

Missionaries on Furlough.

NO. 7.

ONGOLE.

The name Ongole will ever remain associated with the great Telugu revival of 1878. Such an ingathering has probably never been witnessed since Pentecost, perhaps not then. It may be possible that mistaken views are entertained in regard to that great work. First, that it began, or nearly so, with the terrible famine of 1876-78. Such was not the case. An unusual interest, unusual for our mission fields, began as early as '67 at least, and increased and spread from year to year. During the years 1872-73, while Dr. Clough was home on furlough, Rev. J. McLaurin occupied this field, and baptized large numbers. But it would be difficult to name any particular period from the beginning of this work till the present day during which the interest has been most intense. For a few months after the famine, it is true, greater numbers were baptized than during the same time of any previous period; but during the famine the gates were closed, as the missionaries being the almoners of public charity as well as entrusted by government with large sums of money to be used in relief works and other ways, were anxious that no inducement to profess religion from unworthy motives should be offered. When it was deemed wise again to admit members to the church large numbers pressed forward for baptism as might be expected. Four new stations have since gone off from the Ongole field, and in all of these, as well as in the parent station, the good work goes on. Rev. W. Powell, of Narasaraopeta, writing to a brother missionary a few days ago, says: "I have baptized and received into the church during Dec. and Jan., 1243 members, and am assured that hundreds are waiting to unite with us."

Again, although the greatest ingathering took place in the field occupied by Dr. Clough, he has not been alone in the superintendence of the work. Such men as Dr. Williams and Rev. W. B. Boggs have taken part in the same, and rejoiced in such manifestations of God's power to save.

The work being done at this station is perfectly immense. There are nine schools in operation. The high school has an attendance of 150 pupils; of whom 73 are Christians, the rest Brahmins or other caste people. Unfortunately we have not enough educated Christians to fill the places of teachers, and there are some heathen on the staff. Some of them have been educated at the Free Church Christian College, Madras, but still cling to idolatry and caste as the mark of the beast on their forehead. Of course we hope the day is not far distant when all such schools will be supplied with Christian teachers, if not pupils. One thing I should say, that these heathen boys pay a pretty large school fee, and therefore their education is little or no expense to the mission. Again, they are brought in contact with Christian teachers, and have a daily lesson in the Bible. The need thus sown may bear fruit in years to come. The educating of heathen pupils in our mission schools is much more liable to objection in this country than in Burma, particularly among the Karens. There every pupil must attend every religious service, observe the Sabbath, cast away every appearance of heathenism; so that coming to school is an acknowledgment that heathenism has been abandoned. Here they cling tenaciously to their idolatry.

There is a large school for boys and another for girls. The pupils are either Christians or the children of Christian parents. These schools are doing a work of incalculable good. Miss Mead, lately arrived from America, will have charge of the girl's school at least, as soon as she has some knowledge of the language. One practice we see here which is most admirable; a new missionary is not expected to do any work till a year or more has been spent at the language. On the east side of the Bay, he or she arrives one day, and is into full work almost, the next.

There are also two schools for native women; one in which they are taught the Scripture; and other matters to fit them for Bible women. These women become efficient laborers, and many are brought to Christ through their efforts. In the other school a number of women are receiving instruction preparatory to some lessons in medicine and caring for the sick.

In different parts of the town are four primary schools; two for caste girls, and two for the children of the Christians, who are of course from the out-castes. The difference between the pupils of these schools is most marked. The caste children are clothed in silks and literally loaded with jewelry. On hair, eyes, nose, neck, ankles, are rings or wreaths of gold. We have seen some children whose ornaments cost upwards of five thousand rupees. A conductor escorts them to school in the morning and home at night. The teachers in these schools are heathen, as these people would not send their children to a school taught by one of a low caste, Christian or heathen. They would accept of a European of course, and some American young ladies do such work. These girls are taught to read and sew, and a few some other branches. The hope is that they may through books learn the way of life when in a few years they will be shut up in Z names, or be more easily reached by Christian women who may gain access to their seclusion. The schools for

the children of Christians are doing a good work. The appearance of the children indicates extreme poverty. Most of them are learning the alphabet. Seated on the ground they make letters on the sand with their fingers, name them, rub them out, and make others. The rude school-house serves as a place of worship for the Christians. When the pupils learn to read they get books. The care of all these schools with that of more than 15,000 Christians in different parts of this field devolves on one man. Many many prayers ascend for one carrying such burdens. Ongole, Feb. 6. H. M.

Meeting of Horton Association Committee.

Since the Kenilworth meeting, of which your readers have a good account from Bro. Black, two services have been held in New Minas. On one Sabbath afternoon, Feb. 26, when Mr. Freeman gave an address on missions, followed by Henry Lovitt, Esq., of Kentville, who showed the necessity of Acadia College to the growth and prosperity of the denomination. The next was held the 12th day of March, when the chief speakers were the pastor of Wolfville church and the president of Acadia College. We would like to give a full statement of the remarks of these brethren on this occasion, but are unable to do so, having no notes at hand. Dr. Higgins dealt chiefly on Christian giving. He noted the fact that the first act of worship was an offering to the Lord. This impressive lesson at the beginning of human history is enforced through all the sacred volumes, that we should worship the Lord with our substance. The scriptures give the rule and furnish the plan which we will do well to follow. Many do not seem to understand the Lord's claim to their property. An honored Baptist minister had said to him that he had preached the gospel for fifty years, and yet had only recently come to understand his obligation to serve the Lord with his substance. Many Christians were finding great comfort in the giving of one tenth of their income to the Lord. He feared that in proportion to our means we were not doing as much as other denominations, and certainly not as much as we ought.

Dr. Sawyer, in alluding to the opening words of the last address, remarked that the first act of adoration of the infant Jesus was with costly offerings. These gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh were prophetic of the offerings of the nations. He spoke of the poor woman who pressed her way to the treasury through the throng, among which were the rich and ostentatious, to put in her two mites which make a farthing, and who "put in more than they all," because she had put her heart in with her offering; and then of that other scene in Bethany, just before the Lord's death, when Mary broke the alabaster box, and anointed him with the precious ointment. What was worth a man's labor for a year was freely devoted to this purpose. The fault-finding disciples were rebuked, and the gracious assurance given that wherever the gospel should be preached, "that also which this woman hath done shall be spoken of for a memorial of her." Her heart went with her offering. There had been a reference by some one to the number of Baptists in the United States, with the remark that they might lose as many as were contained in some other denominations, and not be missed. We might lose many from our churches who would not be missed. This was a saddening truth. There are many who do nothing for the advancement of the cause of God. There are many who need to learn that "there is that scattereth and yet increaseth." If it is possible for him who refuses to give of his substance to the Lord to be saved, it will only be "as by fire."

The committee expect to visit other sections within the township. The ministering brethren are ready to respond to the call of the chairman to any such service as he may desire on his field, as soon as the favorable opportunity occurs.

M. P. F.

Ministers' Conference, C. M. Co., N. S.

This conference met in annual session at Centerville, March 20th, 1889.

Sermons were preached by Rev. I. W. Porter and C. W. Corey, lic.

Rev. C. B. Burgess was appointed chairman for ensuing year, and Rev. I. W. Porter secretary.

Reports from the churches show steady growth. In most cases there had been recent additions. In some cases the growth was characterized as "winter growth," a preparation for the summer.

Two papers of great interest were presented, one by Rev. C. C. Burgess, subject, "What action should be taken in regard to members who do not support the gospel?" The paper was highly commended in the after discussion. The points may be summarized as follows:

1. Give sound and repeated instructions from the pulpit, and in private.
2. Pray for him.
3. Make allowance for him, on account of his previous education, his dry worldly spirit that he has to contend against, his present surroundings.
4. Tell him of the blessedness of giving, present and future.
5. Sometimes forgive him.
6. Sometimes a committee of the church might be called to wait upon him. Only as a last resort, and after most faithful labor, would he consider it advisable to resort to extreme disciplinary measures. The

office is not greater than other neglected duties. He could not give his voice to withdraw fellowship from such an one and leave in the church those who constantly run after some new thing and are otherwise inconsistent.

Rev. T. M. Munro read a paper, subject, "The duties of Christians toward each other." He emphasized the new command of the gospel dispensation, and was requested to furnish his paper for publication in the MESSENGER AND VISITOR. Rev. H. Buel was present at some of the meetings. A pleasing feature of the meetings was the presence and words of Bro. J. Biglow, who, though an nonagenarian, is still vigorous in speech and action.

The conference was attended by a good number of lay delegates, and the good people of the place came out in a body to partake of the good things, in spite of very heavy roads. The spiritual element was largely dominant in the gatherings, and as we came away, we trusted that we left a blessing behind.

I. W. PORTER, Sec'y.

Dedication of the New Baptist Church.

On Sabbath, April 1st, the dedication of our new chapel took place. The roads were quite unfavorable, but a large audience was present—over five hundred. The building is on the old site, and is much finer and larger than the old one. It is called a magnificent structure and reflects great credit on the contractor. The painting is very neatly and handsomely done. The furniture was purchased by the Ladies Sewing Circle of the place. A fine toned Mason and Hamlin organ adds much to the appearance of the scenery; also a very beautiful and costly Bible presented by Mrs. Dr. Alward of St. John. Three handsome chandeliers are also conspicuous, as were some beautiful bouquets, the latter forming a crescent on the platform in front of the minister. The choir, discouraged some beautiful anthems and other selections appropriate to the occasion.

In the morning Rev. J. W. S. Young preached from the text, "I will make the place of my feet glorious," Isaiah 60:13, which was delivered in his usual earnest and impressive manner, and was highly praised. On the platform were Rev. Mr. Comben (Welesley), Rev. E. Alward (Baptist), Rev. B. N. Hughes (Baptist), Rev. W. H. Perry (Free Baptist), Mr. Coleman W. Corey, of Acadia College. In the afternoon, Rev. E. Alward preached from the text, "Behold the man," John 19:5, and the sermon was a masterly effort, and very highly spoken of.

Bro. Hughes will remain with us over the coming Sabbath. We pray we may be guided aright in the choice of a pastor.

CHURCH CLERK.

Butternut Ridge, April 5.

Religious Intelligence.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES.

PENOBSCOT.—I baptized three at South Branch, Penobscot, last Sabbath. Interest good. Pray for us. E. G. COREY, April 6.

NORFOLK.—The meetings are very interesting. The church is good working order. Baptism on Sabbath last. Several persons are anxious about their souls. Held service every evening during my visit. Hampton and Norfolk churches are anxious to obtain a pastor. THOS. TODD.

FRANKLIN.—Thirty-three were received into this church to-day—twenty-six by baptism, three by experience, and four by letter. Union work with the Free Baptists has ceased here, but continues in St. Mary's, where a gracious work is going on.

SACKVILLE, N. B.—God is blessing his cause among us. I baptized four yesterday and five the Sabbath before. Others are deeply anxious. Several have spoken in our meetings lately whose voices we had never heard before. The alienated are being reconciled to each other, and we are strongly hoping for better days. Pray for us, all who love Zion. WM. E. HALL.

WYOMOUTH.—We are glad to learn that a gracious revival of the Lord's work is being enjoyed at Wyomouth. Difficulties and misunderstandings that have marred the work are gradually disappearing. Backsliders are returning, and a good many are being hopefully converted. Seven were baptized Sabbath, April 1, by Rev. Isa. Wallace, and the hand of fellowship given to them and three others. Special services will be continued this week, and all are requested to pray for gracious results.

DAVOST SERRAVALLO.—Bro. J. E. Fillmore, who accepted the pastorate of the church in this place about five weeks ago, has entered into the work with his usual enthusiasm. He has been holding special meetings the last week, with very encouraging results. The services have been largely attended and very interesting. Sabbath, April 1, five were buried with Christ in baptism. May the Lord continue to bless his labors in this place. A. O. J.

BROOKFIELD, QUEENS CO., N. S.—I baptized a young man, the head of a family, Lord's day, April 1. The interest in the Lord's work is deepening on all parts of my field. Covenant and prayer meetings well attended. Prospects very encouraging. J. W. JONES.

MILTON, YARMOUTH.—We are enjoying a very season of refreshing. At our last conference seventy-one persons took part, and on Sunday evening the pastor extended the right hand of fellowship to thirteen happy converts—all added by baptism. Others are saved, and will be ready to come forward at an early date. Many more are inquiring the way. The feeling in the community is the deepest known for years. Cottage prayer meetings have been held from house to house for two months. A noteworthy prayer meeting has been started among the workmen in the Milton foundry, with encouraging results. Indeed, the voice of prayer is heard on all sides. The pastor is supported by an earnest and enthusiastic corps of workers. May the Lord abide with us. CHAS.

SPRINGFIELD, KING CO.—Baptized four candidates last Sunday, and gave the hand of fellowship to six in the evening. We continue our meetings this week.

A. H. HAYWARD.

KARS, KING CO., N. B.—There is a good work of grace going on in Kars, where I have been laboring since I resigned at Rothery. Fourteen have been baptized, and others are enquiring the way. The outlook is good. Brethren, pray for us that God may bless us in this part of his vineyard.

HALIFAX.—Bro. Cline baptized three on Sabbath, April 1st, two of them were graduates of Acadia and young men of the brightest promise. Bro. Miller has baptized at the Tabernacle for three Sabbaths. There have been no special services. The congregations are growing, and the prospect is cheering. The people are grasping with the debt on the land upon which their house stands, and hope to have it thrust aside this year. Bro. Manning is holding on his way steadily. Several have been added to the church in the past few weeks.

BARTON, DIGBY CO.—The good work moves on quietly. Three were baptized on the 18th and ten on the 25th March, and many are anxiously enquiring. One of those baptized on the 25th is a young Chinaman, who has been in this country about 18 months. His conversion is what may be called an "old times" conversion.

He seems to have a distinct understanding of the plan of salvation, and his remarks in our social meetings are original and full of gospel truth. We trust God has called him to carry the bread of life to the perishing in his native land. We have just added 115 volumes of new books to our S. S. library at Barton, which we procured at our book room at Halifax, and are satisfactory in all respects. According to notice, our new house of worship at Plympton was opened on the 25th ult. Rev. J. A. Gordon of St. John, N. B., preached at 10.30 a. m. from Phil. 2:16, "Holding forth the word of life," subject, "The church's business to hold up to the world the word of God." The discourse was an able and clear presentation of the subject; full of pungent and pointed gospel truths. Happy are the people who have the honor of hearing steadily such a gospel. Rev. J. S. Brown of Digby preached at 3 p. m. from Jer. 8:22; subject, "Christ the Great Healer." The sermon was rich in gospel truth, clearly and touchingly put, and was listened to with marked attention. I had to return to Barton to baptize at 6 p. m., so was unable to be present in the evening. Bro. Gordon preached a very highly appreciated sermon at 10 o'clock, after which Rev. I. Wallace conducted a social service of much interest. We received in collections and pledges toward the building fund about \$200. P. R. FOSTER.

SCHOOLBROOK.—I have been holding a few meetings with the church at Schoolbrook, under the direction of the Home Mission Board. Results so far quite satisfactory. One has been baptized, others have requested prayer, and Christians greatly revived. CALVIN CURRIE.

SECOND HORTON CHURCH, N. S.—Pastor M. P. Freeman desires to express his gratitude to his brethren and friends in the Black River section of the Second Horton church for the present of a watch, by the hands of Dea. Robert Schofield at the close of a recent Sabbath service. Mrs. Freeman would also like to make grateful mention of the gift of a beautiful autograph quilt by the ladies of Gaspeaux. These with many other acts of kindness received from the people endear them more closely to our heart, and intensify desire to be the means of imparting spiritual gifts. Special services are being held at White Rock, with good results to believers. We are longing for the return of backsliders, and the conversion of the impenitent. M. P. F.

NOTICE.

A special meeting of the senate of McMaster University will be held in McMaster Hall, Toronto, on April 12th, at 10.30 o'clock, a. m. J. H. FARMER, Sec'y pro tem.

Received for W. E. H. U.

McDonald's Corner, per A. E. Mac-	
Alary	\$14.05
Cold Brook, Mrs J. Sanford	1.00
Canard, per Mrs J. B. Kempton (1.00)	5.00
For H. M.	4.00
Harvey, per Mrs. Allen Bishop	4.00
Upper (Slewacke, Mrs Chas John-	1.00
ston	1.00
Halifax, North church, per Mrs	
Wm Moody	48.75
S. J. MANNING.	

Convention Funds Received.

Barrington	\$15.00
Miss Minnie Hicks, Hartford, Conn.	6.00
Mr and Mrs John Blair, North River, Ontario	2.00
Truro church	75.25
John McGregor, Goshen, N. S.	1.00
Mrs P. S. McGregor	1.00
C. D. Nichols	1.00
Phineas Whitman, New Albany	2.00
Portland church	41.00
Capt Cerezo Kelley, Yarmouth	5.00

Literary Notes.

A wonderful interest has been shown throughout the West in Prof. James Baldwin's paper, "The Centre of the Republic," in Scribner's Magazine for April. It is an inspiring account of the rise and progress of the Ohio Valley, suggested by the Centennial celebration soon to take place at Cincinnati. Prof. Baldwin's account of what has been accomplished produces a glow of patriotism and makes his readers proud of their birthright.

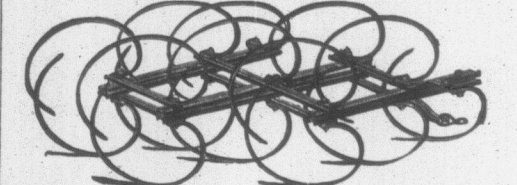
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