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EVEN OUR FAITH:

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Missionary Leaflet.

Woman's Missionary Society of the Methodist Church, Canada.

Vor. VII.

TORONTO, DECEMBER, 1891.

No. 12.

SUBJECTS FOR PRAYER.

DECEMBER.

That a spirit of enquiry may be aroused in the Church as to the needs of the heathen world, and that Christian women may recognize their responsibility her.to. For the grace of iberati.

For all converts under the care of the Woman's Missionary Society, that they may be trained for usefulness among their own people.

Suggested Scripture Reading to be used at Monthly Meetings of Auxilianies:

Ex. xxxv. 4, 5; 20-26: 2 Cor. viii. 12: ix. 6-10.

JAPAN WORK.

From Mrs. Large.

Tokyo, September, 1891.

Ha ing been here but a few weeks, I have not yet gotten hold of all the threads of the work, as I had before leaving for home last year; but one thing I have taken hold of is, the amount of fruit gathering there has been during the year. Your agents have been able to see the results of their labors in so many ways; our gir's engaged in Christian work with them, others in their homes leading the others to the Saviour.

The development of the Christian character that sees the right and follows it too, even when it is contrary to national customs and prejudices; and there comes with this the realization of what the influences of these girls is going to do in upraising the coming generation. Truly the Lord has been with us here, blessing and making us a blessing, the full extent of which we can never know until the day when He numbers His jewels."

I think that I have written all that is needed of explanation, praying that your annual meeting may be one of great

blessing and joy.

A Dr. Howard, who has been staying in Japan for some months, says he has seen no such strong, healthy-looking people, of the same mission, as those of the Canadian Methodists. Some time during last year a lady of another mission was consulting Dr. Macdonald regarding how she ought to work in order to keep her health, and he told her to go to the ladies of 14 Torrizaka, and inquire how they arranged their work, and to do the same, for they were far from idle -none did more work, and there were no stronger persons than the members of our mission. Again, the wonder grows as the years pass by, at the strong family feeling there is among us all: from all sides we hear it, and are asked how it is that we are all such good friends, and love each other so much, and why we spend our summer vacations together. No one ever hears of a quarrel among us, and if an absent one is coming to us, we all are so rejoiced at the prospect of seeing her. For all this we do bow our heads in thankfulness to our Heavenly Father for His great kindness to us, and pray that we may be more and more bound together.

From Miss Preston.

Koru, Sept. 22nd, 1891.

Our school is not yet finished. We hope to take possession of the new building in a couple of weeks, but until then the school-work cannot go on, as the present building has to be restored to what it was when we rented it, and it is already considerably torn up.

One class on the "Life of Christ" we hold in the church

once a week, in the evening, to give the women of the church

an opportunity to attend if they wish.

Just before the holidays a society was organized among the women of the church, which we call the "Christian Women's Society." Its aim is somewhat like that of the King's Daughters. We hope it may prove a means of bringing the women of the church nearer together; of interesting them in looking ofter the sick : and in Christian work among both believers and non-believers, as well as in making money for the Lord. The meetings are monthly. We have a membership of over a dozen, and the women have collected quite a little sum of money already. Some money has been made by making over old dresses and selling them; some by washing clothes; some by sewing; some by selling paper and rags; some from eggs, unexpectedly found, and their value given; some, who are too old to work, deny themselves to One old woman, who lives in a poor home with her younger sister, also old, and whose eyes are so bad-she is half-blind—has saved about twenty-four cents by doing with less tea-cakes than she usually eats.

Two women have been baitized since last term. Takasoi San was telling me about her little boy who used to be a very troublesome child, but who has changed completely for the better sin e he started to Sanday-school. And one day when returning from the Sunday-school, some boys tormented him by throwing stones or sticks at him, but he bore it bravely and did not run. He said he felt that in the Sunday-school he received good teaching. Both he and one of his

sisters, I believe, desire to be baptized.

Mayeda San in Kanoiwa, where we have women's meeting, has become a candidate for baptism, her parents having

yielded consent

Hayashi San has become a teacher in the Sabbath-school, and to her has been given charge of the women's meeting held especially for non-believers. A foreigner will attend to aid in the singing and fancy work, and others will help by speaking at the meetings and working for them generally, but the responsibility will be Hayashi San's. She is a felt power in our women's work, and always ready to do what she can.

Watanabe San, of Schikawa, the daughter of wealthy parents, and one of her brothers, a director of this school,

has been a Christian for three years, at first suffering great persecution. But now it has ceased, and though not allowed to attend church nor receive baptism, she is free to attend the women's meeting. Her mother formerly very strongly opposed Christianity; but now, Watanabe San is hopeful of both her parents, that they will decide for Christ, and she herself be given permission to be baptized.

Kozawa San, in Katsunuma, is a Christian as far as she has light, reads the Bible and prays. But she is allowed to

attend only our women's meeting.

Nozawa San, in Kofu, is a Christian and constantly reads her Bible, but she has not yet been baptized. She cannot attend church as often as she likes because her mother thinks

it not becoming in a woman to go out so much.

This last spring a new man took charge of the prison and dismissed all the employees who professed faith in Christ. There were additional leasons, perhaps, for the dismissal of some, but none were kept who owned the name of Christ. Two denied their faith, one, a woman who was matron of the female prisoners, while others, who were not baptized Christians, acknowledged their belief.

The clouds have been hanging low and the conversions to Christ in this land have not been so numerous as in some preceding years. But the atmosphere seems clearer; seed has been sown and a glorious harvest, I believe, is not far in the future. Not the least significant sign of the times, is a recent proclamation by the Minister of Home Affairs to the Buddhist priests, strongly reprimanding them for their conduct, and warning them that if they do not do better, more

stringent measures will have to be taken.

You will have heard of my appointment to Fukui. It is to do the work I love, and so, in His name I will go, knowing that my Saviour will go before me. At the same time, I will naturally regret leaving the Yamanashi work. In it I have spent nearly two very happy years. It has been my first work in the country, and wh's there have been discouragements, they have been completely overwhelmed by God's goodness to me and the rewards that have come to me in simply trying to do His will.

CHINESE WORK IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

From Miss Cartmell.

Miss Cartmell requests that the following be inserted :-"I was very sorry to see in the October Missionary Leaflet in the study for November, a mistake that must be corrected. Speaking of the Chinese work in British Columbia, it said, 'under the direction of Miss Cartmell.' I cannot rest till honor is given to whom honor is due. The mission in New Westminster is under the direction of Mr. Chan; in Vancouver under Dr. Loo, and the night school it taught by Miss Orchard and another lady whose name I have forgotten. In Victoria, Mr. Gardner is the missionary in charge. . The flourishing night school is taught by Misses Morrow and Clarke, assisted by Tom Chue. These three missions, the care of the General Society, are under the superintendence of the chairmen of the several districts, as will be seen by the Missionary Report. I know the remark quoted referred only to our woman's work and was kindly meant, but the writer, probably, did not understand that the chief part of that department is the 'Chinese Rescue Home,' which has attained its past and present success under the indefatigable, self-forgetful efforts of Miss Leake, who has uncomplainingly boine the heat and burden of a day, the trial of which few could imagine. My position in the Home has been thet of her assistant. My outside efforts have been most fragmentary and purely tentative, so that it cannot in any sense be said that I have directed the work."

PRAYER CARD LEAFLET.

SUBJECTS FOR PRAYER.

JANUARY.

For the baptism of the Holy Spirit, as a necessary qualification for service. (Acts i. 8.)

For the plenteous operation of the Holy Spirit in respect to our work—that the field may be prepared; that the special messengers may be called, endued with power, sent and directed; that the word may be convicted: that all we, workers together with Him, may be sanctified, enlightened and quickened, and the Master glorified. (Luke xi. 13.)

SCRIPTURE READINGS .- Luke xi. 1-18.

We approach the threshold of another year, the season above all others which, by its associations, invites to stock-taking; and like the wise business man, we review the past, make an inventory of present resources and obligations, and with these before us, and the lessons they teach, form our resolves for future action. The annual stock-taking of the Society, as such, has already taken place, and the results of the year's operations have presented very great cause for gratitude. Who amongst us, having in any measure contributed to the general result, or having sympathy with it, could not join in a shout of praise to God for the prosperity with which He has crowned the labors of the year? But there is the individual stock-taking, the questioning. "How much have I helped or hindered? What part of Gideon's host have I resembled—the fearful ones or the valiant ones? How much has my own soul profited?" And there is also the question thrust on us all, "What shall the future be?"

WHAT ARE OUR OBLIGATIONS?

No modification has taken place in the Master's command—the commission which is the reason for our existence—"Go ye into all the world," etc. But if, during the year, we have been endeavoring to "Let that mind be in us which was also in Christ Jesus," if we have been getting more closely into sympathy with Him, and viewing the world from His standpoint, learning to attach to souls the valu He attached to them, we will at all events have reached the cone usion which Paul had reached, will en he said (Rom. i. 14), "I am debtor. both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise."

AND WHAT OUR RESOURCES?

Let Auxiliary members encourage each other, and gather inspiration and faith, for the prayer and for the work, by reading together the following extracts from God's Word. They certainly do not reveal all our resources, for they are as illimitable as God's treasure-house (see John xv. 7 and 16); but when the Saviour spoke some c2 these same words to His disciples. He stated that He did so for the purpose of giving them encouragement and joy, and probably we are not less needful.

If God's people be faithful, what shall then see at the end of their labors? Read Isaiah xi. 9, 10; Phil. ji. 9-11.

Does the Holy Spirit select His workers? Acts xiii. 2.

Does He join His people in equipping the workers and sending them out? Acts xiii. 4; ii. 4; iv. 31; vi. 5, 8.

Does He direct their actions on the field? Acts xvi. 6, 7.

Does He accompany the word preached? John xvi. 8-11; Acts ii. 37; Isaiah Iv. 10-13; Mark xvi. 20.

And now, lest the perusal of Scripture, which proves that the Holy Spirit chooses, equips, sends forth and directs His workers, might induce some heart to feel less of responsibility, and some mind to be less active in respect to the work than the Master intended; and in order that there may be an apprehension of the attitude He intends those of His servants not specially called to outside fields to maintain toward the work, and an appreciation of the provision which has been made through the Holy Spirit for their own spiritual life, growth and enjoyment, let there be read also the following:

Does the work of the Spiri relieve us of responsibility or curtail our privileges? 1 Cor. iii. 9; 2 Cor. v. 18-20, vi. 1; James ii. 14. 17-20. 26; Matt. ix. 37. 38.

Does it not seem anomalous that the Lord of the harvest Himself, having power to send forth laborers, and recognizing the need of their sending, should ask His servants to ask Him to send them; and does the injunction not disclose an endeavor on His part to thus impress them with the fact that He regards them as partners in the harvesting—partners whose special duty it is to bear upon their hearts the needs of the work, and to pray that these needs be supplied? And does it not also involve the subtle

reasoning that no one could conscientiously obey the injunction, and, with a heart full of sympathy for the work, utter the prayer, without his or her heart being led to that attitude of consecration which says, "Lord, if Thou eeest it to be best, send me"? And can one, in the attitude of consecration which the honest utterance of the prayer implies, be unfaithful to whatever portion of the work may fall to her hands?

Granted the consecration, what provision by the Spirit for our equipment and our encouragement? and what the reflex henefit received in the work? John xvi. 13, 15; xiv. 16, 17; Rom. viii. 26, 27; 1 Cor. xii. 3; Eph. i. 13, 14; Rom. viii. 6; 1 Cor. vi. 11; 2 Thess. ii. 13: 1 Cor. ii. 9-16.

Are all professing Christians equally responsive to the influence of the Spirit, and equally usable by Him in His work? 1 Cor. iii. 1-3.

Let each of us on our knees ask ourselves the questions:

(an the Spiric use me in His work? Am I willing that He should?

Do I believe that He will?

If He should, Jesus' promise will be fulfilled through us—"He (the Spirit) shall glorify Me." (John xvi. 14.)

From Our Corresponding Secretary.

THE members of our Society will be pleased to hear of the growth of the past year; the membership, including Mission Bands, now numbering 16,450, and the income exceeding \$31,000. Thanksgiving and thanks-living should be our daily heart-felt expression. Shall not one of the evidences of this be in the endeavor to enlist others in the same grand work?

Twenty missionaries and sixteen Bible-women are working as our ripresentatives. Shall we not daily uphold them by our sympathy and prayers! During these winter months, especially, when the Word of Life is being faithfully and diligently taught in our schools, and from house to house, let us expect the Divine blessing, so that next year we may return with joy, bringing our sheaves with us.

E. S. S.

Extracts from Letters to the Supply Committee.

'Thank God for the kindness of Christian friends. As I opened the boxes and looked over the many articles of clothing, my heart was rejoiced, for I knew how these articles would be appreciated by my poor friends.

"In the afternoon I drove to the houses with the boxes, and you can imagine how faces kindled with joy as the separate articles were handed to mother and then suited to

little folks.

"Here were boots for the bare feet, coats and shirts for the mimost naked bodies, and garments that made the little girls so pleased, and I was so thankful I had some clothing for the dear mothers.

"God bless the mothers! If there is a class that suffers

in the new districts, it is the mothers."

A Mission Band at Renfrew has kindly consented to send some of the required articles to the St. Clair Mission.

A very welcome letter was received from Mr. C. W. Watson, Merchant, Molesworth, offering our Committee some boots and shoes, remnants of cloth, boys' caps, and children's hose, if we would distribute them.

The offer was gladly accepted.

The Auxiliary at Welland sent a box of bedding and clothing to the McDougall Orphanage last week, valued at \$38, and weighing 100 pounds.

A box from Newmarket, valued at \$55.75, weighing 134 pounds, containing clothing and toys for Christmas; another from Eareham Centre, containing underwear, blankets, quilts and dresses, valued at \$35.

A bale of quilts, valued at \$20.

Also box of bedding, clothing, etc., valued at \$30, from Warkworth Auxiliary, will be sent within a week or two to the McDougall Orphanage, which has received liberal support this year from our Woman's Missionary Society, in the way of supplies.

The Grimsby Auxiliary is preparing a box for the Rev. S. Huntington's Mission.

MRS. WM. BRIGGS, Secretary,

M Granville Street, Toronto.

Motice to Auxiliaries.

The Literature Committee beg to draw attention to the following resolutions passed at recent meeting of the General Board:—

1. That to save confusion in ordering there be a central depot for all literature, including leaflets, monthly letters,

mite-boxes, life members' certificares, reports, etc.

This depot has been secured, and Miss Ogden has kindly consented to take charge. All orders to be addressed to Miss Annie L. Ogden, Room 20 Wesley Buildings, Richmond Street West, Toronto, Ont.

2. No Auxiliary to have more than two copies of monthly letter leaflet, unless additional copies are paid for; also some one in each Auxiliary to be appointed to solicit subscribers, and attend to the distribution of same.

The Board finds this necessary, as the monthly letter has been enlarged, at no advance in price, and to save the Society

from loss all copies must be paid for.

3. That Auxiliaries be requested to confine their reports sent to Guardian and Outlook to the space of five printed lines, in order to make the best use of the space at our disposal.

The Annual Report will be ready in December, price five cents per copy. Will Auxiliaries please order through Corresponding Secretaries of their Branches. Kindly remit with order.

The Gospel in all Lands (Methodist Episcopal), and The Missionary Review of the World (undenominational) will be furnished to the members of the W. M. S. at special y reduced prices. The Gospel in all Lands at \$1 05 per year, Missionary Review of the World, \$1.50 per year.

The Heathen Woman's Friend (W. M. S., Methodist Episcopal Church), can also be supplied. Price, 50 cents per year. All subscriptions strictly in advance. Send orders and remittances to Miss Ogden, Room 20 Wesley Buildings, Toronto.

Published monthly by the Woman's Missionary Society of the Methodist Church, Canada. Subscription price, 5 cents a year. Communications and orders should be addressed to Miss Annie L. Ogden, Room 20 Wesley Buildings, Toronto, Ont.

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