

## From a Telugu Brother in Christ.

*Translation of a letter from Josiah the native preacher, to Mr. McLaurin.*

MY DEAR SIR,—I wrote you a letter a long time ago, hoping for an answer, but it has not appeared. Have you forgotten me? Have you turned from the love you had for me before? You and *Umma* (for this word there is no equivalent in English; it is used for mother, and as a respectful title for any woman) are ever in my thoughts, and we look forward with joy, hoping to see you both again. From your letters to Mr. Timpany, I now and then hear of your welfare; and having learned of the increase in your strength, we are glad. Mr. T. writes you in regard to mission affairs, does he not? Mr. Craig and I visited the Colair regions twice. You have been informed of the number who received baptism during these tours, and also of all who have been received in Cocanada since you left the country. Besides these, a few have been baptized in Samulcotta; a small church has been started there, and there is now being a school-house built in that place. You and I have been to Y—, have we not? The desire towards God which the people of that village showed at the time of our visit has not abated. Mr. Timpany has been to see them, and they still wish for a school as they did before. I think they will be gradually brought to receive Christ. You remember the village D—, two miles from Cocanada, on the sea shore. The people there, who live by fishing, are very anxious to hear the word. Some among them say they already believe and are eagerly coming to our meetings here. They visited the Christians in their homes, and were pleased with their domestic condition. They show an earnest mind, but Satan being near is tempting some by putting caste difficulties in their way. According as you once wrote in a paper, this caste is a mighty hindrance to those who would receive salvation. Hitherto its strength has very much lessened, but it has not by any means fully gone yet. Judging by the words of many, they seem to have given their hearts to the Lord, but I think they serve Him only like Nicodemus. The Lord's sheep will not cease to listen to His voice, nor cease to follow Him. Let us pray for them. There is a high caste man here who for a long time has been hearing the word of God; he is a man of learning and position, but worldly affairs hinder him. There are others here in the same condition. Some *Pesdanties* (a religious sect), educated men, being friendly with me, listen with interest to the truth; they have even come to our meetings frequently during the last two or three months. Having had some of their doubts concerning the true God and the Saviour removed, and having understood the way of salvation more perfectly, they are well pleased; thus far they go in their reasonings. That the Lord will graciously send His Holy Spirit to bring them out of the darkness into the light, I believe and pray.

Have you by this time seen all your relations? Being fully satisfied, have you rejoiced? Have you told them all about my country and about me and my work? Before you left you asked me to write my history; on account of pressure of work I was unable to do so; however, you have shown your love for me in the MISSIONARY LINK. In that paper appears my whole history correctly; and by it having ascertained your remembrance of me, I was very glad. I am waiting to see when God will shew me your face, and cause me to hear your voice in this city again. Has your strength by this time fully returned? Are *Umma* and the children well? After

how long a time will you come? Shall I live to see you stand and preach in this new chapel? If the Lord wills, He can cause us to meet and rejoice together. Nothing is too hard for Him. \* \* \* New English missionaries coming out to India, what can they accomplish? In order to do much for my people they must have seven or eight years, and then it is impossible for them to understand fully the people and customs of this country. Such as you, having been here for a few years, and knowing us and our affairs as you do, can rule well. It is better for us to have our old missionary who has learned to know us and love us, than many new ones; and were such an one to remain away it would be a great grief to us, therefore, father, come back. We are waiting to praise the Lord as soon as we learn by the arrival of a letter that you are to start on a certain day. It is as if the harvest time were near. The Gospel word is working in many hearts, come and reap the grain. "He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him."

You have heard that my son Jonathan was married last March to Amelia? Their work is to teach the school. My daughter from Cattaek is here, and learning with the others. Charlie is well. My family all send salaams to you both. \* \* \* Although there is more to write you will be busy, I fear, so I will close. When I receive an answer to this I will write you again.

Your affectionate son,

JOSIAH.

COCANADA, Oct. 30th, 1880.

## OUR INDIAN STATIONS.

### Cocanada.

#### THE GIRLS' SCHOOL, ETC.

Mrs. Timpany writes, Dec. 29th:—Our Girls' School is doing very well indeed. We have now twenty boarders and will not, I think, be able to take many more unless our appropriation is increased. We have used every cent of the money this year, but part of it was spent in making some little improvements on and about the girls' quarters and not all spent in their actual support, so we still have something to increase our numbers upon next year as we hope to do. I am still without a matron, and with no prospect of getting one, though I really think there should be a woman to live with the girls. Amelia still teaches and will continue to do so, but she has done nothing for them out of school since her marriage; now she has a baby boy four weeks old. Some of the girls are large and help me a good deal, so we get on pretty well, but when I go away they will be left entirely alone which is not a good plan. Two of the older ones will, we expect, leave when school closes next June. Mary, our very best girl, is to be married; she, I think, is the only one left of Mrs. McLaurin's old girls; though there are two or three others who were in the school before we came. Another, we think had better remain at home after this year. A good number of them are now members of the church. Eight have been converted within a year, and three or four more are now seeking. Pray for them, that they all may be faithful followers of Jesus; and for me, that I may have wisdom to train them aright. We have much to encourage us, as well as many things that are not so encouraging.