

Technical and Bibliographic Notes / Notes techniques et bibliographiques

The Institute has attempted to obtain the best original copy available for filming. Features of this copy which may be bibliographically unique, which may alter any of the images in the reproduction, or which may significantly change the usual method of filming, are checked below.

L'Institut a microfilmé le meilleur exemplaire qu'il lui a été possible de se procurer. Les détails de cet exemplaire qui sont peut-être uniques du point de vue bibliographique, qui peuvent modifier une image reproduite, ou qui peuvent exiger une modification dans la méthode normale de filmage sont indiqués ci-dessous.

Coloured covers/
Couverture de couleur

Coloured pages/
Pages de couleur

Cover: damaged/
Couverture endommagée

Pages damaged/
Pages endommagées

Covers restored and/or laminated/
Couverture restaurée et/ou pelliculée

Pages restored and/or laminated/
Pages restaurées et/ou pelliculées

Cover title missing/
Le titre de couverture manque

Pages discoloured, stained or foxed/
Pages décolorées, tachetées ou piquées

Coloured maps/
Cartes géographiques en couleur

Pages detached/
Pages détachées

Coloured ink (i.e. other than blue or black)/
Encre de couleur (i.e. autre que bleue ou noire)

Showthrough/
Transparence

Coloured plates and/or illustrations/
Planches et/ou illustrations en couleur

Quality of print varies/
Qualité inégale de l'impression

Bound with other material/
Relié avec d'autres documents

Continuous pagination/
Pagination continue

Tight binding may cause shadows or distortion along interior margin/
La reliure serrée peut causer de l'ombre ou de la distorsion le long de la marge intérieure

Includes index(es)/
Comprend un (des) index

Title on header taken from:/
Le titre de l'en-tête provient:

Blank leaves added during restoration may appear within the text. Whenever possible, these have been omitted from filming/
Il se peut que certaines pages blanches ajoutées lors d'une restauration apparaissent dans le texte, mais, lorsque cela était possible, ces pages n'ont pas été filmées.

Title page of issue/
Page de titre de la livraison

Caption of issue/
Titre de départ de la livraison

Masthead/
Générique (périodiques) de la livraison

Additional comments:/
Commentaires supplémentaires:

This item is filmed at the reduction ratio checked below/
Ce document est filmé au taux de réduction indiqué ci-dessous.

10X	14X	18X	22X	26X	30X
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12X	16X	20X	24X	28X	32X

Monthly Letter Leaflet.

WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY, PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA

(WESTERN DIVISION.)

VOL. IV. TORONTO, DECEMBER, 1887. No. 8.

FOREIGN LETTERS.

FROM MRS. WILSON.

NEEMUCH, October 11th, 1887.

Nearly a year has passed since I promised to write and tell you something about village work. Just at that time Mr. Wilson was visiting the different villages about Neemuch, and as I generally accompanied him, I became much interested in this kind of work. We spent part of January and February out in the "district," teaching, and after returning to the station I was engaged in entertaining friends most of the time till we went to Kashmir. There I found it difficult to do anything but enjoy the delicious, bracing air. So time passed and all my correspondence was sadly neglected. Again, this season, we have been going to the surrounding villages, sometimes in the early morning, sometimes in the evening, when there is a moon to light us home. One morning, a few weeks ago, we went to a village called SAGRANA, distance about six miles from the camp. The "drying-up" season being well begun, when the sun again asserts its powers on the earth and the pleasant coolness of the rains has gone, we made an early start so that we might return before the heat would be uncomfortable. We had our *chheli najiri*—little breakfast—at half-past four, and were ready to mount before five o'clock. I shall not soon forget that morning ride. The moon was still high and the stars shining brilliantly in the deep

purple-blue sky, while a floating mass of dark fleecy clouds gave a soft and delicate beauty that one often misses in the undimmed splendour of the eastern heavens. Gradually a pale radiance spread over the east, and softly, but rapidly, moon and stars "lost their light," till only the one bright particular star—the star of the morning—shone out like a diamond in a flood of golden colour. Then a few bars of burning red and orange, and, even as we were looking, suddenly the sun was above the horizon and the sweet, fresh air of the night was gone. Early though it was, as we rode up some men were leaving the village for their day's work in the fields, for most of these villagers are tillers of the soil, but a number of them turned back with us, so we had quite a little company about us as we entered the town. Words cannot describe the intensely dead look of some of these Indian villages. Sagrana is surrounded by the remains of an old stone wall, and all the houses to be seen on approaching the place have the same ancient and ruined look. The glare from the rising sun brought out mercilessly the tumble-down buildings with their dull stony colouring. Though the rains had so lately ceased almost the only bit of green about the place was the little clump of pipal trees at the entrance, under which was placed the village idol. The few stunted trees within the walls looked as hopelessly gray as everything about them, and the red dresses of the women were quite a relief to the eye in this deadness of colouring. Mr. Wilson soon got a big crowd of men about him, and opening his medicine case persuaded the sick among them to let him prescribe for them. At first they were almost as cautious about taking remedies as if they had known that the padre didn't write M.D. after his name. After some friendly talk with the people a hymn was sung, a hymn telling of Christ as the Saviour; then the claims of this Saviour to the love and worship of all people were set forth to a greatly attentive audience. I went to see the women who waited near in a sly, curious crowd. At first no one answered me when I spoke, but all shook their heads in a bewildered fashion that told me that they did not understand. One, more bold than the rest, began to examine my habit and hat and gloves, and evidently questioned me about them. I, in turn, didn't understand her tongue. My gloves were a great source of wonder and amusement, and I found that some of the women thought that the skin of my face and the skin of my hands were very different in colour. I took off the gloves and the woman who seemed to be the leader among them nodded her head in a

very knowing way as if as to say, "I told you so." When they had done examining my dress (they expressed surprise at my wearing no rings or jewellery) I made them understand that I wanted to see some of their houses. At first we could make nothing of one another's speech; but they talked, and I talked, and at last we struck on a few words that were common to both, and with these and a great many gestures we carried on quite a lively conversation. The village talk is very difficult to understand. It is neither Hindi nor Urdu, but a sort of corrupt language called Marwari, and while you often find those among the men who understand Hindi and who can speak it quite well, you scarcely ever find a woman who knows anything but the *putois*. One can always sing to them though, and the Hindi hymns, or bhajans as they are called, are so written as to be very generally understood by the common people. There is a village about two miles and a half from the camp where we very often spend an evening. The Patel, the head man of the town, was very ill with rhaumatism. Mr. Wilson visited him very often, and was able to give him much relief so that now he is almost well. From the first he seemed interested in Christianity, and now he confesses quite openly that he is a Christian, but says that he is afraid to leave his caste. I suppose until he does take courage to do so one cannot be quite assured of his sincerity. He is diligently reading the Bible, however, and we pray that strength may be given him to come out from among his caste-fellows and join himself to our little Christian company. Work is going on as usual in Neemuch, and I shall write next time about the girls' school. Some of the girls who came to it at first have lately left, why I can't find out, but new comers keep up the number to an average attendance of ten or twelve. The boys' school in Old Neemuch is growing since we got a good English teacher, and Mr. Wilson thinks of bringing it to the camp as so many boys in this bazaar are anxious to attend. With a population of over twenty-three thousand in the camp and Neemuch we ought to have a large school. The primary school for boys is doing exceedingly well and will be a "feeder" for the larger school when it is brought to the camp. We are fortunate in having excellent teachers in the primary schools, both boys and girls. When are you going to send us a lady to superintend female work in Neemuch?

FROM MRS. JONES.

ROUND LAKE, October 31st, 1887.

BROADVIEW P.O.

I must ask you to forgive my seeming neglect in not answering your very kind, and I assure you, your welcome letter of long ago. But I do feel sure you will, when I tell you something of what we have gone through this summer. I have not written but one letter since last June, and that was written the day before yesterday. On the 5th of July one of our carpenters took sick, which proved to be typhoid fever of the most violent type. He lived ten days, but was delirious nearly all the time, until a day or two before he went home to be with Jesus. He was a good man. Since that time eight have been all down with the same fever; four out of the eight have died. Night and day we have had to be amongst the fever, but God in His loving mercy has kept us from taking the disease so far. The future we cannot see, but trust that the worst is over. We did the best we could with what medicine we could get. It is eighteen miles to a doctor, and over sixty to a drug store. I know how to use medicine if I could get it. Last Monday we buried a dear little girl five years old, her sister is not able to be up yet, but the fever has left her. She is very weak, but we hope to bring her through with the blessing of our Heavenly Father upon our care. We feel we would like a rest, but the time for resting is not now; we have been so put back with our building that it will take every moment to get it ready for use this fall. We have five men at work besides your missionaries. The men of course have their hours, but the missionaries work from day dawn until ten at night. Dear Mrs. Harvie, when we see our beautiful house for the little ones we bless God for the noble women of our beloved Church for giving us the means to build. It is very cheering to know that no matter how many afflictions we may have and heartrending scenes to go through, yet God's dear people are praying for us at home. We need the prayers of all who love Jesus, that our work may prosper, and that many may be brought into the fold of the Lamb. I will have to bring my letter to a close, my little sick lamb is wanting me.

FROM MR. JOHN McLEAN.

INDIAN HEAD, October 29th, 1887.

Your clothing has just arrived. They are at the station yet. There is great abundance, for which I most heartily thank your society. May God bless you for your kindness. When I get the clothing down to the reserve I shall write again and give full particulars.

FROM REV. W. S. MOORE.

BALGONIE, October 25th, 1887.

I received to-day three bales of clothing and also one box. They came from Fergus and Mount Forest. The clothing is in good condition and all that we could wish in quality, and will greatly assist us in our work with the Indians. Nothing seems to gain the affections of the Indians more than little deeds of kindness to their babies and children. I feel deeply grateful to the Christian friends who have assisted us so liberally, and it will be a pleasant duty for me to distribute this clothing. Our school will not open the first of November, as at first intended, but I trust we shall be able, and if our funds be sufficient, we will open, D.V., at the first of December. Your letter and cards are always giving us great pleasure, as they are always the forerunner of good gifts. Hoping that we shall have a continuance of the sympathy and prayers of your society for the Master's blessing.

BALGONIE, November 8th, 1887.

I am pleased to inform you that I have received one box from Durham, one from Pinkerton, one bale from Puslinch and two bales from Guelph Auxiliary and Mission Bands. All the goods were in good condition and very serviceable for our work here.

FROM REV. G. A. LAIRD.
PRESBYTERIAN MISSION HOUSE,
COTE'S RESERVE, October 12th, 1887.

Your kind letter of the 23rd September came to hand last mail. I have not yet had word of the arrival of the clothing, but probably will next mail. I presume you addressed it to Russel Station, and when we have notice of its arrival we will lose no time in having it brought up to the reserve, and then I will be able to write you fully concerning it. Although the distance is between seventy and eighty miles I think the Indians will readily go for it. When you wrote you had evidently not received my letter, in which some details of our work were given. You will be glad to know that the interest is increasing. Our prospects are very hopeful. And let me say that the assistance your societies render us in the way of clothing is most helpful. The Indians, and especially the women and children, suffer much during our long severe winters for want of being properly clad. They huddle round their open fires in one corner of the house with often only a single ply of calico over them, and you may be sure, that with the thermometer 30° or 40° below zero, as it often is, they can't go far from the fire without shivering. You will not be surprised in such circumstances to learn that the boxes are eagerly looked for. Besides it shows the Indian that we really care for him, and are trying to help him. It opens his heart to higher influences for good. When he is warm and comfortable, and he feels that his comfort is due, in part at least, to the Mission, it is easier to approach him with the gospel of our Lord and Saviour. Our Sabbath services continue to increase in interest. Even during the present month when a large number are away hunting, the attendance is good. In a few weeks now we hope to hold our first communion, and we are earnestly looking forward to a time of special blessing. The school is not so large at present, owing to many of the children being away with their parents, but when our boarding school is in operation it will remedy this irregularity. I think I mentioned that we had six children in the house with us during the summer, and when we make some additions to our present premises, which we hope to have completed in the course of a fortnight, we will be able to accommodate eight or ten for the winter. But we are very much cramped for room, and will not

be able to take in quite a number of children which we might get until the permanent buildings are erected. Our present house is log plastered with mud, and of course has to be renewed every fall. So for the last week and a half I have had an Indian plastering. I have been his assistant, getting the water for him and mixing the mortar, and we have made a good job. I mention this to show you that an Indian can work. He plastered the whole house, roof and walls, all with his hands. He would scorn to use a trowel, and I was surprised to see how quickly he splashed on the mud, effectually filling up every crevice. The water with which it was mixed was icy cold, and yet he kept his hands in it all day, working faithfully and without any grumbling. No murmur escaped his lips. I don't think there are many white men who would have done the same without grumbling a little about cold hands. I may add that with regard to the school, we hope to have the usual number in attendance by the first of November, and we are aiming at least at having thirty in school during the winter.

THE RECOMMENDATION OF COMMITTEE.

The Executive Committee desires to make the following recommendation to the Society, to come up for decision at the Annual Meeting in April, respecting the printing of the Annual Reports according to instructions received at the last annual meeting:

“That the Annual Reports of the Board of Management, as prepared by the Home, Foreign and Recording Secretaries and Treasurer, be printed for distribution at the Annual Meeting; and that these officers be prepared to read extracts from their respective reports or make explanations with regard to them; and that the reports of Presbyterian Societies be read in condensed form as usual.”

MAP NOTICE.

A *limited* number of maps of Manitoba and the North-West having been secured, the Board will dispose of them as follows: Two to each Presbyterian Society for lending to Auxiliaries and Mission Bands in the Presbytery. Cost (including express charges), \$1 each. An early application urged.

INCREASE.

In Brandon Presbyterial Society—Rapid City Auxiliary, organized 18th October, by Mrs. McTavish.

In Owen Sound--Division Street Church Auxiliary, on 19th October.

In Maitland Presbyterial Society—Eadie's Auxiliary, on 26th September, by Mrs. Malcolm and Miss M. Hutchinson; and on October 18th, "Mission Helpers" Band in connection with Huron Auxiliary.

In Chatham Presbyterial Society, on 18th October, Mrs. Walker and Mrs. Becket visited Bothwell Auxiliary and revived the interest there.

In London Presbyterial Society—Knox Church Auxiliary, London South, organized by Rev. Mr. Ballantyne.

In Paris Presbyterial Society—"The Beehive" Mission Band, Ayr, by Mrs. Thompson.

In Guelph Presbyterial Society—Acton, Knox Church Auxiliary, on 3rd November, by Mrs. Smellie and Mrs. D. McCrae.

In Hamilton Presbyterial Society—Knox Church Mission Band, St. Catherines, October 27th, by Mrs. Ewart.

In Brockville Presbyterial Society—The Fairfield East Auxiliary, October 11th, by Mrs. Bulloch and Mrs. Purvis; and on November 8th, Knox Church "Willing Workers" Mission Band, Morrisburg, by Mrs. Dowsley and Mrs. Fulton.

The Sanctuary Curtains.

“ Beneath the desert’s rim went down the sun,
And from their tent-doors, all their service done,
Came forth the Hebrew women, one by one.

For Bezaleel, the master—who had rare
And curious skill, and gifts beyond compare—
Greater than old Misraim’s greatest were—

Had bidden them approach at his command,
As on a goat-skin spread upon the sand,
He sate, and saw them grouped on every hand.

And soon, as came to pass, a silence fell ;
He spake, and said : ‘ Daughters of Israel,
I bring a word ; I pray ye hearken well.

‘ God’s tabernacle, by His pattern made,
Shall fail of finish, though in order laid,
Unless ye women lift your hands to aid.’

A murmur ran the crouched assembly through,
As each her veil about her closer drew—
‘ We are but women ! What can women do ? ’

And Bezaleel made answer : ‘ Not a man
Of all our tribes, from Judah unto Dan,
Can do the thing that just ye women can.

‘ The gold and brodered work about the hem
Of the priest’s robes—pomegranate, knop and stem—
Man’s clumsy fingers cannot compass them.

‘The sanctuary curtains, that must wreathen be
And bossed with cherubim—the colours three,
Blue, purple, scarlet—who can twine but ye?’

‘Yours is the very skill for which I call ;
So bring your cunning needlework, though small
Your gifts may seem—the Lord hath need of all!’

.....

O Christian women ! for the temples set
Throughout earth’s desert lands—do you forget
The sanctuary curtains need your broidery yet ?”



NOTICES.

The Board of Management meets on the first Tuesday of every month, at 3 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. Hugh Campbell, 194 Richmond 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, should be addressed to Mrs. Harvie, Wilcocks 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 requests for literature may be sent to Mrs. Telfer, 72 St. Albans Street, Toronto.

Certificates of life membership can be issued at any time, if the Home Secretary be notified.

LITERATURE.

No.		Price
1.	Self-Questioning (Leaflet)	Free.
2.	Giving, and Giving up; or, the Test of Love. per doz.	8 cents.
3.	The Voices of the Women	each. 1 cent.
4.	The Importance of Prayer in regard to Mission Work	per doz. 8 cents.
5.	"Why and How?" Missionary Questions for Women	per doz. 8 "
6.	Two Cents a Week	Free.
7.	Mrs. Pickett's Missionary Box	1 cent.
8.	Some Facts in the Life of Kashibai, a Brahmin Woman	1 "
9.	Pitchers and Lamps	1 "
10.	For His Sake	1 "
11.	Preparation for the Master's Work	per doz. 8 cents.
12.	What is in thine Hand.	per doz. 8 "
13.	Thanksgiving Ann	1 cent.
14.	Suggestions for holding Missionary Meetings	Free.
	Presbyterial Organization	Free.
	How to Organize and Manage a Missionary Society or Band	"
	Mite Boxes	each. 1 cent.
	Envelopes	Free.
	Prayer Cards	"

Orders for the above Leaflets received by Mrs. Telfer, 72 St. Albans Street, Toronto.

Applications for "The Monthly Letter Leaflet" (extra copies one cent each), and Annual Reports, to be made to the Home Secretary, Mrs. Campbell.

Every member of the Society is entitled to a copy of the Report free, extra copies are sold at 10 cents each.

NOTE.—The reprinting of the Missionary Letters is reserved by the Board of Management.