

Missionary Readings.

REVIVAL AT AINTAB, SYRIA.

A REMARKABLE work of grace has occurred at this important centre, chiefly under the labors of the Rev. H. G. Jenanyan, of St. Paul's Institute Tarsus. The following extracts from Mr. Jenanyan's journal will be read with profound interest:—

Aintab, July 2.—Having an urgent invitation from the pastor of the Third Church, the smallest one, with a congregation of about 200, to hold special service, this evening I preached my first sermon; only 150 present. Text, "To think of latter end."

July 3.—Preached to about 300, one half of whom were Gregorian Armenians. All listened attentively to "Son, give me thine heart," and the Lord gave the words to speak; hoping for great results, I pray and believe.

July 5.—This evening preached from "Thy sins are forgiven." God gave a blessing to over 500 present. My heart is rejoicing. An inquiry meeting; 22 decided for Christ; 15 backsliders returned to the Lord; an infidel youth is earnestly seeking the light.

July 7, Sabbath.—Morning, preached from "Christ our pattern;" over 1,000 present; church full; hundreds in the yard. Evening service in First Church; 1,600 present, one-third of whom were Gregorians. "Jesus" was the theme, and the eagerness with which they listened was an inspiration to me. "O Lord! bless, encourage, and fill me with Thy Holy Spirit."

July 8.—Went to church *one hour before service*—was surprised to find both men and women's side filled with women coming early to find room, thus crowding out the men. At once began preaching; dismissed the meeting that the women might go and the men come in; but most of them kept their seats on the floor; the men were obliged to stay in the yard while I preached a *second* sermon for all. The need, desire and interest is wonderful.

July 9.—At evening service the church and yard were so full the pulpit was placed *in the open door* that all might hear. The Lord helped while preaching from "What shall I do to be saved?" All who were seriously thinking about their souls were asked to raise hands; nearly 100 responded.

July 10.—A meeting for men only, but about 200 women came begging to stay; talked about "Saving faith." Two young men, *doubters* for two years, decided to serve and confess Christ.

July 11.—A mothers' meeting; 400 present; many remained for inquiry meeting; over 20 took part; earnest prayers in Turkish, Armenian and English, offered with tears of repentance, reminded us of "Pentecostal Days." I too could not keep back tears of joy; 35 arose, giving themselves to Christ. "Not unto us, not unto us, O Lord, but to Thy name give glory." P. M.—Another woman's meeting. To my surprise the church and yard were full; 1,600 to 2,000 present, most of whom were Gregorians; 8 Mohammedans—a large gathering; pulpit moved to the door so that all could hear.

July 12.—The Holy Spirit's work among individuals is wonderful. Thus I am taught *what* and *how* to preach. Henceforth our services will be union in the First Church, which holds 2,000 to 2,500. The women's side is smaller, but to-night they filled their own and one-third of the men's. "Not by might, nor by power."

July 14.—At morning, in the Third Church, two new Sunday-school classes organized. Church members pro-

mised to visit two by two the neighboring houses. Evening service in the First Church. From 300 to 400 could not enter the full house, but crowded near windows and doors. "Almost persuaded" was my subject; asked those who would like to have a prayer-meeting to remain; only a few hundred left, but their places were at once filled by the waiting throng outside. In this meeting over 100 rose, deciding for Christian life. This was the largest congregation to which I ever preached. I better realize the power of *simple gospel* preaching.

July 15.—Much time is occupied with calling, conversation, preparation and preaching. Morning service for women in Second Church: 60 remained for inquiry, most of whom gave good proof of conversion. Afternoon met with Christian Endeavor Society, giving a Bible reading, "Christ our example." These are good workers among the women, and their numbers are now doubled. The following day I preached in the First Church to a full house; 30 arose for prayer.

July 17.—Morning, held a service in the Gregorian house in the city suburbs; over 300 present; every corner full; a few Protestants, several Mohammedans. Afterwards called on two palsied women confined to their beds for years. Among those who called, one man said: "I have done all known wickedness, been in prison three times—one Sunday I heard you preach, since then I am surprised at the change in me; can't tell what and where I am—never prayed before, now praying always; would like to tell others of this change but fear they will not believe, but will try and show them by my life." Evening meeting with young people; two pastors and one college professor took part—it was a season of great blessing.

July 19.—Many young people come for personal conversation—three boys and two girls earnestly pleading to be taken in our Tarsus school. Thus far 17 applications from this city, and if we only had accommodations it would be a grand thing to give a Christian education to these young converts, who could be the means of blessing to their people. "My Lord, Thou knowest and seest the need, give opportunity as Thou givest desire, grant enlargement and blessing to St. Paul's Institute, take away all obstacles for its progress." Evening meeting, where the three pastors took part. Their faith has been greatly strengthened by seeing what the Lord has done in our midst.

July 21, Sabbath.—After Sunday-school and a good prayer meeting, a woman came, saying, "Here are three Mohammedan women, who would like you to talk and pray with them." I gladly responded, going to where they sat, with faces veiled; knelt down and prayed. Evening, large meeting in First Church, more Gregorians came than ever before. Previously they besought their priests to invite me to preach in their church, but a few wealthy members objecting, the people came to our church to hear the truth. This has been a day long to be remembered for its fulness of blessing.

July 22.—Women's meeting. Holy Spirit, at the close of sermon, asked all who wanted to come to Christ to arise; 22 responded, one of whom, 80 years old, was a great opposer to the truth, but now her groans and tears melt many hearts. Afternoon, 11 callers, companions in wickedness, now Christ's followers. Said they: "A month ago if any one would tell us of such a change we would not believe, now we tell others, but they believe not."

July 24.—Children's meeting; 500 present. Theme, "Christ and the children;" 150 remained for inquiry meeting; many prayed, confessing their sins. We hope all these are accepted by the dear Saviour.

July 25.—Missionaries and natives urge me to remain, that these services may close with a communion season, and accept new converts. We all hope for a grand harvest.