

THE WORK ABROAD.

The Quinquennial Conference.

Held at Cocanada, Dec. 28th, 1890, and Jan. 2nd, 1891.

PROGRAMME.

Dec. 28th.—9 a.m. Service at the chapel of the English Baptist Church, preacher, J. Shaw. 6 p.m. Service at the same place, preacher, W. V. Higgins.

Dec. 29th.—7.30 a.m. Prayer meeting, J. A. K. Walker. 8.15 a.m. Welcome address, R. Garside, very fine oration. 8.45 a.m. Historical sketch from the jubilee, D. Downie, very interesting. 9.30 a.m. Census of Christians and their families, John Craig. 2 p.m. Telugu meeting. 7.30 p.m. Devotional exercises. 7.45 p.m. The Missionary Needs of the Telugu People, J. R. Stillwell. 8.15 p.m. Instruction of converts after baptism, G. Churchill. 8.35 p.m. Discussion.

Dec. 30th.—Chairman, G. Churchill. 7.30 a.m. Prayer meeting, W. E. Boggs. 2 p.m. Telugu meeting. 7.30 p.m. Devotional exercises. 7.45 p.m. Telugu literature—need of a Baptist publishing society, W. B. Boggs; great need shown and Board organized. 8.40 p.m. Discussion.

Dec. 31st.—Woman's Work. Chairman, S. I. Hatch. 7.30 a.m. Prayer meeting, S. I. Hatch. 8.15 a.m. Caste girls' schools, Mrs. Churchill. 8.35 a.m. Bible woman's work, Mrs. Garside. 8.55 a.m. Touring in the villages, Miss Wright. 9.15 a.m. Discussion. 2 p.m. Telugu meeting, Miss Wayte. 7.30 p.m. Devotional exercises. 7.45 p.m. Sunday schools, Miss Stovel. 8.15 p.m. Education of Christian girls, Miss Schaff. 8.25 p.m. Medical work, Miss Cummings. 8.45 p.m. Discussion.

Jan. 1st.—Chairman, John Craig. 6 a.m. Praise meeting in English and Telugu. 7.30 a.m. Prayer meeting, Mr. Shaw. 8.15 a.m. Best method of paying native assistants, J. E. Davis; on line of self support very good. 8.35 a.m. The Missionary Conference, H. F. Lallanme. 8.55 a.m. Discussion; our Ontario and Quebec Mission Conference as a model in most respects. 2 p.m. Telugu meeting. 7 p.m. Telugu meeting.

Jan. 2nd.—Chairman, D. Downie. 7.30 a.m. Prayer meeting. 2 p.m. Telugu meeting for unfinished business and closing exercises. 7.30 p.m. English meeting.

This conference that we have been looking forward to for so many months is a thing of the past. But I hope and believe that its influence will be felt in many ways for years to come.

We were disappointed at the small number of brethren visitors from the American Mission. The brethren who came were D. H. Drake, D. Downie, W. B. Boggs, and W. E. Boggs, the sisters were Mrs. Burditt, Mrs. W. E. Boggs, Miss Cummings, M.D., Miss Schaff, and Miss Wayte, from the north came Mr. and Mrs. Churchill, Miss Wright, Miss Gray, Mr. Sanford, Mr. Higgins, and Mr. Shaw. All the members of our mission were present except Miss Booker, so we numbered 22, making the total of those present 38.

Every forenoon was given to English meetings, every afternoon to Telugu meetings, and the evening meetings were sometimes in one language and sometimes in the other. According to the programme three-quarters of an hour was allotted to a prayer meeting at the beginning of each morning session, but the conference voted to make the time a full hour, and even this seemed too short sometimes. These devotional meetings brought us rich blessings, and the unanimous opinion seemed to be that we should devote whole sessions to devotional exercises in future conferences. Discussion of plans is a good thing, but

after all the power must come from God, and He gives it to those who wait upon Him for it. On Friday evening, Jan. 2nd, at the closing meeting Dr. Boggs preached a comforting sermon on the joys of our religion. I think the leading thought was that we must not say, well, we have had a good time, but now we must go back to hard work. He contended that we should drink of the river of God's pleasures at all times. Sermons in English were preached at the chapel of our English church on Sunday, Dec. 28th, by Mr. Higgins and Mr. Shaw. The welcome address by Bro. Garside was very good. If I may make special note of some papers, perhaps I should mention Mr. Stillwell's on the missionary needs of the Telugu people. As this has been adopted by our Canadian conference as our appeal for this year, I need make no further reference to it. Your readers will see it soon. Dr. Boggs read a paper on Telugu literature and the need of a Baptist publishing society. As a result of this a resolution was passed requesting the literature committees of the several Baptist societies to act as a board of publication. The resolution also expressed the opinion of the conference that one or more men should be set apart to literary work.

Interesting papers were read by several others, but lack of time prevents further reference to them now. Several papers on the programme were not read.

Wednesday, Dec. 31st, was devoted to woman's work. All the papers were read as indicated on the programme, it was a busy and profitable day. Probably some of the sisters will furnish a full account of it. I must not forget to mention that we had a nice meeting at 6 a.m. on New Year's day. Two lady missionaries, one an American, and the other a Canadian, were smart that morning, they rang the church bell at a quarter before six. We had a very enjoyable service of song at the Zenana workers' home on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 28th, there were other opportunities for united praise, but that was the best. I must tell about the meetings in Telugu some other time, this is very imperfect even so far as relates to the English meetings. We reached home to-day and are preparing for work once more.

Akidu, Jan. 12th, 1891

JOHN CRAIG.

MISS HATCH writes. —You will be pleased to hear that several remarked after the first session of Woman's Day that it was the best session we had had yet. The Telugu meeting that afternoon was very large. Mrs. Churchill's Siamma read a paper on Bible Women; Mary of the Seminary now read one on Christ the Model Worker; and Julia of Nellore, one of the oldest—if not the oldest—Christian in the mission, gave us a twenty minutes talk, on Zenana work; all very good.

Extracts from letters lately received from Miss Hatch, of Samulicotta, and Miss Rogers of Cocanada:—

Miss Hatch writes. "Then I have a great many come to see me and I do take time for them. Only last Wednesday I found in coming up stairs that three women were waiting for me. I was very tired and it was the hour for my siesta, but these had apparently not come out of curiosity, so I couldn't let them go. I sang 'The Love of God,' which is a beautiful hymn in Telugu—has a short life of Christ, with the refrain, 'O see the love of God in sending His Son to die, if you believe you will have everlasting life.' As is often the fashion with them, one who seemed clearer than the others explained each verse as I sang to the others, who were greatly interested. I told them to come to Christ, to leave their idols and all such worship. 'O,' they said, 'must we not worship devils at all at all?' 'No,' I said, 'Well what must we do if a child gets convulsions, or is delirious, or anything of that kind?'