

already a useful missionary in India, and though at this present date for a time engaged in the home service, yet expecting ere long to resume his chosen field and service. Indeed, as is so often the case, the fulfilment ran beyond the prayer, and the Lord was better to him than even his hope; for it was his happiness to give two dear children to the foreign mission cause—his daughter Mary, born in Banbridge, Ireland, November 16, 1846, having become the wife of Rev. John McLaurin, like Mr. Timpany, a missionary to the Telugus.

OUR INDIAN STATIONS.

Cocanada and Tuni.

JUST TOO LATE for publication this month our first welcome letter from India, an interesting one from Bro. J. Craig, has been received. It is descriptive of a cyclone which visited Cocanada on the 5th November and will appear in our next issue. Bro. Craig says:—The September number of the *Link* reached us two weeks ago. We have heard words of praise from almost all our fellow missionaries, and of course we add our own. You will have a number of correspondents among us.

WE ARE INDEBTED to friends at Port Hope for the following extract from a letter received from Bro. John Craig, dated 26th Oct., 1878:

Mr. McLaurin has been hoping to go out during the past two or three weeks, but the weather has kept him at home. However, he got off last night. He does not intend to visit any purely heathen villages; he is going to see the Christians for the last time before he leaves. Mr. Timpany and I will probably go out soon after his arrival.

I am glad to inform you that Bro. Currie hopes to organize a church in Tuni before long. A number of native Christians went with him from here, and they, along with our brother and his wife, would constitute a small church.

I have the pleasure of saying further, that Bro. Currie reports that a few people in some of the villages on his field are requesting baptism on profession of faith in Christ. These are the first fruits from a region of almost utter darkness so far as the past is concerned, and therefore we rejoice heartily at the glad news.

In a previous letter Mr. Craig writes: "I know enough of the language now to profit in many ways, by engaging in such work"—referring to going out touring with Bro. Timpany.

A PRIVATE LETTER received the last week of December, from Mrs. McLaurin, brought the cheering news that both she and Mr. McLaurin were feeling better than when they last wrote, and were looking forward with joy to spending Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. Timpany.

Bimlipatam.

The W. M. A. Societies of the Maritime Provinces have received a long and interesting letter from Mrs. Churchill, which has been published in both the *Messenger* and *Visitor*. We make a few extracts:

"We are now every day thinking of our sister, your representative to the heathen, who we suppose is on the 'mighty deep,' and praying for her safe and speedy arrival in India. And we hope many others at home are asking themselves and the Lord what their duty is in this matter of giving the gospel to the heathen women in India, so that work which is waiting here, for their hands to take up, may not long remain thus.

We are looking for a response to Sister Armstrong's request, for a young lady missionary to come and work in their field; and though it is too soon for me to say much on this subject, I may say that I am looking forward to the time, if the Lord gives life and health, and our people supply the means, when we shall not only have a comfortable mission house in Bobbilly for ourselves, but an extra room in it, to which I can invite some sister from among you, to come and make it her home while working for our perishing sisters in that field.

By the time this reaches you we hope (D. V.) to have our temporary house there well started; that finished and occupied, then permanent buildings will follow as fast as strength and means are forthcoming, and these must be under way before I shall feel at liberty to ask any assistance in my work; for a comfortable home is a necessity to a missionary's health in this country, and consequently to his usefulness, for if the former goes the latter is gone also.

I take great pleasure in my caste girls' school in town, and hope one of the sisters here, may feel it a pleasant duty to take charge of it, when we leave, as it would seem a pity to let them be scattered again, after the hard time in collecting them, and the good start they have got in religious truth, reading, writing, and sewing. It is quite an inspiration to me to have 15 or 16 pairs of sparkling black eyes turned eagerly up to my face in the mornings when I am giving the Bible lesson. I only wish the words would come faster, and that I could put more heart into them, but until a missionary can think and feel in the language of the people, instead of in English, I think he will be anything but satisfied with his work; however it is a step in the right direction, and you feel encouraged for the future, when you are able to impart religious knowledge in their language, and know by their answers to your questions, that you are well understood.

For the last three months I have taken advantage of the hard times, and had a number of poor women, usually about sixty, come up on our veranda every Wednesday afternoon for religious instruction. They are the same I used to visit last year at their villages, but this is very much more satisfactory, as I give them a pittance for coming; they come regularly, and sit quietly, and listen pretty attentively as long as I wish them to, and hear the same truth over and over again. You would I fear be rather disgusted with them than interested in them, if you should see them, filthy, ragged, half-naked, their hair uncombed and matted, and most of them showing plainly the marks of the long continued struggle for a bare subsistence. In trying to impress on their minds one day that they were sinners, one said, 'O we are living every day without sin,' and then asked what sin was, if it was a sin to kill ants and snakes, &c. At another time when they were learning the eighth commandment one said, 'Why, how can we live, if we do not steal? how can we live if we do not go into some other person's compound and take sticks, &c., to cook our rice with? we can't live if we do not steal.'

Though extremely ignorant, I trust from their answers to my questions that many of them have learned the way of life; the walking in it we must leave to the Lord to accomplish in them, as in much better educated persons.

THE WORK AT HOME.

Ontario and Quebec.

AN EXPLANATION.—The new and very excellent scheme of beneficence for the Churches of Ontario and Quebec, does not include the Women's Foreign Missionary Society. The subscriptions for that are entirely distinct from, and in addition to, the money to be promised on the cards.

Will the Circles note this?

Guelph.

SCHOOL-HOUSE-CHAPEL FOR COCANADA.

FOR THE MISSIONARY LINK.

We were glad to read the "Special appeal to our Circles" in the December *Link*, and hope we shall continue to have such appeals until every Circle has been heard from.

Our missionaries have told us that their work is greatly hindered for want of a suitable house in which to give instruction. Precious lives and health are being wasted for want of this building. Must it be so? The General Board, hoping that the money could be obtained, put it in their estimates for last year. Nothing, however, was

done. Scarcely money enough was sent out to supply the daily needs of our missionaries, and no buildings were erected.

Are there not two thousand dollars in Ontario and Quebec that might be sent at once and nobody burdened? Certainly, if all our Circles could realize the great importance of this building to our missionaries, it would be done. Who will engage in this work? Reader, on you the responsibility rests—give all you can,—then speak to your sisters and encourage them to do the same.

If there is no Circle in your church, organize one at once.—Surely there are many women in every church who can give ten cents a month; let all be engaged, and the results will be cheering. But the money is wanted as soon as possible. It should be raised before the first of April. Cannot our present Circles make a special effort for this purpose?

Is there not at least one lady in each Circle who is willing to become a life member by paying twenty-five dollars, and are there not others who can pay smaller sums who will unite? Two, four, six, or even twenty-five might join in making a life member of some one whom they would desire to honor. Let us have a large list of life members.

Our Circle will do its share in this work. Let each Circle do the same, and the money will be raised.

H. J. R.

Nova Scotia.

To the Members of W. M. A. Societies in Nova Scotia:—

Dear Sisters,—The time is near at hand when the Central Board presents its annual report. Any society wishing to be represented in this document must send in its report to the Secretary no later than the first week of the New Year. Any moneys still on hand had better be forwarded at once, as the account is closed for the year on the 31st. It is sad to know that our receipts are steadily decreasing, and if the secretaries and officers of these societies that have so much diminished do not bestir themselves, they will soon lose their identity and the Board cease its operations. Great care and wisdom is necessary in the selection of active working officers, as the successful carrying out of the objects contemplated in our organization is hindered or helped in a most marked manner by the energy or listlessness of those who are at the head of affairs.

On behalf of the Board,

M. R. SELDEN, Sec. & Treas.

THAT THE LINK is beginning to fulfil its mission as a "bond of union" between the sister societies of our Dominion, is evident from the following very kind words which, a day or two since, accompanied an order for additional copies from a prominent worker in Halifax:—The *Link* is increasing in interest; the information is highly prized, and it seems even thus early in its history to prove that it has a place of its own to fill—and fills it. No one interested in missionary work can afford to be without its monthly visits; and I trust its circulation will be largely increased in Nova Scotia, where for several years past our Women's Aid Societies have been quite flourishing. The dull times and other causes have hindered our progress, but the circulation of the *Link* will keep us alive, and I trust rouse us up to pray more, and work more for the progress of the Lord's cause in heathen lands.

ANOTHER FRIEND writes from Canning, N. S.:—The *Link* pleases me much; the extracts are well chosen, and the original matter is good. Ignorance is the chief cause of the indifference with which Foreign Missions are regarded by many Christians; if missionary intelligence were more generally circulated and read, all believers would feel constrained to do all in their power to carry out the great commission or rather command of our adorable Redeemer to preach the Gospel to every creature. Vain, indeed, is it to call Christ Lord, if we do not the things which he says. Oh, that Christians would thoroughly awake to their awful responsibilities. There are evident indications that the time is not far distant when Christ will