

The Woman's Missionary Society.

[This Department is in the interests of the W. M. Society. All communications for it should be addressed to Mrs. Jos. McLeod, Fredericton.]

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Rev. J. N. Barnes Report for March.
To the Corresponding Secretary of the Woman's Mission Society.

DEAR SISTER—I have not much to report this month. We left Brown's Flat on the 2nd of March for home, on our way from Beaver Harbour. We reached Upper Gagetown the first day; the next day we arrived in Fredericton, sick and had to remain there ten days, a week in bed, with la grippe. We were at the home of Bro. and Sister McKinnon. Mrs. Barnes and I will never forget their kindness, and the faithful service of Dr. Vanwart. Best of all, God was with us and brought us through. To Him be all the praise. Monday, the 14th, we started again for home, and went as far as Bro. George Ebbett's, 35 miles; I stood the drive very well, though it was cold and very windy. At this hospitable home we were well provided for. The next morning it was foggy and before night we reached Bro. William Margeson's, in sight of our own home. They were glad to meet us again. We did not go home until the next morning, after an absence of two months, sick and weak, but glad and thankful to our Heavenly Father for His loving, watchful care over us through the cold and storms and bad roads, which we will not forget. And now we are resting for a while, according to the advice of many friends. The sisters requested us last fall to take a month of vacation, which we are now doing at home, and hope soon to be at work again.

Before I left home last winter I furnished a few of the Mission Bands with some literature to assist them in getting up missionary concerts. I have sent out another lot since I came home; 35 Bands have now been supplied; two thousand one hundred pages in all. I hope they have received them all right, and will make good use of them. Much depends upon the superintendents and the parents of the children. May the Lord's blessing attend every effort in this great and good work, is my prayer.

J. N. BARNES.

Jacksontown, April 12th, 1904.

Persecuted for Christ's Sake in India.

The "Nicodemus Cottage" of the Methodist Mission in Madras is where women go who long to learn more about Jesus, and who are able to reach this haven of refuge. There are terrible difficulties in the way of these "Pardah ladies" openly confessing Christ.

One native lady in the Zenanas, whose heart opened to receive Jesus said, "I

must now put Jesus first," but her husband, and mother, and friends were very angry. After a time she came to the Nicodemus Cottage, saying, "Jesus must be first; I must give up all for him who died for me." Her friends followed her, and besought her with wailings and entreaties to come back; they scolded, they petted, they used every means in their power to induce her to give up Christ, and return to them and their foolish and abominable idolatries. But she kept firm, saying, gently, "Jesus must be first," "I am a Christian, and Christ must be first." Then they put into the mother's arms her sweet little boy of three, her only child; but as she clasped him to her breast and caressed him with kisses, still she said "Jesus is first." Then they tore him from her, and showered down oaths and curses and imprecations and insults upon her and upon the Saviour she adored. This was on a Thursday — just ten day ago.

The next day they came again, and the missionary, not apprehending serious danger, had them admitted to the compound. Such a crowd poured in that the police followed, but they were powerless to help, for among the crowd were many Sepoys — some dressed in women's clothes, but others in military uniforms. Then again, as this dear Christian woman stood before them (for they demanded to see her, and threatened to break down the cottage if denied), the friends called and entreated her to come back to them. Finally, finding all their entreaties and threats unavailing, one among them held out her little son, bidding her come and take him. Suspecting nothing, the mother stepped forward with outstretched arms and at that instant a dozen hands clutched at the poor woman's throat and throttled her; then tore off her dress, threw her against a pillar, and swiftly carried her off. The missionaries followed down the street, in the hope of rescuing her as she was borne aloft on the shoulders of the frantic crowd. No chance, alas! for rescue; for sharp knives were flashing in the sunlight. Oh, that such a scene could be possible in a city like Madras, and in broad daylight!

Now let me give you over against this a bright picture.

The Convert's Home at Beranagore, six miles from Calcutta, has fifty-two widows in it, who have come out from the darkness and dreariness of heathen widowhood into the light and love of God. They are willing to work hard to support themselves and their children, and to be trained for Bible women and Bible teachers.

One day, some time ago, an educated Bengali lady came with her husband and little boy. The husband said, "My wife can not find any peace in the Hindu religion, though she has tried many ways; she says if she comes here she knows she will get what she wants." This gentleman was agent for a wealthy Bengali, but as he really loved his wife he was willing to part with her in the hope that she might find the peace she longed for. Only a few days passed

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(OPPOSITE POST OFFICE.)

MURINE FOR TIRED EYES.

by before this Bengali lady found "joy and peace in believing;" at once she sent the good news to her husband, and kept writing to him. In a little while he came back to say that his wife's letters had made him want to be a Christian. So we put them into a little mud-built cottage (very poor compared with his bungalow), outside the compound, and provided a teacher to instruct him in "the Way of Life." After a few days he came, saying, "I find I can not be a Christian and tell lies or take bribes, so I must throw up my position." This he did after some plain talks, for we had nothing to offer him except to go into the brass workshop among the boys, and earn, when competent, four annas a day. This Bengali gentleman, who had never soiled his fingers, cheerfully blackened them every day for some weeks for Christ's sake!

After this testing-time we put him and his wife as teachers in a mission school in one of the villages near, and there they, with their little son, are still happily working. Praise God!—Grace Stephens, in *The Bombay Guardian*.

MEN WANTED.

It is told of Gladstone that when he had determined to nominate Dr. Benson, then Bishop of Truro, to be Primate, a friend urged him not to make the appointment because Dr. Benson was a strong Tory, and was allied with a prominent politician who had made Gladstone the object of a personal attack. That splendid man's reply was: "You have supplied me with a strong argument in Dr. Benson's favor, for if he had been a worldly man or a self-seeker he would not have done anything so imprudent." Commend us, says the *Guardian*, to the man who does true things, and speaks right words, when it is "imprudent" to do so, so far as motives of worldly policy or personal interest are concerned. Commend us to the man who scorns to hold his convictions in abeyance for the sake of currying favor or avoiding disapprobation, when the highest motives prompt him to avow them. The simple, sincere, straightforward souls who live their strong lives without thought of self are the men the world needs for its positions of trust—every time and all the time. Unfeathered bipeds are plentiful enough; but men are scarce.

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New Business Written, ..	\$ 6,082,330.00
Increase over 1901,	1,058,935.00
Income,	1,240,890.00
Increase over 1901,	177,249.00
Assets as at Dec. 31, 1902,	4,406,320.00
Increase over 1901,	633,852.00
Insurance in Force,	30,152,833.00
Increase over 1901,	3,013,952.00

Interest income alone exceeded Death Claims by nearly \$26,000.00.

The E. R. MACHUM CO., Limited,
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 Managers for Maritime Provinces

AGENTS WANTED.

—The proportion of the Methodist population in the Canadian Dominion as reported in the Government Statistical Year Book for 1902, is 916,886. This shows an increase of more than 30,000 since 1891. Methodism is the largest Protestant Church in Canada, the Presbyterian comes next with 842,442, the Church of England with 680,620, and the Baptists with over 300,000.

—Gipsy Smith, an English evangelist, has sailed for South Africa, where he will spend about four months in evangelistic labors. Most of the chief towns will be visited, from ten days to two weeks being spent in each. Mr. Smith's recent services in England have been marked by wonderful soul-saving power.

INDICESTION CONQUERED BY K. D. C.
 IT RESTORES THE STOMACH TO HEALTHY ACTION AND TONE