

must come to be a great institution, if it at all meets the requirements of the loathsome and fearfully afflicted community for whose good it will exist.

At a distance from the assembled company and seated on the grass were the twenty-three lepers already in the home. They sang very sweetly during the meeting. They are all outcasts or Christians; but provisions will be made to receive caste lepers. The proportion of the sexes is four women to nineteen men. This is not the proportion that generally holds throughout the presidency; that is 338 females to 1,000 males. But there may be no significance in the proportion of the sexes as now in the asylum.

In this connection it is interesting to note that in the twelve coast districts of this presidency, seven show a higher proportion of lepers on the seaboard than in the inland taluks, whereas the reverse is true of the other five districts. The Godaveri is one of the latter. The disease is generally prevalent to a greater extent in provinces with a high rainfall and a damp climate, while on the other hand dry climate seems to favor exemption from leprosy.

The prevalence of leprosy increases with the advance of years up to the 55-59 period, after which the proportion falls, this fall being attributed to the fact that lepers do not live so long as other people.

N. F. LAFLAMME.

Cocanada, India, 12-9 '00

COINCIDENCES.

The first letter written from Ramachandrapuram to Canada concerning the leper work, contained an account of the sad condition of the lepers in this talug, and an expression of a desire to undertake work for them, should the way be opened. No response was received from the one to whom the letter was written, but one who read the letter and who is poor in this world's goods, sent us our first gift for this work. This gift of \$130 gave us a foothold of land.

There not being quite enough for the two acres required, Mr. Bailey, learning this just before he went to a meeting in Stratford, announced the need there. Special prayer was made over the subject and the next day the required \$70 or so was given.

The first letter written to Mr. Bailey, of Edinburgh, concerning the need for work among the lepers here and their present sad condition, was inserted in part in the *With us the Camp*, and the work was specially recommended to the Canadian Auxiliaries. This paper came into the hands of Mrs. Dr. Kellock, of Perth, who from childhood had been interested in the poor leper, and who was just then looking for an investment. The result was the magnificent gift of \$2000 for the Home to be called "The Dr. Kellock Home for Lepers."

Just as the place wanted a man, there was a man specially adapted who wanted the place, and S. David is a most efficient helper. He is caretaker

and manager, superintends the building, buys and apportions to the lepers their weekly supplies, attends to their ordinary bodily ailments, for he learnt something of medicine from Mr. Timpany long ago. Then he is also preacher and teacher, and the hearty singing of the afflicted ones and their repetition of Bible truth testify to his ability there.

If the work grows so as to need a Hospital, there is a man in training who may be ready for that.

The men and the means are being provided. These coincidences are surely God's Providences, showing that the work is His.

GOD OUR DAILY PORTION.*

We only are undone,
We only are sinners,
Thy mercy we have seen,
O save us by grace.

CHORUS.—Day by day, only Thou
O God, art our portion,
Thou only our Creator,
Our Saviour, Preserver.

Tho' sin, the world or Satan,
Would seize and devour,
Thou, our Rescuer, Thou only
Canst save and deliver.—Cho.

Tho' all labors and losses
And trials surround us,
How great is Thy grace
Which Thou, God, dost shew us.—Cho.

When Thy name we receive,
Tho' stripes may abound,
Thou, O God, art our Father,
Thou, O God, ever Thou.—Cho.

We had demons we worshipt,
But Thou, God, didst call us,
Thro' him Thy loved Son
Thou in mercy didst call us.—Cho.

The savor of Thy Word,
Thy Word which is truth,
Hath showed us life's way,
The life everlasting.—Cho.

The riches of Thy Word,
Is the food of our soul,
O, encourage, encourage us
To live for and serve Thee.—Cho.

Do Thou constantly fill us
With faith, hope and love,
Thou only exelling One,
Thou only excellent.—Cho.

RUDUAL—OUR FIRST LEPER.

(This is his story as he told it to me.—S. I. H.)

I am about thirty. My father and my mother died when I was young, and I was a very wicked lad. This has all come upon me because of my own sin. It was not my father's or my mother's sin. I used

*A rough translation of the leper Rudriah's favorite Telugu hymn.