

January Twelfth the Union Conference came together. Because of unforeseen circumstances the delegation from "Ontario and Quebec Mission" was not as large as we expected.

After the new president Mr. Laflamme was voted to the chair, the retiring President Mr. Churchill gave us a short review of the world touching on war, reform, revivals and the outlook. Being all Canadians we feel very much one in the work. The subject of "Union of Work on the Field" was brought before us by Mr. Laflamme and after considerable discussion a committee was appointed to draw up a basis of union and submit it to the missionaries so that they can further consider it in the different conferences when they meet. Many feel that a union of forces on the field is feasible and most desirable. "A Rescue Home" for our two missions was discussed and appealed to convention because of the pressing need. There is no such home nearer than Madras and often we find ourselves unable to help the poor unfortunate women who come to us.

The Papers:—"The Missionary's Message" by Mr. Higgins; "Distribution of Literature" by Mr. Archibald; "Selthelp of Tuskegee" by Mr. Craig; History of Rayyagudda Christians" by Mrs. Churchill were interesting and called forth more or less discussion, so also did the subject of street preaching opened by Mr. Churchill. Each morning and afternoon session was opened with devotional meeting. The sermons by Mr. Freeman and Mr. Scott were much appreciated by all especially those who do not hear an English sermon during the year. The Bible Reading Sunday afternoon was omitted as Mr. Harvey was ill with fever.

Mr. Smith's report of Timpany Memorial School was most encouraging. Quite a number of the students have been converted. Miss Hatch spoke for a few minutes on the Leper Home, this work too is most encouraging and because it is a much needed work it needs our special prayers.

The last item on the programme was a prayer and Praise Service which had to be cut short for dinner as the folks had to catch the southbound train. We do praise our Father for all His mercies and thank Him for the privilege of meeting together.

Very sincerely,
MARTHA CLARK.

DAILY STRENGTH FOR DAILY NEEDS.

Lord, give me strength, I pray,
To do my work to-day;
To do-it right,
With all my might,
Without mistake,
As for Thy sake.

A BELATED CHRISTMAS LETTER.

In a letter to Mission Bands, Miss Newcombe gives an account of a Christmas celebration prepared entirely by the native Christians, which we give below.

"This morning I heard voices and on asking who was passing, found it was the boys who said a bandy had already come to take them to Polepilly. We did not invite the Polepilly Christians in here for Wednesday for our Christmas celebration but said we would come there. So they invited us to-day and a rich surprise they gave us. Soon after midnight one of them had come in here with a bandy to take Veeracharyudu and three of our boys out and they rapped at our door and said they wanted us to reach there as soon as possible as they expected the Rajah of Polepilly to be present; so we decided to sacrifice our home mail for a little (our Christmas mail had been lying in the Post-office since yesterday afternoon) and reach Polepilly earlier than we had planned. But in this land we are very dependent upon coolies and the Aryan brown does not believe in hurrying himself, so the result was we were there an hour later than Somalingam had requested; but when we entered we found that he had not needed our help as he supposed we would enjoy it all the more because we had had absolutely nothing to do with the arrangements.

"A screen of red blankets hid the wood pile at the end of the courtyard, and the remainder was prettily decorated with leaves, flowers, and picture rolls. Just as we got there the school children were being marshalled into their places at one side of the court, while on the verandah facing them were chairs for the two Rajahs expected. These were placed under a canopy formed of a pretty orange cashmere shawl, the gift of Somalingam's brother-in-law on his return from visiting Benares, etc. To the left were chairs for Miss Clarke and me. Everything had been well planned and was really nicely arranged. All was ready for the Rajahs and a messenger was dispatched for them. Instead of two there came but one, who for the first time since