

The Eastern Tidings

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The Eastern Tidings

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W. E. PERRIN,

J. L. SHAW,

EDITORS

THE LATTER RAIN

It is not that we need to strive and cry
For God to send the Spirit and its power:
'Tis waiting us; in mercy he withholds,
Lest coming thus upon us in our sin
Its light should blind; its awful power consume.

Beware, then, that ye ask not carelessly
For this great gift; but rather ask of him
A deep heart-searching, that will bring to
light.

The hidden things of darkness Satan hides.
"A sinless life,"—and this is what we're told
Must be our record in that awful day!

"Sinless," because in us his life is lived,
And our part lies in letting that life shine
Ten days of prayer preceded that great
shower

Of pentecostal blessings and their power,—
Ten days of prayer and deep humility
Ere sin was vanquished on the battle field,
And then the blessing came—came into
hearts

Softened, subdued, and humbled by a sense
Of their great sinfulness, his majesty.

JESSIE H. ROGERS.

Our Journals

THE *Oriental Watchman* began its fifteenth volume with an excellent number, and the February issue has an equally taking appearance. The number of pages in the magazine has been increased, better paper is being used; and the editor with his associates, is endeavouring to make the *Watchman* a stronger journal for the advocacy of the truth

in India than it has ever been before.

With these additions, there comes the necessity of widely extending the circulation of the *Oriental Watchman*. We are glad to know that Brother Rick, who is devoting all his time to the circulation of the *Watchman* and *Herald of Health*, is meeting with good success. There is need of several such workers. At one time there was a list of four thousand yearly subscribers, and this number can be exceeded if our people in India plan and work to that end.

The *Herald of Health* is now entering upon its third volume, and with the April number its size will be increased to twenty-four pages and cover. The cover will also be improved. Dr. Mann recently laid before the publishing committee some plans for the conducting of the journal which we believe will make it even more helpful and practical than heretofore.

There is a wide field for the *Herald of Health* among English-speaking Indians, as well as Europeans, and we look to see plans develop which will very largely increase its circulation. We feel certain that if every worker and every member of our different churches helps in circulating these papers, either by getting new subscribers, selling single copies, or sending papers at his own expense to such as might be interested in them, much can be done in teaching people the truth. Those ordering five or more copies sent to one address can get them at half price. Every lover of the message owes a duty to those who know

not the truth, and we have no better means of making it known in India than the *Oriental Watchman* and *Herald of Health*. These are our journals, they are edited and published in this field for the people of this country. We therefore sustain a relation to them that we do not sustain toward papers and books which are shipped into India and for the circulation of which we are not so directly responsible. Shall we not therefore all see what we can do individually to increase the circulation of *Oriental Watchman* and *Herald of Health*. Think about this matter, and definitely decide what you can do in extending the circulation of these messengers of truth, and correspond with the office.

J. L. SHAW.

The True Missionary

WHEN a man is filled with the Holy Spirit, the more he is tested and tried, the more clearly he proves that he is a true representative of Christ in word, in spirit, and in action. Christ declares, "He that believeth in me, the works that I do shall he do also, and greater works than these shall he do, because I go to my Father." What is the promise to every true believer?—"Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you." Might not we better, my brethren and sisters, take ourselves to task for our unlikeness to Christ? He says, Ye are my witnesses. What kind of witnesses are we for truth and righteousness? Are we striving with all our God-given powers to reach the measure of the stature of men and women in Christ? Are we seeking for his fulness, ever reaching higher and higher, trying to attain to the perfection of his character?

When God's servants reach this point, they will be sealed in their foreheads. The recording angel will declare, "It is done." They will be complete in him,

whose they are by creation and redemption.

There is nothing in the natural world that has life but what grows and produces fruit. And in the spiritual world there is no life without growth in grace. Impulse is feeling, and to depend on feeling is to be as changeful as circumstances. The professed Christian who does not draw life from Christ's life is not a doer of the Word. He is a paralyzed member, only connected in name with the body. At times fitful, convulsive movements will be seen with no permanent activity. Let no one think that the grace of God inspires these shortlived, impulsive actions. Many people are the subjects of impressions which are not reliable. Many have what they think are good impressions, wonderful exaltations of feeling; but the life does not represent an abiding Christ. They do not draw life from the source of all life. They are not drinking the living water, which springs up into eternal life. God's grace is the living water which we must drink. It quickens the whole being into spiritual life, the life of the Son of God.

Personal religion means perfect conforming to the life of Christ. When we possess this religion, we shall show sound spiritual growth, because we are partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. Advance! is the watchword. There are no idlers in the Lord's vineyard. We must be labourers together with God, else we shall fail in the work of overcoming, and our irreligious influence will cause other souls to fall. No soul is lost that does not draw other souls down with it. Let every one who names the name of Christ depart from all iniquity, that Christ may not be ashamed. In the name of Jesus of Nazareth, I appeal to church members to arise and closely criticise

themselves. Feel that this work is so important that you cannot engage in criticising others. Reveal an indwelling Saviour. Then you will understand what it means to be a true missionary. You will bring a Christian intensity into your work, and many souls will be saved through your earnest prayers and interested labours. MRS. E. G. WHITE.

The Bible in India

AN old, white-haired Brahman came to me in Calcutta, after a public meeting of students, and said, "Is 'stir the conscience' an intelligible use of English?" I assured him that it was. He replied: "India's conscience has been dead for centuries, at least along certain lines. The Bible will stir the conscience of India."

The men in the institutions of higher learning in India are no longer idol worshippers. They do not countenance the superstitious rites of Benares. In short, it is doubtful whether many of the Ganges devotees themselves are consistent believers in their cult. To seem thus religious, I paid a man two rupees to lie on a spike bed. Many of the so-called devotees pose as religious for the photographs or for revenue only. There is a critical concern on all sides for the awakening of a keen ethical sense in distinctions of right and wrong. Dr. John P. Jones affirms that the root of India's present incapability for self government is not intellectual but social and moral. Indeed, no self-government worthy of the name can possibly result until the character of India becomes firm and steady enough for a foundation. There is a feeling among many that the greatest use of the Bible in the East is along the line of an awakening of personal moral responsibility; for Herbert Spencer's words are applicable here, "Institutions are dependent on character,

and, however changed in their superficial aspects, cannot be changed in their essential natures faster than character changes."

The awakening of India's conscientious nature is revealed in a new attitude towards social and domestic reform, especially towards marriage. Until comparatively recently, it has been impossible to obtain a serious hearing before a student body upon questions concerning the home, so skeptical have been these men as to the binding character of moral laws relating to social conduct.

This change of the accent of religion from ceremonial to morals and conduct is affecting not simply the physical life of students; but its bearing is seen directly in a most timely fashion in business, politics, and the general trustworthiness of men of affairs.

An Oxford man who was conducting a most profitable work for students in connection with the government college hotels at Allahabad, told me of a Hindu student with whom he had been privately reading the Bible for over a year. He had not mentioned to the student the subject of his personal acceptance of Christianity. He had noticed, however, certain changes in the student's life. At the beginning of the second year of study, he asked his Hindu scholar what impression he had gained from his reading. He answered: "The influence I have gained is not one of thought merely; it has changed my life and my life-work."

India's hope to-day is in positive participation in great altruistic enterprises. She needs to make her religious and spiritual development a product, or a by-product, of her life of service. Christianity must take to her a living faith, a stimulus to a life of deeds.—*Bible Study in India.*

Field Reports

Agra

I HAVE received the book "Great Controversy between Christ and Satan" and I thank you very much for it. It is indeed a wonderful book; and the more I drink in the truth and light it reveals, the more interesting it becomes. It has made deep impressions of truth and light upon my heart, and I try to devote as much time as I can spare in going through it. In all my life I never came across such a mighty revealer of truth and light as this helpful guide to the Word of God. I wish I had time to translate it into Hindustani, as the attempt at translation would surely bring many souls out of darkness into God's marvelous light. God grant me time for this great work. A. C. MACLAREN.

Najibabad

FOR some time we have been looking for a favourable location for our work at Najibabad. At last such an opening seems to have come. There is a piece of land about a quarter of a mile north of the city which can be obtained at a reasonable price. There are four acres in the piece. It is situated on the bank of a small stream which furnishes excellent drainage during the rains. The land is somewhat sandy, which lessens the liability to malaria. There are twelve large mango trees on the place, the shade and fruit of which would be a boon during the hot season. Wells of good water can be obtained by digging twenty feet. There is also a flowing spring at the edge of the stream, the water of which would doubtless be better than that of the wells.

Najibabad being only forty miles from our Garhwal station, it seems like a favourable point at which to locate a

permanent work in the plains. The people have thus far been very friendly toward us, and already some interest has been shown in the gospel message.

Sister Shryock has returned to Najibabad to take up her work among the women. We are glad to know that she is able to make known to them the words of life in their own language.

L. J. BURGESS.

Karmatar

OUR time is so fully taken up with school work here in Karmatar that we can give little attention to other lines of work. However, during the mela held some fourteen miles out in the jungle, we closed our schools for two days, and attended this mela in order to sell some literature and do other work.

The first day was cold and cloudy, and the people were slow in gathering. As we went on the ground we found the missionary in charge of the Plymouth Brethren Mission of Karmatar giving the gospel of Mark to all who wished one. When I was thirty feet from this missionary, Prova Mitter left me and went off alone, an unusual circumstance, as she is very timid in a crowd. I was fearful she could not find me if I left the spot, and so stood still, with my books in my hand. While standing there, with scarcely any effort on my part, I sold nineteen books. Fully half of these were gospels of Mark, which were being given away by hundreds. And when Prova returned I learned she had done equally as well.

At this mela five of us gave four hours to selling of literature, disposing of one hundred and five books. As I look back upon this experience, I can only marvel. A power greater than ours must have sold the books that could be had for the asking. D. BURROWAY.

A Beginning

THE Lord has fulfilled his promise to be with his disciples even unto the end in my behalf since I came to India; for I feel certain that beginning in a strange field like this I would have been unable to do what has been done without Divine help. During the three months I have worked here the number of orders taken has reached four hundred and twenty-five, seventy-five per cent. of which are for the excellent, message-filled paper *Oriental Watchman*. This is not much in comparison with what other canvassers are doing, but I mean that by God's help more shall be accomplished during the next three months.

I rejoice that I have been permitted to join the little army of soldiers warring against the intense powers of darkness and superstition in this land. In nearly every place I have worked results could be seen of the good accomplished by Brother Raymond. In nearly every case the people's desire for our literature has been increased. In some places, especially Madras, where I spent two months, many were glad to send in their renewals for the *Watchman*, or order it for the first time. God is surely preparing the way for the minister's work. I wish you could realize how many are anxious and asking for a minister to come and teach them the whole message. As never before, I see that "the harvest is ripe, but the labourers are few." The longer I labour, the more I enjoy the work, and praise God for health and protection.

The last week has been spent working the stations from Madras to Calcutta. At this writing I am in the waiting room at Cuttack, waiting for the train to Calcutta. As I begin work there, I feel the special need of your prayers.

PETER A. RICK:

Rangoon

I AM glad to be able to send this my first report since coming to Burma. If any one class of people is ready for our message more than another, it is the Burmese. I have been surprised during my short stay here by the way these people have so readily bought our books, papers, and tracts. The little tract, "The End of the World and Signs of our Times," which sells for two pice, they buy quite eagerly. In one day I sold 103 of these message-filled tracts. Not only do they buy the papers in their own language, but the printed English-speaking Burmans subscribe quite readily to the *Oriental Watchman* and *Herald of Health*. During my six weeks' work in Rangoon I have secured 156 subscribers to these two papers, 52 for the *Watchman* and 104 for the *Herald of Health*. About 75 per cent. of these subscribers are Burmese.

The brethren here are now preparing a paper which will be printed in the Burmese language and published quarterly. I am sure this will be largely subscribed to. I believe that our message-filled books and papers will be scattered in Burma this year like the leaves of autumn. My earnest prayer is that as the people read these printed pages their hearts may burn within them and they may see this great truth as it is in Jesus.

My sales for the six weeks spent here are as follows:—

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|---------|
| Heralds of the Morning, | Rs. | 123-8-0 |
| Practical Guide to Health, | " | 664-8-0 |
| Oriental Watchman, (Annual Subs.) | " | 130-0-0 |
| Herald of Health, | " | 156-0-0 |
| Signs of our Times, (Burmese) | " | 4-0-0 |
| Guide to Health, | " | 12-8-0 |
| Other books, | " | 20-0-0 |

Total Rs. 1,110-8-0

Of this amount, Rs. 702-13-0 has been cash.

I am planning on leaving Rangoon

about the 7th and going to Moulmein to stay three or four weeks.

I desire an interest in your prayers.

W. CARRATT.

A Month's Tour

SINCE my report of one month ago, I have travelled nearly one thousand miles, describing three-fourths of a circle with a radius of two hundred miles about Bangalore City. On this trip I have sold our literature to the value of Rs. 455 in fourteen towns, seven of them being district headquarters. Much of the country is very poor, with few Europeans, as the above figures will indicate. I have worked hard, and many times have been cheered by God's manifest working along the way. Forty-five per cent., or fully Rs. 200, has been for our religious literature, *Oriental Watchman* taking the lead.

I have come in contact with much of the faithful work of former labourers, and many times have been directed in quite remarkable ways to those ready for our message-filled literature. I must praise God, too, for his keeping power, for the way he has guided me in judgment, and the many timely favours he has given me at the hand of strangers, many of whom we call "heathen natives."

I will mention a few instances of the month. I am cycling along a poor street when suddenly my attention is attracted to an unpretentious house. I go in, find a customs officer, and take his subscription for *Oriental Watchman*. Again a dog runs out, so I have to dismount and speak to the man of the house, whom I find to be a prominent, educated Christian, the only one on the street. I secure his order for *Oriental Watchman* and pass on. In another town I can spend but one day, and do not want to miss any of God's true children there. At once a

native man steps up, enquires my business, and is delighted to find me a Christian missionary like himself. So, for Christ's sake he shows me around to some I should otherwise have passed by, and the town is finished just in time for the train. At another time I miss the one I am seeking, am compelled to go to another place, and there meet an earnest Christian lady, whom I should have otherwise missed. I add "Object Lessons" to her splendid library, and go away with the name of one of high social standing and influence. In another town I find a family unable to subscribe, but treasuring a year's *Oriental Watchman* and *Herald of Health* sent them by one whom I met last year on the East Coast.

These are a few of the things which show how the Lord is working throughout this vast Empire. These are the things which inspire greater confidence in the message and encourage the messenger to press on while the day lasts.

I am now at Bellary, two hundred miles north of Bangalore, ready to enter Mysore from the north. I still desire an interest in the prayers of God's people.

F. O. RAYMOND.

The Burma Meeting

THE Burma meeting is over and we are on our way back to India, but while the occasion is fresh in mind and our hearts grateful for blessing received, I write a few lines for EASTERN TIDINGS,

The meeting was held at Rangoon, beginning December 29th and ending January 7th. There were in attendance the members of the Rangoon church and representatives from Meiktila, Mandalay, Moulmein, and the Shan States. All workers, both American and Burmese, were present. Brother and Sister Tornblad came five days by bullock cart from the Shan States. Sister Thurber only

was hindered from coming. Brother and Sister Beckner, who had both been ill in the hospital and who thought they could not be in attendance, were with us the major part of the time.

A deep interest was manifested in every service; the Lord gave freedom to his servants as they spoke the Word, hearts were touched, and nearly every one present reconsecrated himself to God. Several studies were given on the Holy Spirit, and there was manifest a real desire for a better understanding of its office work and an earnest longing for the necessary cleansing from sin as a preparation for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. We saw ourselves face to face with the problem of carrying the gospel to Burma's millions, and the imperative need of the Holy Spirit never seemed more real to the writer than during these meetings.

Considerable interest was shown in the sale of our literature, both English and Burmese. Brother Weeks took one session for the canvassing work, and afterward about a dozen went out selling the Burmese tract "Is the End Near?" In three or four hours more than seven hundred copies were sold. There is evidently a very large field for the sale of small tracts and pamphlets, there being so large a per cent, of people able to read and willing to buy. An action was taken by the Burma local committee providing for the publishing of a quarterly journal in Burmese having in view the presentation of the Message to Buddhist people.

Brother Thurber spoke twice on the subject of education, emphasizing the importance of symmetrical education giving the Bible and physical training their place in the school. Mrs. Bruce spoke on the education of our European children and the work of the Annfield

School, Mussoorie. Several parents became interested in the school, and four children representing four homes are now on the boat with us on their way to Mussoorie.

Brother and Sister Tornblad spoke very enthusiastically of the opening for mission work which they have found in the Shan States. They hope to build up a self-supporting mission station. The climate at Thamakan is good, the elevation being nearly four thousand feet; the soil is productive and cost of living small. A railway to the Shan States has been sanctioned and is now under construction. Doctor Tornblad intends opening up a small sanitarium. Some of our own workers plan on going to Thamakan for a change during the coming hot season.

Most of our workers found excellent accommodation during the meeting at the home of Brother and Sister Votaw, who, notwithstanding the burden of the meeting; which fell mostly upon them, did not fail to generously welcome and care for a large family during the entire meeting, but we feel sure that their efforts and those of all who attended the meeting will not be without avail. We go our ways with new courage and firm belief that the coming year will tell very largely for the progress of the work in Burma.

J. L. SHAW.

"THE path to success is in doing the work of life with a willing mind, a loving heart, with both hands, earnestly—diligence in getting good, being good, doing good. In this world, all the grand prizes go to a few brilliant people. . . . But what a blessing it is to us, the dim million, to know that God recognizes patient merit, and that the grandest prizes of all are not kept for the brilliant, but for the faithful."

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LUCKNOW, - - - FEBRUARY, 1912

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

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

—A MEETING of the India Financial Association was held in Calcutta, January 25th, to consider the balance sheets of the Association.

—ELDERS J. L. SHAW and J. S. James are leaving next week for Bombay, planning to be there about the time the workers from America arrive.

—DR. V. L. MANN and family leave this week for Calcutta. Dr. Mann will spend some time there in the interests of the Treatment Rooms and Health Food Factory.

—ANNFIELD SCHOOL opens March 8th. Mrs. Bruce, with four children from Burma, is now in Mussoorie. The prospects for the school the coming year are encouraging. The attendance will be larger than last year.

—SISTER WEAKS and Sister Beckner have been in the Rangoon Hospital for the last month. They have made favourable recoveries, and Brother and Sister Weaks arrived in Calcutta the first of the week.

—SEVERAL meetings of the Advisory Board have been held at Lucknow the last fortnight. There have been in attendance J. L. Shaw, Dr. V. L. Mann, J. S. James, L. J. Burgess, S. A. Wellman, W. E. Perrin, and Mrs. Quantock. Plans for the headquarters and publishing house have been under consideration.

—THE Sabbath-school collections for the year 1911 show a very encouraging gain, amounting to nearly 50 per cent. The collections for the last three years are as follows: 1909, Rs. 1,149-12-0; 1910, Rs. 1,362-14-0; 1911, Rs. 1,942-11-0. The collections for Burma alone last year were Rs. 798-12-0. The tithe receipts for three years are as follows: 1909, Rs. 14,296-10-7; 1910, Rs. 15,727-1-7; 1911, Rs. 18,043-4-11. It will be a source of encouragement to all our people in India and Burma to know that the tithe receipts by the field as a whole are making a substantial increase from year to year.

—OUR sisters who are working for our journals are having interesting experiences. Sister Votaw has just sent into the office 37 subscriptions for the *Oriental Watchman* and 40 for *Herald of Health*. Some of these are for two and some for three years. Sister Perrin has been canvassing in Lucknow recently with good success, and Sister Shaw has spent considerable time the last year with our journals, and has found it an excellent means of reaching the people in their homes. We are sure there is a large field for our lady workers in the circulation of our journals, both in the English and the vernacular, and "if there is one work more important than another it is that of getting our publications before the people." The canvassers for our English literature report sales of more than Rs. 2,300 for the month of January. This is the largest monthly report we have had in this field for some years.

—THE February number of the *Oriental Watchman* is just off the press. It is a good number, and no doubt will meet with as good sale as the January number. What are you doing to increase the circulation of this messenger of truth? There rests upon every Sabbath-keeper in India and Burma the privilege, as well as duty, of giving this journal a wide circulation.

—THROUGH the kindness of our brethren and sisters assembled in the Philadelphia institute, two Estey Folding Organs have been received. The one unboxed is the finest of its kind we have seen. These instruments will be very useful in our evangelistic work as it opens up in different places. We are indeed thankful for the kind thought of our friends.

—BROTHER AND SISTER VOTAW and Brother Thurber have been visiting the oil fields in upper Burma during the last month in the interests of the Meiktilla School. Americans at these oil fields have signified their interest in the school and their willingness to contribute toward a shop for industrial work.

—BROTHER LOWRY writes from Tinnevely that during the last few weeks five young men, one in Trichinopoly and four in Anthoor, have signified their willingness to accept the truth, and have begun the observance of the Sabbath.

—ELDER G. W. PETTIT and wife, Elder J. M. Comar and wife, and Sister Rachael Jones arrive in Bombay from America February 23rd. Brother Walter Mead and wife are expected to arrive about two weeks later.