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# Eastern Tidings

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## DEATH OF ELDER J. C. LITTLE

ON Wednesday evening, August 10th, a wire was received at Annfield announcing the death that day at 12:30 of Elder Little, of cholera. Although it had been known that he was not in as good health as could have been desired, no intimation had been received of his being sick; and so the news of his death came as an awful shock. A telegram was at once sent for more particulars, and the next evening it was learned that as Brother Watson had been quite sick, Brother Little was accompanying him to Calcutta, and expected to come from there on up to Mussoorie for a rest before the general meeting. But on the boat from Barisal to Khulna he contracted cholera, and by the time they reached the latter place was unable to proceed to Calcutta. Brother Mookerjee was telegraphed for, and leaving by the first train, arrived at Khulna at 11:30 Wednesday. From a long letter from him we condense the following:—

I spent part of the night in prayer and study, wondering what the trouble could be, but decided that it must be cholera or persecution. I went to the drug store and purchased enema tubes, eucalyptus, camphor, etc., and prepared myself for all emergencies; such as, poison, etc. I took along hot water bag, fomentation cloths, rubber

bulb for nutritive enemata, "Home Hand Book," warm blankets, etc. The train seemed to go slowly, but at last I arrived at Khulna, and found Brother Little in a most humble looking thatched house. He was on a hard bench in the corner of the room, with only a blanket and soiled sheet under him. Two mehtars (native servants) were out on the verandah, and our poor, unfortunate brother was lying on his side with his face towards the thatched wall, with his eyes turned upward—the whites only being visible, for he was dying. His hands and arms were cold up to the shoulder blades, there was no pulse in the wrist, and his feet were exposed and cold. His hands were also in a cramped state and the nails blue. There, without an intelligent soul to help, in that lonely place, I found our brother with death's cold embrace already upon him.

The Doctor said he had attended him all night; but I did not see him when I first went there. I at once called for hot water, and gave him three hot bottles, then began rubbing him with alcohol; but our dear brother was too far gone. I offered two most earnest prayers, pleading for his life if it was the Father's will. I then patted my dear brother's back, and

said: "Brother Little, Brother Little: this is Mookerjee." But, poor soul, his breath was gone, and I had to go through the saddest experience of my life, that of seeing my brother breathe his last without being able to recognize me.

Just shortly after I entered the room, the Baptist Minister at Khulna, Rev. W. W. Milne, came in. He helped us a great deal, going to the magistrate, purchasing the burial lot, paying for the digging of the grave, etc. Another gentleman came in, Mr Girard, manager for Messrs Bird & Co. So there were Rev. Milne, Mr. Girard, two mehtars, the doctor, Brother Bepin Sircar, and myself present to see our brother breathe his last breath.

Mr. Girard is a young Englishman, and he, with the help of Mr. Smith, the steamer engineer, cut up railway sleepers and made the coffin with their own hands, bought black cloth and draped it, and lined it with white muslin. On the lid of the coffin was a white cross, also a garland of white flowers. Mr. Girard paid for the coffin, cloth, etc. When the coffin was finished, Rev. Milne, Messrs Girard and Smith, and I carried it on our shoulders to the place where Brother Little lay at rest. I brushed his hair with my hand, and we four laid him in the coffin; I looked at him for the last time, and after a word of prayer, we nailed down the lid.

Then other Europeans who had been notified came to the hospital, and six of us took turns in carrying the coffin to the burial ground. The Europeans did not want the mehtars to handle the body or carry the coffin, and so carried

it themselves, Rev. Milne and even the district superintendent of police giving their shoulders. It was raining, but without hats or umbrellas, through village paths and roads full of slush and mud, we went and at last reached the final resting place. Quite a number were present. Mr. Milne's school boys (Bengali) stood in a row at our back, and fifteen Europeans and others came. I read a few scriptures and spoke a few words, and all sang softly "Rock of Ages" when the coffin was lowered. Rev. Milne offered prayer:

Brother Little began to be sick about noon Tuesday, and by 9:30 that night, just a little while before the mail leaves for Calcutta, cramps were coming on. So they decided to stop over. Although very poorly himself, and having to be carried around by natives, Brother Watson stayed with Brother Little all night and helped in directing the mehtar and the doctor. But after 7:00 A. M. he was unable to stand it any longer, and so went out to Brother Bepin Sircar's home and sent him back to be with Brother Little. Rev. Milne first arrived about an hour before I got there. He asked Brother Little where he came from, and he replied, "Barisal." Then he asked him if he were an "Oxford brother," the reply to which was, "No; I am a Seventh-day Adventist." So with his last words our brother confessed his faith.

After he died, and I had made some necessary arrangements, I went out to see Brother Watson. His temperature was 105°, and he was in a bad condition. He asked about Brother Little's condition, but I put him off until I could do something for him and get

his temperature down. After treatment he became easier and I broke the sad news of Brother Little's death. When I had made him comfortable, I changed my clothes and went back to help with the funeral. In the evening I gave Brother Watson some more treatment, packed up, and started for Calcutta. He is now at the Sanitarium, and very sick, but I think out of danger.

Poor Brother Little dedicated our new church building at Dhamsha last Sabbath. He was not well when he started out, and should not have gone at all. But he went and ate food at different brethren's homes, and this is where the mistake was made. His death is a great blow to our work, which we of the Bengali department only can realize. I do not know what lesson the Lord has for us to learn; but this I do know, that good homes and facilities, like good boats, etc., should be provided; otherwise, we shall have more sad experiences like this.

These are the particulars as we have them at present. While, even yet, the sorrow is almost too much to be borne, still the sadness is mitigated by the blessed hope and the fact that Brother Little died at his post. Sad as death is, it is infinitely better to die loyal to this message than to live and depart from it as many are doing to-day. Many will take Brother Little's death as a personal loss to them; to the editor of EASTERN TIDINGS it means much because of the fact that it was for Brother Little's release from the Watchman Press that he might take up field work, that he and his family came to India. We had studied the printing work together not a little, and should have studied it more had he lived. But his work is finished, and all believe finished well. He has given his life to the work in India, and now rests, and we are left to carry it on without him. The loss we sustain can not be estimated; but may the experience lead us to renew our consecration and be more faithful in every duty.

## ITEMS

—Doctor Menkel was called recently to see one of the princes of Bhopal, who earlier in the season was a patient at the Sanitarium.

—Sister Little arrived at Mussoorie Tuesday, the 2nd inst. Brother Little having decided, with Brother Watson, to make a trip among the Sabbath-keepers of East Bengal and then later on to come up for a rest before the general meeting. The news of Brother Little's death is, of course, a terrible shock to her; but she is sustained by the hope which has buoyed the faithful of all the ages and the fact that partings now are only for a short time. We know that this work must soon be finished, and then with our loved ones from whom we have been separated we shall be reunited.

—Recent letters from Elder and Mrs. Shaw report them as quite well and much interested in their work. Their connection with the Foreign Mission Seminary keeps them in touch with foreign mission work, in which their interest keeps aglow, and they express the hope of helping in the closing of the message in India.

—An item which we overlooked last month was the arrival of another worker for India Sterrie Eugene Wellman, who arrived at Mussoorie, July 2. He is doing nicely in India, and there is every reason for believing he will always be a Well-man.

—Brother Wellman and family plan on coming down from Mussoorie to Najibabad to-day, the 15th. They expect to settle there, and take up work, which will be an encouragement to the workers already there.

# The Eastern Tidings

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W. E. PERRIN, - - - EDITOR

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## MY RECENT TRIP

IN company with Elder S. A. Wellman, I left Mussoorie July 25 to visit some of our mission stations. Our first stop was at Najibabad where we found all the workers of good courage. Elder Wellman has written concerning the work at this place, so I need not mention it here.

From Najibabad we proceeded to Lucknow to look after some matters concerning the coming General Meeting which will be held there October 21-30. My next visit was at Babolmohal. Here we found the work among the Santals moving forward in an encouraging manner. On the Sabbath, we organized a church of thirteen members, and elected a full set of officers. Five adults were baptized by Brother Barlow. Ten more are interested in the truth, and the workers feel confident that it will not be long until these will unite with them. Brother R. Leech and wife are studying the Santali language, and are making progress.

Karmatar was my next stop. This is one of our oldest mission stations. Miss Della Burroway and Miss Louise Scholz are in charge of the work here. Sr. Burroway is now taking a much needed rest at Annfield, and we are glad to say that she is improving.

In company with Miss Scholz and Prova Mitter, I visited a family of Europeans with whom Della Burroway has been holding readings. The following evening they came over to the mission bungalow, and we had a reading on "Which day is the Sabbath.?" While there are influences at work to prevent them, if possible, from following their convictions, two of this family say that they have begun to keep the Sabbath.

Miss Burroway and Miss Scholz will continue to instruct them in the various points of truth. Thus it is evident that while we may be devoting most of our time to the native work, the Lord will also bless our efforts for the English people around us. Brother Enoch has had a similar experience.

We also visited two schools which are under the direction of Miss Scholz and Miss Burroway, but are taught by two native Sabbath-keepers. As this is the busy season in the rice fields, the attendance is rather small at present. However the schools are getting on nicely, and we are glad for this opportunity of teaching the children of heathen parents something of the true way of life.

Miss Sholtz is doing faithful medical work, and is having some remarkable experiences. Truly the Lord is blessing her efforts. Miss Burroway and her assistant are also seeing good results from their gospel work. I met the man and his wife who came out from heathenism and accepted the truth. They are a demonstration of the fact that God can still "turn people from idols to serve the living God."

The workers in Calcutta are of good courage. We held a meeting with the church while there. Four others were present, two of whom are taking Bible Readings from Mrs. Bruce, and seem to be very much interested in the truth. Calcutta is badly in need of a worker who can give all his time to evangelical work. We were expecting Elder Milton St. John to come out for this line of work, but doctors have decided that his wife's health is not such as to warrant their coming to this field.

Brother L. G. Mookerjee is doing aggressive work among the Bengali people. There are quite a number interested in the truth. The attendance at his meetings in the hall is quite encouraging. He is badly in need of a good man to help him in the work.

Everywhere we find the work advancing, but we need more workers and more means to carry it forward. Let us "pray the Lord of the harvest to send forth labourers into the harvest."

W. W. MILLER.