

once. The doctor said I "had not the shadow of a chance with the hot season coming on."

The fear that I must go soon spread among the native Christians. I wrote you a few months ago of our church in Chicacole; half of the members, however, of whom you have not yet heard, live in a village some miles away, and Bhagavon Bhara, our native preacher, is their pastor. He was in town when it seemed certain that I must leave the country. He came in one evening and asked if he might see me. He told me he was to leave for his village in the early morning, and had come to say "Good-bye;" and then he added, "we (i. e., the Christians in town,) are going to have a meeting before I go to pray for you, and when I go to my village, we will meet to pray every day." He said it as one might say, "I want some wheat, and I am going to sow the seed and tend it every day." He did not say what he expected, but he evidently thought he would get what he wanted if he did his work properly.

When he left I thought to myself, "So I am not going home after all!" for I have reason to know something of these people's prayers. Once I was taken suddenly ill with dengue fever, a sort of rheumatic fever, an epidemic at that time in India. I was in Bassein, Burmah, at the time, and the only missionary in the station who could speak Karen. All day on Saturday and Sunday I suffered severely, and was unable to rise from my bed without assistance. Sunday evening I felt so much better I thought I would sit up awhile, and then that I would try to walk a little. I slept well that night, and the next morning went and opened the school as usual. Then I learned that, that Sunday evening the Karens had given to special prayer for my recovery, and I began to grow better while they were praying. It seemed the more remarkable because the fever and pains usually continued and increased until a rash broke out, which marked the climax of the disease. This rash broke out in me two or three days after the fever and pain had left me. So when I heard Bhagavon Bhara speak in this business-like way about praying for me, I was pretty sure what the result would be. And I have given up going home for another year. The weather grew cooler for awhile, my strength came back a little, and though I know my time is short, yet I hope to do a little more work in India before I take my vacation.

Chicacole, April 11th.

H. M. ARMSTRONG.

Tuni.

Mr. Currie sends the *Canadian Baptist* a long account of a Hindu festival at Oopamaga, about thirteen miles from Tuni. He says:—

"Rising early, I started with Timothy (a native preacher) for the scene of the festival. We soon came to a large tank, on the banks of which the people were swarming in thousands, and some were bathing in its waters. Taking shelter under a tree by the side of the pathway we secured the attention of the people by singing a hymn, and when a large crowd had gathered near, we spoke to them about the Way of life. The people listened well, many of them readily admitting the vanity and folly of idol-worship. The story of the Cross, as is usual in our preaching to heathen audiences, was heard with interest and wonder, some declaring their faith in the Saviour. But we have learned to attach little importance to expressions of faith which involve no sacrifice. Many tell us they believe what we say: but we rarely hear from them again. In all such efforts we have simply to leave our message with the people, knowing not how deep an impression, if any, has been made, but trusting that the Lord in His own time and way will cause the good seed thus sown to bring forth fruit unto salvation."

THE WORK AT HOME.

Ontario and Quebec.

SPECIAL APPEAL.

The officers of the W. B. F. M. Society, of the Convention East, have issued the following circular: "It has come home to us, who have the responsibility of this Mission on our shoulders, as Ladies and Officers in our work as Baptists, that this year of 1879 needs to be a year of work, a year of sacrifice for the Lord Jesus in our special field. We have undertaken important responsibilities, namely, the building of the Girls' Quarters in Cocanada, costing \$1,500; the full amount of this has been contributed and paid. We then undertook one-half of the cost of the Church School-House (\$2,000), the Ladies of the Western Convention undertaking the other half. We have thus undertaken to pay \$1,000 in two years; but we learn from India that it is of the utmost importance

that the Church School-House should be at once proceeded with, and Mr. Timpany writes, relying upon the Ladies of the East and the West, that he has commenced the work, and expects it to be finished by October. He relies upon us to stand by him and send the money. We have, in addition to the \$1,500 for the Girls' Quarters, sent \$205.93, and to complete our share of the undertaking, have \$800 to raise before October, 1879. Can we do this? YES, WE ARE SURE, IF ALL OUR SISTERS WILL DO WHAT THEY CAN. We invite each Sister in each Church within the bounds of the Convention East to go to work heartily; form Circles, and if Circles cannot be formed, then send your contributions, small or large, to the Treasurer, that we may complete this noble work, and rejoice the hearts of our Brethren and Sisters in far off India. While they have given THEMSELVES, we only give a little of what the Lord has given us.

CHAPEL SCHOOL HOUSE FUND.

The treasurer of the W. B. F. M. Society has been enabled to remit to India \$660 of the \$1000 which the women of the Western Convention are trying to raise, with as little delay as possible, for the building.

While the members of the Central Board feel greatly encouraged by this hearty response to their appeals, they would affectionately remind the Baptist women of Western Ontario, that \$340 are still wanted; and would ask, can not the whole of this sum be raised before the 1st of October?

Montreal.—A mass meeting of the W. F. M. Society was held in the Olivet Church on Thursday, April 10th, and was one of peculiar interest. Extracts were read from letters received from Mr. McLaurin on his journey home, and two deeply interesting papers on mission work by Mrs. Alloway and Mrs. Smith, "Day-break in the Southern Seas," and "A bird's eye glimpse of the Missionary World." Any of the circles wishing to have the use of these papers for their meetings, can procure them by application to the Corresponding Secretary, 1395 St. Catherine Street, Montreal.

Ottawa.—The ladies of the Ottawa Circle having resolved to raise a sum sufficient to constitute a life member of the W. F. M. Society, in aid of the school-house-chapel, Cocanada, held two very interesting and successful platform meetings. One in Ottawa and the other in Hull. The result was most gratifying. At a subsequent meeting of the Circle the President, Mrs. A. A. Cameron, in a few touching remarks suggested Mrs. D. McPhail, the widow of the late respected pastor, as the one who above all others was most deserving of the honor. Whereupon it was unanimously resolved that Mrs. D. McPhail be presented with a life membership in the W. B. F. M. Society of Ontario and Quebec.

M. MOSHER, Sec.

Paris, Ont.—The Children at Work.—In March, we started a Juvenile Missionary Band. We hold our meetings once a month. Those who are too young to attend send their money and are called silent members. Two ladies from the Mission Circle conduct the meetings, while the boys and girls read and recite pieces relative to mission work. We have raised \$2.50 during the first quarter, which is to be used to help Mr. McLaurin in building his school at Cocanada. Will you please insert this in your paper, and perhaps some of the little folks who see the LINK, may read it and start a Band too.

BELLA MOYLE, Sec.

Hull, Quebec.—We learn that a Woman's For. Miss. Circle has been organized in Hull during the past month.

A Bequest.—T. Dixon Craig, Esq., has received from the executor of the late Miss Christina McCallum, of Montreal, the sum of \$200; a legacy from that lady to the Foreign Missionary Society.

Cheltenham, Ont.—A F. M. Circle has recently been organized in connection with the church at Cheltenham, under the pastoral care of Rev. J. L. Campbell.

THERE are sixty-seven British societies for foreign missionary work.

New Brunswick.

The Central Board of the W. M. A. Society makes, through the columns of the *Christian Visitor*, a special appeal to the societies throughout the province to be faithful and prompt in sending their remittances. They say, "this year there will be great need of all trying to do what they can, and a little effort on the part of even one member in each society, will do much in keeping it alive, and stimulating others in the good work. . . . The names of 74 societies stand upon our books, from only 39 of which contributions were received last year." Lists of both the contributing and non-contributing societies are published.

Systematic Beneficence Among the Telugus.

Mr. A. Louridge, of the American Bap. Miss. Union, says:—I am glad to say that the native helpers and Christian servants who came with us have all agreed to make a weekly contribution for the work of the mission, some one-tenth, some less, making an average of about Rs. 2-4 each per annum. This is encouraging; and at that rate one hundred Christians could pay a preacher Rs. 8 a month, and a teacher the same; which is, to a man of the ability of most native preachers, when compared with the income of day-laborers, as good as eight hundred dollars in America; that is, provided the preacher lives as his people live, and that is what all Baptist preachers are proud to say they do in America. We trust the giving will be increased, and know their graces will grow with the effort. They have agreed to give up the use of tobacco and betel-nut, and give the money wasted for these things to the Lord. It is but in very rare cases that a native man or woman can be found who does not use tobacco in some form, smoking, chewing, or snuffing, and not seldom in two, or all three ways.

Rev. Mr. Howlands of the American Madura mission told me in November last that his people,—the same Pariah and Chukler classes as ours—pledged him last year one pice each for every working day; that is, half an anna a week, or Rs. 1-8 per annum; and, notwithstanding the famine, have paid it, giving more last year than ever; and they had but very little famine-relief money. This was cash-contribution; and one native pastor has put up a large, good chapel, costing nearly Rs. 1,000, without a dollar from America.

The Work at Ongole.

Extracts from a letter from Mr. Boggs to the A. M. B. Union dated March, 18th.

"It was very gratifying to hear the preachers report, with scarcely an exception, that the Christians in their fields of labor were working uprightly; that they gave joy and not grief to those who have the oversight of them. This is all the more to be wondered at and rejoiced over when we consider the circumstances of the case,—that the most of these people have but recently emerged from the dense darkness and moral corruption the gross ignorance and superstition, of heathenism, and that they are surrounded by those who are still in the same condition.

The preachers also reported an aggregate of over fifteen hundred persons throughout this field who have declared their faith in Christ, and their desire to be baptized as His disciples. There was not one of the preachers, I think, who had failed to gather some sheaves since the last meeting. Thus the powerful work of grace, so remarkably displayed last year, still goes on.

On Sunday March 16th, we went to the baptistry in Brother Clough's garden, and there, beneath a spreading tamarind tree, as the shades of evening were gathering around, in the presence of a large company of disciples, baptized forty-three persons just received."

The various woman's foreign missionary societies of America collected during the year 1878 nearly a half-million of dollars, or, more exactly, \$438,403.83.

The Debt of the American Bap. Miss. Union last year, which was nearly \$27,000, has been reduced somewhat, but not wiped out, as many, on the first day of March, devoutly and confidently hoped it would be. It has to carry into this year a debt of \$22,000.—*Miss. Mag.*