

THIS IS THE VICTORY



EVEN OUR FAITH

*Mrs Ogden*

# Monthly Letter.

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## SUBJECTS FOR PRAYER—OCTOBER.

French-Canadian evangelization. The work of the Institute, the day schools and the Bible-women in Montreal. John i. 4, 5.

## CHINESE WORK.

From Mrs. Stevenson.

CHENTU.

DEAR MRS. STRACHAN,—Your welcome letter to hand. I was glad to learn of your having had such a successful year.

We have a fact to announce which rings out with no uncertain sound as to the bright prospect of our security in this land. A proclamation from the Emperor has been posted up in this city, and I think in every city of the empire, declaring that the foreigner be unmolested, and that who ever disturbs him shall be punished to the utmost rigor of the law.

We are now in our third year. Not one of us has had so

much as a hair of the head injured. But this makes us feel doubly secure. The more of us there are here the more are we likely to be protected. A country so poor as China can protect us more easily than pay for our lives at the rate of tls. 20,000 per head (\$28,000).

Retreat means defeat. Satan's work is developing. All the time overcautious people are waiting and allowing him time to strengthen his battlements. The people here are very pleasant with us, considering the fact that we are so different.

In this city are missionaries from Scotland, England, Norway, Sweden, the U.S.A., and Canada. As many denominations are represented, but we have been all one in Christ Jesus, and we trust that fellowship and peace may continue to be the order of the day.

Last Sunday the new chapel was opened. The house was jammed, beside many on the street who could not get in. One side was entirely filled with women. It was all I could do to keep back the tears as I realized what a prospect there is here for woman's work. Dr. Hart said he never in all his life in China saw so many women. Down river they are not nearly so accessible. Of course these are from the lower and middle classes. The higher class ladies only come to visit us in our homes. In that way one can do more individual work with them.

Last fall five wives of an official paid me a visit. And as their custom requires them to stay from four to five hours, one has a good chance to talk to them. They insisted on my returning the visit, and treated me with the utmost courtesy, besides listening to the gospel most attentively. There are many such cases except that usually it is so hard to get their minds off dress, marriage, and other worldly matters. Then their heads are so dense. The intellect has never been awakened by education.

The school girls will be much more hopeful cases. But custom again proves a hindrance. At the age of thirteen they are taken out of the school and "shut up," as they call it. Three such have left the little school started here last summer by Dr. Hart. If they are very, very homely, they are allowed to go on the street till nineteen or twenty, yet

they try to make them as handsome as possible by means of painted lips and powdered faces.

These girls are very affectionate, and it is a joy to be among them. Some are as bright as any we ever saw at home.

Yes, your particular work will develop. But God will not make it develop any faster than you have agents in the field to look after it. There is plenty of work to be done, but it is waiting, not developing, unless on the side of Satan. He is gaining ground continually. Still it seems to be a wonderful springtime of seed-sowing just now. Two of the C.I.M. ladies took tea with us last evening. They say that they notice such a change in the attitude of the women who came to call on them this New Year. They were so anxious to hear the words of life. After listening a long time, they would ask to know what the books say—not as on former occasions, to look and ask questions about us and our country.

As to the country being in an unsettled state, when once into Sz Chuen province, we feel free. The ladies of the C.I.M. and C.M.S. societies travel about as freely and easily as the men, and are winning their way into the hearts of the people. Why not the ladies of the W.M.S.?

The houses are very cold, nor do the natives have a fire (except in the far north), but make up for it by means of a wadded garment, or fur if they can afford it. They wear so much that little children look like young barrels, and when they tumble down, sometimes cannot get up alone. In the spring they begin to peel off till when summer comes little but skin at times is visible.

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## INDIAN WORK.

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From Mrs. Redner.

PORT SIMPSON, July 6, 1894.

In reviewing events of the last three months, the District meeting stands out as one to create the greatest stir among us. We felt greatly blessed as we listened to the many earnest exhortations and sermons given in English; and as

the faithful band of workers left us, on their way to the Conference, we felt that we had been strengthened for our work, and that we could join in singing :

“ If our fellowship below,  
 In Jesus be so sweet,  
 What heights of rapture shall we know  
 When round His throne we meet.”

In the “ Home ” this quarter has not been as full of incident as some. The work has been quiet and satisfactory, and as we see the steady improvement in the habits of the girls, we feel that surely the hand of God has been leading us.

But, while having much to encourage us, we have not been without our sad moments. May 25th, we were again called to lay aside another of our girls in death, Mary Newton. Mary had not been strong since entering the Home, two years ago; had always been troubled with cough; the winter was hard on her, as she took cold so easily. The doctor thought that as spring came on she would regain her strength. She had not been confined to her bed; always took her place in the schoolroom, but was not asked to do anything more. For three weeks we had kept her from evening service, and we saw no serious change in her till the day before she died; this was her first day in bed, and even then she desired to go down stairs. We felt quite unprepared for the change. We were forcibly reminded that “ in the midst of life we are in death.”

June 1st, we parted with the little girl whose eyes had been affected for some time. The doctor had been trying to restore her sight, but in vain. She could neither see to work nor study, and there seemed but little hope of recovering her sight. Her mother thought it would be best to take her home with her, and, if possible, take her to some oculist.

On Tuesday of last week, Miriam Blake, our eldest girl, went home to prepare for her marriage. We are sorry to lose Miriam, still hope that she will be able to do much good among her own people, as she was a good, earnest Christian. She was very helpful in the Home, and very contented and happy. *That she may be kept pure and good,*

also earnest in His service, is our prayer. Last week we took the girls for a trip on *Glad Tidings*, and camped a few days. It was thoroughly enjoyed by all notwithstanding the continual rain. We hope to spend another week or two camping on one of the islands, but will wait till more settled weather, if possible. This week it is quite lonely here, as very few of the people are now at home. Most of them have gone to the different canneries.

Mr. Crosby and family left us on Friday to visit the different missions along the coast.

Dr. Bolton and family also being away, we of the two Homes are alone, but in our services yesterday we felt that we had the presence of the Master with us. May we be kept faithful under all circumstances, and better fitted for the work committed to our care.

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## REVIEW OF USEFUL LEAFLETS.

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**Why are we Protestants?**—A series of seven papers on the errors of Romanism, by Mrs. C. Ross, now published in an attractive form as a booklet. As we read this little book we wonder how many could give an intelligent answer to the question, *Why are we Protestants?* As Protestants, we are supposed to protest against the errors of the Romish Church, but we fear that the number is comparatively small who have more than a hazy idea of what those errors are. Some of the teachings are that the Virgin Mary is the "refuge and salvation of every creature, the mediator between God and man, the entire ground of hope, receiving and saving all who take refuge under her mantle,"—that "the eucharist is the body and blood, soul and divinity of Jesus Christ under the appearance of bread and wine, and those are accursed who say that Christ is eaten in a spiritual manner only,"—that "Protestants all die in their sins and are damned,"—that "the Pope is, as it were, God and the voice of God, king of kings, above all angels, so if the angels could err, they could be excommunicated by the Pope." Those who read of these things, of the evils of the confessional, and of the extortion practised as a result of the

doctrine of purgatory, will realize that we are not half the "Protestants" we should be, and will be awakened to the importance of the work among our Roman Catholic fellow-countrymen, so that all our Dominion may be won for our Lord and His Christ. The chapter on the "Immaculate Conception" is especially interesting and instructive. As Protestants we have not sufficient knowledge on these subjects. We trust this tract will be widely and carefully read. Price, 5 cents.

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ONE Woman's Experience in Tithing is that of one who was led to see "with perfect clearness that it was the duty of all who profess to follow Christ to devote to His cause at least as much as the tenth of their entire income, and to give it regularly and systematically." She became one whom the Lord loveth, a cheerful giver. And though tried by needy circumstances, still acknowledged her indebtedness to the Lord and asked Him to have patience with her until she could pay the debt, which prosperity soon enabled her to do. In thus simply "following on to know the Lord," she was so blessed spiritually, her life so enlarged and broadened that money considerations were entirely excluded, and she was led to give herself to the Christ-like deaconess work and rejoice that God had called her to this consecration of flesh and blood. Price, 1 cent.

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### IMPORTANT!—TO AUXILIARIES.

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So many Auxiliaries send each month for the leaflets used in connection with the Suggested Programme, that the Literature Committee has decided to announce that sums of \$1 and upwards will be received at Room 20, and the necessary literature for the programme sent month by month, to the value of the amount deposited.

It should be borne in mind that the usual charge of two cents per package will still have to be made, to cover the expense of postage and wrapping.

## Suggested Programme for November Meeting.

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### I. Opening exercises :

"We need a new earnestness, born of deep conviction, that millions are hopelessly perishing without the Gospel; and that we have in trust that Gospel with which to rescue them."

—DR. A. T. PIERSON.

### II. Regular Business.

### III. Hymn.

### IV. Subjects for Prayer for the month.

Thanksgiving for the year's mercies. Confession of short comings. Prayer for increase of knowledge in regard to the needs of the world, and for increased liberality in our gifts to the missionary work of the Church. 2 Cor. ix. 8, 11, 15.

(a) A song of thanksgiving. Psalm ciii. (Responsive Reading)

(b) Confession of short-comings—our lack of

{	Interest.
	Earnestness.
	Liberality.
	Spiritual power.

(c) Prayer.

### V. What our Delegate saw and heard at the Branch Meeting.\*

### VI. Ten minutes with one of our substitutes.†

### VII. Hymn and prayer.

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\* Let the members come prepared to assist their Delegate, by asking information on questions of special interest to them.

† Mrs. Eliza Spencer Large. See *Palm Branch*, August. (A copy has been sent from the head office to every Corresponding Secretary—cannot be supplied from Room 20.)

## HOME READINGS.

Errors of Romanism,	<i>Miss. Review</i> ,	Feb., '93,	p. 135.
Missions to Romanists,	" "	Aug., '93,	p. 565.
Paragraph,	" "	Nov., '93,	p. 876.

No DOUBT our readers will be pleased to learn something concerning the nature of the Deaconess work which has been lately begun in Toronto under the direction of the Conference, and which is so closely related to our own W. M. S. work :

## THE VISITING DEACONESS.

"Neither will I offer unto the Lord burnt offerings or sacrifice of that which doth cost me nothing."

The deaconess is not a woman advanced in years, from whom every hope has fled, but radiant yet with youth and tenderness, she comes into the service with a fair share of culture, refinement, cultivated talent, and, above all, brings entire consecration into the work she does "for Jesus' sake."

The visiting deaconess sometimes works under the direction of the pastor of a church, and sometimes under the direction of the Superintendent of the Home.

She soon becomes learned in all the woes that afflict mankind. She braves the foul odors of narrow alleys, down which no breath of pure, healthful air can ever come, seeks out the lost and gives them words of hope, and learns to kneel by dying beds and with pitiful, yet unshrinking hand, wipes the death dew from the brow of those whom the world has left forlorn.

She seeks out those of low estate, and everywhere she goes preaches the unsearchable riches of Christ. Quietly, but with a steadfast will, she labors on. The little ones learn to watch for her coming. The rooms are tidied up to receive her, for her presence is a blessing to the weary and often hopeless mothers, and, as the good work goes on, homes are made happier, lives are shaped to higher and nobler ends, souls are won for Christ, and faces that were sad and world-weary are lighted by a deathless hope.



## Notices to Auxiliaries and Mission Bands.

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Formerly many Auxiliaries and each Mission Circle and Band have received one copy of the MONTHLY LETTER free; but at last Board meeting it was decided that no free copies should be sent out. Auxiliaries and Boards will therefore kindly take notice, and order from Miss Ogden such number as may be required. Price, five cents per year.

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Back numbers of *Our Quarterly* at 50 cents a hundred may be ordered from Room 20. These will be found very useful in creating a missionary interest among Sunday Schools and Epworth Leagues.

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Will Corresponding Secretaries and individual subscribers to the MONTHLY LETTER please notice the date on the printed address, and observe when the subscription expired. If the label bears the date October, 1894, the subscription expires with that number, and should be renewed before the 15th of the same month.

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Will friends who order literature from Room 20, kindly remember *not* to send three-cent stamps, if larger or smaller denominations can be procured. Remit by money order or bills when possible.

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Readers of the *Missionary Review* have found it greatly improved of late by the addition of maps and illustrations. These have rendered it necessary to increase the subscription price, which the publishers announce will hereafter be \$2.50 a year, but to those subscribing through our Society it will be sent for \$2.25 a year.

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W. M. S. note paper and post cards, for the use of officers, may be ordered from Room 20, at the following prices:

Letter Size, 100 sheets in a pad, per pad..	45c.
Note Size, " " " ..	30c.
Post Cards, per doz. .. .. .	15c.

Subscriptions for the following missionary periodicals will be received and forwarded by Miss Ogden: *Missionary Review of The World*, per year, \$2.25; *African News*, per year, 75 cents; *Message and Deaconess World*, per year, 50 cents; *Heathen Woman's Friend*, per year, 50 cents; *Palm Branch*, per year, 10 cents.

Back numbers of these periodicals are not furnished by Room 20, unless specially announced.

Woman's Missionary Society Books for officers' use, sold separately as follows: Treasurer's book, 60c.; Recording Secretary's book, 60c.; Corresponding Secretary's book, 30c. The set, \$1.20.

### Free Leaflets.

Constitution for Auxiliary and Mission Band.

Duties of Auxiliary Officers.

Origin and Work of W. M. S., Methodist Church, Canada.

An Appeal to the Women of the Methodist Church.

Ten Reasons Why I Should Belong to a W. M. S.

Mrs. Pickett's Missionary Box.

What Thomas Henry and I Learned at the Board Meeting in London.

Scattered Helpers (Leaflets and Cards).

*Orders for free leaflets should be accompanied by two cents for postage.*

Pasteboard Mite-Boxes, free—postage and wrapping, 3 cents each.

Folding Mite-Boxes, free—postage and wrapping, 3 cents a dozen.

Epworth Leagues will be supplied with Mite-Boxes on the same terms as Auxiliaries and Bands of the W.M.S.

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MISS ANNIE L. OGDEN,

ROOM 20, WESLEY BUILDINGS, RICHMOND ST. WEST, TORONTO, ONT.  
Open every Wednesday morning, from 11 to 1 o'clock.