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Eastern Tidings

VOL. 5

LUCKNOW, JUNE, 1910

No. 6

The Eastern Tidings

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

INTERNATIONAL TRACT SOCIETY

19 Banks Road, - - Lucknow

W. E. PERRIN, - - - - EDITOR

Field Reports

Some Good Meetings with Our People in Bengal

ON Monday, the 9th of May, the writer left Barisal for Calcutta, Karmatar, and Bobolmohol. After a pleasant journey of twenty-four hours, I reached Calcutta, whence, after remaining from morning till evening, I left for Karmatar. I arrived at the latter place on Wednesday, and after counseling with the workers there it seemed good that we all go to Bobolmohol and join with our people at that place in quarterly meeting. Accordingly, we left Karmatar in the afternoon and after a short but pleasant journey reached Simultala, where Brother Barlow and one or two Santali workers were awaiting us.

Our ride of eight or ten miles out through the jungle in the cool of the evening was pleasant, and we enjoyed talking over the work among the Bengali and Santali people. The Lord is blessing us in these tongues and giving us favour among the people wherever we go. We need more men, more means, and more of God's Spirit for the accomplish-

ment of the great work before us in these tongues.

The morning after our arrival in Bobolmohol we went out to look for a place for baptism and found a beautiful spot with fresh, clear, running water, and plenty for the purpose. Following this we called in the four candidates for baptism and found them ready to give a reason for the hope that is in them. These Santali brethren and sisters, while not highly educated, show a commendable earnestness to know the truth, and some of them have come out of tribulation into this message.

At three o'clock in the afternoon, according to a previous plan of the sisters, we all gathered on the verandah of the Bobolmohol bungalow, and, sitting upon the floor in truly Oriental fashion, ate a dinner of rice and curry, using our fingers as spoons. This was a pleasant occasion, and all seemed to thoroughly enjoy it. Counting the children, of whom there were about a dozen, we numbered thirty-five persons.

Shortly before five o'clock we proceeded to the place of baptism. A Santali chief seeing us go, followed, beating his drum to call the villagers to witness the baptism. According to the Santal idea, the chief, to show his pleasure, and probably as an auspicious act, marched solemnly around the place of baptism once, lustily beating his drum. There were probably no fewer than one hundred and fifty spectators present, and the best of order prevailed during the service. I

first spoke the baptismal words for each candidate in Bengali, after which Brother Barlow repeated them in Santali. It was a time when we felt it was good to be there, and the service seemed to have made a good impression on the minds of the visitors. For the sake of the visitors who were present, a number of simple questions regarding faith in Christ and the Bible as the inspired Word of God were asked the candidates. At the close of the service, as we were leaving, as a token of their hearty approval and good will toward us, the visiting villagers sent up a shout of cheer for us. This a Santali way of saying that they are pleased.

We immediately repaired to the bungalow and observed the ordinances. As I washed the feet of one of our newly baptized Santali brethren and saw the impression this first experience seemed to make on his mind, I felt to thank the Lord for this service of humility. A number of heathen Santali witnessed this service and contrasted the fact that the feet of the Santali priests are washed by others, but here we all took part. It evidently made a good impression on their minds. Counting the writer, twenty-two persons took part in the ordinances. I read the Scriptures relating to the ordinances in Bengali and Brother Barlow immediately followed with them in Santali. The service passed off in order, and was a joyful occasion to us all.

Following this meeting, we put up the sheet, and Sister Burroway threw a number of magic lantern pictures upon it. One of the Santali boys explained the pictures to the large crowd of people, and we were glad to notice how familiar he seemed to be with these scenes from the Word of God. As he spoke, questions were asked at times, and to show

their approval the crowd repeated the last words of his sentences after him.

At nine o'clock in the evening the horse and cart were brought, and we departed for Simultala, arriving there a few minutes before midnight and just in time for Sister Burroway and Prova Mitter to catch the passenger for Karmatar. A few minutes later the Punjab Mail came, and I was soon on my way to Calcutta. Sabbath morning, May 14th, I met with our Bengali brethren in our little hall on Dharamtala Street. Owing to the fact that Brother Mookerjee had been away to Darjeeling for two weeks and had only returned the day before, and also to the fact that some of our Bengali brethren have left Calcutta for a change, the attendance was not so large as usual; but still it was good. Our little hall is meeting a great need in Calcutta; but sometimes it overflows when public meetings are held, because it is so small. However, for the present, it will do. In this hot weather the brethren are suffering for want of a fan; as the little room gets very hot, especially in the afternoons and evenings.

Sabbath we celebrated the ordinances with our Calcutta English church. The members there are not many; but we believe we have never seen our people there more in earnest about this truth and more anxious for the salvation of souls than they are now. Union seemed to prevail, and the spirit of the Saviour—not to be served but to serve—was one thought emphasized in the meeting. In the social meeting a goodly number took part, and a spirit of loyalty and renewed consecration to this message was the keynote. Following this meeting, the writer left for Barisal, thankful for the privilege of meeting with our people and joining with them in these times of refreshing.

J. C. LITTLE.

Karmatar Dispensary

OUR last month's work has been one of the best since I have been here; not because of the great number of patients treated, or of the financial income, but because of the experiences we have had in seeing God's healing power in direct answer to prayer.

Miss Burroway says that during her five years of labour in Karmatar there never has been such a busy time except in time of some epidemic. We have made from two to four visits every day, many times being out in the heat of the day and sometimes being away all night. We have travelled on an average eighteen miles a day.

In January, 1,348 treatments were given; February, 1,638; March, 1,204; and April, 1,472. In January, 25 visits were made; February, 31; March, 53; and April, 91. Both of our Bengali workers were away on vacation, and so Miss Burroway helped me in the medical work. One day we were called to a confinement case five miles out. When such calls come, it is only because the natives have done all they can, and the patient's life is in danger. We reached the village about 11:00 A. M., and found the woman in a very bad condition. We did all in our power for four hours, but without result, and the people said, "Let her die." Miss Burroway told them God could help her, and again we asked him in prayer to assist us in our efforts if it could glorify his name. A few minutes later the child was born, though dead, and we praised the Lord. The people fell down to worship, not God, but the human instrument, through which he worked. It was explained that it was God who saved the woman's life. But they said: "You are our God; we cannot see God, and you did it." After the woman got well, Miss Burroway gave a magic lan-

tern demonstration of the life of Christ in the village.

In another case nearer home, the woman's eyes were almost set when we reached the place, and her body was covered with cold perspiration. We could feel no pulse. Miss Burroway gave hot and cold applications while I assisted the patient; but all our efforts seemed in vain. Miss Burroway informed the husband of the wife's dangerous condition, and told him that only God could help her. We had prayer, and then, though it did not remain, the pulse came up. We knew God had heard our prayer, and trusting him we continued our efforts. The recovery of the woman was remarkable, as life was almost gone. Nine days later she was walking.

Another patient upon whom God revealed his healing power was a young man who had typhoid fever. When I saw him the third week of his illness, two doctors had given him up; and, in fact it seemed there was little hope for him. I decided to try for two days, and asked God to make the matter very clear to me. When the two days were past, he appeared to be getting along nicely under the hot and cold applications, and I felt impressed to continue the treatments. The patient's father and brother-in-law, both well educated men and who could talk some English, came to stay with the young man. I taught them how to give packs, sponges, and fomentations; and you would have been surprised to see those two men give treatments. It made my heart rejoice. I told them to take the temperature every two hours; and when I returned the next day they had fixed up a book as a report blank, and were keeping a record of the temperature and every little detail, just as we nurses do. They followed my instructions

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Lucknow, - - - - - JUNE, 1910

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

—INDIRECTLY we learn that Mussoorie Sanitarium is enjoying a good patronage this season.

—MISS BELCHAMBERS and Mrs. Perrin and Irma went to Mussoorie three weeks ago, and are drinking in the invigorating mountain air.

—REPORTS from some of our workers indicate very warm weather in other places. Here at Lucknow, it has been warm and perspiration inducing, but not intensely hot.

—AMAR NATH spent a short time recently with Brother and Sister Burgess in the Garhwal District, and reports good prospects for the school work there.

—SISTER COOK and the boys passed through Lucknow May 24 on their way to Mussoorie. They are "at home" once again, having taken rooms not far from Annfield, and Brother Cook is working away on Hindustani.

—If any of the readers of EASTERN TIDINGS do not have access to the *Review* they will be interested in knowing that Elder G. E. Langdon, president of the Upper Columbia Conference, has been invited to take the superintendency of the India Mission, and it is expected that he will accept.

—AN article from Sister Bruce, on "Our Mission Sabbath-schools," is crowded out of this issue of TIDINGS, but will appear next month. However, as it may not be desirable to allow one matter mentioned in the article to be delayed, we give it in this column. Speaking of the consecration service held by many of the home schools for the special benefit of the children and youth. Sister Bruce says: "I notice that most of our schools in India and Burma report members in the intermediate, junior, and primary classes. Can not these schools plan to have a consecration service some time before the general meeting? I am sure that not only the children, but also the older members, the fathers and mothers, would be greatly blessed."

Karmatar Dispensary (Concluded from Page Three.)

faithfully, no matter how much the old grandmother objected. God certainly sent those two men to take care of the boy.

One day his condition became very critical, and I did not feel like carrying the responsibility any longer. But they could not be persuaded to call a doctor. They said, "We do whatever you tell us to do, and we know you do all you can; he is in God's hands." Miss Burroway and I had prayer at his bedside, and when we arose from our knees we noticed the father-in-law's eyes were filled with tears. The patient is now in good condition, healed by the power of God. I am sure that these two men, who came quite a distance by train, will tell in their own village about their experiences here.

I learned in this case the necessity for teaching the people how to give simple water treatments, and shall hereafter put more money in fomentation cloths than in drugs; and I am convinced that God will bless our work even more. God worked through us and manifested his power; but how much more could he do so if we were careful to live according to his will and put away self. The disciples worked miracles in their day; and we have the same promises to-day if we manifest faith enough. May God help us to get into closer connection with him and be used for the better advancement of his cause. L. M. SCHOLZ.

SABBATH SUNSET

JULY 2,	- - - - -	6:48; 6:29; 6:40.
" 9,	- - - - -	6:48; 6:30; 6:41.
" 16,	- - - - -	6:47; 6:30; 6:40.
" 23,	- - - - -	6:45; 6:29; 6:38.
" 30,	- - - - -	6:42; 6:28; 6:36.

The times given are Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay, respectively.