

## 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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### CHINESE CHRISTIANS—THREE INCIDENTS.

The queer custom with the pigtails, slanting eyes and unintelligible speech of the Chinese often weigh too much as grounds of doubting their profession of the Christian faith. Here are three recent incidents opposed to such distrust, since they show that the souls of some Chinese know a language which we can understand, and have qualities to which we aspire:

1. A Chinese Baptist living in a village near Hsuehau (Sui-fu) in the province of Szechwan, is 60 years old, but every Sunday morning he appears at a village ten miles from his home, sends out the town-crier with a gong to call the people together, and preaches Christ to them. He is untaught except in the Bible, which he knows from Genesis to Revelation. His sincerity and a vivid imagination, which brings homely Chinese illustrations to his help, capture his audience. Afterwards he trudges ten miles back to his home and there, also, sends out the crier with his booming gong. There he preaches again. In the evening he holds another service. This he has done every Sunday for two years—a pure labor of love, for he has no salary.

2. A pottery manufacturer at Yuen-chau in Kiang-si, China, was converted. What shall one do as a first fruit of his decision to follow Jesus Christ? The first outward token of conversion which the pottery-maker gave was that he altered the weights with which he bought materials. He had arranged them so that he bought 18 ounces to the pound. The voice that spoke in his heart when he was converted made him convert his weights also—to 16 ounces to the pound.

3. At Lanchau in Kansu, China, is a farmer who has long been convinced of the truth; and none the less because it urged him to stop raising poppies whose opium brought him much money. This year, after he had planted his fields as usual, some strange power showed him what manner of man he is that will not surrender to Jesus because it costs to do so. Then one morning he took a grim determination that materialized in the form of a harrow and ripped up his opium fields. There is now one more happy Chinese church-member at Lanchau.

### THE JOY OF SERVICE.

The *Missionary Review* relates that Mrs. Moses Smith, president of the Woman's Board of Missions in Chicago, once, in a missionary meeting in a small church in Michigan, noticed in the audience a woman whose whole appearance denoted deepest poverty. "But," said Mrs. Smith, "there was a light in her faded face which fascinated me. I took occasion to speak to her. Thanking me, she confidently added: 'Two years ago I learned for the first time of women's work for women, and each month since I have been able to put something into the treasury.' Her bent form straightened, her head lifted, and her eyes shone as she continued. "When I have given my gift I am conscious that I am no longer simply a part of this little town, or even of the great commonwealth—I am a part of the forces which God is using in the uplifting of the nations!" The narrator says she "stood thrilled in her presence. It were useless to ask the woman if life were worth living. The secret of the Lord was hers."

### IN THE THICK OF BATTLE.

In the thick of the terrible battle of Nanshan, just north of Port Arthur, two Japanese soldiers were wounded at the same moment. One of them, a corporal, crept to his comrade and tried to bind up his wound. The man said to him, "Don't trouble about me, look out for your own wound; I have believed in Jesus Christ." Then the corporal recited to the desperately wounded man, "Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me." "Yes," responded the other, "I have been laid hold of by Jesus Christ." At that moment a second bullet struck the speaker and he died. The corporal lived to reach the hospital and to tell the Christian nurse of this strange communion of souls on the battle-field. Some of the money given by Christians in self-denial and with prayer, carried the Gospel to those two pagan Japanese, and so yielded fruit a hundred fold on the bloody slopes of Nanshan.

### AFTER SEVENTY YEARS.

Here is an incident which gives striking evidence of the powerful influence which Christianity, under the labors of Christian missionaries, is exercising in India. Swami Dharmanandg is one of the most remarkable Hindu ascetics in Bengal. He had a large number of disciples from among the highest classes, including magistrates, lawyers, and including magistrates, lawyers, judges. Seventeen years ago he heard in an address by an Englishman in Delhi the inspired words, "I am the true vine," and it seemed to give him a faint glimmer of a communicated life. He learnt Hebrew and Greek in order to read the Bible in the original, he learnt Arabic to read the Koran, has travelled in Europe, spent a long time in Rome, went to Armenia, Constantinople, and from thence to Mecca, China, Japan. After 17 years study of Buddhism, Ma-

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homedism, and Christianity he has now avowed his faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and has written a book to show that Christ is the Saviour and Messiah. He expressed his opinion that India owed her civilization and her education to the missionaries.

### Mission Notes and News

—One hundred years ago there were not more than one hundred foreign missionaries on the entire field. Now there are fifteen thousand four hundred. And yet atheists and infidels persist in declaring that the gospel is losing its influence on men.

—In a village near Ho tsm, Shan-si China, the village "elder" is a Christian. He has got the people unanimously to consent to his tearing down two heathen temples in order to build a Christian church out of the materials.

—The Bible Society seems to keep its eyes wide open for opportunities. The announcement is just made that the agent in China of the British and Foreign Society has ordered a special edition of fifteen thousand gospels in Cantonese Colloquial, Easy Wenli and Mandarin for distribution among the coolies being recruited for work in South African mines.

—Ten years ago when Bishop Tucker went to Uganda he found there 300 baptized Christians, the fruit of the preceding fifteen years; today there are 30,000 an increase of a hundredfold. There was then one church in which men worshipped; today there are 700. Then there were twenty native evangelists, a fair proportion, you will admit, out of 300; now there are 2,000, again a hundredfold.

—A bit of missionary life in Tsuchiura, Japan: "Imagine me" says the missionary, "sitting on the floor, with a little table three feet square and one foot high, and a little charcoal fire with an oven on it, on one side. I was giving a cooking lesson to six Japanese ladies. The lesson was on stuffing and baking mackerel and on making sponge cake. After the lesson in cooking came

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a Bible lesson. What was the missionary's reward? Three of the women of the cooking class have already become Christians.

—Less than thirty years ago Stanley (1875) gave King Metsa, of Uganda, his first lesson in Christian doctrine. At that time there was not a Christian in all Central Africa. This year the *London Times* in the regular course of its news publishes an account of the consecration of the great Christian Cathedral built by the Uganda Church, at Mengo, which was formerly King Mtsea's capital. Ten thousand native Christian Ugandans attended the consecration services.

—A Japanese woman, teacher in the Ferris Seminary (Reformed Church) in Yokohama, has been invited many times to leave the Seminary and take a better position in a Government School. They offered her ten dollars, and finally \$22 a month salary if she would accept. But she stays in the missionary school on a salary of *seven dollars and a half*. The reason? She could not teach pupils in the other school to seek the blessings which she herself has found in Jesus Christ.