

Foreign Missions.

W. B. M. U.

"We are laborers together with God."

Contributors to this column will please address MRS. J. W. MANNING, 178 Wentworth Street, St. John, N. B.

PRAYER TOPIC FOR FEBRUARY.

For Parla Kimeidy and its missionaries, that many more souls may be won to Christ this year on that field and that those lately converted may be faithful Christians.

Bimlipatam.

Bimlipatam, our most southern mission station, is a seaport town on the Bay of Bengal, opposite Rangoon in Burma, and midway between Calcutta and Madras, being about 300 miles from each. The inhabitants number 10,000 and represent nearly all the castes among the Hindoos. A number of Europeans and Eurasians also live in the town, and are employed in the government and civil services.

The town is built on rising ground with a high hill on the west, on which stands the idol temple of Nursamaswamy. The sea forms the boundary on the south and east, thus affording a long and pleasant beach, where the missionary finds a cool retreat at the close of a busy, trying day in the hot season. The streets are comparatively wide and generally kept in good order by the municipality. Two roads lead out of town—one to Vizianagram our mission station, 16 miles distance, and the other to Vizagapatam 20 miles away. The nearest railway station is Vizianagram, and in this respect Bimlipatam is not so highly favored as some of our other stations, but we have the sea and the British India S. S. Co. carries on quite a trade between Rangoon, Calcutta and Madras, calling at the ports up and down the coast. They also carry passengers and the mails. Ships from foreign countries often come to Bimlipatam for tropical products, and on several occasions we have had the pleasure of welcoming friends from our own Nova Scotia, who have shown their interest in the mission by making liberal donations to the work.

Bimlipatam was first occupied as a mission station in 1875. Missionaries of the London Mission had settled in Vizagapatam and Vizianagram, and occasionally visited Bimlipatam and surrounding villages. They organized a church at Chittivals three miles from the town, but no permanent work was established till Revs. Sanford and Churchill, representatives of the Baptists of the Maritime Provinces, set foot on Indian soil. (Afterward Mr. Churchill removed to Bobbili). In the midst of heathen darkness and superstition, these our pioneer missionaries began the work of opening a station, and with much labor and many discouragements the necessary buildings were erected. During the first year, the missionary lived a mile or more from the town, but it was very inconvenient to be so far away from building operations, and as soon as an out-house was fit to live in, Mr. Sanford moved his family to the mission compound. While the work in brick and mortar was going on, the more important work they came to do was not neglected. A church was organized, a prayer-meeting established and regular services held on Sabbath and during the week. Mrs. Sanford opened a Bible class and women's prayer-meeting for the young people, which proved a blessing to many. A Girls Boarding school was also commenced, and of the girls then gathered in, two are useful women in the mission at the present time. During the time Mrs. Churchill was in Bimlipatam, she interested herself in the women of the town, visiting them in their homes and pointing them to the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world. The children she gathered into a school, where many for the first time heard the name of Jesus.

Miss Hammond (Mrs. Archibald) was the first lady missionary to join the mission. Her home was with Mr. and Mrs. Sanford, and while studying the language, carried on the school placed in her hands on the removal of Mrs. Churchill to Bobbili. However this was not to be her field of labor, for Chicacole being left without a missionary Miss Hammond was transferred to that station. In 1885 Miss Wright and Miss Gray joined the mission, and lived with Mr. and Mrs. Archibald, who had charge of the work during the absence of Mr. Sanford in the home land. On his return Mr. and Mrs. Archibald moved to Chicacole, where Miss Wright was sent by the Board a few months later. During the next five years Mr. and Mrs. Sanford and Miss Gray were the missionaries at Bimlipatam, but in 1892, owing to ill health, Mr. Sanford was obliged to leave the field and return to the homeland. The work was laid aside, but the Lord of the harvest raised up another. Mr. and Mrs. Morse had landed in India a few months previous, and with feelings of gratitude for timely help, the work was passed into their hands. In 1896, Miss Gray having completed her first term of service, returned home on furlough, and in the autumn of the same year Miss Newcomb took her place. It is twenty-four years since the mission was established, and during this time much has been done for the Telugus. The gospel has been preached, the story of the Cross told over and over again, souls have been saved, and many are today singing the songs of redeeming love in the New Jerusalem, but when we think of the hundreds and thousands who have passed out into eternal woe without any hope beyond this world, we exclaim, O Lord, how long!

The Baptists of the Maritime Provinces have undertaken to evangelize 2,000,000 Telugus, and have made

themselves responsible for these souls. There are on the field at the present time, fifteen men and women sent out by our people to do the work of evangelization among these millions. Impossible. It cannot be done. And when compared with the work and workers in the home land, it cannot be expected that it can be done. 2,000,000 souls to be evangelized by fifteen men and women. O, are there not some, yea many in the home churches, who will hear the call before this year closes, and give themselves to the Master, to serve Him in gathering in His own from among the Telugus?

A. C. GRAY.

Amounts Received by the Treasurer of the W. B. M. U. from January 19 to January 24

Berrys Mills, F. M., \$3.86, collection public meeting, H. M., \$1.14; Caspertau, F. M., \$6.40, H. M., \$3.98, G. L. M., 63c, deficit, \$1; Reports, 25c; Brookfield and Forest Glen, F. M., \$4, H. M., \$2; Mount Hanley, F. M., \$6, H. M., \$1; Mission Band, toward Miss Newcombe's salary, \$2.12, Reports, 15c; Somerset, Tidings, 25c; River Herbert, Mission Band, F. M., \$5.42, H. M., \$1.64; Homeville, F. M., \$2.25; Chipman, F. M., \$6.25; Chance Harbor, F. M., \$5.88, H. M., \$3.12; Clarence, F. M., \$13.20, H. M., \$9, toward Chicacole Hospital, \$5, toward Miss Newcombe's salary, \$2.80; Dartmouth, special, H. M., \$4.69, Reports, 25c; Cavenish, F. M., \$4.25, special, H. M., \$5.95, N. W. M., \$1; Tidings, 25c, Reports, 15c; Mission Band, toward support of Amelia, laundress at Chicacole, \$2.40, deficit, H. M., \$5; Lawrencetown, F. M., \$12, H. M., \$2, Miss Newcombe's salary, \$2, Palcondah fund, \$2; Miss Crisp for Tekkali, \$1; Member of Berwick church, Palcondah fund, \$1; Bugwash, F. M., \$5.75, H. M., 75c, G. L. M., 50c, Tidings, 25c; Osborne, F. M., \$2.95; Hebron, F. M., \$9, special, H. M., \$6.20, Reports, 12c; Billtown, F. M., \$4.50, H. M., \$2, deficit, \$1; Lakeville, F. M., \$4.25; H. M., \$1.10; deficit, 75c; Foster, F. M., \$4.95, H. M., 50c, Tidings, 25c, Mission Band, toward Mr. Morse's salary, \$2.30; Bourne, F. M., \$2, H. M., \$1; Mission Band, F. M., \$3, H. M., \$1, Tidings, 25c; Little Bras D'Or, F. M., \$1.85, H. M., 75c, G. L. M., \$1.25, deficit, H. M., \$4.20; Truro, Prince St., F. M., \$1.25, H. M., \$1, Reports, 25c; Truro, Mr. L. J. Walker, in memory of his daughter Mrs. Hanson, support of Nedda, bible-woman at Chicacole, \$25; Kingston, F. M., \$5.13, H. M., \$5.13, Reports, 25c, Tidings, 25c, deficit, H. M., \$2; Fairfield, Tidings, 25c; Brookville, F. M., \$4; Weymouth, Tidings, 25c; Sydney, Thankoffering, F. M., \$1.50; Mount Denison, F. M., \$3.25, deficit, H. M., \$2.40, Reports, 10c, Tidings, 25c; Port Morien, Tidings, 25c; Halifax, 1st church, F. M., \$15, H. M., \$8, Tidings, 25c; North River, Mission Band, to constitute their president, Mrs. William J. Howard, a life member, F. M., \$10; North River, F. M., \$5; Campbellton, Mission Band, F. M., \$10; Halifax, Tabernacle church, F. M., \$3, H. M., \$4, Reports, 40c.

MRS. MARY SMITH, Treas. W. B. M. U.

Amherst, P. O. Box 513.

Foreign Mission Board.

NOTES BY THE SECRETARY.

Since last report Mr. Higgins has baptized five at Tekkali—which makes ten for the year 1898. This is good news—and should encourage all in the homeland to double their efforts in extending the Kingdom of our Christ. Mr. Sanford also reports the two men candidates were received for baptism at Vizianagram. The outlook is hopeful in the foreign field.

The last word from Bobbili is that Bro. Gullison is down with typhoid fever. The letter is under date of Dec. 28, 1898. Pray for the Bobbili missionaries—that health may be restored.

Will the pastors of our churches see that this work of giving the gospel to those who have it not is not overlooked. The needs are pressing, and of course urgent. Some in N. B. and P. E. I. are doing well. The writer cannot say how it is in N. S. If only all could be led to see the work as it really is and as some see it, there would be no lack—there could be none. The time for making another remittance is drawing on apace.

"I Don't Believe in Foreign Missions."

Occasionally even in these enlightened days some "Christian" is heard to utter the above words. What a tremendous statement that is! No real Christian ever says that with any sort of realization of what it involves. He who really does not believe in Foreign Missions does not believe in the wisdom or authority of Jesus Christ, for He said: "Preach the gospel to every creature." He does not believe in the Holy Spirit, for He said: "Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them. So they, being sent forth by the Holy Spirit, sailed to Cyprus." (Acts 13: 2, 4). He does not believe in the Lord's prayer, for it says: "Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is done in heaven." He does not believe in the Doxology, "Praise God all creatures here below."

He does not believe in the Acts of the Apostles, for it is a record pure and simple of missionary labors. He does not believe in the Epistles, for they are largely letters written by foreign missionaries to mission churches. He can have no use for Paul, for he made it his aim to preach the gospel where Christ had not been named. (Rom. 15: 20); nor for John, for he said: "Christ is the propitiation not for our sins only but also for the sins of the whole world." (John 2: 2). Nor has he any sympathy with Jesus Christ even, for he came here because God loved the world, (John 3: 16); he by the grace of God tasted death for every man, (Heb. 2: 9); and He gave as his last charge to his people that they should preach "repentance and remission of sins in His name among all nations." Jesus is first, last and all the time a missionary. Indeed it is difficult to point to any portion of Scripture that this sort of a Christian does

believe in, for the Bible from Genesis to Revelations is his missionary book par excellence.

He does believe that in China 35,000 Christless graves should receive each its heathen occupant every day in the year with none to point the dying millions to a Saviour. He does believe that in India every sixty minutes 1,784 souls should pass into eternity without the knowledge of Jesus Christ. He believes that the incalculable ruin that is being wrought among Africa's 200,000,000 people by superstition and slavery and strong drink should not be repaired by the blessed gospel of the compassionate Saviour; he believes that the only thing that can right these wrongs and alienate these sufferings should be withheld. Oh God, how long shall this sinful unbelief continue! How many more millions of helpless, hopeless ones must perish ere the churches of the living God believe and obey? Do you believe, reader? If you have ever uttered that terrible sentence: "I don't believe in Foreign Missions," go at once to the Saviour and ask him to forgive you, because you did it ignorantly in unbelief. You do believe in Foreign Missions? How much? Honest now, how much do you believe in this work? How much are you praying about it? What sacrifice did you make for it last year? How much did you give—that is, how much in proportion to your ability to give? After all these are the real tests of whether or not we believe in this work. "Lord, I believe; help thou my unbelief."—Selected.

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