

THE WORK ABROAD.

MISSION HOUSE, YELLAMANCHILI.

INDIA, March, 1880.

Dear Mrs. Newman,—In order to secure a complete set of the MISSIONARY LINK for the Samalkota Seminary, and another for myself, I lack only the following:

For the Seminary—

1878-79, Vol. I., the sample or trial copy and No. 2.

1879-80, Vol. II., No. 2.

For myself—

1878-79, Vol. I., Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12.

1879-80, Vol. II., Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5.

1880-81, Vol. III., Nos. 1, 2.

Vol. X., Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 9, 10, 11.

Vol. XI., Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11.

If you can secure and forward these they will be put to the very best possible use. I must again thank the friends who have so kindly sent missing numbers. I have a number of the back LINKS and will be very glad to forward any needed, to those who are seeking to preserve records, that are even now, of great interest and value.

If your missionary correspondence for this year shall be full, the columns of the LINK will, I am sure, record great blessings and times of refreshing from the presence of the Lord. My assurance is based upon the character of their remarkable meeting which opened the New Year's work in India, for the evangelization of our 3,000,000 of Telugus.

The first, was the conference of our own Upper Province missionaries, which met on Jan. 10th and 11th, in the Mission House at Cocanada. At these conferences, which are semi-annual, all matters concerning the mission are discussed and directed in a spirit of mutual confidence and brotherly love. On the first morning, with the home mail, and just as quickly, came Miss Booker. She completed the largest number of reinforcements ever sent in one year, and the largest number ever assembled in conference meeting. Could the pioneers of the mission, who died in overwhelming conflict, calling for help and hearing no response, but have stood in that meeting and looked down upon nineteen faces marked with determination to reach these people with the Gospel, in this generation, they would have burst out into songs of praise and triumph. Much important work was done; but that which will interest the home readers, is the recommendation to the Home Board, to open three new stations. One is Yellamanchili here, 25 miles north of Tuni. This has been already approved and is now open. The second will be at Wuryyuru, 40 miles south of Akidu, and from which one can look down upon the villages of the American Baptist Telugus, across the great Kistna River. The third will be in that destitute stretch of country lying between Samalkota and Tuni, on the North Cocanada field, and graphically sketched in the "Macedonian Cry," written by Mr. Stillwell, in the *Baptist*, over a year ago. When these places are occupied it is recommended to divide the immense Cocanada field of 320,000, by placing another man in or near Cocanada. Four other places besides these, each the centre of unevangelized and Christless populations of over 100,000 souls, were named as centres needing mission stations. But as men are not yet forthcoming to take up the work, action was postponed concerning them. There will be ample rented house accommodation in Cocanada for reinforcements, and during their period at the language, the new stations can be opened and houses erected. The most marked feature of the conference was the spirit of blessing and

power that drew us all nearer together and to the Master.

The second meeting was that of the General Conference of the two Canadian missions, which assembled on the arrival of the Maritime Province missionaries, and continued from the 13th to the 17th of January. This conference assembles yearly, alternating between Bimlipatam and Cocanada, and is for the purpose of reporting the work done during the year and discussion of general mission questions and gaining spiritual communion. Through the Bimlipatam meeting of last year, a spirit of deep contrition and importunate petition sounded like a wail and a cry. The meeting this year was like a song of triumph and a prevailing prayer. The reports for 1880, from all the fields, were read. Tuni and Cocanada for the first time in five years, were represented by their now permanent missionaries, and through reports that were robust and inspiring. The Seminary for the first time in its history, came forward in a report which told of a full equipment, by the arrival of Miss Hatch early in 1880, by the displacement of two heathen teachers in the secular branches with earnest capable Christian men, and by the erection of a plain and commodious school building to accommodate classes, now grown too large for the verandas and limited spare room of the mission house. Akidu has been in revival throughout the year and scores have been added by baptism. Upon lone and far-away Bobbili the day dawn seems to have arisen, and never did such a hopeful report of new life, come before, from that wilderness of spiritual death. The Chicacole missionary hopes for and urged the immediate opening of six new stations on his vast field of over 800,000 souls. What an opportunity for our young men! The reports of the opening of Yellamanchili, and acquisition of Vizianagram, were greeted with sincere satisfaction. The wide spread of the truth by the increasing number of foreign and native agents, the infusion of new life with the new year into the effective working staff amongst the women, the opening of new and the reinforcements of old stations are all promises of a great year, as far as the visible preparation for a war can indicate. But the unfailing sign of encouragement was the character of the morning prayer meetings and the other spiritual exercises of the conference. They marked great growth in grace. The word was the key note, and the prayers sounded like one united harmony of petition. Last year at Bimlipatam the cry was that of the weak for power, of the helpless for help; this year the prevailing prayer was for the presence of the Master. The singing at times was like a shout of triumph. But no two hymns so expressed the spirit and language of the meeting as "Draw Me Nearer," and that grand old classic "Nearer my God to Thee." The appeal of a year ago was again fully discussed and fervently reiterated, and has again come before you. The missionaries in that appeal have nailed their colors to the mast; and they have been double spiked there by the support of the denominational press, the action of the home Boards, many of the associations and scores of the home churches. That means Christ Jesus for these 3,000,000 of Telugus. And would God that the enthusiasm might spread, and mean Christ Jesus for this whole land of 278,000,000, and for this whole wide world, within the present generation, yes, before the century closes.

But our Canadian Baptist Churches are in no way prepared to accomplish our share of this work under present conditions. Halting faith and cold hearts will take another 100 years before even the geographical area of the world, at the past rate of mission progress, will be covered with sufficient numbers of witnesses for Christ, to