

Our Conference and Association.

This year our Conference met at Binlিপাতম. It was the largest we have ever held. Mr. McLaurin, Mr. Stillwell and myself, with our wives, and Miss Hatch and Mr. Auvache were present from our Mission. Mr. Sanford, Mr. Churchill, Mr. Hutchinson and Mr. Archibald, with their wives, and Miss Wright and Miss Gray represented the northern Mission. If Miss Frith and Mrs. Auvache had been there, we should have had an equal number with them, and our Conference would have had twenty members present. Next year some expect to be in Canada, but we hope that their places will be more than filled so far as numbers go. We of Ontario and Quebec have asked for another young lady, and every one knows that we must have two new families before the end of this year.

Well, to turn to the Conference. We reached Binlিপাতম on Sunday, the 9th of January, and were glad to meet once more some whom we had not met for a long time. On Monday the session of the Conference began. We discussed a great many important questions and also listened with pleasure to the reading of the reports. A fair number of baptisms had occurred during 1886, but the number of deaths and exclusions being large, the net gain was not great. Fortunately we always live in hope, and so we look forward year by year to the time when we shall see hundreds of people turning to Christ. Our expectations were not realized last year; so we are hoping and praying for great things this year. The workers at Binlিপাতম were much encouraged by the baptism of six converts. We rejoiced with them.

Miss Gray read an excellent paper, which is to appear in the LINK. We had up that old question of union between our two Societies or Boards. No doubt a feasible plan of union will be found some day, and we shall have one F. M. Society for the whole of Canada. If our country was populated like the United States, I should not be an advocate of union. But the baptisms of Canada are so few, that a union of them all is needed to make a strong society for foreign work. Various services were held while we were at Binlিপাতম, the Conference sermon being preached on Sunday evening, the 16th of January, by Mr. Stillwell, on the words, "Never man spake like this man."

Resolutions of sympathy were passed in regard to the death of Bro. Currie, and also that of Bro. Waterbury, of Madras. A message of greeting was sent to Miss Frith, at Bangalore.

We from the south reached home on Tuesday, the 18th, and our Telugu Association began the next day and lasted three days. There was a good attendance from all parts, of all our fields. Jagganakulu, of the Seminary, preached the opening sermon: Peter, of Guannapuli, was appointed moderator, and Didi Samuel was appointed clerk. Twelve churches were represented; of these, seven are on the Akidu field, four on the Cocanada field, and one at Tuni. The reading of the church letters occupied considerable time, but some important questions were discussed before we closed. I had the privilege of reading the circular letter, which was on the Holy Scriptures. Following this, we started a Bible union for the reading of the Scriptures in course, a part from the Old and New Testaments being appointed for every day. We hope much from this new effort to encourage the systematic reading of God's word.

Another important step was taken, in the appointment of a committee to draw up a constitution for a proposed Home Mission Society. We would like to see such a society incorporated, so that it might hold the property in the villages, such as chapels and school-houses and the land on which they are built. It was decided to hold the next meeting of the Association at Tuni. The delegates were unanimous in expressing this wish, so a year hence we hope to show the Tuni people a larger gathering of Christians than they have ever seen so far.

Mrs. Craig and I are out on the Cocanada field at present. We had a good meeting with the Murumanda church last Sunday, and hope to meet with the Nalluru church next

Sunday. Six persons have been baptized, and others will follow. In September, I wrote about the baptism of a woman at Murumanda. Her husband was baptized recently, so she is beaten no more.

India, 10th Feb., 1887.

JOHN CRAIG.

THE WORK AT HOME.

Call to Prayer.

It is requested that every Mission Circle, at the April meeting, spend a portion of the time in earnest prayer.

1st. That the very woman whom the Lord would have go to India this summer may be impressed to send her name to the Board if she has not already done so.

2nd. That the Board may be guided to choose the one whom the Lord has chosen.

3rd. That God will restore Miss Frith to her useful work if it can be consistent with His purposes.

4th. That He will give to all Missionaries, both Home and Foreign, a double portion of His Holy Spirit.

5th. That Christians at home may have a baptism of zeal that shall make them ready, earnest, generous and strong, for every good work.

M. A. CASTLE.

Union Missionary Meetings in Toronto.

The Spring Meeting of the Missionary Union was held in Bloor St. Church, on the 10th of March. We believe the attendance was the largest, and that it was the most successful meeting of the kind which we have had. The afternoon meeting for ladies began at 2 o'clock, Mrs. Newman presiding. Mrs. Timpany gave an excellent talk about our women's work in Cocanada, giving facts and information regarding both the boarding school and Zenana work. After the address, an opportunity was given to ask questions of Mrs. Timpany. This was taken advantage of and several interesting facts were brought out. Mrs. Castle gave a stirring and eloquent address on Home Missions. The last hour of this meeting was spent in a discussion on the subject, "How shall we get every man, woman and child in our Christian land thoroughly interested in Missions?" The discussion was opened by Mrs. Newman with a few facts showing the great necessity for a mission revival all over our country, the inadequacy of our present methods, the necessity of the whole host of the army of the Lord enlisting in this great work of missions. How can we women help to bring about this missionary revival? A number of ladies from different churches spoke on the subject, giving their experience or that of their church.

There are many ways in which we can help, but the three brought forward in this meeting, were, that we can, first, as mothers interest our children by talking to them about missions, earnestly consecrating them to the Lord's work even while they are mere infants, and bringing them up with this idea that they are to be faithful soldiers of Christ, ready to do His work. Secondly, we can help to interest the children in Sunday Schools. A Committee from each Church is to try to bring about a mission day once a month. They are to assist the Superintendent in getting up a programme, the plan being that some of the ladies help to get up the programme, the children and some of the teachers taking part. The whole hour is to be given to missions. Programme something like our Mission Bands have for public meetings. We believe the mission Sunday in the school cannot be made thoroughly successful without giving the children a large part in the exercises, thus inciting them to read and study outside of