

Eastern Tidings.

Vol 4

JUNE, 1908

No. 14

GOD'S OVER-RULING PROVIDENCES IN THE MEDICAL WORK.

It is well to make mention of God's goodness and His over-ruling providence as seen and manifested in His work. It is, therefore, a joy to me to speak of the medical department of our work in this field and how manifest God's dealings have been with it of late.

About a year ago difficulties began to arise which we knew not how to surmount. The Calcutta Sanitarium which for a number of years had been struggling with difficulties was fast reaching the place where something needed to be done to avert calamity and just what became a perplexing problem. For some time it had been running behind and a large debt was being incurred. Every month called for a high rent with other expenses the managers knew not how to meet; and small patronage did not help the situation. Added to that was the difficulty always present of getting workers from America for the Calcutta Sanitarium able to endure the climate. This was made more evident by the death last July of a faithful and devoted nurse, Sister Jewell.

The landlord in Calcutta also sent us word that we must pay at once the six months' rent which was owing him amounting to nearly Rs. 5000. We had no money to pay him and what we should do became a perplexing question.

As is ever the case man's extremity is God's opportunity. A number of workers began to make our medical work in India a daily and continual subject of prayer. Time was given to the study of instruction the Lord has given us regarding Sanitarium work. We poured out our souls to him who hears and answers prayer.

The Lord has said our Sanitariums should be placed out of the cities and in the most healthful locations to be found. Calcutta fulfilled neither of these conditions. It is a large congested city and has a very trying and unhealthy climate. As we began to look about for a location for the Calcutta Sanitarium in harmony with the instruction laid down in the Spirit of Prophecy, our eyes were turned toward the Himalayas, the natural Sanitariums of India, having a cool and bracing climate where both patients and helpers can thrive. Mussoorie seemed to present the best opening.

Before moving the Sanitarium from Calcutta it was first necessary to re-let the part of the premises not required for treatment rooms. This the Lord did for us in a very sudden and almost unexpected manner. The major part of the premise was sublet for the balance of the time of lease, amounting to nearly five years and the landlord became responsible for collecting the rent and in addition gave to us a splendid gift which helped toward the liquidating of our indebtedness with him. This lifted a burden and set us free.

At the Council in November 1907 it was definitely decided to carry on only Bath and Treatment Room work in Calcutta and move the Sanitarium to Mussoorie. About this time, a friend to encourage moving the Sanitarium to the Mountains made a gift of Rs. 1,000 and offered to loan a considerable sum at a nominal interest for purchasing a property for Sanitarium purposes.

At first operating Bath and Treatment Rooms in Calcutta, apart from the Sanitarium and without a physician seemed an impossibility. However, the workers having this part of the work in hand be

gan to pray and study with new determination. Considerable advertising was done. Physicians were made acquainted with our change of plans and the Bath and Treatment Room work picked up, and a splendid business was done during the cool season. The back rent amounting to Rs 5,000 was reduced to about Rs 1,000.

During the past two months when patronage is generally least in Calcutta the Bath and Treatment Rooms have shown a gain and the out-look for the future is encouraging.

No less marked has been God's favour upon the Mussoorie Sanitarium. To be sure Doctor Menkel, the writer and others associated with them had their faith severely tested in finding a suitable location yet not without very definite spiritual help. Our faith was strengthened. The month of February was spent in Mussoorie looking about for a property but the time seemed spent almost in vain for no sooner was something suitable found than the way to rent or purchase it closed up. Long and continued searching seemed not to find any place for us. Morning, noon and night we were in prayer, enquiring of God His will and between times looking at houses. In the end a very central and healthful location was found.

God heard and answered our requests, yet he waited, giving us blessed lessons in the school of prayer which are of more worth than houses and lands.

From the day it opened up to the present the Mussoorie Sanitarium has had all the indoor patients that it could accommodate. To be sure it is small and cannot care for many at one time, yet it holds all and more than our force of workers can care for. It has now been running two months and its earnings have been more by several hundred rupees than its ex-

penses. The Treatment Room work is also picking up for which we are thankful. And better still, the truth is being taught. A missionary lady, recently taking treatment has accepted the Sabbath. The future prospect of the Mussoorie Sanitarium, therefore is bright. Doctor Menkel and wife with their faithful little corps of workers are doing their best to place the institution upon a good basis and make it a beacon light of truth. Some of the workers are working beyond their strength but it will not be long. Nurses from America are now on the way and will soon be here. Let us pray that they reach India in safety and praise God continually for His leading providences in the medical work.

J. L. SHAW.

THE WORK IN CALCUTTA.

We cannot give such a good report for May as for April and some of the cool months, but taking the fact into consideration that May and June are the dullest months of the whole year, we feel that the Lord has been very good to us all. After paying all bills and rent for the month we had about Rs 160 left. We have several doctors co-operating with us for which we thank the Lord. One has sent us six or eight patients the last month, and from these we have collected about Rs 225, and expect to do better during June.

The Health Food Factory came out with about Rs 180 above expenditures. Sr O' Connor is finding many opportunities for good missionary work in the factory. She finds that one has to be something of a doctor as well as food-maker. The work keeps us pretty busy at times as we have no one to relieve us when we have to go out to give treatment.

or attend to business. Nevertheless the Lord blesses and we take courage.

Our prayer meetings continue with success, and Brother Watson and Sr. Daisy Jewett are very much encouraged in the Bible work. Several, the past few weeks, have accepted present truth, and though they have not stepped out boldly and taken a firm stand, we feel that souls are being prepared for the kingdom.

When we hear of the success of the work in Mussoorie and other parts of the field, we feel that all our thanks and praise to God are but feeble returns for what he has done for us. One gentleman who spent Rs 50 for treatment, before he left thanked me most heartily for my kindness and the interest I had taken in his case, and said he was very favourably impressed with our work. He is a Methodist minister, and is editor of the "Indian Witness." I think that his opinion has changed somewhat in regard to our work.

People take tracts from our tract rack in the treatment rooms, and I give some tracts away, and pray earnestly that God will water the seed thus sown.

We have missed Sr. Wilcox since she left us, but we know she needed a change, and hope she will be much benefitted in health, and that some time, if the Lord wills she may come back to this field. The work is great but the labourers are few. We are of good courage in the work.

Yours in the work,
H. J. Jewell

KARMATAR.

You who have responded to the call for funds to help the poor will be interested to know that nearly two hundred persons have been helped.

A few of these receive help daily, but most of them receive help only once a week.

We visited one home where the mother of five little children was ill. They were starving. Every rib of their bodies could be seen.

Many who come to us are just as needy.

Thirty rupees worth of rice has been sold.

We buy the rice at seven seers for the rupee, and sell nine seers for the rupee. We never sell above eight annas worth to one person at a time.

Many of these poor people have sown in their fields all the dhan they had, and because of no rain it is dying in their fields.

The prospects are very poor for a rice crop this year.—DELLA BURROWAY.

A brother in Meiktila, Burma, who accepted the truth last February has been showing the earnestness of his first love for the spread of this message. He not only gives to the Lord the tenth that is His, but pays a further second tithe. He believes that the Lord would have his children taught something of the truth, so has taken them from the outside schools, and hired a private teacher to instruct them—a teacher who has recently accepted the truth, and whose heart is warm with the love of it. Further than that, he has gathered a school of forty high-class Buddhist children, and is now calling for a teacher for them. This is no common opening, and we most sincerely hope that he will receive help in the way of a good teacher. The opening is worthy of the best talent to be had.

In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand: for thou knowest not whether shall prosper, either this or that.

Eastern Tidings.

INTERNATIONAL TRACT SOC.,
39-1 Free School Street, Calcutta.

Mrs and Miss Jewett are recent arrivals in Mussoorie. They find the hills very refreshing after several months in the heat of the plains.

Brother Cook reports from Burma that a lady has taken her stand for the truth, and will be ready for baptism when Brother Votaw returns from his rest in the hills.

At last reports Srs. Orr and Haegert were in Maymyo, Burma. They report encouraging progress in the canvassing work in that field.

We are sure all our readers will enjoy Brother Shaw's article in this number on the progress of our Sanitarium work in India during the past year. The outlook at present is truly encouraging.

The Meetings in Mussoorie are making encouraging progress. Those who began to attend when the meetings began have nearly all continued to the present time and seem to be showing a good degree of interest. The word of the Lord, the Coming of the Lord, The Signs of His Coming, The prophecies, The State of the Dead, and The Destiny of the Wicked have been the subjects treated upon thus far in the meetings. These meetings need the prayers of our people for their success.

Brother James tells us that there is an opening among the Tamil Sabbath-keepers for a health work. He and Sr James have been having some very interesting experiences in treating the people since going to Tinnevely. Undoubtedly a medical mission opened there would accomplish large results. Our workers find the climate in that far southern field quite trying.

We are sure all our workers will regret the departure of Miss Wilcox from India during the present month. She has been a faithful worker in this field in the five years she has been here, but poor health has forced her to retire from the field. We hope the change may greatly benefit her in health and otherwise.

Brother Burgess is about once more and is taking part in the teaching of a school of the native brethren and sisters who have come up to learn more of the truth. They have a nice little school of about a dozen pupils. Those who have been to Annfield will remember the house known as "The Beehive" at the top of the hill as the road turns down to the Annfield estate. This is where they live and carry on the school. Brother Meyers is expected up in a few days to assist them in the work.

A minister who has just been appointed to a foreign field, says that he goes to his new field of labour "as a hungry man goes to his dinner." Surely this is the way the Lord would like to have all his children regard every Christian duty.

The blessings pronounced on 'the mount' are aptly termed *be-at-it-udes*. There is no premium promised on idleness.