

The Eastern Tidings

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The Eastern Tidings

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THE DIAL'S LESSON

A LESSON in itself sublime,
A lesson worth enshrining,
Is this: "I take no note of time,
Save when the sun is shining."
These motto-words a dial bore,
And wisdom never preaches
To human hearts a better lore
Than this short sentence teaches.
As life is sometimes bright and fair,
And sometimes dark and lonely,
Let us forget its pain and care,
And note its bright hours only.

The darkest shadows of the night
Are just before the morning;
Then let us wait the coming light,
All boding phantoms scorning.
And while we're passing on the tide
Of time's fast-ebbing river
Let's pluck the blossoms by its side,
And thank the gracious Giver.
As life is sometimes bright and fair,
And sometimes dark and lonely,
We should forget its pain and care,
And note its bright hours only.

—Selected.

Missionary Brother, Your Child!

[RECENTLY several articles have appeared in mission papers on the education of children of missionary families. The following from the *Methodist Indian Witness* contains food for thought.—J. L. S.]

Some months ago a word appeared in *The Indian Witness* about the advantages children educated in Indian schools have when they go to Europe or America to

continue their studies. The article was favourably received and did good. Several parents who but for it might have sent their children of tender age out of the country, reconsidered their plans and now rejoice that their little ones are about to come home and be with them during this cold season. Happy parents, happy children!

It is probable that they will never regret their act. The schools have had an exceptionally good year and commendable record. In a few more years these children will go "Home" with studious habits and fixed characters, guided all these years by parents and careful evangelical teachers, and fitted to judge for themselves.

The list of Methodist children who went from our schools here and did so well in American institutions was far from exhaustive. This year's report shows that the Indian contingent in America have again attained high standards in their classwork, two having graduated with the honour "Cum Laude," in one college—a distinction eagerly sought.

Of the children who went in maturer age from these schools to home schools, the writer, who knows many, has yet to hear of one who made a shipwreck of life or failed in after life to hold a high standard of morals. Not all have been brilliant,—that could not be expected—but they are far, far above the average, so much so that as a class they are remarkable and all love India. All are proud of their missionary parentage.

But what of the other side, of those who were sent out of the country at a

tender age? entrusted to sisters, cousins, aunts, or even grand-parents across the seas for care and education? I know a few of those, too, for the most part European, and I have yet to meet two who are an honour to the missionary home whence they sprang. I do know *one*, and there are doubtless very many others, but I haven't met them. Those I have met are for the most part civil servants, railway men of good standing, or in business employments, or women married to such.

These men whom I have met are of the world in every tendency, smoking, drinking, and given to lax views of the Sabbath. Good fellows, every one of them, but wholly lacking in influence for Christ and often apologizing for having come from a missionary's home. The women know more of society and have lost for the most part interest in missions and all but the Sunday form of godliness. For the most part, they say "Oh I left India very young," and having grown away from parental influence early, they never really came again in the impressionable youth under the benign atmosphere of fathers' and mothers' prayers and home conversations, and had long ago ceased to care for the calling dearer than life to their parents.

Missionary brother, from a moral standpoint, from the standpoint of your parental duty, you can not afford to alienate your child from your life under fifteen and better seventeen years of age. Your child will be a greater joy to you and of more use in the world, broader in every way, if educated up to matriculation standard here in an Indian school with winters at home itinerating with you. Then he may safely go home. To him India more often becomes the Land of Regrets to which he must return, and return to serve the people as you have loved to do it.

Field Reports

In South India Again

THE last month has been one of much travel. After five and one-half months in Ceylon, I returned to South India, November 5, and had the pleasure of spending one Sabbath at Nazareth and another at Trichinopoly. At both stations our workers are getting hold of a number of earnest, intelligent men who are diligently studying the truths of the message. We are encouraged to believe that some of these will become efficient gospel labourers for their own people.

From Quilon I penetrated the Travancore State to the capital, Trivandrum, which seemed to know little of our literature. In this State the London Mission counts 75,000 adherents, and the Salvation Army has some of its largest work. I am sure there must be many there who are waiting for a knowledge of the truths we hold so dear.

I am now at Coimbatore, fifty miles from Ootacamund, with the Nilgiri mountains in full view. The greater part of December will be spent on the Malabar Coast. The Lord is blessing my efforts here where much of our literature has been sold in years past. I still enjoy excellent health, and wish to use all in faithful service. My cash receipts for November were about Rs. 425.

Day by day I can see how the Lord is searching out his own. It is a great privilege to be united with him in this work. May he greatly bless each and every one of the dear workers.

F. O. RAYMOND.

"WE must believe at every step, and talk courage and hope. Light, precious light, is for the people of God who will see it."

Allahabad

THE Lord richly blessed my efforts in Allahabad. During the three weeks I was there my sales amounted to Rs. 435-4. Of this amount Rs. 140 was for message-filled books, the rest being for our health literature, chiefly *Herald of Health*. In one week I took 39 subscriptions for this paper. That week my sales amounted to Rs. 171-8, this being my best report yet. I give God the glory. His guiding hand has led me all along.

At the time of writing this note I am in Calcutta, where I spend a few days before going over to Burma. I desire an interest in all your prayers, that I may be the means of scattering many of the books containing the message for this time among the English-speaking population of that country.

Everyone at this time is thinking of the Durbar at Delhi. Would that they were thinking as seriously of the Durbar shortly to be held in heaven, when Jesus Christ will be crowned King of kings and Lord of lords. May our hopes ever be stayed upon him.

W. CARRATT.

The Work in Bengal

THE work in Bengal on the whole is quite encouraging. By the blessing of God we are able to say that our work in this section of India has made advancement in all branches during the last year. By means of the help that has come from the \$300,000 fund, two mission stations have been established in property of their own, where work can now be carried on to better advantage than formerly.

In Gopalgunj, we now have good prospects for work. Miss Brunson, who has passed her first year in language study, is now joining the workers in that place. With this increase in our force, we hope to see results the coming year. Brother

Watson will unite his efforts with those of the colporteurs in pushing the sale of our literature, with the especial intention of increasing the output of our Bengali *Signs of the Times*. During the last three months, while he has been staying in Calcutta, he has, by the blessing of God, succeeded in taking about four hundred orders for this paper.

I have just returned from a visit to Karmatar and Babulmohal. At the former place we found the work progressing. In spite of the fact that this is the busy season of the year, about two hundred children were present at the Sabbath-school. These are children of Hindu and Mohammedan parents, and are members of our day schools, where the Bible is taught to them every day. Surely, the Word will not return void; but will produce a harvest in time. The work on the buildings of the new mission station is well under way, and we hope to be able to occupy them by the close of the year or soon after. When the buildings are completed, we shall have a large bungalow for our European workers, three houses for native workers, a church, a dispensary, and a school. For the erection of a dispensary one hundred and seventy-five rupees has been donated by the Indian people who live in the station.

At Babulmohal we found the boys in the boarding school making encouraging progress in their studies. One village school teacher came with his boys, ten in number, to be present while we were there. These boys quoted a number of Bible verses, sang two Christian songs, and also did some reading and writing which showed that they are making progress. It is encouraging to see these boys receiving Christian instruction; for it is said in the Word, "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." We

hope to see some of these boys develop into good Christians and have homes in God's kingdom. Pray that the school at Babulmohal may be a bright and shining light among the Santals.

At some future time I will write something of our work in the city of Calcutta. Pray that the Lord of the harvest may add his blessing to the work which is being done in Bengal.

W. R. FRENCH.

Calcutta

It has been well said that "The prayer-meeting is the backbone of the church." It might be of interest to the readers of our dear little EASTERN TIDINGS to have a glimpse at one of our prayer-meetings and hear the experiences of each one. The meeting is not held at our hall, but at the home of my grandfather, where some fifteen or twenty congregate every Wednesday evening. One old brother stands up and says, "I am now in my eightieth year of life, and came from the family of the first Brahmin convert of Bengal under W. Carey. Though born a Christian, yet I never found the truth going from one denomination to another. I was all along under the employ of the government, and outside of office hours spent all my time with missionaries and religious books brought from the States and England. I went so far as to even join the Roman Catholics, thinking they were the first church and might have the true light. Thank the Lord, I met Bishop Thoburn, and learned about full salvation. I spent twenty-three years with the Methodists, when in 1897 I met the Seventh-day Adventists, for which I thank the Lord more; as through them I received the present truth and am rejoicing in it, and by his help mean to endure to the end."

Another says: "All along I was under

the impression that I was right with God and was prepared to meet him, until about two years ago a brother came and sold me a Sabbath-school lesson pamphlet on 'Topical Studies on the Third Angel's Message,' on reading which I found I was guilty of Sabbath-breaking. Now I thank my heavenly Father that I am ready to meet him when he comes."

The Lord is working among the Bengali people. We see the results of our literature work on all sides, and it is our plan to strengthen the hand of our canvassers by more literature on the message. We have about six hundred subscribers to our monthly *Signs of the Times*.

Our Bengali conference begins the 8th. Delegates from East Bengal, Karmatar, and Babulmohal will join with us. Already plans have been laid for the meetings. A handbill has been issued advertising our meeting on Sunday evening, when we have asked Elder Shaw to talk on "Seventh-day Adventists, Who Are They?" A stereoptican lecture will follow this meeting. We are expecting a very refreshing time. This meeting will be reported later by others.

We are thankful for the leading of Providence at this time, and it is our desire not only to plan for best methods to carry forward the work, but to work accordingly. We send greetings to all the workers and believers in India, and ask them to kindly remember us in their prayers, that we may be filled with the Spirit of God during this week of prayer, so that we may be better able to perform the duties given to us by God, and thereby help to finish the work. L. G. MOOKERJEE.

In the Field

AFTER having spent most of my time for eight months in the work in Mussorie, I came down to the plains October 3, and since that time have been travelling

almost constantly. I first visited the work at Najibabad and in company with Miss Kurtz went to Hasanpur, but of which place Elder Shaw has already written.

On my way south I spent a few days in Calcutta. While here I had the privilege of accompanying Brother Watson in his work with the Bengali *Signs of the Times*. I was surprised to see such a large number of these people speaking and reading the English language. Back in the narrow, dark alleys, living in the most humble ways, are thousands of these educated Indians who can be reached through the medium of our English literature. As we went about searching them out, I often thought of the text in the sixteenth chapter of Jeremiah, "Behold, I will send for many fishers, saith the Lord, and they shall fish them; and after will I send for many hunters and they shall hunt them from every mountain and from every hill and out of the holes of the rocks." How greatly we need consecrated "hunters" from among the Indian people to take our books and papers to their own countrymen.

Sabbath, October 21, I spent with Brother and Sister Asprey at Vizagapatam. This is a quiet little station by the sea, and is in the heart of the Telegu-speaking country. The people number 29,000,000, and as yet have no representatives of the third angel's message among them. Yet Christian missions have found this one of the most fruitful parts of the field. Roman Catholicism is especially strong among the Telegus. How much longer must these millions wait for the last message of mercy to be carried to them.

October 28 I was with our two native workers at Trichinopoly. Here a school has been held for the Hindu children, of whom sixty have been in attendance. Brother Nayagam is giving his time to evangelistic work, and has a number of educated young men studying the truth. I gave several Bible studies

while there. Several from another mission, including the head master of a large school, seem deeply interested in the truth. Regular studies are being held with Christians, Hindus, and Mohammedans. Trichinopoly is a great missionary centre for South India, and we should have a strong worker to station there since Brother Lowry has been transferred to the Tinnevely work.

November 4 I spent a very pleasant Sabbath with Brother Raymond in the interior of Ceylon. This island is certainly one of the garden spots of the world. But the thing that appealed to me the most was the fact that we have no work established among the 4,000,000 people of that beautiful island. Although it is so far south, the climate is much more pleasant than in many parts of India, being tempered by the sea breezes.

Brother Rick, who arrived in the field Sunday, November 5, and I spent the next Sabbath with Brother and Sister Lowry at our Tamil mission station. This was also a pleasant day. The work there is going forward very encouragingly. They have a nice little company of Sabbath-keepers, and the number is constantly growing. Word has just come that nine more have been baptized, and that others are preparing for that step.

During my trip in the South I spent some time in working for our journals, and the Lord blessed my efforts. There is a great field open before us for our English literature. The *Oriental Watchman* should be our most effective English minister. Thousands of India's European population live in small stations where we can scarcely hope to send the living preacher. Yet our papers can make their monthly visits to these places bearing messages of truth to those who otherwise would be passed by.

I returned to Calcutta November 30, having travelled more than four thousand miles since leaving Mussoorie two months previous. The openings for work seen on every side were many. Truly, the harvest is great and the labourers few. May the Lord of the harvest send forth labourers to assist in speedily carrying the message of truth to India's millions.

C. E. WEAKS.

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EASTERN TIDINGS is published the 15th of each month, and all copy should be received not later than the 10th.

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—FINDING it necessary to come to Lucknow on business pertaining to the Mission, Sister Quantock left Mussoorie a few days before the close of school.

—RS. 175 has been pledged by the villagers at Karmatar for the erection of a dispensary. A subscription is also to be taken up for the erection of a school building for high caste boys. It is encouraging to see the friendliness of the people at Karmatar toward our work.

—ELDER AND MRS. ENOCH, together with Misses Reid and Wagner, are now nicely located on Bellasis Road, opposite Byculla Club, Byculla, Bombay. It seems that in many ways Bombay will be a good location from which to direct the Marathi work, and it will undoubtedly furnish some conveniences that would not be obtainable in many village stations.

—THE donation amounting to about \$25.00 given by believers at Tinnevely shows their substantial interest in the cause of present truth. When we consider the fact that some of these Sabbath-keepers are very poor and do not earn more than six or eight annas, or twelve or fifteen cents, a day, it is easy to see that they have made a real sacrifice in order to give unto the Lord.

—BRETHREN SHAW, French, and Weaks recently made a short visit to Karmatar in the interests of the work. A prospective mission station at Jagadishpur was also visited. Brethren Weaks and French went from there to Bahulmohal. There are many things in favour of Jagadishpur as a location for a mission station. It has a healthful climate and supposedly good water and soil. There are about 10,000 people within a radius of four miles, half of whom are Santalis. The people are anxious for mission work to be opened up among them.

—DR. AND MRS. MANN arrived in Lucknow, November 30, and were gladly welcomed by the workers here. After a few days spent in locating his family, the Doctor went on to Calcutta to meet the workers there and begin active work in India.

—ANNFIELD SCHOOL closed Monday, the 5th inst., and the next morning, Elder Owen, Sisters Bruce and O'Connor, and the children came down the hill, glad to leave Mussoorie and get into a warmer atmosphere.

—BROTHER LEACH is working hard to finish the mission buildings at Karmatar. He has been delayed some for brick. It is hoped the new mission premises will be ready for dedication the latter part of January.

CANVASSING NOTES

BRO. P. A. RICK, who arrived in Ceylon November 5, has gotten nicely started in the canvassing work in South India. At present he is working in Madras and is meeting with success. Brother Raymond canvassed the city during the early months of the year, but Brother RICK is confining his efforts to our journals. He is already feeling quite at home in his new field of labour.

BROTHER POLEY is still far from headquarters, being on the North-western frontier canvassing the line from Karachi to Peshawar. He writes that he is happy in his work. I am sure that the prayers of all go with the workers who of necessity must spend much time far separated from those of like faith.

AFTER five months spent on the island of Ceylon, Brother Raymond is again back in India. He is now working toward the Malabar Coast. The Lord abundantly blessed him during his stay in Ceylon. His cash collections while there were about Rs. 2,000.

BROTHER CARRATT has spent most of the time since leaving Mussoorie in the cities of Benares and Allahabad. He plans on sailing for Burma this week to spend some months in canvassing in that field. A shipment of books worth about Rs. 3,000 has recently arrived in Rangoon.

BROTHER WATSON has been meeting with success in his work in Calcutta with the Bengali *Signs of the Times*. In less than two months he has taken four hundred yearly subscriptions. There is certainly a great field before us with this paper among the 45,000,000 Bengali-speaking people.

C. E. WEAKS.