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Eastern Tidings

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No. 5

The Eastern Tidings

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INTERNATIONAL TRACT SOCIETY

19 Banks Road, - - Lucknow

W. E. PERRIN, - - EDITOR

Concentrated and Wisely-Directed Labour

It has been the experience of missionaries in India as elsewhere that concentrated, well-directed labour over a small area brings a larger measure of success than haphazard movements over a wide field of effort. When asked why she did not open up a number of mission stations about her school at Mukti, Ramabai with a smile replied, "This school alone gives me more work than I can oversee." And yet what a wave of influence is going out from this one well-organized, well-directed mission station.

Murdock thinks one of the chief causes of want of success of some missionaries is the desultory character of their labours. If farmers went about here and there dropping a little seed and giving it no farther attention, they could not expect a harvest; no more can the missionary who moves and labours at random among the people. Itinerate preaching may create some interest; but it is not often productive of results. Lacroix, with great eloquence preached here and there in Bengal for thirty-eight years, and McComby for forty-five years was indefatigable in long preaching tours; yet neither of them left a single convert.

The experience of other missionaries might be cited showing the small results of itinerate labour. I give the following quotations in favour of well-directed concentrated effort in missionary labour:—

Beware of attempting the occupation of too much territory. The commission of this error has been all but universal; and it serves sufficiently to account for the limited success which has attended much well-intentioned but ill-directed labour. Let your motto be "Divide and conquer." This is humbling to pride, and felt to be a check upon ambition. Men are naturally averse to listen to the voice of the moralist, who teaches that "extended empire, like expanded gold, exchanges solid strength for feeble splendour." Whether in the pursuits of trade, of science, or of philanthropy, to grasp at everything is to secure nothing.—
Dr. Campbell.

Dr. Chalmers expresses a similar opinion:—

"We have long thought that the failure of every former attempt to reclaim the masses of our population is due to the insufficiency of the means which had been brought to bear upon them. It is under this conviction that we have long advocated the concentration of commensurate efforts on a small enough territory. What cannot be done in bulk and all at once, let us try in separate parts each within the compass of an efficient agency."

Let us therefore as workers earnestly implore direction from above, consider our own qualifications and the nature of the field given to us, and then determine how much we can cultivate, and devote ourselves as far as possible to that part, guarding ourselves continually lest we attempt too much and do too little well.
J. L. SHAW.

Resolutions Controlling Distribution of Vernacular Literature

THE following resolutions are now in the hands of the Advisory Board. So far all who have replied have expressed themselves as decidedly in favour of the main intent of the resolutions. Inasmuch as they affect every worker and the future development and distribution of our literature in all parts of the field, let all carefully consider them. If any resolution is not clear or should be altered, we shall be glad to explain or change:—

Whereas, There is a great need of getting our vernacular literature work upon a systematic basis so that there may be harmonious action throughout the field; and,

Whereas, It is very unsatisfactory and detrimental to the work to both sell and give away the same literature in the same field; and,

Whereas, The experience of Bible and tract societies, not only in India, but throughout the world, has fully demonstrated that the selling system has many advantages over the gratuitous one; therefore,

We Recommend, That all our literature be sold with the exception of a special line of small leaflets which will be prepared especially for gratuitous work; and,

We Further Recommend, That all colporteurs make regular monthly reports of work done to the missionary in the district where the colporteurs are working as may be arranged by the committee, and in these reports they definitely state the amount of literature on hand at the end of the month so that their exact standing with the Tract Society may be determined. Should their cash statement and their stock of literature on hand at the end of the month fail to harmonize, the deficit shall be charged to the account of the colporteurs and deducted from the monthly salary. They, of course, will be allowed the regular commission on sales as shall be agreed upon by the committee.

We Recommend, That all European workers, as well as other labourers receiving literature, be held responsible for the same, and that it be charged to their accounts.

We Further Recommend, That we carefully consider the work being done by various colporteurs to ascertain as to their faithfulness

in and fitness for the work, and that missionaries having charge of colporteurs arrange for a definite amount of literature to be sold monthly by each colporteur, and if after sufficient trial and admonition any worker proves himself unfitted for the sacred work of an evangelistic colporteur, that steps be taken to disconnect him from the work.

J. L. SHAW.

Sabbath-school Report

THE following report is for the quarter ending March 31, 1911:—

	Mem.	Sen.	Jr.	Ave.	Don.
Babulmohal,	19	16	3	11	Rs. 15
Calcutta, Bengali,	36			27	12
" English,	19	13	4	17	34 9
Karmatar,	29	23	6	25	31 15 9
" Village,	70				
" "	60			60	45
Poona,	6	6			22 3 8
Lucknow, English,	33	9	21	28	62 5 9
" Hindustani,	25			31	4 10
Meiktila,	21	8	13	20	46 4 6
Rangoon,	44	16	29	37	37 6 6
Tinnevely,	120	65	55	94	12 12 2
Mussoorie,	12	7	5	12	4 12 9
Total	495	163	196	347	Rs. 283 15 7

All donations are reported for missions.

I was very much encouraged to receive such prompt reports from all the Sabbath-schools this quarter. While some of our schools have had to be suspended for the time being, other new ones have been added, and on the whole, the Sabbath-school work is progressing. I felt like giving three cheers when the good report of membership from the Tinnevely Sabbath-school came. The Mussoorie school has just been reorganized, and has only had two sessions in this quarter; this accounts for the small report. While some Sabbath-schools are raising their donations, others, for some reason, have fallen off. It is good to know, however, that all donations go to missions, and I trust that every one will feel an obligation in keeping up the donations and making our work a grand success in India.

E. E. BRUCE.

A Three Months' Summary

School of Health,	Rs. 199-	
Health for the Million,	13-	8
Temperance Torchlights,	1-	4
<hr/>		
Total Health Books,	Rs. 213-	12
Herald of Health,	219-	10
<hr/>		
Total Health literature,	Rs. 433-	6
Best Stories,	Rs. 5-	4
Bible Child Life,	8-	12
Chris Our Saviour,	10-	8
Gospel Primer,	1-	4
<hr/>		
Total Juvenile books,	Rs. 25-	12
Heralds of Morning,	Rs. 14-	8
Christ's Object Lessons,	59-	8
Séer of Patmos,	7-	
Great Controversy,	25-	8
<hr/>		
Total religious books,	Rs. 106-	8
Oriental Watchman,	53-	4
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Total religious literature,	Rs. 185-	8
Total,	Rs. 618-	14

To the total of Rs. 618-14 should be added of American magazines, Rs. 68-2, giving a grand total of Rs. 688, or a monthly average of Rs. 229 actual cash receipts. To this should be added the free use of a room for the whole time.

As is well known, everything is very cheap in Madras, and money scarce. For this reason I was unable to sell many of our larger books. I can not report the interest here which is found in the North-west; but there are a few interested ones, and the Lord has sustained and blessed me as I have sought to bring to them "meat in due season."

I go on to the south well and of good courage, but desiring an interest in your prayers.

F. O. RAYMOND.

"THERE is a world to be warned. Let not humanity presume to stand in the way, but rather let every man stand aside, and let God work by his Holy Spirit for the accomplishment of the redemption of his purchased possession."

Field Reports

Babulmohal

WE are glad to report progress in the school work at Babulmohal and in the district. We have at present three day schools, one boarding school, two night schools for the adults who are anxious to study and the shepherd boys who can not attend during the day, and three Sabbath-schools. The Sabbath-school donations for last quarter were only Rs. 15, but when you remember that nearly all the students are poor Santal heathen, you understand. Those who are able to give their mite, do so willingly.

We have one hand loom at work at Babulmohal, on which we are weaving cloth for the students and at the same time giving them practical lessons in weaving. If we increase our looms, we shall have cloth for sale soon; such as, towels, cloth for native wear, and dusters. The students study seven hours daily and do three hours manual labour in the garden or weaving, etc. They are making good progress, not only in Hindi and Santali, but in memorizing Scripture portions and gospel songs in Santali.

May God bless all the workers, and may we see many souls won for the Master from the school work here and elsewhere, is my prayer. See Ps. 126: 5, 6.

W. A. BARLOW.

Calcutta Bengali Work

By the blessing of God, we have been able to rent a house in the centre of this metropolis from the first of March, as the headquarters of our mission. There is a nice hall 30x18 feet, which we use for our meeting purposes, and two suites of rooms, one on either side of the hall. One suite is used for office and tract society work and the other is used by

the writer for dwelling purposes. This seems to supply a long-felt need of our work, to have a centre from which to labour, so that the work can be done in a more effective way.

At present we are having Sabbath-school, Sabbath afternoon meeting, and Sunday evening services. We have just finished "Topical Studies on the Great Three-fold Message." The next lesson pamphlet is on the "Prophecies of Daniel." We average thirty students in our Sabbath-school.

We are putting forth more efforts in training the few workers we have. We have classes 6:00-7:00 A. M. and 12:00-2:00 P. M. Our workers devote their morning hours to selling literature, their afternoon hours to visiting families, and their evenings to holding cottage meetings. Every evening of the week except Saturday we have cottage meetings. On Wednesday we have our prayer meeting.

The Lord is blessing our feeble efforts. We are having opposition from different denominations; literature is being printed against us and scattered all over. People are urged in different churches not to in any way come in touch with the "Saturday-keepers." However, letters from enquirers are coming to us from different parts of Bengal, and repeated calls are coming from several places since the beginning of 1910; but, for lack of men, we have not been able to respond to these calls. It is our aim to establish the work where we are at present, then to open up new centres and train our workers the best we can by God's help. Considering we have had ten deaths among our church members in Calcutta within a year and a half, and some other disadvantages to contend with, we are of good courage in the Lord. We feel we have a good beginning now, and by

his help we want to push forward and warn the millions of Bengal.

We remember all our workers and work all over India daily in prayer, as we know we are remembered by them. We can say with Paul, "A great door and effectual is opened unto me," "and there are many adversaries." But we have taken Josh. 1:9 as our counsel at this time.

L. G. MOOKERJEE.

Burma

We have been somewhat negligent about writing to EASTERN TIDINGS; but a pressure of duties has seemed to be sufficient reason for our neglect. We enjoy hearing from the rest of the field, and feeling sure that you are interested in the work in this land, will give a few notes.

It is frequently remarked that persons who are at a loss to know exactly what to say fall back upon the weather. The hottest season is here, and yet while the days are very hot and trying, the nights are comfortable. In this respect Rangoon differs from most places in India. And this is its redeeming feature. There are not more than a dozen nights in the year so warm that one does not need a little covering before morning. It seems to be the universal testimony of those who have resided in Indian cities, such as Calcutta, Bombay, and Madras, that Rangoon's climate is preferable to theirs, taking the year through.

We think it marvelous how well and strong I was permitted to become here last year after so serious an illness without any change whatever. Scarcely anybody thought that we would remain in the country, because so many had gone away when ill.

Before Sister Shannon came here, she was told by some that she would break down in three months in Rangoon. More than this time has elapsed and she is doing

well indeed. She has been able to attend the services ever since coming, and gives profitable assistance in the Sabbath-school.

Brother and Sister Thurber are as busy as can be in their school work. Mr. Votaw recently made a trip to Meiktila, and was enthusiastic over the work the boys are doing in the industrial as well as the literary line. Through funds raised here, they are now in possession of about thirty acres of free-hold land and are erecting some nice buildings. Brother Thurber is carrying heavy work while studying the language; but what else can be done?

Brother and Sister Beckner were sent to Mandalay to open up work. They have been devoting most of their time to language study; but lately work has been begun in the villages near by. Brother Beckner is having excellent success in selling gospels and is also distributing much literature telling of the Lord's return.

Miss Gibbs is with us in Rangoon. She is spending several hours each day studying Karen and is making headway. We expect to see her ready for active work within a year. Someone should be sent to assist her; for the work among the Karens is too great for a single individual.

Dr. Tornblad has left her old home in Moulmein and gone to the Shan States with her husband, where he will engage in his profession. This leaves Moulmein without a worker. There is nothing that makes us feel worse than to see a place abandoned after work has once been begun. Moulmein and vicinity constitute one of the best parts of this land for work, and we should have a permanent worker there. Dr. Tornblad does not expect to return to Moulmein, so we enter our plea for a worker.

As for ourselves, we find the work getting beyond us. Our interest is the best

that it has ever been. Two young men have recently taken their stand for the Truth. These, with one who accepted the message a few months since and still another who has been a member for a longer time, expect to give especial attention to preparing for the work. They have asked for a class to be formed for Bible study, practise in giving Bible readings, and public lectures. We trust that they may all find a place in this great work before it closes. They have given some time to language study already. Two of them can read and speak a good deal of Burmese.

Mr. Votaw has just finished a proof on a Burmese tract with Brother Meredith. It is now in the press. He has been doing more among the Burmese people than in the past. He finds in his village work that the tracts treating upon the second advent are eagerly received and read. There are many homes to be visited in Rangoon, and I manage to do some of this work and whatever else I can.

We have recently raised more than three hundred rupees outside of our regular funds, with which we installed electric lights, bought some more chairs, and renewed our punkhas. This has improved the appearance of our hall.

God has blessed us, both with severe trial and with encouragements. "Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits." CAROLYN H. VOTAW.

South India

We are pleased to report a word of courage and progress from this part of the field. The heat is now on with all its oppressiveness, this year being much hotter than last for lack of rain. None has fallen since in November. All the tanks and most of the wells have gone dry, and good drinking water is difficult to obtain. If copious rains do not come soon, there will be much suffering to both man and

beast. The people will be reduced to a wretched diet, cholera and dysentary will break out, and many will be carried off. The question of securing proper food for ourselves is quite perplexing. Fruit and vegetables locally grown are very hard to get; but as long as we are able to get eggs, milk, rice, dahl, and plantains, we shall not suffer.

The work on the new school building is progressing nicely, and we shall soon be able to occupy it. The scholars and teachers feel very jubilant over the prospects of a more commodious and comfortable building. All seem to take a genuine interest in their work. The teachers and most all of the children have petitioned that there be no vacation this year so they may go on with their work. It is unusual to see such a desire for work and learning. We are endeavouring to make the religious feature of our school stand out conspicuous. If we fail to do this, or miss the opportunity of making an indelible impress of truth upon the lives of these young people, there is little comfort or justification in spending money in the effort. The question of mission schools for Indian children is a very important one, and the more we advance along these lines, the more we see the necessity of giving it careful thought and supervision. The realm of school work is a field admirably suited to the expansion of much energy; but with this, like every other feature of mission work, there is danger of scattering our efforts so far that we shall never be able to gather the results.

The work in the dispensary has gone forward about as usual, although I have not been able to give so much attention to that branch of the work as heretofore. I have never before seen such extensive and all-consuming sores as have been presented for treatment the last month. Some of them started from trifling

causes, gradually growing worse in spite of all preventative measures until death ended the awful sufferings. Some of these remind one of Isaiah's vision in Isa. 1: 5, 6. Still, we are enabled to relieve an immense amount of suffering, for which the people seem grateful and thank God.

Elder and Mrs. Lowry left us recently for a well-earned and much-needed rest in the cool of Pulney hills. The Lord has greatly blessed them in the study of Tamil, in which they are now able to teach and preach to the people. At the close of their leave, they plan to locate at Trichinopoly and develop an interest which has already been begun there. We regret to have brought to a close by this separation the cordial and profitable associations which we have enjoyed together the last eighteen months; but our eyes still look upon the fields with their great need, and we desire to place ourselves where our light may shine out to others with the greatest power and influence.

We are thankful for the health and strength which God has been pleased to give us thus far. We think of all the workers and remember them before God in our prayers constantly. EASTERN TIDINGS of late has been unusually interesting, and we have been much encouraged to read the reports from other workers. We lose much by not taking a more active interest in our reports to this paper. "Then they that feared the Lord spake often one to another; and the Lord hearkened and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the Lord, and that thought upon his name." J. S. JAMES.

AFTER spending one year and five months of arduous labour in the study of the Tamil language, on the burning plains of South India, we felt it advisable to take a rest of a few weeks in

the hills. Consequently, the first of this month we left our station in Tinnevely and came to Kodaikanal, which is a nice hill station located about twenty-four hours by rail south of Madras. We find it cool and pleasant up here, and feel sure that after a few weeks' stay we shall be able to go down to the plains much refreshed and invigorated for our future work.

We shall probably not return to work in Tinnevely district; as it was decided last December by our local committee, in counsel with Elder Prescott, that as soon as the way opened we should begin our work in Trichinopoly, a town of considerable size located on the South Indian Road south of Madras. We feel that undertaking to establish our work in this great Hindu and Roman Catholic centre is a very important step in the history of our work in South India. We therefore ask the workers all over the field to pray that when we do go and begin work we may be so guided and led by the Spirit of God that mistakes may not be made and that everything may be done in such a way as to eventually redound to his name's honour and glory. There are already two young men there who are keeping the Sabbath, and as a result of their influence and work a few other young men are interested in the truth. We feel sure that within a short time by God's help these young men will be brought to the place where they will accept the whole truth and become lights for him in that heathen city.

G. G. Lowry.

Madras

CALLING one day upon a Hindu gentleman, I succeeded in selling him a copy of "Health for the Million," and, as usual, in leaving, presented a gospel tract. Whereupon he expressed a desire for the

revised Bible, at the same time producing a little Testament or prayer book, saying, "When I am worried or in trouble I always go to this—it is so beautiful and soothing." This led to a few words upon the Bible, but not until I had passed out did it occur to me to present "Christ's Object Lessons." Then in perplexity how to proceed I breathed a prayer for direction, when to my surprise out came the man himself with a paper which I had left by mistake. This I recognized as the answer to my prayer, and I showed him the book and secured his order to be delivered in two days. Going with the book at the appointed time, I found the man unprepared with the money. On returning a little later, he was going to bathe and could not be seen. Next day I called twice, but he was not at home. By this time I had nearly despaired of making the delivery, but resolved to try once more next morning. This time everything was opportune, and the gentleman delighted to get his book. He had been reading the other literature, and was evidently pleased with it.

In this, as in many another commonplace experience, I am just simple enough to recognize the intervention of a higher power, and my faith and courage are greatly strengthened.

F. O. RAYMOND.

"God never empties places in our homes and hearts, or in the nation or the church, without being ready to fill them. Sorrow and loss are meant to prepare us for the vision of God, and their effect should be to purge the inward eye, that it may see him. When the leaves drop from the forest trees, we can see the blue sky which their dense abundance hid. Well for us if the passing, unchanging God stands out more clear, more near, more dear, because of change."

The Eastern Tidings

LUCKNOW, - - - MAY, 1911

EASTERN TIDINGS is published the 15th of each month, and all copy should be received not later than the 10th.

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

—BROTHER P. C. Poley reports encouraging sales for our literature. Sales during one week of April amounted to Rs. 117.

—THE Watchman Press is printing the little book "Glorious Appearing." This is its first effort at publishing an English work.

—SISTER JAMES is spending a few weeks at home at Nazareth, the boys having a short vacation from school duties at Bangalore.

—THE thermometer has risen to 112° here at Lucknow recently, but the nights so far are cool, and the heat is quite endurable.

—PUBLIC services have started in Mussoorie. The hours are as follows: Sabbath-school, Sabbath 4:15; preaching services, Sabbath and Tuesday at 5:30.

—ELDER FRENCH recently spent a short time at Karmatar, and reports encouragingly concerning the work being carried on. While there he baptized three candidates.

—PANVEL has been having a scourge of measles, smallpox, and plague. Our workers have been spared so far. Elder Enoch reports the need of a dispensary at that station.

—BROTHER WELLMAN reports unusual weather at Almora - which he suggests may be occasioned by his being there for health reasons. However, notwithstanding the rain, he has been enjoying good health so far.

—BROTHER Carratt, after spending several weeks in Mussoorie studying his book and features of the canvassing work with Brother Weeks, has started canvassing in Dehra Dun and will take other stations toward Lahore.

—MRS. Quantock spent several days in Calcutta last month auditing the books of the Treatment Rooms and Health Food Factory, after which she returned to Mussoorie, taking with her the India Union Mission books and accounts. A 1 payments hereafter for the hot season will be made from Mussoorie.

—BROTHER WELLMAN recently received quite a long letter from Elder Miller, in which he describes at some length their passing the customs, stop at Washington, and arrival home in Ohio. At the customs offices they were recognized only as foreigners and compelled to pay about \$12.00 duty on "nothing almost." Their stop in Washington was very pleasant, and Brother Miller felt that the missionary spirit was very much alive there. He reports several in training at the Seminary for work here in India. The home-coming was a tearfully-glad event, especially to the aged mother, and was in time for the yearly re-union of the Miller family. From Ohio they went on to Illinois to visit with Sister Miller's people. Brother Miller is not yet free from the effects of the sun, and will have to be very careful for some time. Mrs. Miller's sister was quite poorly, and so she found something to do at once. The boys are having the time of their lives, with nothing to fear, snakes, sun, or anything else.

—ALL who are soliciting for periodicals should be very careful to make no mistakes with their orders. One subscriber made complaint recently, and investigation revealed the fact that the one sending his subscription had omitted giving his surname. Care is always necessary in such work; but in a land of dreadful and terrible names, unusual care is essential.

—WITH a seeming shortage in fruit, at least in many parts, the supply just received from America will be doubly appreciated by our workers. Perhaps those who gave the fruit will never know just how much such things are appreciated in a land where one can not afford some of the good things from home.

—WE understand that after Sisters Leach and Burroway had laid definite plans to go to Darjeeling for a rest during the hot season a change in the weather came at Karmatar with storm and resultant lowering of the temperature, and they have postponed their trip.

—BROTHER F. O. Raymond, who has been canvassing in Madras for several months, is now working southward toward Colombo. Notwithstanding the poverty of the people in South India, Brother Raymond has been having exceptionally good success.

—MISS REID and Miss Wagner, now in Bombay, each have patients and others in view. There is evidently a large field for medical work along rational lines in that great city. Miss Reid is also studying the Marathi language.