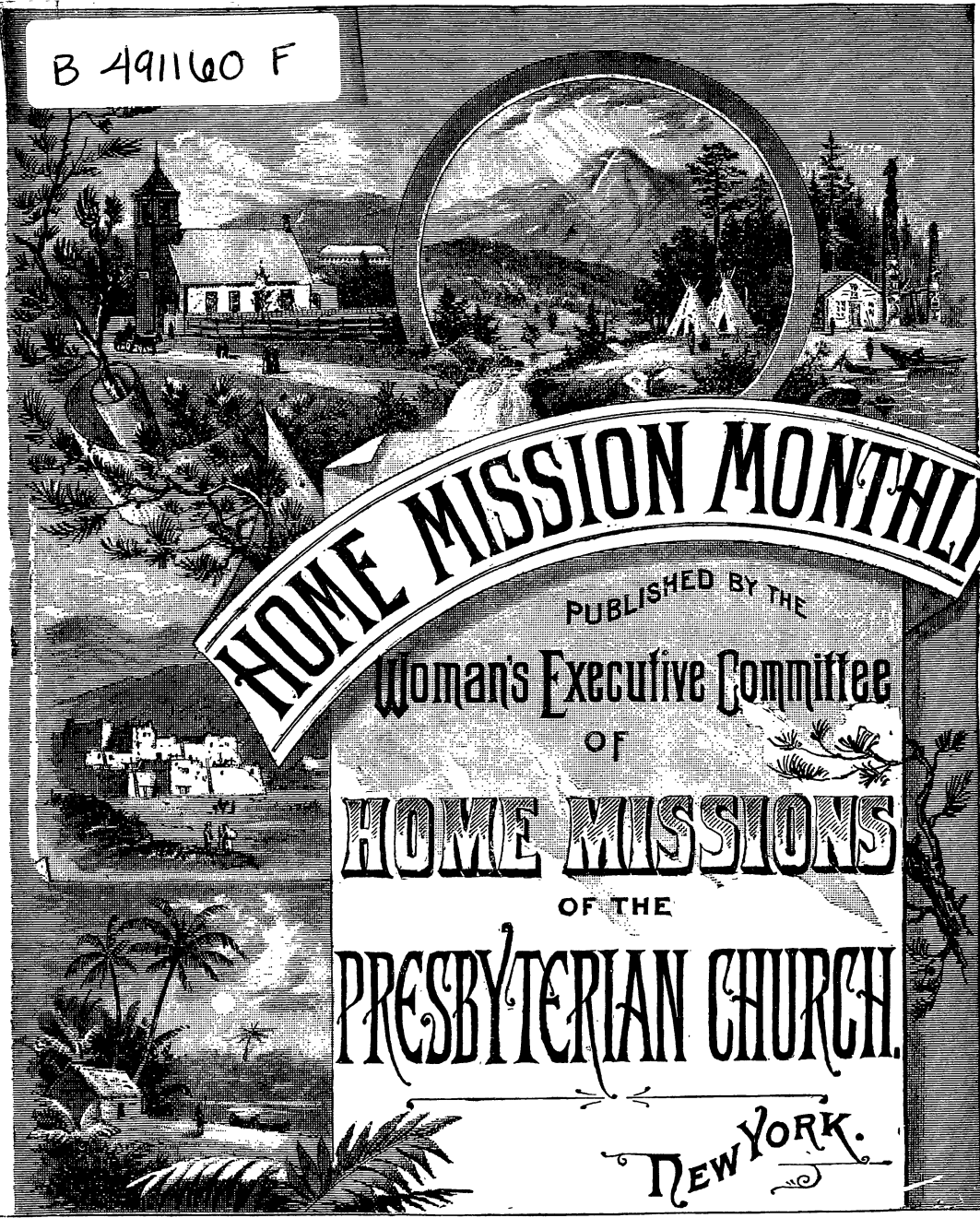


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HOME MISSION MONTHLY.

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EDITORIAL NOTES.



THE announcement of the Annual Meeting of the Woman's Executive Committee will be found in this number. Each Synodical Society should have a full representation. We are looking forward to this occasion as a time for reviewing the events of the past year not only, but for gaining fresh inspiration and courage for further earnest effort in the cause of Home Missions.

WE shall count it a special favor if subscribers will promptly inform us when they fail to receive the Home Mission Monthly, and we will gladly forward the missing number. The greatest care is taken to avoid all mistakes, but we do not claim to be infallible. Losses also occur in the mail, and addresses are not always correctly given, or are written so indistinctly that it is impossible to determine them with absolute certainty.

IT has been decided to delay the issue of the June number of the Home Mission Monthly for a week or ten days beyond the usual date of publication in order that it may contain the report of the Annual Meetings which will be published in much fuller form than heretofore. Not only will there be a complete report of the proceedings on the day of the Annual Meeting, but also of the daily union prayer-meetings, as well as the usual afternoon meetings at which time the Synodical Conferences are held and reports given from the various fields; all of which cannot fail to interest and profit our readers, as well as those who are present as participants. It will be well for any wishing extra copies of this number to order early.

THE HOME MISSION MONTHLY goes to press too early in the month for the final financial statement of the year. This statement will be given in full next month.

SOME persons are greatly astonished when informed that the Mormons claim to prove their religion by the Bible. The fact is that they use, twist and distort such passages in the Bible as seem to give color to their teachings. It is said that if you engage with Mormons in conversation about their peculiar views, you will find that "they lug texts in by the ears to help out their deceptive argument." Dr. Wishard, who has lately accepted the position of Synodical Missionary of Utah (much to the joy of our mission force on the field as well as to the satisfaction of all friends of the work), says that when he was in Utah a year or two ago, he noticed a marked tendency to "slip out a passage at one point, and pull out another passage at another point, and put these disjointed passages together upon which to found a doctrine in direct opposition to the word of God." He told them that it reminded him that he once heard a minister say he could prove anything from the Bible; being asked how he could do that he replied: "Well, doesn't the Bible say that 'Judas went out and hanged himself?'" "Yes." "Doesn't the Bible say 'Go thou and do likewise?'" This is a good illustration of the Mormon fashion of quoting Scripture.

MANY of our readers know that the Creek Nation recently erected, at large cost, a fine brick building at Wealaka, Indian Territory, and that they placed the school under the care of the Home Mission Board. This

NEW MEXICO.

M. L. ALLISON, SANTA FE.—We do thoroughly enjoy this comfortable new home and wonder how we managed to get along in the wretched old adobe. We are having a bathroom and laundry fitted up in the best part of the old house, which will add much to our comfort. The pickets and posts are on the ground to fence our yard and “poco a poco” we are getting reduced to order. There is some filling up and grading needed badly. We want some trees and grass in our yard. This barrenness is painful. It does seem as if everyone had a sort of birth-right to a part of God’s green earth. We have water convenient, and if the grounds are put in shape I will see to it that trees, grass and flowers grow and blossom to cheer future workers in this desert place. Our boarding department has already overflowed the capacity of our commodious house. Many have been turned away sadly disappointed because we could not receive them.

JEMEZ HOT SPRINGS, NEW MEXICO.—Miss Stright, whose school has suffered from a visitation of that dread disease, diphtheria, speaking of the death of two of her pupils says: “There is something to encourage even in these sad events. The father is a well-educated man of more intelligence than the ordinary Mexican, but he claimed to be an unbeliever in religion, and the mother was supposed to be a devout Catholic; but, when the little boy died she wanted him buried in the Protestant burial ground and wished Dr. Shields to take charge of the funeral services.” When it was apparent that the daughter could not live, she professed her love in Jesus and was baptized at their request. Miss Stright adds: “The parents have attended every preaching service, Sunday school and prayer meeting since their daughter’s death and seem much interested.”

*WORK AMONG PUEBLO INDIANS IN
NEW MEXICO.*

ONE of our teachers writes: “Whenever I sit down to write either to home friends or the unknown ones who may chance to read my letters, I wish anew that it were possible to express in adequate terms my feelings in regard to the Indians of this ‘Far West.’ I would like to introduce you to our three little ones—Mary, a beautiful child with winning ways; Roberta, with her clinging, affectionate disposition; and the little elf, Lerecita, a Pueblo Indian from Isleta. She came to us about the last of November, and at that time could not speak a word of English. Now she chatters like a magpie, and is as frolicsome as a kitten; though to look at her when sitting quietly on a chair with that steady light in her great hazel eyes, one

would suppose, despite her saucy, tip-tilted nose, she was the most sedate mortal alive. One evening, after the children had all been snugly tucked in bed, I heard the patter of little feet over the dormitory floor, but on opening the door found each child in her bed. A chorus of voices greeted me: ‘Lerecita, Lerecita!’ but before the explanations could be carried further, Lerecita sat up, and in a manner calculated to distract attention from the others, began an earnest recital of what some one else had been doing. Have you not all heard a naughty little one try the same measure? In disposition she is like an April day—full of sunshine and showers. But it seems a hopeless task to attempt to transfer to paper the winsomeness of our babies or the attractiveness of the older pupils. They seem to have such a vivid realization of the fact that they have but entered the doors of the storehouse of knowledge. I never go into the sitting-room without being asked to teach a new pattern in crochet, to pronounce and explain words in some lesson or the Shorter Catechism, or to read a chapter in the Bible. One of our girls who was at Carlisle for two years and worked on a farm three more, bought with her earnings a stove, table, dishes, chairs and bed. She is very ambitious and wishes to be placed where she can earn money during vacations. Last week her brother, who has never attended school before, walked here from his home at Laguna, a distance of seventy miles. We feel encouraged in the belief that the Pueblos are no longer content to rest in their ignorance, which the religion forced upon them by Spanish masters failed to enlighten. At present it is a mixture of Catholic superstitions and Pagan rites. It is to these, our brothers and sisters in Christ, that we would bring ‘good tidings of great joy,’ and while you lend a helping hand, we ask your prayers for the success of our efforts.

ARIZONA.

Laura W. Pierson, Tucson.—I cannot imagine a more interesting class of children than these Pima and Papago Indians. At first it seemed as though I could never really understand the Indian nature, they seemed so silent, unresponsive and strange in their ways, but though only six months have passed, they now seem altogether different. They may have some characteristics peculiar to the Indian, but in most things I find them much like the white people, and quite as interesting to teach as any white children could be. The children memorize quite readily, for those whose memories have never been trained. I think there are few boys and girls in our American Sunday-schools who can recite the commandments and some of the Psalms as well as these Indians. I was quite surprised on Sunday, when, on asking some