

Eastern Tidings.

Vol. 4.

March, 1909.

No. 3.

FIELD REPORTS.

SOUTHERN INDIA.

Since our general meeting, we have been very busy getting settled in our work among the Tamil people. We had been absent about six months, and we were as happy to get back as the people were to have us back.

The Lord opened up the way for us to occupy better quarters this year than we had last. We are living in Nazareth, a strong mission station of the S. P. G., just one mile from the centre of our work. The house we have rented belongs to a teacher under the employ of that society. To get back and forth in our work we must either walk through the heavy sand or hire a bandy, which is not always obtainable when wanted.

Many of the Tamil Sabbath-keepers are scattered in other villages within a radius of 12 or 15 miles of our mission property. When our work becomes better established, these villages should be visited regularly and the people instructed.

Shortly after our return it seemed necessary for us to begin some aid for the sick and afflicted. For a dispensary we were granted the free use of half the building we occupied last year as a dwelling house. At present we find it difficult to care for all who come, owing to the lack of facilities for work and trained native help.

The average number who receive help of one kind or another is seventy-five. These come from all classes and creeds. We have taken a girl of 16 years, also a young man of 20 years, to train for helping us in this work. Both seem to be very bright and willing to work as they are directed. Our hours for work at present are from 9 to 11 A. M. We hope to have our dispen-

sary better equipped in the near future.

The middle of February we were visited by Eld. Shaw and Dr. Menkel, whose counsel and help were very much appreciated. Their visit helped to strengthen and encourage the people in their determination to go forward with our work and fully establish our mission. Plans for building were approved, which are now being carried out. At this writing, a large well is nearly half completed. The trenches for the foundation of the bungalow are dug and stone is rapidly arriving for the same.

The stone masons will begin work Thursday morning. Contracts have been given for burning brick, cutting Palmyra timber and making the doors and windows. By the Lord's blessing and help, we hope to have a suitable building to live in before the year is ended. We shall report more as the work progresses.

In the villages near where we are building, a general feeling of satisfaction prevails. Among the Christian communities a more friendly spirit is manifest, and we are now able to move freely in many of their social events and out-door recreations. We have felt the presence of the Lord with us in a special manner as we endeavor to carry forward this work. We are of good courage. Daily we remember all the workers in our prayers, and we feel that we are remembered in theirs.

MR. AND MRS. J. S. JAMES,
MISS BELLE SHRYOCK.

DEOSA, GARHWAL.

We arrived here safely after a journey of about sixteen miles on pack mules. Night overtook us on the way, and we were obliged to stop in a dharamsala, built for the accommodation of belated travelers. It was once a fairly good house.

but is now sadly out of repair. As there were no doors, the wind blowing through gave unusually good ventilation, and in the month of March the mountain air is very chilly; but we were tired from our journey and soon fell asleep, and arose in the morning quite refreshed.

The place selected for a school is about four miles from the postoffice of Deosa. It is a level place on the top of a mountain ridge and surrounded by pine trees. Many miles to the north of us we have a view of a range of snowy mountains extending as far as the eye can reach. One valuable feature of the place is the water, which comes out of the side of the mountain in a pure stream about two inches in diameter. The water is soft and has a very pure, sweet taste, which tempts one to drink freely of the original beverage given to Adam.

Although at first sight this seems like a lonesome place, as there are few buildings of any kind in sight, yet there are numerous villages hidden from view among the mountains. I already have the names of fifteen villages from one to six miles distant. And there are probably many more. Our land is between two villages, and travelers pass at all hours of the day. Many stop to enquire in regard to the school, and some to leave a donation of milk, ghee, or vegetables.

L. J. BURGESS.

BURMA.

We have had much to encourage us lately. Sister Donaldson's husband was baptised recently. It took him two years to really come to the point of surrendering. Six new ones have signified their intention of going forward with this truth. We feel like singing "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow."

Brother Votaw leaves us Friday for America. We hate to have him go, as he knows so well how to meet the people, and

is so well posted on all points of our faith. Just now an article has been put in the *Rangoon Times* by a Methodist minister, who refers us to Dr. Buck's, Bishop Warn's, and D. M. Canright's works, which he will furnish to inquirers. He is accusing us of proseliting members of other churches and not preaching Christ to the heathen. Brother Votaw is answering him in to-morrow's paper.

Sisters Rae and Thomas were elected as deaconesses last Sabbath, and are already busy visiting and arranging for study with interested women. Mr. Cook will hold studies with families and men alone. Brother Beckner is hard at work on the language, and seems to enjoy everything but the heat.

March 8.

LUCY B. COOK.

GOPALGUNJE.

We arrived here February 16, and have been well and happy ever since. We like Gopalgunje much, and are glad to be in the midst of the Bengali people. Mrs. Watson is picking up the language, and so am I. She took up a case or two upon our arrival, and although one was very serious and the child died, yet there are others coming for attention. We have no requisites for treating patients, not even fomentation cloths, and are therefore placed at a great disadvantage.

A few of the heathen and Christian round about have been visiting us and studying the Scriptures, and several were present at our two meetings here, also at the one at Borashi last Sabbath. A Hindu who came from a village a few miles distant yesterday and remained three hours talking and studying the Scriptures, said that during the last four or five years he had been a stranger to the peace that had arisen in his mind as a result of his visit. He had been out from very early in the morning, and it was noon when he came to us, yet at first he could not make up his mind to receive

any food from us; although he had not had his breakfast he seemed to overcome his prejudice, and consented to eat, but was fearful of being seen by his co-religionists. He left beseeching us to pray that God would give him peace of mind.

Pruna Chand Gyan, an elderly man with whom Elder Shaw was impressed at our Bengali conference, paid us a visit yesterday and the day before, with Anondo Haldor, whom we were willing to take on probation. These brought with them a Church of England preacher, and we had a profitable experience studying the truth together. The last-named took back with him several of our present truth tracts in order to continue his investigation, while the two former declared their intention to return in a short time for the purpose of studying. The elderly man especially seemed to be in love with truth.

A. G. WATSON.

February 24.

KARMATAR.

The first few weeks after returning from conference were spent in getting settled and taking up the work again. The month of January was cold and the number of patients was small, as every one enjoys better health during the cold season. But this month we have had our hands full and have been more than busy. Calls have come from every side to come and see the sick. We have felt at times we needed to be in several different places at the same time. Last Friday we were called to a patient sixteen miles away. We started, but before we reached our destination the sixteen miles turned to twenty-nine miles. We were two days and nights in the bullock cart and were very thankful to reach home again. As we passed through the different villages the people brought their sick out for us to heal, many cases being chronic and of long standing and many cripples. They firmly believed we were

able to cure them, and when we told them we could do nothing for some unless we could treat them daily, their disappointment was pitiful to see. It made our hearts very sad; and we longed for the power to heal that Christ gave to his disciples.

We were very much disappointed when Dr. Menkel passed through without stopping, as we had several cases waiting for operations, and we planned to have him perform them. Miss Burroway is enjoying her Bible work. She finds many people willing to listen. She has opened one school and expects to open another in a short time. We are of good courage, but feel our need of drawing closer to God, that he will continue to bless us.

B. M. FULLER.

I have started a school among the Santals with Matta in charge. We have twenty-eight boys attending and will have a few more. They are very poor, so I am having them pay one anna each for the first book—other schools charge two annas. When they take up the second book, we will increase the tuition.

They are going to build a school-house, and I wish you could have seen their enthusiasm last Friday. The head man wanted us to come and say what each parent must do to have a school. So Prova and I went and met all the fathers. We drew up a paper, and took the names of all, telling them that each one was to bring so much wood and straw, and that all were to come together this week and build the house. It really meant as much to them as building our Sanitarium will to us. We hope that by the time our building is ready our Bengali Brother Dey will be here to open up school work. Our old man and his wife are requesting baptism, and I think they are about ready for it; for they are living up to the light they have received.

DELLA BURROWAY.

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The Lucknow bathrooms have been closed for the season, and our medical workers are now busy getting ready to open up the work at Mussoorie.

Amar Nath's report for February shows 364 booklets sold. The amount received was Rs. 11-5-. This is not large, but much of his time was taken up in other work.

Our engine, to which we called attention last month, is now in running order; but delayed shafting and other requisites are still hindering us in our work.

Brother Jewell started out on a canvassing trip after the closing of the bathrooms. Brother Meyers accompanied him for a few days and assisted him in getting started.

A good interest has been shown in the meetings held here at Lucknow, although just what fruit will appear no one can predict. At a recent service there were 110 present.

Brother Maqbul Massey reports a good interest at Sherkot and vicinity, where he is working among Hindus and Mohammedans, as well as Christians who are seeking for truth.

Brother Little found it necessary to return to Karmatar the first of the month to assist in some legal measures which are being taken to stop the work of petty thieves, who have been very annoying for some time.

The report on this page from Sister Burgess, which was taken from a letter received by Elder Snaw, was set before the one from Brother Burgess was received, and hence any seeming repetition in the reports.

Shortly after EASTERN TIDINGS was printed last month it was learned that Brother and Sister Hanson's little boy had died. For a short time he seemed to be some better, but he took worse again and death claimed him.

Elder and Mrs. Shaw, Dr. and Mrs. Menkel, Brother and Sister Leach, Miss King, Brother Owen, and Rhidoy Mitter all went to Mussoorie last week; which gives things rather a deserted appearance around here. But more will be leaving later.

FIELD REPORTS.

GARHWAL DISTRICT.

We had a visit yesterday from the young man who was instrumental in sending the delegation to us when we were in Almora to intercede for a school. He expressed great interest in the plan, and said that they did not want merely a school that would prepare them for government positions, but they wanted one that would dispel the darkness from Garhwal,—they wanted an "asmani" (heavenly) school. We hope with the Lord's help that that will be the kind they will get. They seem to care very little for the vernacular, as there are many schools in the district where Hindi is taught, but they want English especially. This will be an advantage in two ways. It will prevent the school from being overrun with very small children, and it will also enable us to introduce our own text-books from the first.

We hear very encouraging reports from Sister O'Conner in regard to the opening of the school in Dehra. There are one or two young ladies who are desirous of taking the nurse's training. How I wish we could have a thoroughly trained nurse in connection with that work there so that the native people could get their training without being under entirely European influences. Perhaps the way may open for Sister Bruce to connect with that work. She has such a burden to get into the native work. Sister O'Conner says she never saw any one so determined to get the language as she is, and she is making progress, too.

Last Sabbath we had a very interesting meeting. It was attended by a Brahmin shop-keeper who formerly had a little shop near the place where we located. The subject was Creation and the Sabbath. This man seemed very much impressed, and said that he was going to bring his shop back to the place near the school, and that he would close it every Sabbath and study the Word of God with us. There are many things which lead us to think the Lord is going to work among these people.

GEORGIA A. BURGESS.