

many a day. The evening was well along when Mrs. Timpany came into my study before retiring to rest, and asked me what I meant by beginning to write at that time of night. I said, "A letter for the LINK, and as the spirit had come over me to write, I had better do it, though tired, very tired with the work of the day." I dare say some of you would like to take Lukshmi to support; I presume she will be baptized before this letter reaches you.

A. V. TIMPANY.

January 30th, 1881.

## Bimlipatam.

### THE CONFERENCE.

Under date of January 26th, Mr. Sanford writes to Mrs. Armstrong:—

"We met at 10 a. m., Wednesday, January 12th. All present except Mrs. Craig whom they left at Cocanada. Those who came by steamer arrived a day in advance of the others. Our friends from Tunni, Bobbili and Chicacole arrived early on Wednesday morning. Bro. Currie was chosen Pres; Churchill, Vice-President; and Sanford, Secretary.

"The Reports showed 214 baptisms during the year. Akidu 150—Cocanada 50—Tunni 3—Bimili 1—Chicacole 10.

"During the meetings we discussed many questions of interest. The conference closed on Saturday.

"On Sunday morning we examined Bhagavanbarah in reference to his fitness for ordination. The examination was satisfactory. Brethren Timpany and Craig were obliged to leave by steamer at ten o'clock, so that we had not the pleasure of their presence in the afternoon. At four o'clock we met, and after a short sermon by Bro. Currie, we ordained Bhagavanbarah in laying on of hands and prayer. After which we addressed him by way of a charge. He then offered prayer.

"The whole day was taken up with exercises connected with the ordination. A good impression seemed to have been made on all present."

In a letter to the *Messenger*, Mrs. Armstrong describes this man as follows:—"Bhagavanbarah is one of the native preachers on the Chicacole field, and his ordination is a matter of much interest to us all. I believe he was well fitted for it. I have not met in any country with one who gave better evidence of constant communion with the Master. He was one of whom a casual acquaintance could but 'take knowledge' that 'he had been with Jesus,' and bore about with him everywhere a quiet dignity that sprang apparently from a consciousness of the presence of Christ with him always. He often recalled to my mind those words of Keble's:—

"Hush! hush! words, and thoughts of ill,  
Your Lord is listening; peace, be still!"

## Chicacole.

MY DEAR READERS OF THE LINK,—Some six weeks ago, one of the school teachers told me he had smallpox in his house; I gave him leave for a time, but not soon enough to prevent contagion.

While I was in Bimili, one or two of my young people were ill; but so slightly, that I thought it could not be smallpox. Shortly after we re-opened school, another boy was taken ill. I asked the doctor to come and see him; he said it was a mild form of that disease. Within

the last week we have had three other cases. They are not very ill, but it seemed best that school, meetings, etc., should be stopped for a few days. Although it is mild, it is our duty to be careful. I do not go to the infected part of the compound, and Hemamah, the woman who usually stays in the house with me, has not been in since Friday. She had it long ago, and is now caring for the sick. For some days the silence in my big house has been almost oppressive; but I hope that ere long all will have regained their usual activity and health.

Personally, the greater part of the two years that I have been in India, the Giver of all good has given me an abundant measure of that invaluable blessing, health. I try to be thankful for it, and hope and trust that He will continue it to me yet a season.

All these things are in the Father's hands; "He knoweth": and my friends, those hands are so strong, and that knowledge so infinite and yet so tender;—are you not glad that "the Lord God omnipotent reigneth?"

We have entered upon another new year,—opened another volume of life's series. Will its three hundred and sixty-five pages be written, so that at last we can take up the review in peace?

We had a pleasant and very busy Conference at Bimili this year; many questions that were both interesting and beneficial to me, were discussed. After being for months forty or fifty miles from the other mission stations, it is no small privilege to meet the representatives of these stations, and hear the various opinions on the plans and methods of work. That at least is my experience, and it was never appreciated so highly as this year.—At the close of our Conference, the head preacher of this station, Bagavan Bayrah, was ordained. He is out on the field now, and I hope that God will make him very useful in preaching Christ, and Him crucified, to his own countrymen. That is the work which warms the Christian's heart, for in some way or other, should not every Christian preach Christ? And it is by that work that the heathen are brought to a saving knowledge of the truth. How earnestly I wish that Chicacole were better supplied with missionaries. Our native assistants perhaps do as well as they can, but oh! how sadly they need teaching! I hope that the future holds better days than the present, days in which the Lord God will visit us with an outpouring of His Holy Spirit, when the Sun of Righteousness shall break forth as the morning, and many who now sit in darkness, shall rejoice in the beams thereof. Oh my friends, to this end let me entreat you to pray, not once, but many times. The heathen believe that their gods of wood and stone hear and answer prayer. We know that ours is the living God, and what ought our faith to be?

I have written very hastily, and now it is dark; so I will say good night to my far-away Canadian friends.

CARRIE HAMMOND.

February 14th.

P.S.—For the satisfaction of some who may be interested, I will add, that *that box* has not yet arrived. May it soon do so.—C. H.

## Bobbili.

### MISSION LIFE AND WORK.

When the coolie women were paid off one Saturday evening, I said, "Come to-morrow morning and I will teach you about the true God." They, always ready to