

dita Ramabai, the fine group of Oriental woman physicians, and others, have shown what may come; and the East is moving too fast even now to measure her own rate of progress. Our pioneers are sure to appear. But shall we ask them to undertake such things without the best we can give them of thought and training?

The women of the Orient have courage and keenness. They are just beginning to see beyond their own families and desire to know about and have a share in the activities of their nation and the world. A number too large for our knowledge and too powerful for our imagination. Must they make all the blunders we have made and waste as much time and life as we have lost? Shall we not share with them all we have won by painful effort and then go on together working for all the human family?—Missions.

TELUGU MISSION CONFERENCE

By Dr. Frank H. Levering

The American Baptist Telugu Mission Conference assembled at Ramapatnam from December 30th to January 5th. It marked the close of the ninetieth year since the founding of the Mission. The Theological Seminary building, erected some years after the establishment of the Seminary fifty years ago, and the adjacent bungalows, furnished housing accommodations. The spacious compound, embracing more than 100 acres, offers an ideal place for such an assembly. One can walk, or play tennis for exercise, within its bounds, or rest in the shade of its huge banyan trees. These monarchs of the Indian trees, cousins of the fig trees, are striking features of this compound. Half a mile away, and in plain view from the second story of the Seminary building, is the glorious Bay of Bengal.

There were present 70 missionaries, 5 visitors and 19 children. Rev. A. H. Curtis was voted to the chair, and occupied it except on one or two occasions, when he invited Mr. Longley, vice-chairman, to preside.

At the beginning of this report it seems appropriate to note the absence of two of our number who have been with us so long that they seem an essential part of the body

—Dr. and Mrs. Downie. They came to Nellore more than fifty years ago, long before the number of missionaries in the Telugu mission warranted the formation of a Conference. They attended the first Conference held in this Mission, at Ongole, in March, 1874. It was called "The American Baptist Telugu Mission Convocation." Mr. Clough was chairman and Mr. Downie secretary. Neither of them had received the doctorate.

The Downies have attended every subsequent meeting held while they were in India, except this one. They have entertained the Conference at Nellore on a number of occasions. Their influence in the Conference has done much to shape the policy of the Mission and advance its work. The serious illness of Dr. Downie in Madras deprived them of the coveted privilege of attending this meeting. Their fellows in service profoundly missed them.

During the Conference the missionaries learned that the Honors List of people decorated for service by the King-Emperor, and issued on New Year's Day, contained the name of Mrs. Dr. Stait, of the Etta Waterbury Memorial Hospital at Udayagiri, and that the Gold Kaiser-i-Hind medal had been bestowed on her for long and faithful medical service. The silver medal has been bestowed on several of our missionaries, but this is the first instance in which a member of our Mission has been honored with the gold medal.

The first three meetings were devotional, and occupied Tuesday afternoon and evening. Mr. L. E. Martin of Bapatla led the first. Mrs. Downie was appointed to lead the second, but in her enforced absence she asked Mrs. Levering to take her place, and sent a written message. The third meeting was led by Dr. W. A. Stanton. The purpose in holding these consecutive devotional services at the beginning was to give a devotional character and spirit to the entire Conference. It has been our practice to conduct the devotional exercises held during the business sessions on a plan of our own. They take place, not at the beginning of each session, but in the midst of it. Discussions are interrupted, important business is check-