

M. S. Arnold

THE CANADIAN

Missionary Link.

CANADA

In the interest of the Baptist Foreign Mission Societies of Canada.

INDIA

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"The Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising."—Is. lx. 3.

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The Canadian Missionary Link.

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"HOW WONDERFUL."

He answered all my prayer abundantly,
And crowned the work that to His feet I brought—
With blessing more than I had asked or thought—
A blessing undisguised, and fair, and free.
I stood amazed, and whispered, "Can it be
That He hath granted all the boon I sought?
How wonderful that He for me hath wrought!
How wonderful that He hath answered me!
O faithless heart! He said that He would hear
And answer thy poor prayer, and He hath heard
And proved His promise:—Wherefore didst thou fear?
Why marvel that thy Lord hath kept His word?
More wonderful if He should fail to bless
Expectant faith and prayer with good success!

FRANCES RIDLEY HAVERGAL.

THE FOREIGN MISSION SOCIETY of Ontario and Quebec, enters on the present year with most hopeful prospects. Never before was the financial condition so encouraging. The receipts for last year amounted to \$9,134. Disbursements, \$9,247. Nearly, but not quite, even. The estimates for the present year, including everything—last year's deficit and the working expenses of the Society at home as well as in India—are just \$9,000. More than this sum can easily be raised and the books closed next October with every obligation fully met and money in the Bank, but it must be done by the systematic though small contributions of the many rather than by the large gifts of a few.

Letter to the Foreign Missionaries of the Lower Provinces.

Being through the kindness of friends constituted a life-member of the W. Miss. Aid Society—as is also Mrs. T.—I trust a small space will be allowed me in our useful LINK, to communicate a few thoughts to you. Were my situation as heretofore, it would afford me sincere pleasure to serve you and the cause in which you are engaged, gratuitously as formerly, in the capacity of secretary; but the seat of the Board is now remote from me, and I am enfeebled by the advanced age of eighty-five years. I beg, however, my dear brothers and sisters, to assure you of my deep interest in your welfare and success, and that my supplications, with those of many others, frequently ascend on your behalf.

It is pleasing to learn that, after numerous trials, you have become settled, with encouraging prospects before you. May the hope now entertained be, by the Divine blessing, joyfully and abundantly realized!

It is also highly gratifying to notice the cordial union manifestly existing among the missionaries sent forth from this Dominion. It seems to me, and probably to our people here generally, desirable that this union should become organic; but our late valued brother, Dr. Fyfe, remarked at our Convention in Hillsburgh, that this entire union could not well be consummated at present, on account of the distance at which our people in the Upper and Lower Provinces are apart. He expressed a hope, however, that the Baptists in the Dominion may become more numerous, and fill up the intervening spaces, and so this full union be effected: It was not in my power to attend our recent Session of Convention in Truro; but it seems that brother McLaurin expressed a similar view on this subject.

It appears to me, however, that if it would not interfere with another course recently proposed, the two Boards might unite in employing a general Agent, who should devote his whole time and attention, laboring on an equitable scale, in the service of the respective Boards. But to effect this it would be necessary to select an energetic man, whose love for the cause would prompt him to make a sacrifice by toiling diligently for a moderate compensation. If an inefficient man be employed, of course little will be effected. And however zealous and active an Agent may be, if it be known that a large proportion of what he collects will be required to pay for his services, people will be reluctant to give. At all events effective measures must be employed to sustain you in your self-sacrificing labor of love.

May the gracious Lord dispose and enable all the Baptists in this Dominion to contribute cheerfully and liberally for the furtherance of this important cause; and render all our missionaries abundantly successful in winning the souls of poor perishing heathens to Christ.

Please write as frequently as other duties will permit, for the LINK, or other papers, many are anxious to hear from you. Mrs. Tupper joins me in kind regards to you all.

Affectionately yours in Christ,

CHARLES TUPPER.

Tremont, N.S., Sept. 19, 1879.

The Canadian Baptist Telugu Mission.

From the *Oriental Baptist* published in Calcutta we clip the following:—

"The Lord seems to have great mercy in store for the Telugu people. The whole line of the Coromandel Coast, from Madras to Ganjam, a distance of many hundred miles is now occupied by Missionary brethren of different Societies, Baptist brethren being now interspersed nearly the whole distance. Our brethren of the maritime provinces of the Dominion (Canada) have recently caught the missionary spirit in a very warm and influential degree. Young men and women are offering themselves in numbers for the work of the Lord among the heathen, while the churches are coming forward in a most hearty and liberal manner to engage their services and send them forth.

In particular, Christian ladies are seen most conspicuous in promoting the Lord's cause; ladies are moving about the country, and forming circles after the example set them by their Christian sisters in the United States to which in a former number we have adverted. Already many circles have been organized, and deep interest is every where being created. In the choice of fields of missionary labour, at the first two spheres more particularly presented themselves to the Canadian Baptists, i. e., the northern part of the Telugu country, and the Karen tribes inhabiting the mountains of Siam. About four years since two companies of brethren were sent to occupy these respective fields. No hindrances prevented settlement in the Telugu country, but the exploration of Siam, however, led to the feeling that it offered no encouragement for labour among the Karens, they being few in number and widely separated, and difficult of access, and the brethren under their own convictions and with the advice of the Committee at home, felt it their duty to relinquish Siam and to join without delay their brethren across the bay on the Coromandel Coast. This the Lord enabled them to do, and now there is a strong consolidated Mission of Canadian brethren occupying five stations, or from Cocanada to Bobbili, west of Chicacole, consisting of fifteen devoted men and women. This Mission is located in the northern part of the Madras Presidency, and its operations are carried on principally in the Godavery, Vizagapatam, and Ganjam Districts. It originated in the work of a native evangelist—the late Thomas Gabriel—who, after his ordination in Madras in 1870, returned to his field of labour at Cocanada and vicinity, and baptized a considerable number of native converts. For some time Mr. Gabriel carried on the work unassisted by any Missionary Society; but finding himself pressed by financial difficulties, he offered the Mission first to the Strict Baptist Mission in England, by whom it was declined for lack of funds, afterwards to the Baptists of Canada, who accepted the trust and sent their Missionary the Rev. J. McLaurin, of Ongole, to take charge of the Mission. He reached Cocanada on the 12th March 1874.

The Mission became more distinctively Canadian in 1875 by the co-operative union entered into between the Baptists of the western and maritime provinces of the Dominion, which resulted in sending four Mission families into the northern Telugu country. The missionaries sent by the two Societies, representing respectively the western and eastern sections of the Dominion of Canada, together constitute the Canadian Baptist Telugu Mission.

Five stations are now occupied by the Mission, viz. Cocanada, Tuni, Bimlipatam, Chicacole, and Bobbili."

MR. MCLAURIN explained to the Eastern Convention the process of converting a Hindu into a Christian minister, the first thing done being to teach him to wash his face, comb his hair, and keep his clothes clean, matters very much neglected by these gentlemen. The next step was to teach him to read the signs representing the vowel sounds; to teach him to read, to pray, to sing, and then send him out to preach. There was a craze for education among these people.—*Helper.*