

Eastern Tidings.

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GOD'S BEAUTIFUL PLAN.

If the tithes were in the storehouse,
That belongeth to our King;
If all those who share God's bounties,
All their tithes would quickly bring:
Heaven's windows wide would open,
At the word of His command,
And blessings then would be poured out,
Which would overflow the land.

If the tithes were in the storehouse,
It would not be very long
Till the weary hearts now crying,
Would be shouting Zion's song.
The "thirsty land" would then rejoice,
And the waiting isles would sing:
If all the tithes were quickly brought,
That belongeth to our King.

Darkened hearts would soon be lightened
With God's message from above,
And thousands now in heathen lands
Would rejoice in heaven's love.
Come ye stewards: haste, get ready!
All your tithes and offerings bring:
Soon you'll answer, as a steward,
To your quick returning King.

—A. T. ROBINSON.

NOTWITHSTANDING DIFFICULTIES.

We are to continue to press into the regions beyond, where the people are in spiritual darkness. "Every valley shall be exalted and every mountain and hill shall be made low; and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain." Isa 40: 4 Every obstacle to the redemption of God's people is to be removed by the opening of his word and the presentation of a plain, "Thus saith the Lord." The true light is to shine forth; for darkness covers the earth, and gross darkness the people. The truth of the living God is

to appear in contrast with error. Proclaim the glad tidings. We have a Saviour who has given his life that those who believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Obstacles to the advancement of the work of God will appear; but fear not. To the omnipotence of the King of kings, our covenant-keeping God unites the gentleness and care of a tender shepherd. Nothing can stand in his way. His power is absolute, and it is the pledge of the sure fulfilment of his promises to his people. He can remove all obstructions to the advancement of his work. He has means for the removal of every difficulty, that those who serve him and respect the means he employs may be delivered. His goodness and love are infinite, and his covenant is unalterable.

The plans of the enemies of his work may seem to be firm and well established, but he can overthrow the strongest of these plans, and in his own time and way he will do this, when he sees that our faith has been sufficiently tested, and that we are drawing near to him, and making him our counsellor.

In the darkest days, when appearances seem so forbidding, fear not. Have faith in God. He is working out his will, doing all things well in behalf of his people. The strength of those who love and serve him will be renewed day by day. His understanding will be placed at their service that they may not err in the carrying out of his purposes.

There is to be no despondency in God's service. Our faith is to endure the pressure brought to bear upon it. God is able and willing to bestow upon his servants all the strength they need. He will more than fulfil the highest expectations of those who put their trust in him. He will give them the wisdom that their varied necessities demand.

Said the tried apostle Paul: "He said unto me: My grace is sufficient for thee; for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then am I strong." 2 Cor. 12:9,10.

Only brethren, hold the beginning of your confidence firm unto the end. The light of God's truth is not to be dimmed.

Be amidst the darkness of error and of the world. The light of God's truth is not to be dimmed. Be amidst the darkness of error and of the world. The light of God's truth is not to be dimmed.

The Church of Christ is God's agency for the proclamation of truth; she is empowered by him to do a special work; and if she is loyal to God, obedient to his commandments, there will dwell within her the excellence of divine power. If she will honour the Lord God of Israel, there is no power that can stand against her. If she will be true to her allegiance, the forces of the enemy will be no more able to overpower her than is the chaff to resist the whirlwind.

There is before the church the dawn of a bright, glorious day, if she will put on the robe of Christ's righteousness, withdrawing from all allegiance to the world.

The members of the church need now to confess their backslidings, and press

together. My brethren, allow nothing to come in that will separate you from one another, or from God. Talk not of differences of opinion, but unite in the love of the truth as it is in Jesus. Come before God, and plead the shed blood of the Saviour as a reason why you should receive help in the warfare against evil. You will not plead in vain. As you draw near to God, with heartfelt contrition, and in full assurance of faith, the enemy who seeks to destroy you will be overcome.

Turn to the Lord, ye prisoners of hope. Seek strength from God, the living God. Show an unwavering humble faith in his power and his willingness to save. From Christ is flowing the living stream of salvation. He is the Fountain of life, the Source of all power. When in faith we take hold of his strength, he will change, wonderfully change, the most hopeless, discouraging outlook. He will do this for the glory of his name.

God calls upon his faithful ones, who believe in him, to talk courage to those who are unbelieving and hopeless. May the Lord help us to help one another, and to prove him by living faith.

Mrs. E. G. WHITE.

STUDYING HINDUSTANI.

My object in coming to India was to carry the light of Present Truth into the homes of the native women of the country.

Realizing that in order to do this I must have a knowledge of their language I attempted its study soon after my arrival in Bombay.

I attempted but failed as I was giving Bible readings, distributing tracts, doing some canvassing and nursing at the same time.

But I am thankful that God has opened the way for me to come to Dehra Dun

engage in the study of the Hindustani language. And I feel that he has specially favoured me in putting it into the heart of Bro and Sister Burgess to receive me to their home.

And I could wish that all who engaged in the study of these languages could be as pleasantly and comfortably situated, the weather here being delightfully cool.

As having learned by past experience that it is useless to try to get the language at the same time canvass, give Bible readings, etc, the opportunity of laying aside other work for the present and dedicating my entire time to the study of the language is appreciated.

I also appreciate the help I am receiving from Sister Burgess in my studies and I trust that with her help and the blessing of God I may soon be able to carry this glorious third angel's message to my who are now living in the darkness of heathenism.

—B. KURTZ.

A NEW MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The workers at Mussoorie formed themselves into a Missionary Society on Wednesday evening May 8th. Their design at present is to send our literature to missionaries of other denominations. Bro. Hansen was chosen President and Bro. Shaw Secretary. Monthly pledges of the amount of rupees twenty-five were secured with which to send copies of the "Oriental Watchman" for the next six months to missionaries in different parts of India. The Society hopes to send out copies, if possible, of the *Oriental Watchman* monthly. While this effort is being made, our prayers may well ascend to God in behalf of the great body of missionaries many of whom though knowing the foundation upon which the present truth rests are bitterly opposed

to it. We know of no better way to break down the prejudice which exists than to give them a fair opportunity to investigate. In America and other places where our literature has been most widely circulated prejudice has been worn

if there are any who would like to take up the work of the workers in Mussoorie in the circles of the *Oriental Watchman* they may send in their contributions to the Secretary.

The missionaries of India afford a large field for effort. At the present time in India and Burma there are between three thousand and four thousand many of whom are giving all their strength to Christ for his glory and the salvation of souls. Surely there rests upon us a great responsibility and we shall not be just before God or them if we hold from them the message for this time. Should some of them be turned to the light what a work might be done by them among Indian Christians and others.

J. L. SHAW.

DEHRA DUN.

Since coming to Dehra Dun we have had many evidences of the Lord's leading. Shortly after locating here the annual conference of the native Presbyterian Mission was held in the little church adjoining our cottage. A number of delegates from distant places were present and we were kept quite busy talking with those who came to the house from time to time to inquire in regard to different points of the message.

Among these inquirers was one in whom we became especially interested who seemed to be hungering and thirsting for the truth. The thought of the soon coming of the Saviour seemed to take hold of this

man and in the season of prayer following this study, as he pleaded with God for cleansing from all sin and a preparation to meet the Saviour, the room seemed filled with the Holy Ghost.

From that time instead of attending the Conference Sessions he would come to us to study the truth and seek the Lord together. Although warned by his brethren that if he kept on coming to us he would become a Seventh-Day Adventist, he continued to come, telling them that all he cared for was truth wherever it could be found.

The last day of the Conference he kept the Sabbath with us and returned to his home rejoicing to tell his friends and relatives of the precious light he had received.

Since returning to his home in Patiala he has resigned his position in the mission where he has been working, and has stepped out by faith on the promise of God without any assurance of earthly support. He is planning to return to Dehra Dun shortly to spend some time with us in further study of the message for this time.

For some time previous to our meeting this man we had been making our noon time season of prayer an occasion for especially seeking the Lord that he would raise up workers for the Hindustani people, and we feel that he sent this brother to us in direct answer to prayer. We trust that all our dear workers will unite in praying that God will use him mightily in bringing the light to these millions in darkness.

—L. J. & G. A. BURGESS.

"The dear Lord's best interpreters
Are humble human souls;
The gospel of a life like His
Is more than books or scrolls"

WORKING FOR OUR HEALTH BOOKS.

Since my arrival from Colombo I have been engaged in canvassing for the Medical books in Hyderabad City amongst the princes and nobles of this great native state.

Hyderabad is the capital of his Highness the Nizam's territories, and is situated within 6 miles of the famous fort of Golconda, in the vicinity of which the world renowned Kohi-noor diamond, which now adorns the crown of the King of England and Emperor of India, was found. The distance of Hyderabad from Calcutta by rail via Bezwada is about 986 miles, from Madras 490, and from Bombay 491 miles. The city is surrounded by a stone wall, which however is in a somewhat ruined condition and is approached by numerous bridges, gates and posterns. It has a population of about 300,000. The Nizam's dominions cover that part of India known as the Deccan and contain an area of about 80,000 sq miles, with a population according to the recent census of 11,240,000. It is bounded on the north by Berar and on the south by the Madras Presidency, on the west by Bombay, and on the east by the Central Provinces. The Nizam of Hyderabad who is a Mohamadan potentate is one of the most powerful and influential of the independent native rulers of India.

I find it very interesting visiting the nobility of this place who for the most part live in splendid palaces surrounded by every evidence of ease and luxury which is so marked a characteristic of Oriental life. And though at times I have experienced difficulty in gaining an audience, yet as a rule I manage to succeed and have been invariably well treated.

During the past month that I have been

at work I have booked orders for 58 "Man the Masterpiece" and "Ladies Guide," the total value of which amounts to Rupees 754. I have only just entered upon my deliveries and so am unable to report what percentage of these orders will prove good.

It would appear that this territory has been previously worked over by one or more of our canvassers in years gone by. About 10 years ago either Brethren Lenker, Strobe or Master's visited here, and later I believe it was canvassed by our late Bro Quantock. I have found books sold by our previous canvassers, both amongst the native as well as the European community. After finishing Hyderabad City I hope to travel through the state, visiting amongst the officials of the Nizam's government.

WILLE MEYERS.

BANGALORE.

Dear Fellow Workers:—

It is now almost two months since I arrived in Bangalore and began my work in the Tamil language. This time has been crowded full of many cares so I have not written for the "Tidings" as I intended to do. I greatly enjoy reading this little messenger and I only wish it came oftener and contained more letters from the workers.

Shortly after arriving in Bangalore the Lord directed me to a very good Tamil teacher to instruct us in that language. He is a Hindu and is highly educated in his own tongue as well as in English. After we had engaged him I learned that he is the author of several educational works in these languages, some of which I have seen and examined. Mrs. James and I are studying together, which we find to be much the best way.

It becomes more interesting where two study together and where one may fail to catch the ideas of the teacher the other will get them and thus we aid each other. Our teacher is very faithful in his instruction and seems to take a special interest in our advancement. Many times he will overstay his time by half an hour to make sure we are clear on all the points of the lesson. Like a true teacher he makes a study of our deficiencies and endeavours to overcome them by avoiding complicating methods in presenting his points. The greater portion of his instruction is given from Tamil text books without English equivalents. This seemed to us at first like wandering in a wilderness, but as time went on and we became familiar with the characters and sounds, we were convinced of the wisdom of his advice in asking us to do it. For those who expect to master the language I consider it a waste of precious time and means to depend on these so-called "self helps" and "self instructors" for these vernacular tongues. They may help the transient visitor to India in dealing with coolies and cooks, but to the student of the language they are usually vague, inaccurate, misleading and do not deal in practical matter. From the beginning I have felt that we who have been asked to study these language should endeavour to gain a solid foundation right from the start. I believe the character of the first six months of our work will largely determine the permanency of our work for the future. In our haste and anxiety to use the language and reach the people there is a danger of doing hurried work in laying a foundation and thus unfit ourselves for our work in the future. Truly, haste is waste and folly in this respect.

Our teacher spends one hour and a half

each morning in giving us instruction. Before leaving he assigns the lesson for the next day and makes whatever suggestions necessary. We endeavour to spend at least six hours in hard study each day and have made it a rule not to allow anything to divert us during this time. Taking out a little time for meals, exercise, article writing and carrying on the English work at this place we find the day well filled. I find that the little time given to the English work draws away from our study of the vernacular. However our teacher assures us we are making encouraging progress so we push on and leave the results with the Lord.

At this writing we have finished reading the first and second readers in Tamil and have completed the first grammar. Today we finished translating the first chapter of John from Tamil to English, after giving the root form of each word, declining each noun, conjugating the verbs and analyzing the grammatical construction of each sentence. We find the Tamil is like the human body in many respects—fearfully and wonderfully made. Yet, after one begins to get an insight to its construction it is a beautiful expressive language. It seems at times as though we would never be able to produce some of the strange sounds but as we labour and study and twist our tongues we gradually get hold of it, and that which seemed so vague to us at first begins to resolve itself into intelligent thought. I am told the Tamil is richer in thought and literature than any language in South India.

We like our location here in Bangalore very much. The weather thus far has been very pleasant for study. I have just returned from a trip to Ceylon yesterday where I went to get the tent that was stored in Colombo and ship it to

this place. Misses Orr and Haegert returned with me to enjoy a much needed rest in a cooler climate. The weather on the plains of So. India and in Ceylon at present is almost unbearable. Miss Haegert has just recovered from a serious attack of dysentery and is in need of prolonged rest and quiet.

I must now close and will promise to report again next month. I would enjoy reading letters and reports in the "Tidings" from all and especially those who are studying a language. Pass along your experiences and suggestions.

Remember us in your prayers. We do not fail to pray for you all.

Yours in the Master's service,

—J. S. JAMES.

OUR SABBATH SCHOOLS.

No doubt many of the brethren and sisters will be glad to hear something of the work that our Sabbath schools are doing in India and Burma. This quarter brought in full reports from all our Sabbath schools. One was left out but the very day we were sending our reports to the Sabbath school Department in Washington it came in so that we were able to give full particulars of all our schools.

There are at the present time twelve Sabbath schools in India and Burma. One of these is a family school. The present membership is 189 and the donations for the quarter as reported amounts to about a hundred and seventy five rupees.

This certainly is very encouraging, more so, when we consider that all of this money with the exception of the money donated by one school is, to be used for Foreign Missions. We are happy to say that this school suggested itself that in the future its donations could not be used in defraying incidental expenses. We believe that this is as the Lord would have

it, and is a plan that is adopted by nearly all of our Sabbath schools. I believe in the German Conference all the contributions of the Sabbath schools are regarded as sacred to be used only for Foreign mission work.

In Calcutta there are three Sabbath-schools. One is for the English people numbering thirty-eight, and one at the Garden house for the Bengali brethren and sisters. Brother Mookerjee writes that they have established a family Sabbath school to which they invite their neighbours and he has also organized Sabbath schools at Gopalgunge, Borashi and Patharghata. The two latter ones have been started in the last quarter.

We notice in the Burma report that they have been able to keep an excellent attendance. While it is second only in membership it stands at the head in average attendance.

Sister Plummer Secretary of the world's Sabbath school Association writes that about a year ago they started the plan of trying to raise three thousand rupees a week for missions and now this is accomplished. Each week there is a constant stream of three thousand rupees flowing in for Foreign Missions. There is certainly nothing that can bring more hope and courage to the hearts of our missionaries than to see the way the brethren in all parts of the world are giving to these needy fields and there is nothing that will develop more love in the parts of our children for the truth and bind them to the work than giving a little to the Sabbath school offerings. Some of our Karmatar boys and girls deny themselves of some luxury just to give pice on the Sabbath. If their noble examples were followed by us all there would be a general rally in raising our Sabbath school donations here in India. It is not the amount

that is taken into account but it is the cheerful giving of even a little. We hope that when our reports come in next quarter that every school will have something to help forward the Lord's work.

Our Sabbath schools afford a great opportunity in reaching the homes of the people. Some have been brought into the truth through the Sabbath school medium. Even parents can be reached through the children. If we make an effort to increase the attendance of our Sabbath schools in India and Burma it will give the officers who lead out in the work wisdom and courage in pushing forward the work so that our Sabbath schools may be the means in God's hands of giving forth His glorious truth. Mrs. J. L. SHAW

STUDYING THE BENGALI.

No doubt the brethren, who know we are giving our entire time to studying the language, would like to know how we are progressing. It is my privilege to spend the hot season in Dehra Dun with Brother and Sister Burgess. Sister Burgess is instructing me in the language.

It is cool here and we rise early so I am able to study eight and nine hours daily. The early evening we give to visting and exercise. I expect to pass the first year's examination in June.

I can truly say I am progressing. God is indeed blessing; to him be all the praise.

—DELLA BURROWAY.

CANVASSERS, ATTENTION!

Beginning with the June number of *Good Health* the price per year will be Rs 2-8 instead of Rs 2 as heretofore. Let our canvassers note this change in working for the *Good Health*. The change will take effect on receipt of the June number, as that number will have the price printed in it.

EASTERN TIDINGS.



INTERNATIONAL TRACT SOC.,

394 Free School Street, Calcutta.

Doctor Oberholtzer has been stopping in Rangoon for several weeks because of the plague at Moulmein. Now that it has abated, she is returning with Brother David Hpo Hla and family.

Sister Haegert while canvassing with Sister Orr at Colombo was taken ill with dysentery but is now convalescing. They both have gone to stop with Brother James at Bangalore for rest and recuperation.

Sister Whaley has answered a very urgent call to connect with the Calcutta Sanitarium. The managing committee have been sorely pressed for trained help and with a full house hardly knew what to do. Sister Whaley's experience and help at this time is a great blessing to the work.

An interesting letter from Dr. Ingersoll is to hand. He and the family had a very pleasant trip through Palestine and spent three weeks upon the continent. His letter was written from Caterham England where they were enjoying a few days' rest at the Sanitarium.

Elder Spicer in behalf of the Mission Board desires to know what progress is being made by the workers in language study. He says, "I hope you will report to us the result of your first half-yearly examinations in language work. Perhaps

the only thing not quite clear in your program is the penalty for failing to pass. No doubt, the disgrace of such a thing will appeal with sufficient force so that you need never consider any other penalty."

Dr. Marsh is beginning the study of Urdu and is locating for the present in Debra Dun. There is a very wide field of effort in medical lines among the Hindustani people and it will be a blessing to our work in North India to have a doctor who can speak the language. We are sure Doctor Marsh will find more openings than she can fill when she becomes conversant in the tongue of the people.

The list of *Watchman* stands at about 1800 now and is steadily growing. This is due to the faithful efforts of our canvassers now in the field. On account of a small edition for the last two months we have not been able to supply our canvassers with the *Good Health*; consequently the list has not grown much. But we have a good supply of the May number in an attractive dress fresh from London (the front page), and are looking forward to some heavy lists before long.

It was our privilege to make a short visit with Bro and Sr. Cook recently. They are quite alone at Simultala, but seem to be good courage. They are ploughing away at the Santali language several hours a day. Considering that they have been studying only since the end of the Campaign (about a month) they are doing splendidly. Think of reading the first chapter of John and understanding it after a month's study. Of course they don't read a whole chapter in a day yet.