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Eastern Tidings

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The Eastern Tidings

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CHRIST

CHRIST stands so near in every time of sorrow,

To strengthen day by day,

Safe in his care. I fear no coming morrow,

He is "the Life, the Way";

Fears and temptations, howso'er insistent,

Through him, are overthrown;

He is a Saviour near, and not far distant,

My willing heart his throne.

Loyal to him through every passing hour,

In every time and place,

Kept from all sin by his almighty power,

Rejoicing in his grace,

So would I live through all time's changing
weather,

Through pathways bright or dim,—

I and my Saviour journeying together,

Living alone for him.

Welcome the way if Jesus walk beside me

With pleased, approving face.

Welcome the burdens; whatso'er betide me

Is but a means of grace,

Do what thou wilt to mould me to thy pleasure,

O blessed Lamb of God!

Heap thou of hardship yet another measure

Where thy dear feet have trod.

If my feet bleed from sharp stones on the
mountain,

Thy footsteps went before;

They'll rest at last beside life's living fountain,

The toilsome journey o'er.

Until the time when all the saints shall gather

In the bright world above,

Guide and protect and shield me, O my Father,

And lead me by thy love.

—L. D. Santee.

SPIRITUAL LIGHT-HOUSES

From every member of the church a steady light should shine forth before the world; so that they shall not be led to inquire, "What do these people more than others?" Religion is not to be held as a precious treasure, jealously hoarded, and enjoyed only by the possessor. True religion cannot be thus held; for such a spirit is contrary to the gospel. "Freely ye have received, freely give," are the words of the Master. While Christ is dwelling in the heart by his Spirit, it is impossible for the light of his presence to be concealed or to grow dim. On the contrary, it will grow brighter and brighter, as day by day the mists of selfishness and sin that envelop the soul are dispelled by the bright beams of the Son of righteousness.

Christians may learn a lesson from the faithfulness of the light-house keeper. "A gentleman once visited a light-house that was placed in a very dangerous position to warn men of the perils that threaten them on the trackless sea. The keeper was boasting of the brilliancy of his light, which could be seen ten leagues out at sea, when the visitor said to him: 'You speak with enthusiasm, sir; and that is well. I like to hear men tell what they are sure they know; but what if one of the lights should go out?'

"'Never, never, absurd, impossible!' replied the sensitive watchman, in consternation at the mere supposition of such a thing. 'Why sir,' he continued,

pointing to the ocean, 'yonder where nothing can be seen, there are ships going by to every port in the world. If, tonight, one of my burners should go out, within six months would come a letter, perhaps from India, perhaps from Australia, perhaps from a port I never heard of before, a letter saying that on such a night, at such an hour, at such a minute, the light at such a point burned low and dim; that the watchman neglected his post, and that vessels were consequently put in jeopardy on the high seas. Ah, sir,' and his face shone with the intensity of his thought, 'sometimes in the dark nights, and in the stormy weather, I look out upon the sea and feel as if the eye of the whole world were looking at my light. Go out? Burn dim? That flame flicker low or fail? No sir, never!'

"And shall Christians shining for tempted sinners, allow their light to fail? For, ever out upon life's billowy sea are souls we see not, strange sailors in the dark, passing by, struggling, it may be amid the surges of temptation. Christ is the great Light, and Christians are appointed to reflect that light. The ocean is vast, its dangers are many, and the eyes of far-away voyagers are turned toward the light-house—the church of Christ." If the world intervenes between the church and Christ, its light will burn dim, and souls will be lost because of the lack of light. Shall not the language of every heart be: "What! let the light that is in me go out or burn dim! Never! Never!"

MRS. E. G. WHITE.

SUNSET

JUNE	4,	- - - - -	6:41; 6:24; 6:34.
"	11,	- - - - -	6:43; 6:25; 6:36.
"	18,	- - - - -	6:46; 6:27; 6:38.
"	25,	- - - - -	6:47; 6:29; 6:40.

The times given is for Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay respectively.

Field Reports

A VISIT TO CEYLON

I HAVE just returned from a ten days' visit to Ceylon in company with two of our native workers. Ever since we gained a knowledge of this sect known as Tamil Sabbath-keepers, we knew that numbers belonging to that religion were in Ceylon engaged in various lines of trade. From among these men in the past has come most of the means for supporting their religion in these parts. When we first began our work here, most of these people were favourable to us and they raised the money to buy the land upon which our bungalow now stands.

During the last year the leaders of the society, having broken all their promises with us, have set about in a most determined and cunning way to turn all their members against us and prejudice their minds so we could not teach them. After the baptism, matters took such a turn that I felt it necessary to make a visit among them and endeavour to put them right on points that were being misrepresented to them.

While in Ceylon I visited three stations where the larger part of these people are located, talked with individuals privately, and held some public meetings where it seemed advisable. I also met those who had supported us last year, giving them counsel and encouragement, and instructing them about our work. All seemed pleased to have me visit them. Some gave liberally in cash, while others promised us their future support. On the whole, I feel that my visit was timely and profitable to our work in these parts. The time of the year was the very hottest, and I suffered much from the heat; but the Lord brought us back

none the worse for our journey. While on this trip I ate and slept with the people, which brought me nearer to them and broke down much of that foreign feeling which naturally exists between two races.

In all I visited three stations between Colombo and Galle in the southern extremity of the island, and had planned to visit a fourth; but upon returning to Colombo I felt strongly impressed to return to India at once. Not being able to throw off this impression, I yielded and took passage the same night for home. Imagine my feelings upon arriving there, to learn that a severe type of cholera had broken out in the village and a number had already died of it. Mrs. James, who had been left practically alone with the medical work, was almost exhausted with anxiety and going from house to house to help the sick. We are thankful for the Lord's help and strength in trying times like these.

J. S. JAMES.

IN THE MARATHI FIELD

FROM a personal letter from Elder Enoch we quote:—

"I had quite a trip with the expert. We took a mahar and a pickaxe, and examined the soil quite carefully. We found the murum sub stratum quite near the top in many places. There is, however, more than one hundred acres of very good land, but on a side of the property where there are no wells, and the rainfall is so precarious that a crop is not certain. After about seven years this land will be under the command of the canal again; but that is so far in the future that I do not feel like risking it. So, for the present, this land deal is off.

"However, there is a good irrigation bungalow on this distributary of the canal, now dry, which will scarcely be used before seven years. The engineer in charge has held out hopes that we

can get this bungalow on yearly lease at Rs. 20 a month. So I am passing in an application to-morrow. This will save our building this year, and when we get better acquainted with the situation we shall know better where we should build. I am somewhat disappointed; but, under the circumstances, my better judgment will not allow us to load up with this land, just now, anyway.

"But I have agreed to buy a pair of ponies. I have the chance of getting a fairly good span for Rs. 125- A bicycle is all right around town; but when one has to contend with hot sun, head winds, and poor roads, it does not pay. The vitality one loses on such trips is expensive to the Mission.

"Everything is well with us here. The first signs of the monsoon are appearing, and it is not likely that we shall have more real hot weather this year. We have really come through splendidly. I suppose you have seen the comet. It is nicely visible from here."

NAJIBABAD

WE have a school of fourteen children at present. We could have many more if we would take them in free, but it has been thought advisable not to do so. These children are all of Christian parentage.

We hope to have a day school in connection with the boarding school, but it will be quite a task to get heathen girls to attend. The Mohammedans are very particular about having their girls taught the Koran before they begin to study anything else. Then, too, Hindus and Mohammedans do not study together; so if we get one class to come the other will have to be let alone. However, there are grand opportunities here for Zenana work.

Our rising bell rings at 5:00 A. M. Then we have school from 6:45 to 10:30, when the girls go to the dispensary for an hour, after which the breakfast bell goes. Rest hour is 12:00 to 2:00 P. M.; study hour, 2:00 to 3:00; sewing class, 3:00 to 4:00. From 4:00 to 6:00, the girls cook their dinner by turns. At 7:00 we have worship, and at 8:45 the silence bell rings.

A. O'CONNOR.

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

—BRETHREN WELLMAN and Weaks spent several days recently at Najibabad.

—WE understand that Miss Scholtz is spending a vacation with Brother and Sister Burgess in the Garhwal District.

—MRS. JANES, a member of the Rangoon church, but recently of Moradabad, has moved to Lucknow, and meets with us in church service.

—If others see as few almanacs in India as we have seen, "Sunset" probably will not be out of place. Brother Miller suggested printing the Sabbath sunsets some time ago; but we secured the necessary information only recently.

—EVEN the jungle life cloud has its silver lining. Sister Burgess writes that wild blackberries are plentiful and each evening she goes out and in a few minutes gathers a breakfast supply. And we should enjoy taking a few breakfasts with Brother and Sister Burgess.

—WE understand Brother Little was in Calcutta recently seeing to the forwarding of some fruit from America to the workers in the Indian field. If those at home who go to the trouble of making up contributions of fruit could know how much it is enjoyed here where prices are prohibitive, they would feel well repaid.

—AN excellent book both for youth and adult is "A Man of Valour." It is a beautiful story of the life of a worthy young man, and as such should appeal to the youth especially. But, in addition to this, for those who are past the stage of childhood, it is valuable as a book for study. It is well written and, in the main, well punctuated; so much so that we feel like recommending it for this reason alone. If there are those among our readers who really would like to improve their style of writing and punctuation, we believe they will be re-paid by a careful study of this book, Price, Rs. 2-8.

—HAVING been in rather poor health for some time, Brother Cook came over from Burma recently and went to Annfield for a change and rest. He has had medical examination, and it seems best for him to take up labour in India, so Sister Cook has been telegraphed for. We understand they will spend the summer in the hills, and while Brother Cook recuperates he will study the language. We are glad to know that while he can not remain in Burma he will not have to quit the Indian field.

—BROTHER BECKNER reports the death at Dunnedaw, Burma, of Leslie George, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Hawken. He writes: "The little one is the first to be taken from the Rangoon church. A short service was conducted at the house, and also at the grave appropriate scriptures were read by the writer. We believe that God marks the resting places of the lambs of the flock, and will call them forth to eternal life when he comes."

—FROM a personal letter from Sister Burroway we are permitted to quote: "Elder Little came along last week, and we all went with him to Simultala, where we had baptism and the ordinances. We had had no such service in many months, and felt it would do us all good to come together. We had a very good meeting. In the afternoon we had dinner together, and after that the services. Four persons were baptized, all young Santals."

—AFTER spending some time in the study of the language, Brother Enoch is lengthening his cords and strengthening his stakes for work among the Marathi-speaking people. In addition to establishing a working station at Indapur, he is getting "Steps to Christ" ready for publication in Marathi, after which other reading matter will follow. We have ordered the type, and expect to begin his work for him in a very short time.

—SISTER COOK writes from Meiktila that Brother and Sister Thurber's younger boy fell from an upper story window and suffered a broken wrist and several bruises, also that Sister Votaw is up there, quite sick. Brother Mookerjee also writes that Mrs. Mookerjee is not so well as would be desired.

"THE love of God is not a dream. It is cultivated and exercised by the mind intent on good, in the hours of business and even in the seasons of relaxation. It is a principle which will grow with us, and be as large as our life."