

The school children were all on the compound, and had been for some time waiting in the tent which had been pitched a few days previous in honor of Rowlie's birthday.

There were forty-four present from my girl's school. These sat on the mat on one side of the room, near the front, their teachers sitting near them on chairs. The children from my Rellie school, boys and girls, thirty in number sat on the opposite side and their teachers near them. In the centre and on the sides sat the missionaries, their children and two Eurasian boys, sons of the apothecary. Further along, on either side of the tree sat the native Christians, and behind the tree, Mr. Sanford's and our servants.

We sang some hymns and asked the children questions in regard to the joyous event commemorated by the day we were now celebrating. Mr. Sanford then addressed the children, and Mr. Churchill offered prayer. Then came the time of expectancy, and eager hands were stretched out to receive the articles as they were taken down from the tree and the names attached read out by the missionaries. All received fruits and a bag of sweetmeats, and most all, clothes of some kind. The missionaries and their children received from the tree many cards and some books from home, that had come by mail in time to be placed upon it. All were happy and at sundown were dismissed.

The Rellie children were invited to a feast of rice and curry and *juappoo*; the caste children would not eat with us, so were not invited to remain. Missionaries and their children, Christians and their children, boarders, servants and the Rellie school children, all sat down at the same time, and ate of the same food on the veranda of the bungalow. I suppose it had been a long time since these poor children had had as much rice and curry as they could eat. Many of them, perhaps, never before, for they are miserably poor, and live chiefly on cheap grains, the food we give to our cows. This sufficed for our Christmas dinner that day, though we had had one the evening previous, to which we had invited the apothecary, his wife and children, and an Austrian short time in Bobbili, as they were strangers in a strange land. After the Rellie children were dismissed, we came back into the mission house and had a good sing till it was time for worship and retiring.

Our friends left us the next week, and we left the station Jan. 4th for a tour of a week among the villages near the road on the way to Bimili. I had my two Bible women, Siamma and Neila, along and we had some good times in the villages in the afternoons. The women went out together in the mornings and I waited till the afternoons to accompany them.

The native Association met in Bimili on the 12th, and was very much enjoyed by me, as it was the first I had attended since the Association was formed at Bobbili in 1883. No one can have any doubt that these Associations are a great good to the native Christians who attend them. Their ideas are sharpened up, their minds expanded, and they learn to do business in a business-like way. There was one thing that gave us great joy. One preacher from Jeypur, Satya Vadi Put Naik, had brought his shaves along with him to the Association, as we were absent from Bobbili when he came down from the mountains. A special conference of the Bobbili church members was called one evening, and the two men had brought told their experience in Oorya, Bhaza Von Bhara translating it into Telugu for us. They seemed well grounded, and stood an examination of more than an hour, which was very satisfactory, and so with joy were received by the church for baptism. This took

place on Sunday morning in the sea, Bhaza Von Bhara performing the ordinance, as he could speak in their language. Mr. Churchill afterwards gave them the right hand of fellowship, welcoming them into the Bobbili church, his words being translated to them by B. V. B.

On Monday we took the steamer for Cocanada, to attend our Missionary Conference. We were accompanied by Rev. Dr. Morrow and Dr. Mitchell, of Burmah, and enjoyed the short time we had with them very much indeed. Arriving in Cocanada on the morning of the 17th, the first thing on the programme was the marriage of Miss Alexander to Rev. D. H. Drake. One of the missionaries proposed to me, that as I had written up a Telugu wedding for the LINK, I should write up this one. I replied that I feared this one would be too much like weddings at home to need much writing up. However, I may add that the marriage ceremony, performed by Rev. J. Craig, assisted by Rev. J. R. Stillwell, was very well done. The bride looked very nicely and was given away by Rev. J. E. Davis. Rev. H. F. Lafamme and Miss Hatch stood with them, and the rest of the missionaries stood around them, somewhat, during the ceremony. After the congratulations, twenty-three missionaries, including Miss Folsom, sat down to the wedding breakfast. The table was beautifully decorated with leaves and flowers. The central object was the wedding-cake, placed in front of the bride and groom, trimmed with flowers and having the "Union Jack" and the "Stars and Stripes" waving over it in the shape of two very small fans. The breakfast was exceedingly good and the after-breakfast speeches very entertaining.

The Morrrows and Dr. Mitchell left in the afternoon for Madras, per steamer. The happy couple left us in the evening, also for Madras, but making their wedding tour, a good part of the way, in one of the Canadian mission boats.

The Conference all through was interesting and very enjoyable. It was exceedingly pleasant and encouraging to have so many new missionaries with us. We gave them a hearty welcome, and hope much from their consecrated lives among the Telugus. In meeting at Cocanada, we missed more than ever the old faces and voices in our Conference. Only one belonging to the Ontario mission, who had ever met with us before at Cocanada was present, *Bro. Craig*.

The graves of our fallen heroes and beloved missionaries, Revs. Timpany and Currie, were visited one evening as the sun was setting, and we took to our heart the text of our Conference sermon. "The morning cometh and also the night." Our Father only knows when that "night when no man can work," may come to others of us. May we each work earnestly and faithfully while the day of life lasts.

We returned to our home and work in Bobbili on Feb. 1st, at one o'clock, a. m., having had all the change and rest we expect to have this year.

Now we want the Lord to work in us, and *through us*, and by us, and thus bring numbers from our Bobbili field into His Kingdom this year if this is His plan. Who will join us in asking the fulfilment of this desire?

M. F. CHURCHILL.

Bobbili, Feb. 24th, 1888.

MORE than 100 Societies are to be represented at the London Conference in June, and their character may be estimated from the fact that the annual receipts of these Societies are more than \$2,000,000, while those of all Protestant Missionary Societies yield less than 2½ millions.—*Ex.*