

Once more at Akidu.

Just a line or two to tell the readers of the LINK that we are once more at Akidu. We left Cocanada on the 21st of June, and reached here on the 24th, being delayed by lack of water in the canal. The heat was excessive, and Mrs. Craig has not felt well since, but I trust the present cool weather will help to restore her. We had heavy rain most of last week. In fact, I do not remember seeing such rain in July before.

Cholera began in the village just about the time we arrived, and a good many have died since then. They are still dying. Two burning-places are visible, and when the wind blows from them to the house during a cremation, the smell is far from pleasant. The back of our house is toward the village, so we shut all doors and windows at such times. On Wednesday last, a procession from the village passed the house. They were escorting the goddess of cholera to the limits of the village (including the farming land connected with it) to ask her to take her departure to the next village. At the boundary a little pig was sacrificed. I am sorry to say she did not go. We thank God for taking care of us and our people.

On the 24th of June, our first day here, I baptized fourteen men and women, from two or three villages. Continue to pray for us.

Akidu, 10th July, 1888.

JOHN CRAIG.

A Card of Thanks.

The Montreal box has just arrived, with its storage of good things, for a share in which I heartily thank any and all who may have been so kind as to contribute. The arrival is very timely, as I have just now charge of the Zenana Home myself. Again, many thanks.

Cocanada, July 17, 1888.

S. I. HATCH.

THE WORK AT HOME.

DEAR LINK.—The Annual Meeting of the Women's Missionary Union of these Maritime Provinces, which is meeting in this month of August, 1888, in Wolfville, Nova Scotia, will for several reasons, long be held in remembrance: foremost among these reasons is the fact that our college in this year celebrating her "Jubilee."

Fifty years Acadia has been educating her sons and daughters, and sending them forth thoroughly furnished to tell "the old, old story," until now the very names, "Wolfville," "Acadia," have an inspiring sound to all missionary workers. Besides we have this year accomplished the great work of so altering our constitution, as to unite "Home Mission work with the Foreign. It has been thought that these two branches of our work could not be carried on under one organization, but the sisters of our Union mean to prove to the contrary. The meetings have been all held in the church, the Convention holding its session this year in the college.

The work of the Union seems to increase with every year, and we have now spent two and a half days on it. The business meeting on Saturday afternoon was a large and enthusiastic one. A synopsis of the report of the Corresponding Secretary was read, the whole being reserved for the jubilee meeting on Monday.

Reports were also read from the Provincial Secretaries: that from New Brunswick showing an increase of workers, and offerings that surely must have been encouraging.

Nova Scotia did not report quite so many societies as last year, yet progress was seen in many ways. Six life members had been added, and an increase of 173 in the number of contributors to the LINK.

Prince Edward Island showed that the interest in the cause of missions was unabated, and steady progress being made.

The Treasurer's report, always the report of the session, brought the Union once more to its feet, while the yearly thanksgiving that we had been enabled to offer willingly to the Lord, went up to heaven in the strains of "Praise God from whom all blessings flow." The amount raised during the year was shown to be \$3,967.93. Of this amount, Nova Scotia raised \$2,298.32, being an increase of \$86.67, over last year.

New Brunswick, \$1,280.44, an increase of \$192.15.

From Prince Edward Island, \$298.30, an increase of \$54.80.

For Home Missions, \$213.10 had been raised.

This with a balance on hand of \$1,738.75, made our grand total \$6,693.68.

Moncton, N. B., is the Banner Society for 1888, having contributed the largest amount \$193.75.

Brethren Cameron and Best from the North West, having asked permission to address the meeting, gave such glowing accounts of the far West, and also of the great need there is there of missionary work, that every heart was stirred and it was unanimously agreed that the collection at the mass meeting on Monday afternoon be for that Mission. On Monday morning at nine o'clock there was a meeting of county secretaries, in order to devise ways and means for carrying on the work. At this meeting, the first of the kind we had held, plans were laid for the thorough working of each county, so that in future the work of the Union will be much facilitated, and, we hope, the members of our aid societies led to more thorough consecration of themselves to the work.

At eleven o'clock on Monday morning the Union met again for business.

The report of the committee to alter the constitution so as to include Home Mission work, was read by Mrs. Sawyer, and discussed, clause by clause.

On the final adoption of the whole, the Union joined in singing the grand old Doxology.

The Union will now hope to aid, through the Home Mission Board, our missions in the Provinces, and also in the North-West, not by an organization distinct from our Foreign, but by an advisory committee, who, together with the Provincial Secretaries, will carry on the work, reporting annually to the Union.

In the afternoon, an immense audience was present. An address of welcome from the Aid Society of Wolfville, was given by Mrs. DeBlois, who said that such a gathering of women engaged in missionary work brought to mind the words of the Psalmist, "The Lord gave the word, great was the host of women." It was not too much to hope that the influence of this gathering might reach the hearts of our missionaries, cheering and strengthening them, so that they may go forth with renewed courage to their work, and then indeed would sound forth the glad note of jubilee. Wolfville Society had been highly favored in having had connection with so many missionaries. Miss Norris, the founder, was a missionary, as also Mrs. Arthur Crawley, the first President. Her address, for the outline of which we are indebted to Miss Wells, of Ontario, closed with words of loving welcome to the hearts and homes of the sisters in Wolfville.

The President replied in a few graceful words, and then gave her annual address, which was listened to with breathless attention.

Each year Mrs. Williams' message seems fraught with a fuller, richer, deeper sense of the spirit of the Master. Her words breathe such a continual abiding in Him, that her hearers cannot but be drawn closer to the Saviour of missions, and must of necessity go home to do better service than in the past.

The report of our Corresponding Secretary gave an encouraging outline of the last year's work, and a hopeful outlook for the future.

Mrs. Morrow, returned missionary from Burmah, read an intensely interesting paper on the Karens, as also Mrs.