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"The World for Christ"



Monthly Letter Leaflet.

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

VOL. VI.

TORONTO, AUGUST, 1889.

No. 4.

SUBJECTS FOR PRAYER.

Mission work in the New Hebrides. The Missionaries and Native Teachers. Missions in other Islands of the Sea. The *Dayspring*.

Notice to Officers.

UNDER new publishing arrangements, it is not intended to send free copies of the MONTHLY LETTER LEAFLET to Presidents and Secretaries of Auxiliaries and Mission Bands, as has heretofore been done. Life Members and Missionaries of the Society will continue to receive a free copy.

Secretaries of Presbyterian Societies will have charge of transactions pertaining to the LETTER LEAFLET. They will receive orders and remittances from the branches within their bounds, or from individual subscribers, and make returns of the same at their convenience during the year to the Secretary-Treasurer of Publications.

It is necessary, in order that the mailing list be kept correct, that all CHANGES in the number of copies ordered or in addresses should be in Mrs. Telfer's hands *not later than the 15th of each month.*

The Board would express the hope that every family in connection with the Society will now have a copy of the LETTER LEAFLET, and that it will be carefully read by all our members.

Committee on Notices of Motion.

The following are the Committee appointed to consider the proposed changes in the Constitution :

(1) By Resolution 7 (*Annual Report*, p. 12) :—Mrs. Grant, Hamilton ; Mrs. Craick, Port Hope ; Mrs. Roger, London ; Mrs. Parsons, Mrs. MacMurchy, and Mrs. Hamilton, Toronto.

(2) Nominated by the President :—Mrs. Gordon, Harrington ; Mrs. Thorburn, Ottawa ; Mrs. McCrae, Guelph ; Mrs. Harvie and Mrs. D. J. Macdonnell, Toronto ; Mrs. Ewart, Convener.

This Committee will meet in the month of September, and due notice of exact time and place will be given.

Mission Work in the Far North-West.

MISTAWASIS RESERVE, SASK., APRIL 27, 1889.

REV. JOHN MACKAY.—I make no doubt you would like to hear from us once in a while how we are getting along with the old and little Indians.

The Indians remark they never saw such a mild winter. Those that were in the woods out of our reach came to the mission on a visit in February. They say they never had such a rough time since they remember ; they scarcely had clothing to cover them. They were off in the woods to get a living. The large game seem to have left the country—the fur-bearing animals, the skins of which they used to make their clothing and sell for a little groceries. Starvation drove them to the Agency, and they got a little to take back with them, and also clothing. We gave them quilts and rugs, some underclothing heavy and warm, and some moccasins for their children they had left in the woods. They left for home quite pleased, and said they had found friends that they would never forget and that they would come again.

Our organ is quite an inducement both for Indians and whites in our church. The agent's daughter, Miss Maggie Finlayson, plays for us, and Miss McKay is picking up very fast. She played last Sabbath in her absence, and has done very well. We have good singing since the organ was put in church; we had it in the house to practise on till spring. We have both English and Cree singing. We have an occasional service in English, as there are quite a number of settlers making their homes near us. I must give credit to those that packed up the goods we got last winter: fine large bales, easy to handle in wagon or sleigh, well packed up, nothing broken or wet, much handier than boxes and light; not so much expense on freight; also the assortment was good; everything came in useful, for age and size. The new goods came in handy for teaching the girls to use the needle and make clothing for themselves when they have the material to do it with. Strong wincey, dark flannels and strong cottons are useful for women; heavy shirting and tweeds for men; moccasins for children and old men and women. Please send some stationery for the children, for they are fond of writing to their friends. They take a pride in writing and do well; some envelopes, a few lead pencils. I am afraid you will get wearied of my asking.

The Church on Okanase Reserve.

ELPHINSTONE, MARCH 5, 1889.

REV. GEORGE FLETT.—Yours of February 22nd to hand, requesting for a report of the work in my field, and, in answer, I am very thankful to say that the work here has been greatly blessed. During the past year the Indians here have shown signs of spiritual awakening; the people have organized a temperance society among themselves, the majority of them having signed the temperance pledge. The attendance on Sabbath has been very good for the past year, many of the people being never away from service. There have been, during the past year, 17 baptisms, of whom 7 are adults, and only 9 deaths. The number on the Communion Roll is 37.

The school here is still open; it is in charge of D. H. McVicar, B.A., and he reports that the scholars are making very satisfac-

tory progress in their studies. The children come very clean to school and regular.

The clothes which the ladies are so kind as to send us are very helpful in many ways. Most of the children's clothes are devoted to keeping the school children well clothed. In answer to your question as to what amount of clothing we will need for the coming season, I would say that about the same amount we received last season would be enough.

We would much rather that more children's clothes were sent and less of men's clothes. Although men's clothes are needed, still children's are more important to us in clothing children that go to school and in helping to keep them tidy. In regard to web and yarn, we would be very glad if we got it in the raw material, as it would learn them to make their own clothes, and many of the school children can knit very well.

There are no schools at Rossburn and Rolling River, but the Industrial School at Birtle is near to them and some of the people take the advantage offered them and send their children to it. On these three Reserves there are about 500 Indians. My headquarters are at Okanase, where service is held regularly every Sabbath during the winter months, and prayer meeting during the week. During the summer, visits are made both to Rossburn and Rolling River, and services held.

P.S.—If it would be convenient, we would be very glad to get some boots for the school children. Nos. 2 to 6 would be the right size.

Industry of the Indians.

INDIAN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL, BIRTLE, JUNE 6, 1889.

MR. G. G. MACLAREN.—The school is moving very nicely; our average for this quarter will not be as large as for the last, but the attendance has been more regular, quite a number of the children attending full quarter without missing a day, and some making very satisfactory progress. The large boys have no idle time than is good for them. Several of the Indian women are here and coming to learn how to card their wool by hand, and spin on a little wheel. They are beginning to understand the school better and are becoming more reasonable.

Mr. and Mrs. Morton on their way to Canada for much needed rest and change.

NEW YORK, JUNE 24, 1889.

Mrs. MORTON.—We left Trinidad on May 11th; had a tedious and very rough passage all the way. We stayed a fortnight in Barbados waiting for a particular steamer; then hearing she would have yellow fever on board, we drew out our passage money and went down to St. Lucia, a run of twelve hours, and enjoyed a week visiting the converts there. We then took passage in the *Barraconta* on the 6th June, and arrived in New York, Saturday 22nd. We came only for health. It was our time for furlough, but I, at least, had been fighting against it for a whole year. I can't stand the sea well at all, and our coming involved the putting our two youngest boys to board in Port of Spain. Their course of study could not be interrupted just now without loss that could never be made up. However, Mr. Morton's health was in a state that made everybody anxious; it threatened to settle into consumption. All our friends thought it imperative that he should come and that I should come with him. I was for some time quite undecided. I stood as it were between two altars, not knowing which to sacrifice myself upon. After much prayer, and in reliance upon Divine guidance, we decided that both should come, and trust Providence with our dear sons. We are therefore alone. We go to-morrow (D. V.) to Clifton Springs, not knowing how long we shall stay, nor whither we shall go afterwards, but trusting to be directed. All our friends are in Nova Scotia. As we will be so far on the road to Toronto we may decide to go there from the Springs. Neither of us ought to undertake much work. For health's sake we should have rest and quiet. I am fairly well, but never very strong; the last time I was home I was forced into addressing a public meeting, and having begun I went on, but I do not feel that I could do it now, and I always write so much that I am sure I would not know what to say that has not been said or written repeatedly. Of course I am a little used up by the voyage, and I feel less at home in these magnificent hotels than in a Coolie hut.

Will you please write me at Clifton Springs; no other address will be needed, and I will keep you informed of our movements. Mr. Morton has very little cough now, and has gained considerably in weight since leaving Trinidad.

Letter From Mrs. Goforth to the "Goforth" Mission Band, Galt.

PANG CHIANG, NORTH CHINA, DECEMBER 21, 1888.

I WAS very much pleased to get your letter. It arrived Tuesday evening. We are not living at Chefoo now, hence did not meet Mr. Taylor. After our trip to Honan, we saw the great advantage of being nearer the scene of our future work, and so moved here as there was a vacant house at this station. It brings us 400 miles nearer Honan. We are delighted here that Mr. Taylor's visit to Canada has been instrumental in quickening the King's subjects still further in the cause of missions.

I am certainly very proud of my young namesake in Galt. I think they will need to be very active to keep pace with the name they have chosen. I only wish I could keep up with it, always hear ringing in my ears the use which the Master made of the first part of it, "Go"—"Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." Again He uses the second part, *forth*, when he says, "I send you *forth* as sheep among wolves" (Matt. x. 16). Jesus spoke these words to His disciples away back in this world's history. Once more He comes to say the same words to each young maid in the Galt Mission Band. I will ask Jesus to make each member of the Band as willing to obey His command as were Peter, John and Paul, and all the others who worked so well that many millions heard of God's love before Jesus called them up to heaven. Our dear Saviour will also call each young member who loves Him to the city which He has prepared. The only chance they have to obey His words is *now*. Time is so short. We must hasten to obey, and with love gather the sheaves from earth's white harvest fields. Oh! there is so much to do! This morning as some little Chinese girls were filing past my study windows, on their way to the Mission School, they peered in with curious eyes. I gave them a smile. I believe I love them as much as I love little girls at home. When they passed on to their lessons, I thought how good of the ladies here to collect them from heathen homes and teach them. The Chinese may teach their boys, but they never teach their girls. The only Chinese girls who are taught to read are those found in homes where the lady missionary visits. At this place old women about sixty years of age come to the missionary ladies, wanting to learn to read the Bible, so that they may read about Jesus for themselves.

I think of the millions of girls in Honan who have no one to teach them—no one to tell them of Him who loves little children. Mrs. Smith and Miss Sutherland and Mrs. Goforth will tell some of them about the God-Saviour, but so very, very many must live and die in heathen blindness, unless a host of young women are sent from Canada to go into all the heathen homes in Honan and preach the love of Jesus.

I feel sure my young friends will do all they can to send out missionaries, and when they all grow up to womanhood, I hope some of them will come to Honan to help us.

We have a little missionary four and a-half months old—I guess the girls had better count her in their band. Her name is "Gertrude Madeline." Many of the women and girls come to see her, and though she cannot speak, she rewards them with smiles. Yours, in the work.

Story of a Tiger.

For the LEAFLET—By Rev. K. J. Grant.

SAN FERNANDO, JUNE 15, 1889.

FROM books of fiction we expect to get marvellous tales, but when we are confronted with stories more marvellous than fiction in the ordinary routine of life, we instinctively pause, draw a long breath, and wonder if we are expected to take it in.

Recently on visiting a school, we met a lad of about nine years fresh from India, with face scarred and hideously disfigured. In answer to enquiries, the boy stated that when he was an infant his mother carried him to the field, and, when she was at work at a distance, a tiger came, picked him up and was about to carry him away when his cries arrested the attention of his mother and others, and the tiger, taking fright, dropped him and moved off. At this stage the mother came up and supplemented the boy's story as follows:—

"The tiger," said she, "was not a real tiger, but a man-tiger." Two men from Western India had gone to Eastern Bengal to seek their fortune. After several years absence from home both returned. One came with hands full; the other as empty as when he left home. Neighbours reproached him on account of

his poverty. "Oh," said he, "I have gained something better than money. I am now a sorcerer, and can do many wonderful things, and take any form I like." He then proposed taking the form of a tiger. Before effecting this metamorphosis, however, he mixed certain substances, and instructed his wife to sprinkle the mixture upon him when he became transformed, and he would then immediately cast off the guise of a tiger and assume the form of a man. As soon as he became a tiger, his wife, friends, neighbours and everyone, terrified, fled from his presence. No one attempted to approach him to sprinkle the mixture, and with the ferocity of a tiger he committed terrible depredations. He had not only the strength and blood-thirsty nature of the tiger, but his fore-limbs could be used as the hands of a man. Thus he was enabled to open doors, to climb, and perform feats that no ordinary tiger could perform. Now, it was this man-tiger, that, nine years ago, seized this boy and disfigured him as he now appears. After fruitless attempts to approach him to sprinkle the mixture, the safety of the community required that he should be shot, and a rifle bullet closed his career."

The poor woman told this story with every evidence of sincerity, and her two boys often chimed in to emphasize the narrative. The sober countenance and the frequent nodding of the head showed that the by-standers accepted as a verity what to us was only an idle tale. Later, on enquiry, I found that the story was generally accepted by the people on the estate.

To get minds thus pre-occupied to take in the sober realities of divine truth, requires an agency more than human; to scatter the darkness that has been deepening through the ages requires the presence of Him who is the Light of the World. Will not Christians pray that His presence and power may be felt?

Urgent Need for a Training School at San Fernando, Trinidad.

JUNE 12, 1889.

MR. GRANT. - I am just informed by the Rev. P. M. Morrison, of Halifax, of a donation to this Mission District from your Society of \$300. The gift is most generous, and the ladies of the Society have our heartiest thanks. Nothing is hinted as to the

wishes of the Society in its appropriation, and if I get no definite instructions I will try to make it contribute to the object mentioned in my last letter, namely, the training of native agents to preach the Gospel. In my opinion our Church has greatly erred in not having taken up this work in a more definite form years ago. Well furnished Indians are most effective agents, and it is the wisdom of the Church to send forth such; but it is impossible for the missionary with the amount of work laid upon him, to do this training work as it ought to be done. I sincerely trust that the way may very speedily be opened to carry on this work efficiently, and I think I may safely add that your donation will hasten the matter.

My school in this town has from 130 to 150 in daily attendance now, and Judge Lamb, who had been appointed to prepare a new Education Ordinance for Trinidad, made a tour of inspection, and in his official report to the Governor spoke as follows of our school:—"In the Coolie Mission School at San Fernando, a great work is successfully carried on, and it is in every way a model school." Four months hence Miss Copeland will retire from the work and go home. Her successor should be on the ground before she leaves. The Foreign Mission Committee of the Eastern Section has already advertised. If I had a suitable man to supervise the Mission School and give special attention to the training department referred to, I would prefer it, as I suppose it would be useless at the present stage of public opinion on the question to ask for both a male and a female teacher. Our lady teachers are paid \$400 a year and travelling expenses, or passage out and home. If the Board gave this amount from other sources, a supplement might be obtained of at least \$100 to commence with. Your Society probably understands the situation, and possibly may aid in bringing forward the one whom God has chosen to take up the work here in October.

Mr. Fraser, a student from Halifax, arrived a week ago for Couva, the mission field occupied by Mr. Wright. We would rejoice to get a man of his spirit and vigor here, but we dare not hint it with the urgent claims of Couva before us. We don't wish any person to come that is not entirely in sympathy with the work, that is not prepared to enter soul and body into the service. We are much cheered. The Lord is with us. By this time Mr. and Mrs. Morton may have reached Toronto. They hoped to be in time for the General Assembly; they will, *viva voce* (a more effective instrument than the pen), tell you of the whole work. We are very thankful for your sympathy, your

prayers, your pecuniary aid. The Lord greatly prosper the W. F. M. Societies which have already done so much to develop the true spirit of missions.

INCREASE.

Presbyterial Societies.

GUELPH	<i>Galt</i> —A Mission Band, the “Wide Awake,” in connection with Knox Church.
PARIS	<i>Paris</i> —A Young Ladies’ Mission Band, the “Willing Workers,” in connection with Dumfries St. Church, by Mrs. Cockburn, June 7.
PETERBOROUGH	<i>Garden Hill</i> —An Auxiliary by Mrs. Craick and Mrs. Williamson, June 18th.
LANARK AND RENFREW.	<i>Castleford</i> —A Mission Band, the “Maple Leaf” by Mrs. Irving.
BROCKVILLE	Four Auxiliaries, organized by Mrs. Blair :— <i>West Winchester</i> , June 20th. <i>Chesterfield</i> , “ 22nd. <i>Winchester Springs</i> , “ 25th. <i>North Williamsburg</i> , “ 26th.
KINGSTON	<i>McLaren’s Depot</i> —A Mission Band, the “Buds of Promise,” by Miss Staley, June 24th.
HAMILTON.....	<i>Delhi</i> —An Auxiliary, by Mrs. Grant, July 3rd. <i>Crowland</i> —An Auxiliary, by Mrs. McCuaig, July 4th.

Seven Auxiliaries and four Mission Bands.

NOTICES.

THE Board of Management meets on the first Tuesday of every month, at three o'clock p.m., in the Managers' Room, Knox Church, Toronto. Members of Auxiliary Societies, or other ladies interested in the work and desiring information, being introduced by a member of the Board, are cordially invited to attend.

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. MacMurchy, 254 Sherbourne Street, Toronto.

Letters containing remittances of money for the W.F.M.S. may be addressed to Mrs. James MacLennan, Treasurer, 10 Murray Street, Toronto.

All correspondenae relating to the sending of goods to the North-West, or other Mission fields, will be conducted through the Secretary of Supplies, Mrs. Hugh Campbell, 220 Richmond Street west, Toronto.

Communications respecting the literature of the Society and the MONTHLY LETTER LEAFLET, should be addressed to Mrs. Telfer, 72 St. Albans Street, Toronto, the Secretary-Treasurer of Publications.

When cash accompanies an order no written receipt of money will be sent. The package of leaflets will be considered sufficient acknowledgment.

All requests for life membership certificates should be sent to the Recording Secretary, Mrs. G. H. Robinson, 625 Ontario St., Toronto.

PUBLICATIONS.

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12 cents per doz.

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“ 25. A Plea for our Envelopes.

“ 24. The History of a Day.

“ 23. A Partnership.

“ 18. Five Cents in a Tea-cup.

“ 13. Thanksgiving Ann.

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“ 7. Mrs. Pickett's Missionary Box.

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“ 27. A Lesson in Stewardship.

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Map of North-West, with Indian Reserves marked, \$1

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