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THE COMING KING

We are waiting for the coming
Of our Saviour, Lord, and King;
For the host of shining angels
That we know he'll surely bring;
For the gathering of the faithful
By the bright celestial band,
And the welcome home to heaven
By our Saviour's loving hand.

He has left us signs and watchwords,
And we know his coming's near.
With God's seal upon our foreheads,
We have nothing then to fear.
When you see these signs and tokens,
Know his coming's at the door;
Be ye ready then, and watching,
Lest his coming pass you o'er.

O, the joy it then will give us,
At the gathering of the blest,
To be welcomed home to glory
In that heavenly land of rest.
We will lay our crowns before him,
The new song to him we'll sing,
And we'll evermore adore him,
Our blest Saviour, Lord, and King.

—Verna Cowan.

Energy and System in Mission Work

It is a fact that conditions in India tend to indolence; the warm balmy air of the tropics, lethargy, and the ample provision for all classes of servants tend very much to encourage Europeans into an easy-going, helpless manner of life. The northern stimulus to both mental

and physical work is lacking, and it is only by force of the will that the same amount of work can be performed. Even missionaries have to combat indolence in India with continual and very determined energy if they meet with success in their work. The following remarks by Sir T. F. Buxton show the importance of energy in every line of service which makes for success:—

“The longer I live, the more I am certain that the great difference between men, between the feeble and the powerful, the great and the insignificant, is energy—invincible determination—a purpose once fixed, and then death or victory. That quality will do anything that can be done in this world,—and no talents, no circumstances, no opportunities, will make a two-legged creature a man without it.”

The right use of every hour and every moment of the hour by every missionary in the field is that which tells very largely for the building of the Lord's house in India. Of William Carey it is said:—

“He was a strict economist of time, and the maxim on which he acted was to take care of the minutes, and leave the hours to take care of themselves. He never lost a minute when he could help it; and he thus read through every volume of the Universal History during his periodical journeys to Calcutta on his college duties.”

Carey's habits were not acquired without severe discipline. He writes: “I have for years been obliged to drag myself on, to subject myself to rules, to impose the day's work upon myself, to stir

myself up to my work, perhaps sometimes several times in an hour, and, after all, to sit down in confusion at my idleness and inertness in all to which I set my hand." He used to say, "I think no man living ever felt inertia to so great a degree as I do."

While energy is vital to mission work, system in the work is also necessary. Continuous effort not systematically arranged may not bring forth very satisfactory result. Time and work must be wisely and systematically arranged. Todd in his "Student's Manual," speaking of Jeremiah Evarts, says:—

"Though his papers filled many shelves when closely tied up, there was not a paper among all his letters, correspondence, editorial matter, and the like, which was not labelled and in its place, and upon which he could not lay his hand in a moment. I never knew him to search for a paper; it was always in its place."

Very much more can be accomplished by having a well arranged programme. For lack of this, comparative failure follows many workers in the Master's service. As missionaries we are necessarily pioneers and do not have laid out before us the definite plans of work that obtain in the home land where the work has become better organized and more systematically arranged. We very largely have our work and our time in our own hands. As we school ourselves to make the most of every moment, so arranging our work that system creeps into everything we do, the work to which we have laid our hands under the blessing of God may develop strongly and permanently and yet without our overworking. One of the secrets of William Carey's grand success and long missionary career is given by the historian of the Serampore mission:—

"These Herculean labours he was enabled to accomplish without strain on his

constitution, simply by that methodical distribution of his time to which he rigidly adhered through life. His relaxation consisted in turning from one pursuit to another. He was in the habit of remarking that more time was lost by desultory and listless application than even from external interruptions. He made it a rule to enter at once with promptitude on the object before him, and to allow nothing to divert his thoughts from it during the time allotted to its performance."

Working to a programme has many advantages,—a regular hour to rise, to eat, to pray, to study, to work, and to rest. It may not be that the same programme can be followed every day; this would seldom be possible in the variety of work necessary in a mission station. But one worker has sent me a carefully arranged weekly programme which I have gone over with much interest.

Would it not be well for all of us as missionaries to examine our work with the idea of making the most of our time in the Master's service in India? As we seek God for the best methods and plans of labour, willing to undergo any discipline necessary to make us labourers needing not to be ashamed, he will surely hear and add daily to our efficiency in Christian service. I shall be glad to hear on this or kindred themes from any of the readers of EASTERN TIDINGS. Any suggestion or experiences which may be helpful to fellow-workers will be used for that purpose, either in EASTERN TIDINGS or otherwise as may seem advisable

J. L. SHAW.

Gleanings from the Field

THE attendance at the Rangoon meeting hall is increasing. More chairs have been purchased and electric lights are being installed. Mrs. Votaw writes: "We expect great things

this year, and trust our health may hold out."

Brother and Sister Beckner are favourably located at Mandalay, and are giving most of their time to the study of the language. Several persons at Mandalay are much interested in the truth.

The Calcutta treatment rooms have had excellent patronage the last two months, clearing Rs. 1,000. The workers there are now able to sing the jubilee song of freedom from debt.

The Health Food Factory has gotten out a neat catalogue. The monthly sales of the factory show an encouraging increase. Those wishing to use copies of the catalogue among their friends and those interested in health food work should send to Brother T. J. Grenville for copies.

The tithe of the English church at Calcutta for the month of January was Rs. 170-4-0. The place of meeting of the Calcutta Bengali church has been changed from Dhurruntolla Street to 26, Creek Row, which is a large building, allowing more commodious quarters for the church and office.

Sixteen souls were recently baptized at Tinnevely. A Sabbath-school has been in successful operation since the first of the year. The attendance is about 100 and Brother and Sister Lowry teach in Tamil. Brother Lowry has begun preaching in Tamil.

The people at Panvel have asked Brother Enoch to take over their school, they providing the school building and most of the teacher's salary. A dispensary worker also is much wanted at Panvel. Brother and Sister Kelsey have been planning to go up for their examination in Marathi the first of April.

At Karmatar thirteen bighas of land have been offered the mission for putting up a mission bungalow. Two new schools with good attendance have been opened in the bazar, one for boys, the other for girls. One European and several native persons are requesting baptism. Brother and Sister Leach have gone up for their examination in Santali, and we hope to hear the results soon.

The last word from Babolmohal reported thirty applicants for the boarding school. One or two out-schools have recently been started.

The Watchman Press has done more work than usual the last season. But they could do much more if the workers would crowd the publication of vernacular literature more rapidly.

The *Oriental Watchman* is being increased in size, four pages being added. More room will thereby be given to the Home and Health departments. In this way it is hoped the paper may be still more interesting to those not so fully interested in purely gospel themes.

Annfield House has been taking on some repairs preparatory to the opening of the school. Paint, white-wash, and hard work work wonders.

Treatment rooms will be conducted at Kirkville this season. Much of the Sanitarium furniture and appliances have been carefully put away for future use.

The Garhwal school opened with an encouraging attendance. Two out-schools will be conducted the coming year. The construction of the dormitories is well under way, and a school house will probably be built this year.

Misses Orr and Haegert write from Tampa, Florida: "At present we are working in Tampa, the largest port city of Florida. In some ways it reminds us strongly of India. God has been good to us; we could not ask for richer mercies than he in his love has given. Sister Orr's health is much better. We celebrated the ordinances with the church last Sabbath for the first time since we joined with you and the Lucknow church before leaving India, not having had opportunity before. We wish our membership to remain in India, that whatever we have of tithes and offerings may be paid in there. In this small way we can still have a part in the work there while we hope to gather in a rich harvest from this side of the world. Since we have been in the United States we have sent a little more than Rs. 450 in tithes and offering. With best wishes for much of God's blessing during the coming year, and much success in bringing the light and truth to India's millions, we shall continue to pray for the workers and believers."

J. L. SHAW.

Field Reports

South India Mission

SINCE my last report we have closed the series of public meetings which were in progress since the first of December last year. Sabbath, February 11, was

a day of special blessing and happiness to many here. As a result of the meetings, sixteen persons decided to walk in a new life with their Saviour, and it was the writer's privilege to administer the ordinance of baptism to them in a body of water a short distance from our bungalow.

There were a number of things about this baptism which give us special cause for rejoicing, three of which I shall mention. We have been repeatedly told, with considerable confidence, that we would never get any married women into our church because we required them to remove their jewels. Three married women whose husbands still live were baptized after having removed all unnecessary adornments. The same objection had been offered many times about the unmarried girls. They would not join us because we had no bridegrooms and would not let them wear jewels. Three of the unmarried girls baptized laid aside their jewels. But our greatest cause for thankfulness was to see the three teachers who have had charge of our school take a firm stand for the truth. For months we have sought the Lord to give us the undivided interest and service of these teachers, and he has answered our prayers.

They have taken a great step forward amid much opposition, and stand firm and confident in the truth. They formerly held to the Anglican church. Their baptism has created considerable opposition, which, however, only helps us to preach the Word. "We can do nothing against the truth, but for the truth."

Of the sixteen baptized, eight are women. Three had husbands who were baptized last year. Of the whole number, thirteen came from practical heathenism. One of these was a bright boy in our school. Throughout the entire

time of the meeting our native evangelist, Brother Thomas, worked most zealously and untiringly, being assisted in counsel and study by Elder Lowry and myself. We thank God to see this fruit gathered for his kingdom from the surrounding darkness and error.

We are now busily engaged in building our new school. We have designed it so it may be used for both school and church purposes and for the chapel service in connection with the school programme. The foundations are now being laid and the timbers cut for the roof, doors, and windows. The hot weather has begun, but this is what we want to make good brick and put up a solid building.

Our native canvasser is meeting with success in taking orders for the *Watchman* and *Herald of Health* among the native people who read English.

The Lord has been very good to us in giving health and strength to labour in his name. We are well at this writing, and desire an interest in your prayers for greater victories. J. S. JAMES.

Notes from the Field

THE Lord has richly blessed our workers who have been in the field during the last cool season with our literature. Not only have they been enabled to place many of our journals and books into the homes of the people, but they have found many who are interested in our truths, having read the literature that our faithful workers have been scattering since the work first started in India. Many times have the workers realized the truth of the promise "My word shall not return unto me void." It has been especially gratifying to note the influence that *Oriental Watchman* has exerted and is still exerting in awakening people to a sense of the times in which we live.

The following quotation is taken from a letter just received from Brother Lake, who has been canvassing in southern India for some weeks: "Last week I sold nearly all religious literature to the people of Hyderabad and Secunderabad, with the result that such books as 'Seer of Patmos' and 'Great Controversy,' after being read, are causing a stir; as families are discussing the truth. People are inquiring who and what I am. I am well known as a missionary; doors are being thrown open to me. I feel that the time is nigh upon us when a minister of the everlasting gospel will be required here. One old gentleman after purchasing at an auction our 'Daniel and Revelation' for Rs. 2-8, cloth binding, read it and was keeping the Sabbath (seventh-day) till recently. He bought the 'School of Health' from me. I furnished him with some good tracts whereby he will see his mistake and go back to the Sabbath. Col. 2: 14-17 upset his discovery. I produced a Bible and gave him a brief study.

"One military man pushed his way through a crowd and asked me to sell him a book on 'Christ's Second Coming.' I am writing to the office for one. A school master was much exercised when he saw 'Seer of Patmos.' A well-to-do lady who bought 'Christ's Object Lessons' from Miss Orr some eight or nine years ago wanted another work from the same author. I sold her 'Great Controversy.' She confessed that the Seventh-day Sabbath is in accordance with Holy Writ, and acknowledged our teachings to be in harmony with the Bible. A man who influenced me for good when I was a lad of eighteen summers at Bombay believes every word we advocate and is doing a great work among his associates. He bought 'Seer of Patmos,' and after he had read it handed it to another

man. Last Thursday he was called in by a family who bought 'Seer of Patmos' to explain some points. They are inquiring 'How is it that our ministers don't preach all this?'"

Brother Raymond is now working in Madras and nearby towns. He has spent most of the time since our general meeting in working down the East coast from Calcutta, and the Lord has abundantly blessed his efforts. He recently sold to one of the leading Rajas of those parts "School of Health," *Herald of Health*, and "Heralds of the Morning."

Brother Poley has been working north in the Punjab, and has had many interesting experiences. Recently he went to Nabah, a small native state, to deliver some books previously ordered. He was met at the station by the state carriage and taken about to his subscribers in grand style. Arrangements had also been made for his entertainment at state expense. He placed two books with the Maharajah of Patiala. He is now working in Lahore with good success.

May the Lord richly bless the seed that is being sown. C. E. WEAKS.

In the Marathi Country

Soon after our conference session the sub-committee located the Marathi field. It practically reaches from Bombay to Lonavla. Directly east across the bay from Bombay is a fertile strip of country in which but little mission work has ever been done. Those of our readers who have gone over the Ghauts will remember the reversing station just before reaching Lonavla. From this place, high up the mountain side, one can look over a well-watered little valley dotted with villages. This is the head of the valley, while Panvel is at the other end. In this val-

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In the Marathi Country

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ley there are 325 villages and 159,000 population. Then Lonavla itself is at the head of the Ghauts, and it is the centre of another large circle of villages.

It has been decided for Brother and Sister Kelsey to locate in Lonavla, and have charge of the mission operations in the eastern end of the field. We already have a little English Sabbath-school there, also another one at the foot of the mountain seven miles away. In Panvel we have opened a girls' school. Our register contains the names of 43 pupils; but owing to some Hindu festivals and the plague, the average attendance so far has been but a little more than 20. Many of the girls are little tots, and it almost seems too bad for some of them to come to school; still, when we remember that most of them will be married and lost largely from our influence at from seven to eleven, we can see the necessity of beginning while they are young. More than half these girls are of Jewish parentage. We also have one Urdu class. In the school we have children of Marathi-, Gujarati-, and Hindustani-speaking parents. The Sabbath-school, composed largely of these school children, numbers 23. We are planning to open a school for the lower caste in the near future.

Every evening at 7:30 I spend an hour and a half instructing our native workers in Bible doctrines. This not only grounds them in the truth, but gives me excellent practise in Marathi. We get

out to surrounding villages in the early morning, and preach on the streets in Panvel each evening.

We have had splendid success selling parts of the Bible. After all, the Bible is the most important book we can place in the hands of the people. I feel much better when I have placed it in the hands of the heathen than when I have sold them a book about the Bible. I insist on each worker's carrying with him at all times the cheap scripture parts provided by the British and Foreign Bible Society. We have sold about 300 copies in the last two months. Surely God is to be praised for the large number of parts of scripture in the the homes of the people. It has been interesting to note the eagerness with which the school boys buy these. I would suggest that all our vernacular workers be furnished with these supplies. We sell Marathi, Gujarati, Hindi, Urdu, and English.

It is impossible for me to express the gratitude and satisfaction which comes after two years of trying uncertainty to feel that one is located and has the prospects of settling down to definite labour. Our experience has taught us the necessity of praying for those workers who are called to pioneer the way in the great language areas in India.

We were greatly encouraged and helped by the recent visit and counsel of Elder and Mrs. Shaw. The day of fasting and prayer, January 21, was, fortunately, the opening day for our workers in our new field. Personally, I shall long remember that day. Pray for the newly established mission in the Marathi country.

GEO. F. ENOCH.

ELDER JAMES'S "Sketches from the Life of Paul," by Sister White, is missing. If anyone can inform him where it is, he will appreciate it very much.