

## HANAMAKONDA MISSION HOSPITAL.

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ONE of the most remarkable incidents in the history of our Telugu Mission is the origin and development of the medical work of this station. A work started by the missionary with fear and trembling, has with God's blessing far surpassed our fondest hopes and expectations, and is to-day a living monument of what can be accomplished by those who feel God's call and are willing to seize the opportunities and enter the doors as they open.

Soon after the writer was transferred to this station he found himself besieged by sick and suffering humanity, as it became known that the missionary was also a doctor. He tried to give what help he could to all who came, and gradually he found his sphere of usefulness enlarging, and the missionary and the mission agents were being respected as never before, whereas formerly they were jeered at, even having had filth thrown at them when preaching in the streets of the town. They soon found that the medical work had made them not only welcome in the homes, but even sought after, and their message was now heard without opposition.

In this way the work went on, quietly increasing in influence until the year 1898, when the good-will and sympathy of the people took a practical and substantial turn. Many, including both Mohammedans and Hindus, began to ask why we did not build a hospital, so that more help could be rendered to the suffering ones. Our repeated reply was, "We have not the money to do it." "Then ask your society," was the response. There was only one answer to this,—our society was in debt and we could not make the burden heavier by setting forth this need. After this matter had been discussed for several months, their true sympathy and friendship showed itself by a number of them suggesting that, as our society could not build a hospital for us, a subscription paper be circulated to see what could be done here. We reminded them that a Government hospital had long existed in town, but they replied that it was not doing the work it should, and they were anxious to see a mission hospital established. Seeing their persistence we acceded to their request, and the subscription list was started by a Mohammedan engineer subscribing \$20. This good friend has stood by us from that time, and helped and encouraged us in the work. Other friends also helped, some making larger and some smaller donations. The little fund then started, has far exceeded our greatest expectations, and has resulted in good, substantial hospital buildings, which are nearing completion, and which, when done, will furnish us with the largest hospital in our mission.

When we look at this work we praise God for His goodness to us and we feel that to us has been verified

the promise, "My God shall supply all your need." We realize that the "silver and the gold" are His, and from various sources he has turned them to meet this end. Much more will be needed properly to equip the hospital so that it can accomplish its full object, but we are confident He will increase the number of our friends and that He will not suffer it to lack. From India, America and England the money has come, and part of it has served a double purpose,—to provide labor for the starving ones during famine, and at the same time to prepare materials and help in the erection of these buildings, which, through the years to come, shall care for the bodies and souls of India's suffering ones. Many of the donors are unknown to us and we are unable to thank them personally as we would like to, but we commend them to God and pray that He will richly bless and reward them.

A few months ago the writer became satisfied that when the hospital opened he could not carry on the work alone, and was led to ask the Women's Board for the services of one of their missionaries, Miss Wagner, an American trained nurse, whom they sent to be with us. The wisdom of this appointment has already evinced itself in the many calls she has had, bringing large opportunities of doing good.

With the advantages of a hospital the size of ours where we can easily accommodate twenty-six patients, and so planned that we will have separate buildings for the men and women, and private rooms for private patients, we will have exceptional opportunities for training nurses, and we have therefore decided to start a nurses' training school in connection with the hospital, as such women are much needed in our mission. A prospectus stating requirements and conditions has been prepared, and we hope with the opening of the hospital to start such a class, which will fit all student nurses to take their proper place in life's battle along with nurses of other institutions. We already have a few students in view, and we confidently hope that our missionaries will help us by sending us the qualified applicants.

It has also been the desire of the writer, in time, to plan the work so that mission agents from his and other mission fields can be taken for a short course of medicine, by which they can afterwards do a vast deal of good in their respective villages in conjunction with their regular mission work. With such a training, mission agents can become vastly more helpful to their people than they are now, and can more easily win them by attending to their sufferings than by going to them simply as a preacher of the gospel. In this way the gospel of Jesus Christ can be more fully preached, and more will be ready to receive the messages.

Much more could be said regarding this work which was started so simply, but which to-day shows God's hand so clearly. We hope to see it developed as time goes on and become an ever-increasing factor for good.—*The Baptist Missionary Magazine*.

\* Son of our beloved A. V. Timpany, of precious memory.