

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.]

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

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Rev. J. N. Barnes' Report for July.

To the Corresponding Secretary of the Woman's Mission Society.

DEAR SISTER,—We began this month at Grand Harbor, Grand Manan, the first Sabbath in July. In the morning and afternoon had a public missionary meeting, and in the evening the pastor drove me to Seal Cove, where we had another meeting. Attended Band meeting at the Harbor Monday evening; made a number of visits, and collected what we could for the paper; attended prayer-meeting with Bro. McNitch; had meeting at Two Islands on Wednesday, and prayer-meeting at the Harbor Thursday evening. Went to White Head Saturday; had two meetings Sabbath; had four evening meetings in the week; two Band meetings and Conference meeting that week. Had meeting again Sabbath morning, and at the close 16 sat down at the Lord's table. It was a time of refreshing indeed from the Lord. In the evening had a mission meeting; good attendance for what people are on the Island; at the close the sisters had a good meeting. It was good to spend eight days with this people; much good, we trust, was done in these days of toil by the assistance of Almighty God. Reviewing the history of this people, many changes have taken place; many have died, others have moved away, yet God has a people here who love and fear him. Forty-one years ago I first put my foot on this little island of the sea. At that time there was no house of worship no school-house, no school nor church organization, no public worship, not one family altar, and little was thought about God or heavenly things. Mrs. Barnes and I stopped a few days and then went away. In the fall of that year Bro. William Brown made them a visit; he went away for a time, and then returned, and God blessed him to see a most blessed revival. From that time till now the light has never gone out. May richer blessings soon attend them. The women and children, with what chance they have, are doing well for the mission. May some good man of God soon be directed there to help them, for they need it much.

On Monday morning we bade them farewell, and went again to Grand Harbor, and from there to North Head. Attended meeting Sabbath morning with Bro. McNitch, and at Cascade with Bro. Harvey, at three o'clock, and had a public mission meeting in the evening. I am pleased to say that Bro. McNitch is well liked on the Island, and is doing good work. Monday, the 25th, we left the Island for St. John. This Island is a very different place in many respects of which I have not time to write, from what it was forty-two years ago the 18th day of July, when I first landed on it. A number of good men have had a hand in making it what it now is. I hope still better days are in store for it. This shall always be my prayer. We spent one night in St. John. Next morning left by boat for Palmer's Wharf, where we found our horse had been well cared for by our old friends, Messrs. Whitfield and Beverley Palmer. After a few hours rest we went on our way to Blissville. Stopped at Clarendon church part of the Sabbath, also had a

meeting of the Mission Band on Saturday. The evening of the Sabbath we spent with Bro. G. W. Foster at Blissville.

This ends our two months' work since we left home, the 28th of May. It will, if we live, be another month before we reach home. I am thankful to our Heavenly Father that we have had health and strength to get through with the work thus far this year, and hope we may be able to go to the end. We are both tired some of the time. My many friends will be pleased to know that my health is quite improved of late.

Summary of work for the month: Families visited, 67; mission meetings, 7; Sabbath school and Band Meetings, 8; other meetings, 10; miles travelled, 246; cash collected — for missions, \$18.67; for INTELLIGENCER, \$18.37.

J. N. BARNES.

August 1st, 1904.

BIBLE WOMEN.

In many respects the Bible women is one of the most significant exhibitions of the power of the gospel to uplift and develop that the history of Christianity can show.—Mrs. T. M. McNair.

HOW THEY TRAVEL.

Miss Coombs writes in the *Helper*: "You ask how I travel when going with the Bible women. I have a cart or carriage (which we call a 'garrie'), drawn by oxen (which we call 'bullocks'), having four wheels on springs and so constructed as to be made into a bed at night and so we can sit up in it in the daytime. We used to go all the way to Contai in this,—sixty miles and more; but now the new railway takes us to the turning off road (which is called 'Contai Road Station'), about 35 miles from Contai. So I sent my garrie ahead to this turn and waited a day to go by train to meet it there. My Bible women went in their two-wheeled bullock garrie some days before, as they were to work along the way in villages through which they passed. From this turn we went on together, stopping the first night in a bungalow for travelers and going on the next day to another, twelve or fourteen miles farther on, where we had our noon meal and rested till towards evening and then went on through the night till we reached Contai not long before morning. While there I used the large middle room of the mission bungalow (one corner of it screened off) and the Bible women had their bedding and boxes in another corner. We do this wherever we go, for I stop in some government bungalow, which I get by paying a small rent, and they cook and eat in an out-house for that purpose, but sleep in the bungalow with me.

"The greater part of our work when off on such trips as these might be called 'personal work.' We get a chance to sit on somebody's veranda and sing and explain the meaning of the hymn, then read either some tract or from the New Testament and ask them questions and they question us, so that we get in closer touch with individuals than when in some market where there are hundreds, some of whom we draw about us by singing, and then 'preach.' We do this latter, sometimes, but we like the veranda talks much better. Sometimes we

are invited inside the house, where we get still nearer the women."

VISITING THE ZENANAS.

Miss Barnes sends the following clipping from an Indian paper, with the comment, "I can say 'Amen' to the last lines. In every mission there should be some one to especially work with and train the Bible women."

"Among the most interesting reports which reach the Bible House are those concerned with the work of the Bible women, who visit the zenanas and instruct the women and girls of the families concerning the Scriptures.

"Let the following illustrations show the eagerness with which these Bible women are received. In many cases, indeed, their visits form the only bright spots in the lives of the women whose lot is often a very sad and very gloomy one. 'During one of the recent Hindu Poojah days,' says a lady superintendent, 'I did not send my Bible woman, thinking the Hindu household would be too much engaged to receive her. What was my delight on going the next week to hear a woman say: "The Bible woman did not come last week. I waited all day for her, and when she did not come how sorry I was to find that I should have to wait another week without hearing the words of God." But I said: "Would you not have been too busy with your Poojah?" "No," she answered. "What is our Poojah? But the words of your Book are good."

"One of the Bible women employed in Ranchi is quite blind. She belongs to the aboriginal tribe of the Uraons or Kurukhs, and has been taught to read. She is led through the streets of Ranchi by her mother, and the people eagerly press about her asking her to read to them. She frequently receives invitations from native gentlemen to visit the purdah nashin ladies of their zenanas who are curious to hear and see a blind woman reading. In addition to work in Ranchi she visits the women of her own tribe, and explains to them in their own mother tongue what she has read in Hindi.

"Many of the reports bear witness to the conviction possessed by the pupils

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of the Bible women of the truth of the Gospel and the falsity of Hinduism; but very few indeed have the courage to sever home ties and personal friendships for the sake of Christ, and so they remain secret believers. As the call for extension of Bible work becomes more insistent, corresponding care needs to be taken that the women chosen for the work should be specially fitted by instruction and training for this most important work. Lady superintendents are realizing this increasingly, and one has voiced the opinion of all when she says: 'We consider that the pressing need at present is far more intelligently trained and more truly spiritual Bible women.'

Three hundred and ten houses out of a total of 560 at Illsfeld, Germany, were destroyed by fire last week. Many persons were injured by falling walls.

Many-deaths from cholera in Persia are reported. In Teheran, the capital, there are thirty or forty a day.

INDIGESTION CONQUERED BY K.D.C.
 IT RESTORES THE STOMACH TO HEALTHY ACTION AND TONES WHOLE SYSTEM.