

Asiatic Division Mission News

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Gethsemane

"Sleep on and take your rest, 'tis now too late:
The wakeful hours of sympathetic prayer
Were lost in sleep." For when He would confer
With kindred souls, they slept: 'twas Satan's bait.
Oh, dark Gethsemane! Could we but weight
The agony of all He had to bear,
Nought to their thoughtlessness could we compare
Who left the Christ to struggle desolate.
And we sleep, too, while half the world is bound
In cruel chains, and dark, revolting creeds,
And all the horror that their teaching breeds.
Yet could the gospel message but resound
Throughout the heathen world, it would confound
Deceitful falsehoods and show men their needs.
James Graham.

Cannibal Tribes Receive the Gospel

I have thought that the readers of the Asiatic Division NEWS would be pleased to hear a little about the work in far-off New Hebrides, now that the South Sea Islands have been linked up to become a part of this great Division. There are missionaries in the field who were acquainted with Brother C. H. Parker and wife, and will be pleased also to hear of them.

Brother Parker speaks of opening up the work among the Big Nambus tribe, one of the fiercest tribes in the New Hebrides—a cannibal people, who about two years ago killed six Presbyterian native missionaries. I have just received a letter from Brother Parker, and quote the following from it, which I feel will be of interest to you.

"We do trust that the Lord will overrule so that we can have another laborer and his wife added to our staff, and that the establishment of our work at Matanavat and among the Big Nambus shall not be delayed. I have just made a trip up among the Big Nambus. The brother of the paramount chief was waiting for me by appointment, and he led the way up the mountainside, with a number of men acting as a rearguard. We passed a large number of bushmen on the way, as they were using the Big Nambus path to go down to the salt water. The leader, Kambi, would stop until they had all passed out of sight before he would continue, as he said they were liable to shoot me in the back. He always took pains to tell every group that we passed that I was the missionary.

"We ascended over 2,000 feet before reaching the leading chief's town. They led me to their heathen dancing ground, where there were gathered a large number of men, principally old. They placed a stone for me to sit on, and then they would come and feel me all over, running their hands up under my trousers and shirt. (They found no meat, only bones.) The head chief came up and greeted me very cordially, and we had a good chat, as best we could with a few words that I had acquired, and a little broken English. Then I had a service with them. They seemed to be afraid, though they asked for it, and a number removed quite a distance away. They all covered their heads when we had prayer. They were much interested in my picture-roll, and looked a long time at the pictures. My medicine bag was another object of interest, and they brought up every man they could find that was sick, and took medicine to some that were farther away.

"Kambi then took me to his house, and showed me his compound. He has twenty-five wives; his brother has fifty. They all have the upper front tooth knocked out. They are nice looking women, and strong and active. They wear a kind of grass skirt, and a head-dress which reaches almost to the ground, both of which are dyed red.

"After a presentation of large yams to me, Nikabart and Kambi took me to the place they had chosen for our school and dwelling house. They told me that we could have as much ground as we wanted, as they owned it all. It is a beautiful location, and such a fine view of old Ocean, its coastline stretching away for miles, and then inland over other mountain peaks and level stretches. Like the words of two maiden ladies on the old Warrimoo when they saw the Southern Cross for the first time, it was "delicious,"—at least it was refreshing. The location should be very healthy. I was much impressed with it. The laborers that locate there will have a beautiful home, and fairly cool. It is about ten miles from the coast. They will have a large number of people to labor for, who are the most savage and cannibal of all the Malekulan tribes, besides being the most numerous. It will open the gate to a number of bush tribes who are friendly with this people.

"I am the first white man who has ever visited the

Big Nambus. Just a year ago they had killed a boat's crew, and just twenty-four days before my visit they had killed a number of bushmen and eaten them.

"On returning to the beach I had a service with the bushmen who were there. They were very interested in the pictures, but when we came to pray they sat down, turned their backs to me, and covered their heads. We had a good service, however.

"I was very thankful for the privilege of making this trip. We were going again this week, but circumstances have kept us from doing so; however, no preventing providence, we will go next week."

J. E. FULTON.

A Filipino Student's Vacation

The record made by one of our Filipino young men may be of interest to some of our brethren in other parts of the world. This was not a large record, but it was made under conditions that make it a good one.

Ricardo Sabella, of whom I speak, is a young Visayan boy who has lived with us most of the time since we came to the Islands. During the past two years he has been in school, making his support by working in the publishing house. This of course does not more than meet his running expenses, so when his school was out, we advised him to canvass during his vacation. We assured him that if he would work regularly, he could make more than he could in the publishing house. So with only a few hours of instruction in salesmanship, he started to canvass during his vacation (vacation here is one month shorter than in America). He chose "World's Crisis" (Tagalog) as his book, the best binding of which sells for seventy-five cents.

The place to which he went was canvassed last year for "Coming King." And more than that, just a few months before he began canvassing, the country was visited by a severe storm, which almost totally destroyed the coconut crop, which is the main industry of this section. As it takes almost a year to grow a new crop, his territory was not the most promising.

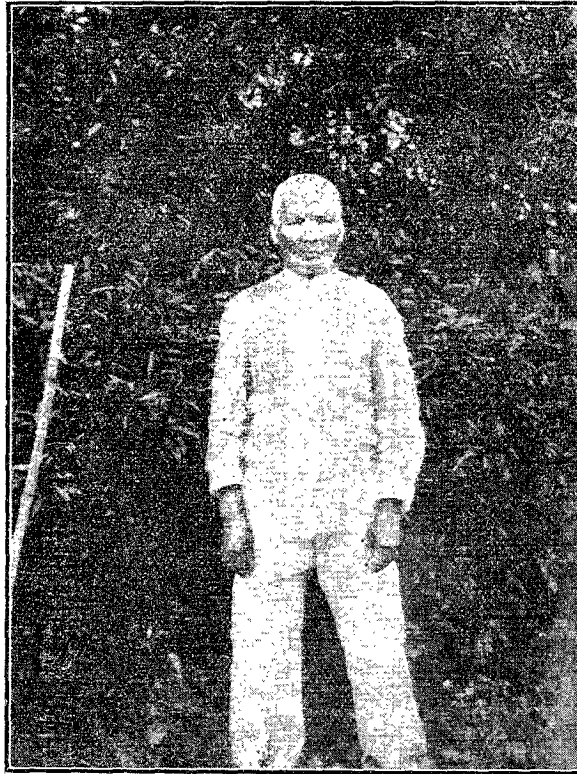
Although this was his first experience, he decided to make a special effort among the better class of people. It was largely to this that he owes his success. In one town he received orders from the president,

vice-president, secretary, chief-of-police, also from each member of the police force. In the next town he did almost as well. In the last town where he worked he lived with the vice-president, from whom he received a list of about fifty names of prominent people. All but about four or five of those recommended by the vice-president bought books. He worked about two hundred hours and took orders to the value of about \$215.00,

of which amount he delivered about \$205.00. The two hundred hours covered the time spent taking the orders and delivering.

Ricardo is a bright young man. He speaks quite fluently English, Spanish, and two of the dialects. He expects to finish high school next year. He hopes then to take a medical course, which he would like to take at Loma Linda.

W. E. LANIER.



Our Oldest Sabbath-school Member, Tibursio, of Binang, P. I., who claims to be 136 years of age

Cantonese Annual Meeting

The annual meeting for the Cantonese field was held in Canton, May 31 to June 4, inclusive. From the beginning the attendance was large, and a good interest continued to the close, though every day was

crowded full of meetings of one kind or another. All the departments of our work received attention, and nearly every one present had a place on the program. Besides the regular Bible studies and preaching services time was given to the hearing of reports from the different stations. The evangelists rendered very encouraging reports, and the general tone was progress and courage.

Several hours were devoted to the consideration of the educational work. Bro. Thomas gave a good talk on the subject in Chinese. The native teachers in the Boys' Training School also gave short interesting talks on important subjects along the same line. Bethel Girls' School was also well represented. Not only did Sisters Wilbur and Thomas give some interesting studies that were supplemented by the native teachers and the Bible women, but the students also rendered special music and gave recitals in concert. And judging by the large exhibit on the last day of the meeting it is evident that the girls in Bethel School are receiving a training of the hand as well as of the heart and mind. The industries of weaving cloth, sewing, and embroidery work have been introduced. Already the

cloth is on the market, and orders for garments of same are being received.

All were interested in listening to six of the more advanced students in the Boys' Training School deliver short sermons on important Bible subjects. It was evident that they have some ability and had received careful training, which was supplemented by experience. The students in this school have an excellent



Teachers in Boy's School, Foochow

opportunity for development in practical missionary work in the large city of Canton under the instruction and direction of their Bible teachers, while at the same time they may carry forward their literary training.

Brother Mountain was present and gave special instruction to those who are engaged in the sale of our literature. Good progress is being made in this branch of the Lord's work in the Cantonese field.

Sabbath, June 3, was observed as rally day. Sister B. A. Meeker gave an interesting talk on the progress that is being made, giving the comparisons in the different fields from year to year, and held before the people the importance and aims of the Sabbath-school. Dr. Law Keem, who was present throughout the meeting, not only rendered good help at the spiritual services, but also gave special help in the Sabbath-school work, in which he is much interested. For the study of the lesson the school was divided into a score of classes, and when the offering was taken the tellers announced that \$27.00 was received.

On the last day of the meeting, after a sermon in Chinese by Pastor Meeker, eighteen souls were received into the church by baptism. There were fifteen others who desired to receive the rite, but since they had but recently come to a hearing knowledge of the gospel, it was thought best that they wait until the Autumn, and in the meantime continue the study of the Word.

There was a spirit of love, peace, and harmony present, and the Lord added His blessing to the efforts put forth by Brother Ham and associates in the preparation and conducting of this meeting. At the close all felt that this was one of the best meetings they had ever attended.

B. L. ANDERSON.

O that I had a thousand lives, and a thousand bodies! All of them should be devoted to no other employment but to preach Christ to these degraded, despised, yet beloved mortals.—*R. Moffat.*

Another Baptism At San Pablo, P. I.

A Baptismal Fallacy Exploded

This is the third baptism that has been held at this place during the last three months. At this time forty-one souls were buried with their Lord in baptism. It was a beautiful day, and all nature seemed to rejoice with us at the thought of wakening into a new life, as the rains had just begun to fall, and all vegetation had begun to shoot forth. This makes one hundred seventy-one people that have been baptized in this place as the result of our tent meeting at San Pablo, and still there remains a good interest in the *barrios*. We feel to praise the Lord for the success that He has given our native evangelist, Brother Bibiano Panis, and his co-workers.

At one of these baptisms, the fallacy of the oft repeated assertions of those who do not believe in immersion as the proper mode of baptism was made manifest. During my ministry I have often heard it repeated and seen it stated in articles, that on the day of pentecost it would not have been possible to baptize so many as three thousand souls in one day by immersion. The fallacy of this claim was clearly demonstrated when in one afternoon I baptized one hundred four people in just one hour by the watch. If all twelve of the apostles had been engaged in baptizing and carried on their work at the same rate per hour, they would baptize 1,248 in one hour; thus taking them less than two and one half hours to baptize that great multitude of three thousand souls. Of course we planned our baptism well to be able to accomplish such results. One brother helped the candidates into the water and another helped them out, so I could baptize one right after the other. We need not doubt the statement of Scriptures, although we may not always fully understand them.

At this place a church of one hundred eighty-three has been organized, and they are starting to build them a house of worship. May the Lord greatly bless this new church, and make it a power for good in disseminating the light to others.

L. V. FINSTER.

Thirteenth Sabbath In Honan

Beyond the mountains, 230 miles north on the Pe-king Hankow Railway, is Yencheng, our central station in Honan. Reaching there in company with my husband and daughter June 21, we found the workers, Pastor Frederick Lee and family, and Brother Orvie Gibson and family, faithfully performing the tasks allotted them, and of good courage in the Lord's work.

June 24 was our regular thirteenth Sabbath offering day, and forty-one members, including the ones visiting, met in the capacity of a Sabbath-school at the appointed hour. Back of the rostrum hung a model device for increasing the offerings. Thirteen steps leading to the open door of a bank were neatly drawn, each step representing one Sabbath in the

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quarter. A certain amount of offerings must be given each Sabbath to reach the goal at the close of the quarter. If the amount was reached one step was colored red, and if more was given a part of another was colored, etc., indicating that through toil and sacrifice the goal must be reached and the offerings stored in the bank of heaven, or given to the Lord.

With an appropriate program and a liberal offering the occasion was one of profit to the believers there, and also very encouraging to us, who were only stopping for a few days. The Sabbath-school goal for Honan is \$100.00 (Mex.) each quarter. The Chinese brethren and sisters are rallying to the call, and on the occasion of this thirteenth Sabbath a good sized basket was almost half-filled with dollars, dimes, coppers and long strings of cash, denoting a willingness on the part of all in giving of their means for the uplift of our Sabbath-school work in the Honan field.

NANNIE L. WOODWARD.

Giving

A letter recently received from E. D. Thomas, our Tamil brother in charge of the Nazareth Mission Station in South India, contains the following interesting item:

"Last Sunday we held our first ingathering service for the year. Rupees 568 were realized in tithes and offerings. During the last ingathering service we received rupees 406. So you see the Lord has been very good to us and blessed our feeble efforts. To Him be all the praise."

These ingathering services are held in South India twice yearly, so this means that nearly a thousand rupees, or more than three hundred dollars, gold, has been paid in by this church on these two special occasions. This does not include the weekly tithes and offerings that are liberally given by our Tamil believers.

Being personally acquainted with our people at the Nazareth station, and knowing that the larger per cent. of them are very poor in this world's goods, I realize that to give so liberally has meant a sacrifice. But this message not only unlocks hearts but also opens purses, and the giver becomes richer by the very act of giving when the prompting motive is a heart overflowing with love and gratitude to the great Giver.

C. E. WEAKS.

"The standard of the Golden Rule is the true standard of Christianity; anything short of it is deception."

NOTES

Sister Petra Tunheim, prior to sailing with the second party from Seattle, Aug. 8, visited her old home in Minnesota.

Thus far the hot season in Shanghai has been extraordinarily cool, which has been a great relief to those who have been forced to remain with the work here.

Brother B. A. Roberts has accepted a position as manager of the China branch of the Ault Wiborg Ink Company of Cincinnati. He contemplates establishing branch offices in the principle cities of China.

Pastor M. M. Hare, formerly of the East Canadian Union Conference, and who was released to engage in the work in India, has been unavoidably detained in America, and has begun work in the northern California Conference.

A meeting of the Asiatic Division committee will convene immediately after the arrival of the first party, including Pastors Porter and Cottrell. Their party is scheduled to arrive here the twenty-fifth, and the meeting is appointed for the twenty-seventh.

The Press has had rather a trying time with sickness among its native employees. Aside from minor ailments, Mr. Liang, the head translator, has succumbed to tuberculosis, while Mr. Liu Ti Pan, one of the pressmen, has returned to his home seriously ill with the same disease.

August 9 Brethren O. A. and J. W. Hall went to Nanking to arrange for the accommodation of the families who will attend the language school at that place during the coming year. Since a larger number than ever before will be in attendance, it is planned to remodel the social hall, so as to house two families.

Anticipating the demand for all the houses of the compound for the newly arriving officers of the Asiatic Division, Bro. K. H. Wood has moved to Shanghai to a house which is being leased for the accommodation of the Kiangsu workers. This place will not only provide room for those already in the employ of the Kiangsu division, but also makes room for the new family, which it is hoped that the arrival of the new recruits will supply.

Accommodation for forty people is being arranged in the Mandarin Training School dormitories. All the rooms to be occupied are being recalcimined, and new beds are being installed. Each bed will be provided with a net, which will be sold at cost to the family by whom it is used. Provision will be made to serve the party on the cafeteria plan. Arrangements have been referred to a committee consisting of Brethren O. A. Hall, Doolittle, and Sisters Woodward, O. A. Hall, and Henderson.