission box, which arrived this week. To my lot fell the autograph quilt and the twenty-four dolls from the "Paisley Block" Mission Band. For the former the children deserve great praise for the time and labor they must have spent on it. The latter I handed over to Miss Campbell for the girls' schools here, as I do not have to bribe my patients with dolls to come to the dispensaries. The bandages, soap, eye-shades, old linen, etc., will do good service in the medical work. Thanks, too, for the bandage roller. It will save many a dollar that was formerly spent on the freight of those most necessary articles.

FROM MISS O'HARA, M.D.

Dhar, Feb. 8, 1900.

The mission box arrived this week, and I am very glad to have it. The bandage roller supplies a long-felt need, and I am very thankful for it. The cloth and bandages were most acceptable, and

the dolls pretty and beautifully dressed. Yesterday I had a prize distribution, and each girl got some cloth in addition to the doll. Many, many thanks to all who in any way contributed to the mission box.

These are sad, sad days in Dhar, and many of the little girls have left school to earn food on the relief works. I was very glad, indeed, to give them the cloth, as the days and nights have been very cold, and these poor things have little to wear.

There are between 30,000 and 40,000 of the people of the Dhar State now on relief work. Water is becoming very scarce, and mortality increasing. I have had eighteen cases of smallpox in the hospital. During three days this week there were four deaths in the hospital. Two of them were cases of smallpox; but the patients were very far spent from hunger before they took the disease. The other two deaths were due entirely to starvation. When the children were brought in they were so weak that they could scarcely swallow fluid. There has been a very cold spell, and I had not sufficient bedding. The State supplied me with two dozen blankets, and also with fifty each of eating and drinking vessels.

My matron has been complaining of ill-health and overwork for some weeks, and a few days ago left me. Constant demands are being made upon our health and sympathies by the cries of distress that are daily heard. Mr. Russell, of Mhow, is still in hospital, and his dear wife needs all her fortitude to bear the strain.

You will have heard ere this of Miss Leyden's ill-health and early return to Canada.

We in India need your sympathy and prayers; but these will not feed the hungry, however much they may help the missionary. May our people arise to their privileges.

Indians in the Northwest and British Columbia.

JUST BEFORE SEALING TIME WITH THE INDIANS.

FROM MR. SWARTOUT.

Dodger's Cove, B.C., 16, 1900.
 During December I went to Ucluclet with my family, and found it advisable to remain there a few weeks; and rejoice that I was permitted to be with the men before they sailed, for the sealing grounds, whither they have gone earlier this year. Usually it is a very trying time just before sailing, as the men then have plenty of money (advanced), and generally spend a good deal upon whiskey and in gambling. This year they were very quiet—a good omen for the year. I reached Dodger's Cove in time to spend a week or two with the men here before they go. I regret they had just had a bad break—the worst for a couple of years, but they are quiet again now; and I overheard one of their prominent

men speaking to the chief about it to the following effect. He said: "I am anxious now that we become good. Our missionary has got a good house, and is settling down among us, and it is right that we should appreciate it and stop our worthlessness" (referring to the recent outbreak).

Another man wished to petition the whites not to offer to sell them cards and whiskey, as he said these were the things that did them harm. I think there are other things besides these that they should be anxious about, but am glad they are ashamed of even these. The Dhiahto are later than the Ucluclahs this year in getting away to the sealing grounds, but all are going earlier than usual.

I have thought so much during these past few months of the burden a missionary in an "unsuccessful field" has to bear. It is so easy when there are those about you holding up your arms, as Moses' were held, but it is so hard when one has to stand alone, facing a world of darkness. I know there are many praying for us this year, and upon this fact I have high hopes. May we be faithful!

Another joy was to hear an old bed-ridden Indian calmly giving me instructions as to his burial in case he should die suddenly, and asking a Christian burial, such as So-and-So and So-and-So had, whom he mentioned. It was so good to have this old man in such a receptive state for the Gospel story. I love work among children and young people, but my heart yearns for these old ones—for those who will never be greeted as Christ's here on earth, but whom we may meet above as being among the eleventh hour laborers. Two of our elderly men at Dodger's Cove are giving evidences of a true desire to be the Lord's. They are past middle age.

Mr. McKee is well. He has had the burden of building this fall and winter, interfering somewhat with his school, but this will soon be finished.

PROGRESS GREATER THAN EVER.

FROM MRS. J. W. MOORE.

Mistawasis, Jan. 30, 1900.
I thought when Mrs. Jeffrey started off from Mistawasis on that long, hard trip last summer that just as soon as she would arrive home in Toronto I should at once write and tell how much we appreciated her visit, and how much it cheered and encouraged us.

Since then we have had our annual meeting of our Woman's Society, our annual Sunday School examination and our annual congregational meeting, each of which indicated more success and progress than was indicated on any previous similar occasion. My class of boys were delighted with the token of your remembrance of them, and I was much pleased that the ties came by themselves. In the class I have an attendance of about twelve, with an average of seven, and to me they are the most interesting class in the world. Some-

times I feel discouraged. None of them have professed faith in Christ since I took up the class. Perhaps next communion some of them may. I can assure you, their bright, happy faces on Sabbath mornings cheer and encourage me, and it is with great pleasure that we study the Word of Life. I pray that God may say of them, "They shall be mine in that day when I make up my jewels."

We cannot continue the weekly meetings of our Society during winter, but hope to begin as soon as the weather will allow. We hold our weekly prayer-meeting in the mission house during winter, at which Mr. Moore takes up the Sunday School lesson for the following Sabbath. The attendance is good, and all take part, Indians and white people alike, and the lesson is thoroughly discussed. A goodly number of these Indians will lead in prayer eloquently in Cree whenever they are called on in any public meeting. A number also will read Scripture publicly from their Cree Bibles.

TO BARRIE AND MAITLAND PRESBYTERIALS.

FROM MR. W. J. SMALL.

Indian School, Birtle, Feb. 26, 1900.
I have at last got seated to write an acknowledgment of the clothing that came to us for Lizard Point from Maitland and Barrie Presbyterian Societies.

Our winter did not set in so early this year as usual, and, although the clothing was somewhat later than last year it was in plenty of time. The clothing was just the very best possible for the Reserves—plenty of good quilts, which go a long way in making those who receive them comfortable. Besides, there was a good general assortment of clothing, all of which can be used to great advantage. A better supply of clothing could hardly have been gathered up for the people of the Reserve. Most of those who received clothing from us seemed very grateful. Some few yet, however, seem to think that it is only what is due to them. I think I can notice, however, a marked tendency toward independence, especially amongst the younger members of the Lizard Point Band.

I am very pleased to be able to say that there are now very marked manifestations of the power of the Gospel amongst this Band. They are now making splendid strides towards getting a church for themselves on the Reserve. Nearly enough logs have already been drawn out, and somewhere about thirty days' work have been promised by different members of the Band, besides sixty dollars in cash. So I think this is encouraging, and shows that the labor has not been in vain. On behalf of the staff I extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Presbyterials that sent the clothing for Lizard Point.

TO TORONTO PRESBYTERIAL.

FROM MR. SWARTOUT.

Dodger's Cove, BC., Jan. 16, 1900.

I must apologize for delaying so long in acknowledging receipt of bale of goods. I left the formal receipt at Noomuckamis, expecting to get back there in two or three weeks, but was delayed much longer by the exigencies of work and weather.

I must thank the Toronto Presbyterian Society for the bale. It will be the means of gladdening many a heart here. As a rule our Indians are not poor, but there are always exceptions, and many of the old, though having food and clothing of a kind provided by their friends, yet have a very scant supply of this world's goods. To be able to help them with a quilt or a bit of warm clothing will warm their hearts as well as help to prolong their lives. I have also to thank you for the article bearing my own name. I am very proud of it.

TO BARRIE PRESBYTERIAL.

FROM MR. C. MONROE.

Piapot's Reserve, Jan. 25, 1900.

I am in receipt of yours of the 15th, and hasten to give you some account as to how the clothing met the needs of the Indians on these three Reserves. When the bales arrived out here I found they contained just the most useful and necessary articles for these people. The Indians were, of course, not aware of the amount sent to them. I told them that there was not so much for them this year as formerly, but that every old person would receive enough for the winter; also the children. I would also retain some for cases of sickness or necessity. On behalf of those who received clothing I can speak well. They do not understand saying, "Thank you," but are exceedingly grateful, not in words but in actions. They treasured the gifts, and almost immediately put them on, and are taking great care of them. Indeed, it is a pleasure to visit the camp and see the quilts and clothing being worn. Many of the children greatly prize their clothing, the dolls, scrap-books, etc. They are a constant source of delight. One mother says her little girl kept on crying until she was brought up to the missionary to get a dress like one of her little neighbors. On the whole, the clothing has fully met every need, although it would be better for the women if more big, home-made jackets were sent instead of shop-made ones, which really are only suitable for girls.

The houses on this Reserve are mostly clean and tidy. Two of them at Christmas time were nicely decorated with evergreens. They are an industrious people, but mostly pagan.

INDEX FOR MAY, 1899-1900.

Africa, Dwarfs of.....	113
" Mothers and Homes in.....	109
An African Saved by Grace.....	114
America, Indians of South.....	79
Ancestral Worship.....	55
Annual Meeting.....	4, 36, 346
Anti-Semitism and Zionism.....	107
Appeal for the Gospel, A Redman's.....	245
British Columbia Chinese Mission.....	18, 9
Chang, Blind Apostle of Manchuria.....	52
China, Great Movement in.....	51
" Letters from Miss Jean Dow, M.D.....	180
" " Mrs. Goforth.....	83, 182
" " Mrs. Malcolm.....	182
" " Miss Menzies.....	183
" " Miss McIntosh.....	82
" " Miss Pyke.....	178
" " Miss Wallace, M.D.....	123
" Honan Exchange.....	276, 306
Chinese in Montreal.....	355
Christian Stewardship.....	153
Colony of Lady Preachers.....	148
Communion at Annual Meeting—Finding of Board.....	134
Conference at Washington.....	171
Coolie Mission, A.....	141
Divine Measuring Rod, The.....	155
Doukhobors in Russia and Canada.....	235
Estimates—1899-1900.....	100
Expenditure—1898-99.....	185
Famine in India.....	294, 321, 324, 353
" Fund.....	320, 351
France—The Floating Church.....	71
French Poor in Canada.....	242
Formosa, Missions in.....	57

Go Forward	256
Greetings from Eastern Division.....	49
Increase.....	3, 35, 67, 164, 227, 258, 285, 314, 341
Holy Places of Islam.....	326
India, Letters from Miss Bayley.....	120
“ “ Miss Campbell.....	247, 271, 302, 333, 358
“ “ Miss Calder.....	119
“ “ Miss Goodfellow.....	304
“ “ Miss Jamieson.....	19
“ “ Miss Oliver, M.D.....	146, 274, 361
“ “ Miss O'Hara, M.D.....	58, 145, 275, 361
“ “ Miss McKellar M.D.....	21, 146, 246, 267, 321, 361
“ “ Mrs. Russell.....	22
“ “ Miss White.....	179
“ “ Mrs. Wilson.....	59
Indians of North-West and British Columbia—	
Letters from Miss Armstrong.....	278
“ Miss Baker.....	253, 312, 340
“ Mrs. Cameron.....	26, 271
“ Mrs. Dodds.....	61, 310
“ Miss Dunsmore.....	124
“ Miss Fraser.....	251, 339
“ Miss Gillespie.....	309
“ Rev. N. Gilmour.....	61, 337
“ Miss Laidlaw.....	126
“ Mr. J. McArthur.....	308
“ Rev. H. McKay.....	250, 282
“ Mr. R. McKay.....	279
“ Rev. and Mrs. E. Mackenzie.....	125, 251, 335
“ Rev. and Mrs. A. J. McLeod.....	249, 308, 310
“ Miss McLeod.....	92
“ Miss McLaren.....	20, 252
“ Mr. R. C. McPherson.....	181, 281
“ Mr. C. Monroe.....	365
“ Mrs. Moore.....	27, 282, 363
“ Mr. Motion.....	278
“ Mr. Petch.....	28
“ Mr. J. H. Russell.....	187
“ Mr. W. J. Small.....	60, 364
“ Mr. E. C. Stewart.....	338
“ Mr. and Mrs. Swartout.....	339, 362, 365
“ Mr. J. Thunder.....	340
“ Mr. Wright.....	26, 252, 336
Items of Interest.....	165, 228, 250, 287, 314, 343

Jamaica	141
Japanese Children Beliefs.....	14
Jews—Conversion of Solomon Weinberg.....	102
“ Home Mission Work Among.....	240
Korea—A Sunday in Seoul.....	12
Life Members.....	3, 36, 67, 99, 131, 163, 227, 258, 285, 314, 341
Literature for Women, Heathen and Christian.....	330
Mission of Christianity.....	155
Mission Bands, For.....	156, 298
Mite Box, History of a.....	173
New Hebrides—Present Conditions.....	175
“ “ Letters from Dr. Annand, Santo.....	24, 149, 178
Outlook, Opportunity and Obligation.....	290
Persia	296.
Poems—If the Lord Should Come.....	136
What the Heathen Do for Me.....	158
Prayer of Self.....	163
The Children's Song.....	190
Upon the Way.....	241
I Asked the New Year.....	255
Hall's Investment	301
Point-Aux-Trembles, At	243
Prayer—Reasons Why Pre-eminent.....	69
Programme for Day of Prayer.....	263
Reports, Presbyterian.....	8, 69, 100, 132, 232, 262, 321, 346
Rome, A Stirring Up in.....	75
Supply Department Notices.....	101, 182
Syria	297
Thakor, Das	59
Thanksgiving, Reasons, Motives for.....	169, 177
Thibet	15
Training Home, The Ewart.....	5, 68, 100, 132
Treasurer's Statements.....	4, 36, 67, 99, 132, 164, 165, 227, 258, 285, 314, 341
Whipping Idols	81
Wide World for Christ.....	265

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