

Eastern Tidings.

Vol 4

APRIL, 1908

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BIBLE READINGS IN CALCUTTA

Dear Fellow Workers :—

Only a few words, not for lack of something to say : but as I sit down to write, I can think of so many calls to make, so many who are interested in the truth, and who need instruction, that it seems a serious question whether the time can be spared to be telling tidings to each other or whether to rush out into the streets of the city and be telling the message to those who have never heard. Since returning from Mussoorie to Calcutta I have found so much to do every day that leisure moments seem to have dropped out of the calendar. I have been much interested in a union cottage meeting attended mostly by S. D. A.s and Methodists. All seem to enjoy studying the Bible together : and so exciting discussions have been introduced : but there has been continual feasting upon the word "that is able to make us wise unto salvation." This gives favourable opportunities for friendly acquaintance, and seems to remove the fear of those differing in opinion studying the word together. To study to see how much we can disagree would have a separating influence that would be felt immediately : but to study how far we can agree, has a uniting influence. Let us not, in our work, expect those who have been so differently instructed during their lifetime, to see alike at once, but let the word and the Spirit that inspired it, have its subduing and also its molding influence upon the mind. I find many in Calcutta who seem to be really hungry for the truth : and I enjoy holding Bible readings with them. I feel sorry to have to

leave them and go to Mussoorie to attend to the fruitgrowing and other interests that were started on the Annfield estate last summer.

Let us learn the wonderful lesson contained in Hab. 2 : 20 ; Zeph. 1 : 7 ; Eccl. 5 : 2 ; Isa. 55 : 8, 9.

Let us not say it is this way, or that way : but let us inquire :— "How is it ?" and let the Bible do the talking. I hope all our workers will soon see in print, a new tract, entitled "TWO OPINIONS," that will be a concise and emphatic demonstration of the plan just referred to : and that will prove to be a sharp sickle in the harvest field.

I must close this writing and go to give a reading to an old gentleman who is rejoicing in his victory over the tobacco-habit and has just decided to obey the commandments : and I must also call on a native Tamil who understands both English and Tamil well, and also several other languages. He is much interested in the truth, and if the Lord can lead him into the light, what a help he might be !

Yours in the work,

G. K. OWEN.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS FROM MISS KNIGHT

No letter from India the past week. I hope it is not on account of illness on the part of any one. Eld. Shaeffer, Pres. of the Miss. Conf. visited my school the past week. He came Monday night, and stayed till Thursday forenoon. Preached twice at the school house and his words had a good effect upon the people. He seemed really surprised, yet pleased at my adaptability for the place

and work. He urged me to go to the Miss. Con. to be held at Vicksburg and promised to help me pay my expenses, and now (D. V.) I am quite sure to go. I shall be glad to do so. I am to do some reading and speaking too while there.

It is nearly time to go to the Sunday School. I have been interrupted a long time visiting with Sydney, one of those boys who came the long way to attend my school. He is a nice boy, and said he enjoyed this school the best of any one he has ever attended. Now I am very pleased to know that, and I am sure you will be too.

I thank God that he taught me in so many ways; that I can now teach these who otherwise never could be led in the way they ought to be. I am reading considerable in all our papers, and trying to keep in touch with all the work. It means an effort, but I mean to make it by the Lord's help. To-day we had the "Signs of the Lord's Coming," and I tried to make the message plain, and I feel that some at least are getting hold of the matter, and will be without excuse.

The wind is out of the East to-night and it blows the smoke back into my room, and makes me most uncomfortable. I hope to get it fixed sometime this week. Did you ever notice that it is the "East wind" that brings the trouble.

Give all the old friends my love and say to the younger ones I am all the time praying for them and the work in India.

—MISS WILCOX.

FAITH AND WORKS.

It has been said that if we tell men that good works cannot save them, but that Jesus saves the guilty who believe in Him, we take away all motive for morality and holiness. We meet that with a direct denial: it is not so; we supply the grandest

motive possible, and only remove a vicious and feeble motive. We take away from man the idea of performing good works in order to salvation, because it is a lie; good works will not save a sinner, nor is he able to perform them if they could save him. But when we tell men, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved," if they exercise faith they are saved; and being saved, there grows up in their hearts gratitude to God, and from this springs a loving desire to serve God on account of what He has done; and this motive is not only very powerful, but it is very pure, because the man does not then serve God with a view to self, but he serves Him out of love; and works done out of love to God are the only good works possible to men.—*C. H. Spurgeon.*

OUR CALCUTTA TREATMENT ROOMS.

No doubt our people will be interested to know something of the work of our Calcutta Treatment Rooms since they were separated from the Sanitarium and the latter was moved to Mussoorie. This change was made on the first of December and left to the Treatment Rooms a legacy in the shape of a debt of Rs 10,389 9-0. This made the beginning anything but an encouraging one; it was starting with a mill-stone about our necks, and things looked gloomy indeed. But as there is a silver lining to every cloud, we took courage and prayed that the Lord would lift the cloud and pour in his sunshine of blessing upon us.

The Lord no doubt heard our prayers, for they have been graciously answered. Patients began to come, and the money began to come too, so much so that in four months' time we have been able to reduce our indebtedness from nearly Rs 11,000 to Rs 7723-14-6. Thank the Lord for this. We also feel to thank our fellow-workers.

who were lifting up our hands by their prayers during this time.

We are thankful that our work is all one, and when one member of the body suffers, the whole body suffers with it; also when there is rejoicing of one member, the whole body rejoices. This is as it should be.

For the success of the Treatment Room work it seems to me there are a few things very necessary. First, we must seek the Lord for His blessing on the work, and then ask Him to send those to us whom we can benefit. We must ask Him to put healing power into the Treatments given, and then when the work is accomplished give him praise for what is done. It is easy to take credit to one's self when good results are seen. We at best are only instruments, and unless we are handled by the Great physician our efforts will prove futile.

Then when the patients come to us we must show an interest in them and endeavour to anticipate their wants. Some good rules are: Never miss an engagement. Be prompt to all appointments. Never make yourself familiar. Receive your patient courteously, listen to all he has to say, and when you are satisfied what is the matter with him, go ahead and do what you believe is the best thing. Be thorough in what you do. Though we may be adept and expert with our work, yet unless it is done thoroughly, it will not be appreciated. Remember the little things. I have more often been thanked for the little things for which I expected no thanks than for what I thought a good job that deserved praise. Sympathise and courage your patient. Study each case carefully and be prepared to answer all questions intelligently, and thus gain your patient's confidence. Once you gain his confidence he becomes your friend.

Be respectful to all irrespective of colour, caste or position. One native gentleman of position and influence was very much impressed with the way we treated the native patients, and offered to place his house in Nainital at our disposal and fit it up with all the apparatus etc., if we would run it as a Sanitarium. The only condition requested was that we take in poor natives free. This was a magnificent offer.

Again, be as interested in the work as if the business were your own. When a casual patient comes in out of hours, never tell him you can't take him because it is dinner time or treatment hours are over. However inconvenienced, do not lose a patient in this way. He may go away pleased and send many more. One day at dinner time a patient came, and my first thought was to ask him to wait, but upon a second thought asked him to come in. No sooner was he through than another turned up. What about dinner? I got interested in my patients and my appetite waned. They kept coming, and I got dinner that day at four o'clock. But I felt well repaid.

While we have been busy we have tried to remember the real object for which we are engaged in this work. We have had some interesting talks with some of our patients, and have brought the truth to the notice of many, if not all our patients. We try always to follow out Peter's injunction. "Be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason for the hope that is in you with meekness and fear. Some patients have come late on Friday evening. We try to send them away good humoured, and tell them it is the Sabbath, and if they will kindly come again any other day at any time we shall be glad to treat them. Most of them come back.

Herewith is a statement of accounts of the San. Bath and Tr. Rooms during the period from Dec. 1st, 1907 to Mar. 31st 1908.

Total Receipts	Am't disbursed	Actual Earnings	Actual Expenses	Old bills paid	Old bills to be paid	New bills to be paid	Net gain
DECEMBER 3173 14 6	3044 10 6	2737 12 0	1216 13 9	800 0 0	10389 9 0	416 6 6	436 14 3
JANUARY 2212 4 0	2339 11 3	2162 0 0	1210 9 3	489 7 6	9606 14 6	306 7 0	951 6 9
FEBRUARY 2017 4 0	3003 11 9	1987 13 0	1238 4 9	1326 0 0	8280 0 0	260 0 0	749 8 3
MARCH 3045 6 0	2976 4 0	1741 10 0	1237 8 9	1290 0 0	7613 14 6	110 0 0	504 1 3

Cash in hand Apr 1st.

Rs 309-15-12

J H REGON.

A REPORT FROM CALCUTTA.

It is now four months since I began work in Calcutta, and the extent to which the work has developed will be easily understood by the following figures:—

Bible Studies.

½ Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	½ Mar.
15	38	47	68	60

God is abundantly blessing. Calcutta is ready for the message. Many are enquiring after the Sabbath. One has decided to obey. Another is convinced, and is still studying. Both belong to the European community. A third, a lady, through the labours of the Sisters Jewett, has also begun to walk in the light. Praise God!

One Hindustani brother, a preacher, is studying, and selling the vernacular lit-

erature with good success, according to reports from Sr. Quantock in the office. Brother Burgess has arranged to supply him with a monthly consignment. He would be glad to have the Bengali pamphlets also, which Brother Little is printing. Another Hindustani man, an S. P. G. preacher, is studying.

Five Bengali preachers and one teacher have begun studying recently. Some of these do not attend regularly, but come as they find time. Another Bengali, an employee of the municipal corporation, has also taken two studies. With these I study in Bengali. There are two or three other Europeans and a Singalese youth from Ceylon, also investigating.

Eld. Owen has been holding readings with some others and some fruit is being seen. So much for the Christian community.

As for the Hindus and Mohammedans

I am studying with some six or seven Hindus (Bengalis) at present. One, a youth, has said that he would like to be a follower of Jesus, and tell his poor countrymen about Him. Praise God!

Three Mohammedans are reading. One is a Khansamah (tableservant), another a cook. The third is an interpreter of the High Court, an educated man, knowing three or four languages, viz., Bengali, Oriya, Urdu and English (probably).

Besides these, a Hindu woman from Assam has taken two studies in English with Mrs Watson. May God help us to hold out faithfully in Calcutta, and raise up other labourers speedily for the needy people in this great city. As brethren we are united in the work here. God has also blessed the work of the Treatment Rooms and Food Factory. Praise God, and pray that we may continue steadfast. The Lord is at hand. Amen.

A. G. Watson.

MUZAFFARNAGAR.

By the Lord's grace the work here is progressing well. There are many who are receiving this message and are seeking for this wonderful truth.

On the 19th of March was the beginning of a Mela here. I have been selling the Hindi and Urdu books among the people who are attending the Mela, and thus far have sold one hundred and forty-two.

I am insufficient for this great work but I hope you will pray for me that those who come to Me for light may not be disappointed.

Yours in the Master's Service

K. S. Camphor.

"The devil is never so much a devil as when he appears the most unlike one."

SELF-SACRIFICE

You deny the body, or you deny the soul. Deny the body, and the soul comes to the front and floods your life with sacred light, with heaven's pure splendour. Gratify the body, and the soul retires, and its hot tears fall in the hearing of God. Self-slaughter takes place. It can take place in the cutting off a hand, or in the thrusting of a dagger into the very fountain of life, and it lies within the power of the human will to say where the wound shall be inflicted. There is a bloated man who never said "No" to an appetite. You see it in his face. That is not the face of his childhood developed into old age; that is another face: he is made now in the image and likeness of the devil. His very eye has a twist in it, his very speech has lost its music. He does not want to come into a pure home; he does not want to look upon the unsullied flowers: he does not care to listen to the birds singing their sweet song in the spring light. His affections are otherwise. All the urgency of his life moves amid other directions; he is less a man than he ever was, unhappily. Here is a man who has crucified the flesh, the affections and the lusts thereof; he has cut off his right hand, plucked out his right eye, struck himself everywhere with heavy blows, but his soul throws over his maimed condition a sacred light, a beautiful expression. The form is rugged, the countenance is marred, but through it there is a soft, shining light, which tells that the soul is growing angel-ward and Godward, and every day sweetens his nature and prepares it for higher society.—*Dr. Parker.*

"Christianity means the power of love; politics means the love of power."

Eastern Tidings.

INTERNATIONAL TRACT SOC.,

39-1 Free School Street, Calcutta.

We are sure our readers will appreciate the report in this number of EASTERN TIDINGS of the success which has attended our Bath and Treatment Rooms in Calcutta. At latest accounts the work is still having a splendid run considering that this is the hot season.

In a letter to one of the workers Brother Enoch tells us that they have been fortunate in getting a good teacher and are making encouraging progress in the study of the Maharati language. These workers at Satara are in a good location for the study of the above language, and we wish them all success.

Too late for the last number of EASTERN TIDINGS came word from Brother James that their address is now Nazareth P. O., Tinnavilly Dist., S. India. We hope and pray that the work just beginning in that field for the company of Sabbath-keepers there will be prospered of the Lord to the salvation of many souls.

We are sure that all our workers will be sorry to hear of the illness of Brother Burgess from typhoid fever. Brother and Sister Burgess have been doing some travelling about among the Hindustani people, and have had some very encouraging experiences. Let the prayers of our people ascend everywhere that the Lord will speedily restore our brother to health. He is now at the rest home.

Our Karmatar medical is having plenty to do these days. The workers are looking forward to the time not far in the future when they will have a new cart and harness for getting about to the different villages. A few days since, while on the way to see a patient, the old cart gave way, and is now beyond remedy. It has been for some time a cause of anxiety to those who had to ride in it.

Brother and Sister Votaw have come from Burma with Brother Shaw, and expect to spend the next few months in the rest home in Mussoorie. We hope that this much-needed rest will build up the health of these dear workers so they can return to their field with new strength and energy to carry forward the work they have faithfully tried to place on a firm footing since they have gone to Burma.

This is the busy season for our Mussoorie Rest Home, and prospects are that the rooms will be filled during the hot months. Already a number of workers are there, and others are planning to be there in the next few weeks. We believe our workers will find that it pays to conserve their energies by taking advantage of the rest home though they may feel that they are not in need of rest. Sometimes it is found that failure to rest for two or three consecutive years means that in the end the health of the workers suffers and they find it necessary to take a prolonged rest of several months. Frequent short rests are better.

Through a mistake here at the office the "Report of Calcutta Sabbath School" last month should have been report of Calcutta Church.