

A STORY OF ANSWERED PRAYER.

By Mrs. Lyman Jewett.

TF the five, Dr. and Mrs. Jewett, Christian Nersu, Julia and Ruth, who met on Prayer Meeting Hill January 1, 1854, only Mrs. Jewett and Julia remain. Julia remembers that after we had each prayed, "Father Jewett stood up, stretched out his hand and said, 'Do you see that rising ground yonder, covered with prickly pear? Would you not like that spot for our Mission bungalow, and all this land to become Christian? Well, Nersu, Julia, that day will come.' Then we all spoke our minds, and just as the meeting closed, the sun rose. It seemed as if the Holy Spirit had lifted us above the world, and our hearts were filled with thanksgiving to the Lord."

Ongole and vicinity were among the places we and our few native preachers visited in following years. Early in 1860 we lived there three months. It was during this time that Dr. Jewett baptized Obalu, the first convert among the Malas in Ongole. He followed the missionary workers from village to village, and was overjoyed when one afternoon we ascended our bullock cart and rode to his home, about four miles from Ongole. He took down from his smoky roof and showed us a little palm leaf book in which he had now lost all faith. It was written in honor of the gods. "It was at this time," says Dr. Downie in his "History of the Telugu Mission," "that Dr. Jewett negotiated for the house and land which became the mission bungalow and compound. He did not know where the money was to come from, nor who would occupy the house; but he believed the prediction he had made in 1854, on the hill top, would be fulfilled, and that God would send the money and the man too. So the house was bought, and Dr. Jewett, after asking the money from the Lord, wrote to a friend and classmate at home about the matter." Who was this friend? Mr. Reuben Wright, then living on the banks of the Mississippi River. I quote from a paper by Mr. Jewett: "He made money not a little, but his religion suffered. In this state of mind he came to Boston and called on Deacon Converse, who took him to Dr. Earle's revival meetings. Dr. Earle told me he made the appeal, 'Let all those who wish to consecrate themselves to the Lord Jesus Christ raise the hand,' and his hand went up. From that meeting he went to Deacon Converse and told him he wished to give some money to the Lord. Deacon Converse took him to the Mission Rooms. His appearance was not like that of a money maker, and not much was expected from him. Finally Dr. Warren asked him if he wished to give sixty dollars to support a native preacher. 'No, more than that,' said he. 'You do not wish to give a thousand dollars to support a missionary?' 'Yes, I do.' Several names were mentioned, among them Lyman Jewett. 'Lyman Jewett, I remember, his prayers. (In Worcester Academy.) I'll take

him." Mr. Wright wrote me that he intended to give more than my salary, to help about native preachers, and that Mrs. Jewett may have some to spend without rendering account." Thus this man had been preparing for his part in the answer to prayer for a mission house. He had supported us a few years when he was asked for the money. There was only one house available in Ongole. Dr. Jewett writes, "Now notice the presence of Divine Providence." Then he remarks that a pious man, Captain Lugard, had been sent there; that he had been led to call on us when in Nellore, and that, knowing how often English officers remove from place to place, he at the close of his visit asked him to let him know if at any time the house came into market, for he wanted "to plant a mission in Ongole." Captain Lugard bought the house and after a short term of service, wrote to Dr. Jewett that he had decided to join his regiment; if he would like it for Rs. 1500 (at that time \$750), let him know by return mail. After consulting Mr. Douglas, Dr. Jewett hired a portion of the price of a native merchant, and wrote to Mr. Wright. His reply was, "I have some of the Lord's money in my hands, and I send you not Rs. 1500, but 1900." On my speaking of the above at a meeting in Burlington, Vt., the question was asked with some enthusiasm whether it had been published. I thought not.

Obalu, when under conviction, had said, "I am sunk in the sea of sin; these are just the words I want," and he received them with all his heart. Later, he was baptized in Nellore. "As he sat with the brethren and sisters and partook of the bread and wine," said Dr. Jewett, "he could restrain himself no longer; he cried aloud for joy." When he found that the mission premises were purchased, he removed there into a little home, which he prepared for himself and family, and prayed for a missionary. He became and continued a faithful helper till his death a few years later.

The story of Pariah, who with his wife were the pioneer converts from the Madigas, is pretty well known, but not so well its beginning. In 1855 Dr. Jewett returned from his furlough in America, accompanied by Dr. and Mrs. Clough. In the March following, having heard of the interest of Pariah and a few others in the Christian religion through our friend Mrs. Shilling, of Ongole, the two missionaries proceeded there on tour. Our faithful preacher, Kamakiah, trained in the Nellore school, also went. On their sending a message to Pariah at his village, he came with eager haste. He stated that four years previously he went north to Ellore, where he heard the gospel from Mr. Alexander, of the Church Missionary Society, and to Palcole where he heard Mr. Bowden, and saw their native Christians. He said, "The Lord enlightened my mind and I began to pray for the conversion of my family. After eighteen months my wife was converted, and several others awakened." Both Pariah and his wife gave clear testimony, and with great simplicity, love and faith in God's