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W. B. M. U. TIDINGS

Vol 2 Amherst, N.S., March. 1895. No. 16.

MOTTO FOR THE YEAR

“Be ye strong therefore, and let not your hands be weak for your work shall be rewarded.”

PRAYER TOPIC:

Thanksgiving to God for His watchful care over our missionaries, permitting them to reach their work in safety, and that wisdom may be given all those at home who direct the work; that it may be done in the way that will bring most glory to His name.

LETTER FOR “TIDINGS.”

How I wish I could drop down in your midst and have a chat with you instead of having to write this letter! I would not need to say “what shall I write”, but you could ask me questions and it would be so easy to talk with you.

This is a delightfully cool and pleasant morning! I hear the waves beating against the rocks on the

shore of the Bay of Bengal. All the doors and the windows of the bungalow are swung wide open and if you should peep out of doors and see the pretty roses on the doorsteps you might think this was the month of June. Possibly you in the home land are in the midst of a terrific snow storm. When I first came to Bimlipatam I remember how every morning I used to exclaim what a fine sunshiny day. After a few months one ceases to appreciate the sunshine so much, but the cool days of December and January are hailed with delight. The trees and flowers look so fresh and beautiful. Some one has said "Flowers are God's smiles". If so we see God's smiles all around us. If only the poor Telugus could see the presence of God in nature their own nature would certainly be changed.

The most of the people here use all their spare money in buying jewelry. They wear it in jewels instead of putting it in the Bank. Indeed many there are who go hungry for the sake of a nose jewel or an earring. It is not an unusual thing to see a woman with her nose and ears full of rings, bracelets on her arms, above the elbow and at the wrist, and anklets on her feet a gold or silver belt around her waist and perhaps a necklace or two around her neck if she be of a wealthy family and can afford them.

We have heard of many people being murdered for their jewels but as the murder happened some distance away the truth of the matter did not impress itself so deeply upon us.

We have been horrified to hear that on New

Years night a little Brahmin boy, ten years old, whose home is not far distant from the Mission House was taken to the house of a cruel man in this town and there murdered for his jewels, the worth of which was about ten dollars. The mother is a widow, her husband having died about three months ago. She thought her little boy was with some school friends and when night came and he did not return, she notified the police, who searched all night for him in vain. In the morning, she went to the bath room and there where he had been hid by the murderer, she saw the lifeless form of her dear boy.

. Last week we returned from Cocanada, where we spent a most pleasant and profitable week in conference with the missionaries of the Quebec and Ontario Board.

We went from Vizianagram direct by train and found it much more comfortable than going by steamer as before. Christmas night or rather the morning after Christmas (as the train was more than two hours late and did not reach Cocanada until after 12 o'clock) those of the missionaries who could manage to keep awake had the pleasure of welcoming Mrs Churchill back again. It is much more encouraging to see old missionaries returning and new ones coming than to see old ones leaving the field.

Mr. and Mrs. Corey and Miss Clarke spent ten days with us on their arrival. The former are now settled in the Mission House at Vizianagram.

Next week we leave for Parlakimedi to attend our Telugu Association and Conference. To some of us it will be our first visit to this important mission station. Since the trains are running, the distance does not seem so far, as we can go from Vizianagram to within twenty three miles of Kimedi by rail.

We have just entered upon another new year. On New Year's morning a friend wished for me a bright and happy New Year. The thought impressed itself upon me so strongly that the happiness and brightness of the year would depend upon the success we have in our work. We do hope and pray that this may be the brightest, happiest, best year in our work both at home and in this foreign mission field.

LILLIE P. MORSE.

January 1895.