

- - THE - -

Eastern Tidings

VOL. 5

LUCKNOW, APRIL, 1910

No. 4

The Eastern Tidings

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

INTERNATIONAL TRACT SOCIETY

19 Banks Road, - - Lucknow

W. E. PERRIN, - - EDITOR

Field Reports

SOUTH INDIA FIRST FRUITS

SILENCE is no indication of inactivity. Since my last report I have been as busy as ever, and the multitude of details have almost crowded out all thought of TIDINGS. Late in December of last year we were joined by Elder G. G. Lowry and wife. Since their arrival they have been devoting their entire time to the study of Tamil, in which they are making encouraging progress. They occupy the bungalow we lived in last year, just a mile from the mission house. We are glad for their association and counsel, which is most helpful and encouraging in meeting the difficulties before us here.

Since the first of January I have been carrying on a Bible class among certain members of the congregation which came to us, with a view of bringing them out firmly on the principles of present truth. The fundamentals of the message were carefully studied with them, and all seemed to grasp the subjects as well as could be expected. I had the most difficulty in making plain the subject of Man's Nature and Destiny; but by going over it carefully and presenting only a

few points at a time, most of the trouble was removed. The hardest struggle came in getting them to see the importance of giving up their betel nut and jewelry, especially the latter.

About two weeks ago some began asking for baptism, and it seemed advisable to prepare for this ordinance. Sabbath, April 2, was the day fixed on. The entire congregation gathered at the usual time for the evening service at our bungalow, and together we marched to a tank a short distance away. At the water's edge, Elder Lowry gave a short talk, picturing to the people a similar scene in which Christ took part nearly two thousand years ago leaving us an example that we should follow in his steps. The school children sang several appropriate songs to Christian tunes, in which every one joined with heart and soul. This was followed by the baptism, when it was my privilege to bury twenty precious souls into their Lord's death. It was a blessed occasion, and many were heard to say that they were never more happy in their lives.

Of the twenty who were baptized, fourteen were men and six women. Of the whole number, nineteen came from practical heathenism, the other from the Church of England. The first heathen young man in India with whom I formed a personal acquaintance was the first to be baptized. His father is a leader in the Hindu Christian society, and has been fiercely opposed to us ever since his son began to show signs of favouring our

REC'D MAY 13 1910

views. Upon returning home after the baptism, he was met by his father with these words: "I once had a son, but now my son is dead. Should any one ask about my son, I will tell him I have no son, he is dead." After saying this he locked the door in his face, and turned him out into the night. The boy came to us for a home and sympathy. The second to be baptized was my interpreter, a young man from the Church of England who has stood faithfully by our work through all the storms we have had to encounter from the first day we set foot in these parts.

Those who used betel nut and wore jewelry laid them aside and promised to teach their children the evils of such things. Three discarded heathen names and chose names more in harmony with Christian teachings. Nearly all of these people come to us bearing on their faces the cruel marks and deformities of barbarous customs. I am glad to say that others are expecting to be baptized as soon as they are more fully instructed. Several more married women would have been baptized this time, but they were afraid to lay off their jewels without their husbands' permission, and they were away in Ceylon and knew nothing of our reasons for asking them to take such a step. Next Sabbath we expect to organize a church and celebrate the ordinances of the Lord's house.

Every department of the work here seems to be in a prosperous condition, and the blessing of God is shared by all. The attendance at our school now numbers ninety-one. The hot weather has fully come, but we all remain well and happy. We feel the need of your prayers, especially in behalf of those who have just made a start for the kingdom. We do not forget to pray for you.

J. S. JAMES.

TRANSFER OF HINDUSTANI GIRLS' SCHOOL FROM DEHRA DUN TO NAJIBABAD

At the bi-ennial conference in Lucknow a little more than a year ago it was voted to open a school in Dehra Dun for Hindustani girls. The primary object of this school was to provide a place where the girls of our Hindustani Sabbath-keepers could be educated in the truth and prepared for work in the Zenanas. It was also hoped that a number of day students could be secured from Hindu and Mohammedan families in the neighbourhood, who might enjoy the privileges of the school, and thus an opening be made for carrying the light of truth into these darkened homes.

It was found, however, after carrying on the school a few months, that the number of other girls' schools in Dehra made it practically impossible to obtain day students, and so a special effort was put forth to do faithful work with those of our own children in the boarding department. Those of us who were present at the closing exercises of the school in December were fully satisfied that the Lord's hand had directed in the establishment of this school for our Hindustani girls, and we felt to thank God and take courage that a beginning had been made, though but small, whereby workers may be developed to carry the message to the millions of shut-in Hindustani women.

As we were taking some of the girls home for the winter vacation, we were impressed with the faithful teaching that had been imparted, by overhearing one of our girls in the next compartment in earnest conversation with a number of fellow passengers on different points of the message. As the Bible truths in regard to the soon coming of the Lord, the Sabbath, and baptism were clearly brought out by this little thirteen-year-

old girl to a compartment full of people, we realized more fully than ever before the importance of training our own children and youth in the principles of the message.

Two other girls of twelve and fourteen were in the school last year. The father of these children had accepted the truth and been baptized, but owing to severe trials was led to renounce his faith, return to his former occupation, and remove the girls from the school. The two motherless girls, however, even after they returned home, remained true to the teaching they had received in the school, steadfastly refusing to work on the Sabbath. Their loyalty to the truth and their earnest pleadings to be allowed to return to their own mission, as they expressed it, so affected the father that in spite of the opposition of friends he gave them permission to return to the school. So they are with us again, and have brought back with them a younger sister and a girl friend of fifteen.

Another young lady who came to the school to learn more of this message, after studying with Sister O'Connor for several months, accepted the truth fully, was baptized, and is now earnestly engaged in the work herself in connection with Sisters Kurtz and Shryöck in Najibabad.

At the recent meeting in Dehra it was decided to remove the school to Najibabad, where a suitable place has been obtained. As this is a large heathen and Mohammedan city, with very inadequate arrangements for the education of girls, it is hoped that in time many Hindu and Mohammedan girls may be induced to attend the school. This, however, will require persevering and untiring effort on the part of those connected with the school. It is comparatively an easy matter to work up a school for boys in India. The people wish their boys to be educat-

ed, and gladly make sacrifices to pay for their education. But not so with girls. Their education is looked upon as a matter of indifference. And yet it is the girls educated in our schools to whom we must look to carry the message to our shut-in Indian sisters, appeals for helping whom have brought so large a share of the donations that have come to this field.

We trust that all will remember this work at the throne of grace. Brother and Sister Caleb, who have had experience in this line of work, and who have proved their loyalty to the message, will be associated with Sister O'Connor in the school work. As the dispensary is near by, it is planned for the older girls to have systematic instruction in the care of the sick and giving simple treatments, thus enabling them to receive a training that will better qualify them for work in the homes of the people.

GEORGIA A. BURGESS

NAJIBABAD

ONE week after our arrival here we opened our dispensary, and it was then decided that Sisters Shryöck and Singh would wait on those who came to the dispensary and I would attend to the outside calls. I have had some very interesting cases. One was a woman who for five months had been unable to stand erect or walk. After about four treatments she was entirely relieved and able to walk. In the same house was a woman who said that for more than a year she had suffered from pain in her back and limbs and was also unable to walk. At first she seemed to receive no benefit from the treatments, and I began to think her case was hopeless, and advised her to call in a physician. I had no intention of continuing the treatments; but while I was waiting on one of her neighbours she sent for me

(Concluded on Page 4)

The Eastern Tidings

LUCKNOW,

APRIL, 1910

Printed by W. E. Perrin, at the Watchman Press, 19 Banks Road, Lucknow.

—SISTERS MOOKERJEE AND GRENVILLE expect to spend the hot season at Darjeeling.

—BROTHER AND SISTER KELSEY are enjoying the mountain air at Mussoorie, for a couple of months.

—MISSES MAC MORAN and Wagner landed at Bombay, the 1st., and have joined the workers at the Mussoorie Sanitarium.

—BROTHER AND SISTER LEECH went recently to Mussoorie to spend a month or two assisting in the work of opening up the Sanitarium.

—RECENT word from Brother Little informed us that Sister Watson was not at all well. We understand they expect to take her to Mussoorie next week.

—ELDER AND MRS. VOTAW have arrived in Burma after a year at home. One of the first things Brother Votaw did after returning was to make sure of the visit of EASTERN TIDINGS for another year.

—AFTER canvassing about three weeks here in Lucknow for *Herald of Health* and the *Watchman*, Brother Poley started last Monday toward the hills. He expected to canvass a few towns on the way.

—AFTER spending about four months in study here at Lucknow, Brother and Sister Wellman have gone to Annfield for the summer season, and report favourably concerning that place as a retreat during the hot months.

—ALL, but especially those in other lands, should note that the old location at 39-1 Free School St., Calcutta, has been given up, and mail should no longer be addressed there. The International Tract Society address is 19, Banks Road, Lucknow, India.

—RECENT word from Brother and Sister Burgess informs us that the work of building is progressing nicely, and it is expected that the school will be opened about the first of June. Brother Burgess writes that they have not seen any wild animals thus far, although they have been told it is not safe to be out in the jungle late in the evening or early in the morning.

OBITUARY

BARLOW.—Died at the mission home at Babolmahol, March 14, Frieda Christine, youngest child of Brother and Sister W. A. Barlow, aged one year and nine months.

Little Frieda was taken with acute dysentery about two and a half weeks before her death, but had so far recovered that it was thought all danger was past, when early in the morning other complications set in and she passed away very suddenly. She was a bright, loving child; but though the parting seemed hard, they sorrow not as those who have no hope. Words of comfort were spoken, and as the sun was setting we laid her to rest in a corner of the mission compound to await the coming of the Life-giver.

R. H. LEECH.

NAJIBABAD

(Concluded from Page 3)

to come and give her some more treatments, as she felt so much better after the last one. I continued treating her, and when I called this morning, she said her pains had entirely left her and she was able to walk.

Another interesting case was that of one of our Hindustani workers. He had had fever about two months, but objected to our methods of treatment, seeming to have little faith in hydrotherapy. But as week after week passed by and the fever continued unbroken, he became emaciated and also complained of pain in his lungs and had no appetite. Finally, he consented to receive treatment. After a few days the pain in his lungs disappeared, and his appetite returned. The result is that he now has faith in God's methods of treating disease.

God's blessing is attending the work here, for which we feel to thank and praise him. The people seem to have a very friendly feeling toward us, and our prayer is that as we meet with them in their homes God will help us to present the message to them in such a way that they may be convinced of its truth, and that in Christ's soon-coming kingdom many from Najibabad may find a place.

Pray for us, that God's blessing may continue to rest on the work here.

BERTHA A. KURTZ.