

Chicacole.

DEAR LINK,—My last letter was written from Chicacole, in the early part of November. At present I am in Cocanada, and shall invite you to go back with me to that period and review some of the principal events of the last three months.

At that time I was anticipating a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Churchill, and Mr. Sanford. They arrived as Indian travellers frequently do, in the early morning, and I enjoyed their society much as people will who have been without English companionship for a good length of time.

The gentlemen were to attend to some legal formalities at the station, and make the tour on the field, which was planned some months before. The ladies, lest so many white faces might frighten the natives, were to remain quietly at home, take good care of each other, and do all the work they could.

The gentlemen went first to Aukalatumpara, a village about thirty miles to the north-west of Chicacole, where a number of our Christians live, and where, some time before, three men had asked for baptism. Their friends had made a great amount of trouble, but when the missionaries arrived, concluded it was useless to contend the point further. The three men were examined, and on Sabbath day baptized in the presence of a large crowd. After some time the wives of two returned to them, and we hope that eventually they will be led to accept Jesus as their Saviour. Since then a school, with one of our boarding boys as teacher, has been established in that village. He is a Christian, and with some Christians to support it, we trust this school will be a source of spiritual light to the villagers. From there the missionaries went to Kaimidi, then to Tickaly, where we have a school whose teacher has borne much persecution for the Gospel's sake. Neither during the past year, nor at that time could anything be done, that would especially relieve him. The natives have been very bitter, and have left no effort untried to drive him from the place. We had an end in view for him, which time was required to bring about, so he could only be encouraged to hope and struggle on. From his letters, I have been led to believe that God would soon glorify Himself there, and the visit of the gentlemen strengthened that opinion.

They spent the next Sunday at the Station, and two of my boarding girls, who had asked baptism some months before, were baptized and received into the Church.

The following day the missionaries left for their homes and I began to count the days till the coming of our new friends Mr. and Mrs. Hutchinson. I counted on till my patience was exhausted, yet clung to the thought, that they must come before Christmas. I presume the steamer did its utmost to please me, but it only landed them in Birnli, on the evening of the 24th December, which was Saturday, and two night's journey from Chicacole. Of course they could not leave till Monday, and on the morning of the 28th I stood in the door and watched Mr. Hutchinson walk across the green and up the verandah steps, as naturally as if he had done it a hundred times before. Mrs. H. was in the bandy close at hand. My friends, I hope none of you will ask if I was glad to see them. You know quite well you should not. I took them, baby and all, into my heart, home and work, very thankful to God for bringing them. Their faces are bright and fresh, their hearts warm and earnest, and I hope that no more than their share of missionary work will come to them.

I was to leave for Conference on the 10th January, and the time was so fully occupied with work, which the close of the year brought, and explanations of the many things that the new friends must take hold of at once, that there was scarcely leisure for more than a glance at gifts from friends at home, and to put them away to await my return. Some of them could be discussed with knives and forks, so we saved time, and gained strength by attending to them at the table. Their excellence also afforded subjects for conversation. I hoped to return to Chicacole by this time, and we decided that we would all visit the above-mentioned villages, where the work was increasingly interesting.

Mr. and Mrs. Churchill, Mr. Sanford and myself had a pleasant sail to this port by steamer, thence with the other missionaries we went seventy miles by canal, on the mission boat *Canadian*, to Akidu. As I read, not long since, we were "cheerfully crowded," but that was preferable to nearly losing ones self all alone in a big house. It is a very pleasant mode of travelling, and one which we do not have up North.

Mr. Craig welcomed us to Akidu, and perhaps another looked down from her home in Heaven, to the place, where one year ago, she hoped to meet us all. The sad sense of a dear and lost presence was a guest among us.

Our Conference covered the greater part of four days. The longer I live among the Hindus, the more I feel my need of these meetings, and greater is the benefit which I derive from them. After Conference our Upper Province friends had the pleasure of organizing a Telugu Association. This brought together many native Christians, more than I ever saw before, and the way they looked, talked and acted, gave a new impetus to my rather wearied energies. It was a good evidence of what the Gospel is able to do for the sons and daughters of India; and though at present we have not many Christians up North, we believe the Lord is drawing near to us in blessing.

Instead of returning to Chicacole about this time, as I anticipated, I am resting. Two very pleasant weeks were passed in Tuni, with Mr. and Mrs. Currie; then I came to the kindly care of Mr. and Mrs. Tumpany, which some of you will remember I enjoyed once before. That care is as pleasant to me now as in former days, and I am glad to have friends in India. I shall be here some days longer, if all is well, and then go up and renew my acquaintance with the dear Birnli friends, before Mrs. Sanford leaves for home.

Mr. Hutchinson is making the proposed tour alone, and my last news from the field was, that three people had been baptized at Aukalatumpara, and two at Tickaly. We hope this is only a little of what this year has in store for us. It is a pleasure to rest, a joy to work; each has its place in this life, and just now my duty lies with the former.

CARRIE A. HAMMOND.

February 22nd, 1882.

WE learn that the Baptists of Glasgow have increased their contributions to foreign missions more than threefold during the last three years. This gratifying state of matters has not been reached by merely spasmodic effort, but it illustrates what may be done by churches, when they employ efficient organization in collecting funds. Surely such a noble result is worth working for in these provinces; and we sincerely trust that some of our churches may be encouraged by it "to go and do likewise."—*Baptist*.