

service was conducted in Telugu by P. David while the native Christians gathered round. He spoke from the last verses of 1 Cor. 15th. He spoke of the fulness of joy into which she had entered, of the sorrows that would come to the home friends; of the work that needed her, yet those who remained must be the more steadfast, "abounding in the work of the Lord." Then the native Christians bore the precious remains tenderly to the grave, where Mr. Gullison conducted the service in English. He sang the hymn in which she had last joined, and read passages of Scripture. He then prayed, committing the body to the grave until the coming of our Lord, and asked that that coming might be hastened. "The Telugus sang sweetly and softly a hymn about the beautiful land into which Miss Gray had just entered. Each stanza closed with: "Will you come, will you come with me?" It seemed to be her voice speaking to the heathen—who awoke into deep silence, had crowded round the open grave—speaking to them from the glory into which she had entered that they come with her.

She had longed to do much for the women of Kimeri, but God had a higher service.

As Miss Gray and Miss Harrison had tenderly waited on Mrs. Hardy, so Miss Harrison, Miss Newcombe, and Mr. Gullison did for Miss Gray all that loving hearts and hands could do.

The above is condensed from letters received by Mr. Gray, which he kindly sent me to read, and asked me to make any extracts I chose.

Resolutions of sympathy were sent to Mr. and Mrs. Gray from the meetings of the W. B. M. U. held during our Associations, and our brother asks me to extend his thanks to the friends for their loving helpfulness in this hour of sore need.

WHERE WE ARE IN MISSIONS.

The past century has been one of great missionary progress. Through the efforts of our pioneer missionaries, a clearing has been made in the forest of heathenism, and Christianity is becoming a new and powerful force in almost all countries. But, just as in the case of Nehemiah, when we have undertaken a "great and large work," serious difficulties confront us. In India, the dreaded scourge of the famine has returned. Starving multitudes made insensible to spiritual needs, must be supplied with the bread of this life. Among our staff of missionaries, many have been stricken down with disease. Such a number have been compelled to return to the home-land that it has been difficult to distribute the remaining

workers among all the fields in order to carry on the work. Further, there are, among the returned missionaries, those who, having acquired the language and become competent to teach and preach, find they do not possess the physical constitution to endure the climate of India. There is another problem continually confronting us—that of finances. There are so many worthy objects before us. Think alone of the Forward Movement? Such constant calls come to the people to aid in various good enterprises that our Foreign Mission Secretaries are in despair over obtaining response to their large appeals for means to carry on the foreign work.

Now the purpose of this paper is to bring a counteracting influence to bear upon these discouragements. We will not deal with results and past missionary achievement, but seek to bring in the light of hope for a great future by turning our thoughts away from a few discouraging points to many encouraging ones, and from our own resources to the resources of the Christian world. Let us observe the preparedness of attitude on the part of the Christian world to the heathen to-day. Gathering facts from various sources I have massed them under five heads, that they may come to us the more plainly as words of cheer amid the present discouragements.

First, "The Opening Doors." There is abroad a spirit of awakening, doubting, questioning; an influence that is destructive, previous to becoming constructive in national ideals. Wherever Christianity is getting a grip on Eastern nations it is accompanied by national expansion, and thus it is gaining ground in public opinion. Public sentiment, so strong in Oriental countries in its feeling of reverence for the past, has been a great barrier to the progress of Christianity. It once seemed as if nothing could move China from her self-conceit and self-exaltation. Some years ago a placard was attached to the gates of the Examination Hall at Singan with these words upon it: "These few and insignificant nations, that be on the outskirts of this illustrious land are thorny, wild, and all barbarian. Before the European countries existed, China was sage-educated. The teaching of Confucius at last reached unto their barbarity, and, reaching them, reformed them. Yet an Englishman ventures to come and instruct us! Why, we are his teachers!" The Hindus and Chinese may be called the most conceited races on the face of the earth, and yet the whole public opinion of these nations is now slowly changing in its estimate of the outside world. Through the touch of western civilization reforms are being suggested, and appeals in behalf of them are being made even by Hindus themselves.

Intimately related with the foregoing is the opening up of many of the eastern lands before the touch of western civilization and enterprise. China must soon feel the touch of the intercourse that will follow