

THIS IS THE VICTORY



EVEN OUR FAITH."

Monthly Letter.

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SUBJECTS FOR PRAYER.

Another Year for Jesus. Retrospect and Prospect.

CHINESE GIRLS' HOME.

Quarterly Report.

June 1st, 1896.

Another three months of opportunity to work for the Master have gone beyond our seizure. The questions arise: What has taken place? What has been accomplished in connection with the Home that may help to strengthen and build up immortal character? As answer, all I can say is summed up in this: The regular daily routine of work and duty has been faithfully attended to, with some encouraging features as a result. The last week in March and the first two in April were given to house cleaning, the girls working well, considering their youth and inexperience. Sarah was absent helping Mrs. Tate, but has been in the Home off and

on; at present she is nursing Jessie, who is the mother of a fine little daughter.

On March 30th Miss Wickett bade us farewell, and it was decided by the Home Committee that Mrs. Ward should be engaged to take charge of the school, beginning her duties April 14th. If perfect order be an evidence of success, Mrs. Ward has reached our ideal. The girls have been kept constantly employed, consequently there is no time for racing out. Mrs. Monck, daughter of Rev. E. Robson, has come from Vancouver to spend some months in the city, and improved her time and opportunity by visiting the homes of the married girls, a work I have not been able to do to much extent.

The Friday meeting is always held, attendance ranging from 10 to 18. The Sunday School also continues, though not many from outside attend. Last Sunday I took all the girls to the Centennial Methodist Church, to a mass-meeting of the Methodist Sunday Schools of our city, to hear an alive and interesting address from Rev. A. C. Crews, also to hear him preach in the evening.

When Miss Morgan comes I purpose having all the married girls to Friday tea with the Chinese missionaries, to meet with and be introduced to the new teacher and missionary. There is an improvement in the girls, not only in the manner in which they do their work, but in their dispositions.

The notice from the city authorities, relative to sewer connection, has been handed in, but action will be suspended until we hear from the Board.

A heavy pall is hanging over our little city from the awful calamity of May 26th. No less than fifty-five men, women and children found a watery grave, who, a few minutes before, were in high glee on their way to the sham naval battle. One lesson in particular comes to the Christian through this sudden calamity, "*Work for the night is coming,*" "*Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might.*" One dear lady was a member of my class. She and a lovely daughter perished side by side, but if all who went down into the dark waters that day were as sure of the victor's crown as dear Mrs. Efford, it would indeed be gain to them, although irreparable loss to the bereaved ones.

S. BOWES, *Home Mother.*

*Extracts from a letter of Miss Morgan's, dated Victoria, B.C.,
June 23rd, 1896.*

You will probably wonder why you have not heard from me before this, as I arrived in Victoria, Wednesday evening, June 17th.

The lake trip was delightful, the water very calm, and the weather not too cold to be enjoyable. Miss Hargrave met me at Winnipeg, and as I was not very tired I went right to the Branch meeting with her, and next day attended part of the morning session. The ladies of the Manitoba Branch say Miss Hargrave has done invaluable work for our Society during the past winter and spring, and several expressed a wish that she could remain another year among them. The President said she could not have carried on the Branch meeting without Miss Hargrave's assistance. This will be very gratifying to those who had any doubts as to the advisability of Miss Hargrave's remaining in Canada the last six months. From what I heard and saw I consider she has done a grand work in the home land, which no one else could have done so effectively.

While in Moose Jaw I spoke twice, and also organized an auxiliary in connection with our church there. The President asked me to do this, so as to save traveling expenses of the District Organizer next year. There is a good deal of the missionary spirit among the people in Moose Jaw, and I feel sure the auxiliary will do good work and increase in numbers. Mr. Ferrier, the pastor, did all he could to help on the work of organizing.

To have visited so many auxiliaries and district meetings in connection with our W.M.S. has been to me a great help and blessing. I have come in touch with so many whole-souled Christian women that I have received fresh inspiration and encouragement for my work.

On reaching Victoria Miss Bowes gave me a very warm welcome, and has done all in her power to make me feel at home. Friday afternoon, after the usual Bible lesson, the ladies of the Advisory Committee, the married girls and their children, Mr. and Mrs. Chan, Mr. and Mrs. Cleaver, Mrs. Spencer and Miss Hart were invited to the Home to a

reception. It was very pleasant to meet so many of the ladies so soon after arriving here. In the evening over forty were present, and we had singing in five different languages.

On Sunday I took the girls to the Chinese church in the morning, and to the Metropolitan in the evening. I cannot say I enjoyed the morning service. The Chinese language is very unlike the Japanese, and I tried in vain to catch one familiar sound.

Since Sunday Miss Bowes has been laid up with a cold or la grippe, so I have been kept pretty busy. To-day she seems much better, and we hope will be up in a day or two. This morning I was in the school-room for a little while, but lessons will be irregular till Miss Bowes is around again. We are having delightful weather, although winter clothes are still quite comfortable.

CHINA.

From Mrs. Kilborn.

CHENTU, SZCHUAN, CHINA, *via* HANKOW.

April 20th, 1896.

We arrived here in safety on the 17th inst., after a trip of two and a half months from Shanghai, including unavoidable delay. Our journey up the river was a most enjoyable one, fair winds, fine weather, no accidents, and the prospect of returning to our work before us.

When we arrived in Kiating we found Misses Ford and Brackbill, who had reached there only a few days before us, and were undecided whether to go on or not, as Dr. Hart was of the opinion that the women had better remain in Kiating through the summer. However, we could see no possible reason for waiting; everything in the city was quiet, with the prospect of remaining so, and the women of the other missions were returning. We all came on together overland from there, and found the people all along the way quite as friendly as formerly. An escort of ten or twelve soldiers was sent forty li, about thirteen miles, out of the city to meet us. It was with mingled feelings that we entered the gates and rode through the streets of the city, where almost

a year ago we had been escorted out at midnight in a very destitute condition. The outlook for a successful re-commencement of our work is good.

At present we are all living in the house prepared for Mr. Hartwell and Dr. Hart when they first returned. Mr. Hartwell's new house is almost ready for occupying, and we are going into it as soon as it is ready. The ladies intend keeping this house, at least, until a place can be purchased. We are all in the best of health. How wonderfully God has preserved us.

(LATER.)

CHENTU, May 29th, 1896.

Since our return I have done a little medical work, but do not intend to open regular dispensary work till after the Chinese fifth month feast, the date of the riots of last year. I have had a lot of Chinese guests. Our Sunday services are well attended, and the women and children crowd the space allotted to them. Miss Brackbill and I teach the women-servants on the place night about. I believe more Christian work among the women is accomplished now than before the trouble of last year. At present there are many rumors circulated through the city, but we do not anticipate any trouble. The work of rebuilding is going ahead rapidly.

Miss Brackbill writes:

“Everything is quiet in the city still, and we are hoping to purchase property for the Home and work very soon. We have looked at several places, and shall probably decide in a few days.

“My girl's school, started a few days after our return, is doing nicely, and, through these children, we hope to reach several of the mothers. We believe the prospects for work are far better than we dared to hope after all the recent troubles. Miss Ford is making good progress with the language.”

Suggested Programme for October Meeting.

- I. Opening Exercises. "All Christians are sent of God to win men to Him through Christ. Every Christian is under obligation to be a missionary, one sent from God to win men to God."
- II. Regular Business.
- III. Hymn.
- IV. Subjects for Prayer for the month: Our Boards of Management, Officers and Committees. "The conduct of modern missions has grown to be a science, and has all the elements of a conquest."
- V. Prayer—For the deepening of the spiritual life of the officers of the Woman's Missionary Society.
- VI. Question Drawer.*
- VII. Reading. "The Measuring Rod." †
- VIII. The Watch-Tower.
- IX. Hymn. Prayer.

* Questions will be found below. For answers see July issue of *The Westminster*—price 10 cents, at Room 20.

† *The Measuring Rod*, price 1 cent, at Room 20. Please enclose 2 cents additional for postage and wrapping.

QUESTION DRAWER.

- I. Give origin of the Woman's Missionary Society.
- II. When and where was it organized?
- III. In what relation does it stand to the General Society?
- IV. State its numerical strength.
- V. Define the duties of the Board of Management. Who constitute its membership?
- VI. What is a Branch?
- VII. What is an Auxiliary?
- VIII. Name the periodicals of this Society.
- IX. Outline the Department of Literature.
- X. What and where is the Deaconess House?

REVIEW OF USEFUL LEAFLETS.

"India." In two parts. By Rev. Edward Storrow, formerly of Calcutta.

PART I.

Deals with :

1. *The country*—Its geography, climate, productions, etc.
2. *The people*—Aryan and non-Aryan aborigines, and the numerous invaders; geographical distribution of races, languages.
3. *History*—Emigration of the Aryan race, rise of Buddhism, invasion of Mohammedans and various other races, including settlement of Europeans.
4. *Hinduism*—Its sacred writings and divinities, and comparison with Christian worship.
5. *Manners and customs.*

Three tables are given—one contains the area and population, while in the other two, the population is classified according to race, caste and religion. The book is full of valuable and varied information, well arranged, and the entire matter of the book is rendered accessible by so complete an index that any item in it can be found without difficulty.

PART II.

Gives much interesting missionary information. In a brief but graphic manner the author treats of the character of the people, their dwellings and dress, their extreme poverty and the social restrictions by which they are bound.

There is a sketch of the history of Christianity in India, beginning with the strange story of the highly ritualistic Church found in the south and south-west of India, which claims to have been founded by Thomas, the doubting apostle.

Roman Catholic missions were founded by the Portuguese in 1500.

In 1706 the king of Denmark sent several missionaries, and in 1793 the first English mission was formed by Rev. W. Carey of the Baptist Society. In 1882 there were thirty-five Protestant missionary societies at work in India.

The obstacles and hindrances to the success of missions are many and various, calling for special tact, consecration, patience and perseverance on the part of the missionary.

Dr. Storrow speaks of the methods of work which have proved successful, and of the results both direct and indirect. As a whole the book strengthens one's faith in the final success of Christianity in India, while strongly dwelling upon the vastness of the work still to be accomplished.

Price, 15 cents. Room 20, Wesley Buildings, Toronto.

INCREASE.

HAMILTON CONFERENCE BRANCH.

Georgetown Auxiliary.

Ker " "

Binbrook " "

Ennotville " "

LONDON CONFERENCE BRANCH.

Windsor—"The Lillie Circle."

IMPORTANT.

Will Corresponding Secretaries please examine the printed label on their package of MONTHLY LETTERS, and if it bears the date September, 1896, have the subscription renewed at the September meeting if possible, as the Literature Committee may not be able to supply back numbers to those who are late in renewing.

NOTICES TO AUXILIARIES AND MISSION BANDS.

The Literature Committee is prepared to receive deposits of \$1.00 for the literature to be used in connection with the Suggested Programme, and will send the necessary literature whenever called for by the programme, as long as the money lasts. The usual charge of two cents, for wrapping and postage, will be deducted for each parcel.

Subscribers will please notice that the programme does not suggest a leaflet every month. When it does, the leaflet will be mailed within ten days of the time the MONTHLY

LETTER is sent. If not then received, kindly notify Room 20, that the loss may be made good. As Room 20 will be closed during August, the literature to carry out the suggested programme for the October meeting will not be sent until the Room reopens in September.

Orders for *Palm Branch* should be sent to Miss S. E. Smith, 282 Princess Street, St. John, N.B. Single copies, 15 cents; 10 copies to one address, \$1.00.

Subscriptions for the following missionary periodicals will be received and forwarded by Miss Ogden: *Missionary Review of the World*, per year, \$2.25; *Gospel in All Lands*, trial subscription for three months, October to December, 20 cents (subscriptions to this periodical may begin at any time during the year, but must continue till December and then end); *African News*, now *The Illustrated Christian World*, per year, 75 cents; *Message and Deaconess World*, per year, 50 cents; *Heathen Woman's Friend*, per year, 50 cents; *The Double Cross and Medical Missionary Record*, per year, \$1.00—to missionaries and student volunteers, 50 cents per year.

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

The Literature Committee has pleasure in drawing attention to the revised catalogue of leaflets and other publications. About thirty new leaflets are presented. The Committee hopes that the arrangement under subjects will render it easier to make suitable selections.

Maps of China, Japan and British Columbia, painted on cotton, about thirty-six inches square, may be rented from Room 20 for 25 cents each, the Literature Committee paying the postage one way. The map is to be carefully enclosed in paper and returned the day after it is used.

W. M. S. Books for officers' use sold separately as follows: Treasurer's Book, 60 cents; Recording Secretary's Book, 60 cents; Corresponding Secretary's Book, 30 cents. The set, \$1.25.

Manuscripts for loan can be procured from Room 20. Subjects: "Chinese Religious Faiths," by A. W. Briggs; "Systematic Giving," by A Systematic Giver. Postage and wrapping, 3 cents each. The manuscript to be carefully *enclosed* in paper, and returned the day after it is used.

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.

Life-membership fees are to be sent with the quarterly returns to the Treasurer of the Branch in which the member lives.

All communications regarding Supply Committee work should be addressed to Mrs. Wm. Briggs, 21 Grenville Street, Toronto, Ont.

Letters concerning the organization of Auxiliaries and Mission Bands should be addressed to the Corresponding Secretary of the Branch in which the work is situated. For Corresponding Secretaries' addresses see Annual Report.

LEAFLETS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE.

(A signifies Adult; J, Juvenile.)

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Countries—China. By Dr. J. T. Gracey15	
Metlakahla05	.25
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(J) The Light of the World is Jesus (for 15 children)	.02	.20
Poems—"Do Ye Next Thyng." "So Much to do at home." "Unawares."..... Each poem	.01	.10

Please enclose 2 cents additional for postage and wrapping.

For the above, Address MISS ANNIE L. OGDEN,
 ROOM 20, WESLEY BUILDINGS, RICHMOND ST. WEST, TORONTO, ONT.
 Open every Wednesday morning, from 11 to 1 o'clock,