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W. B. M. U. TIDINGS.

Vol. I:

Amherst., N. S. January 1894.

No. 1

MOTTO FOR THE YEAR.

"Lord what wilt Thou have me to do?"

PRAYER TOPIC.

That a special blessing may rest upon the services during the need of prayer and that a rich out pouring of God's spirit may be experienced by our missionaries at their Conference.

Glad tidings from Chicacole. Mr. Archibald writes, this is a note just to ask you to rejoice with us. Some two months ago two young Brahmins came one day for tracts, which they received also a little text book that had come out in the box, accompanied by some kind invitations to seek salvation. After a short time one came again, Mr. Archibald talked with him and sold him some books, bye and bye he bought a Bible, saying, that when he had read it all through he would decide, Mr. A. pointed to some passages and urged him to accept Christ now. Several days later he came one evening and said he was converted, his glowing face, joyous expression and earnest prayer removed all doubt from our hearts. The external signs of an inward change are so much more tangible in an out and out heathen than in one who has been brought up in the boarding department. Had you heard this young man pray and praise God for the atoning blood of Christ and thank Him for the pardon its application had brought to his soul, you would

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not doubt that a change had been wrought. He said he was seventeen years old, so we told him he could not be baptized, but suggested that he look at his horoscope, as he appeared older to us, then we saw nothing more of him for some time and feared he had fallen among enemies. When he came again he would scarcely talk at all, but on the 30th. of October he was here before daylight asking baptism and showed a copy of the date of his horoscope, proving that he was nearly nineteen. It was determined that he should be received the next morning, if he did not fail to appear. The Police Superintendent was in town and he was asked to protect our compound from the mob, which soon gathered and asked admittance at the locked gates. The police which probably would have been comparatively useless without a white man at their head kept the crowd from scaling the walls. His father and some of the leading men of the town were admitted, they urged, argued and pleaded in our presence; then they asked to have him out of the house but he refused to go; then to have him in a room alone and we gave them ten minutes only as we were determined that he should not be overcome at last by physical weariness. After this we offered him rice in their presence and when he ate it, the high Caste men seemed to be robbed of their strength and soon left. His Grandmother came and wailed. His mother is dead, his uncle pleaded again and again, the tears came to his eyes, but God gave him wonderful calmness and determination. Finally they insisted on his being examined by the medical officer to see if he was sound in mind and that he had not drugged him, they wanted him to go to the hospital instead of the apothecary coming here. He

told the Superintendent that if he would not allow the crowd to drag him away, he would go; so he went under escort, was examined, pronounced sound and returned safely.

At eleven we had a little service of praise and thanksgiving, the whole environment of which must be experienced to be appreciated.

In the afternoon his father came bringing him a cloth and as he left he said, "Baboo," a pet name as he uses it. "If you are ever hungry come and I will help you." Does that not touch you who are parents? Some ten days ago when we enquired as to his hope he said "Jesus is the good shepherd, He has found me and I am his good sheep." After all was over he said "Jesus loves to have sinners with him, saved," and again "I was a lost sheep."

I send his sacred thread, it is the external sign of second birth, supposed to belong only to Brahmins, this is put on at various ages with several days of ceremonies and feasting. He has studied up to matriculation, reads and writes English well. There is no small stir in the town and many come to converse, while others, not a few are reading the Bible. One man came bringing his Testament which he said he had been reading for five years and we did not doubt it, as it was well pencilled and he knew where to turn for what he wanted.

Another young man of the Goldsmith Caste was baptized with him, but he has been in the boarding school as he has a brother who is a christian. A member on this field appears to be believing, but they must come out to be a power and how much we need a baptism of the Holy Spirit to have power with men. Will you not pray, pray unceasingly that

the Lord's own may be gathered in.

May the Lord help our people to see their duty and do it, with reference to this important question of our Mission work among the Telugus.

Mr. Higgins writes with reference to the self-denying giving of the Telugus christians, what should put many of us to shame and make us very earnestly to ask the question in the motto for the year. He says, "rising at daybreak David (the pastor) and I, were off on a little mission among the christians. We told them at each house about the week of self-denial among the Salvationists, and asked them how they would like to adopt the plan and raise money enough for two small tents, so that the people in the surrounding villages could have the gospel preached to them. They all were pleased with the plan, many of them were already giving one tenth of their income, but this is of course extra. We asked the woman of the house how much rice she generally cooked every night for the family. When she told us we asked how much she thought they could cut down. All the members of the family were consulted, boys and girls joined in the good work. They said they thought they could eat a full meal at noon, but at night could go to bed hungry for Jesus sake, cutting down their fund about one quarter, they decided to lay aside one quarter each night for a week and give the value as an extra. In addition to this one of the christians, a Bible woman, promised to give 3 R. in cash, It was obtained by selling a necklace which she took off for Jesus sake. The pastor David, and his wife Lizzie agreed to give up coffee as well as cut down the rice. Mr. H. and I, joined with the christians in this plan of self-denial and gave up sugar in every shape for a week.

Suppose this self-denial plan were adopted in these Provinces, might not that ugly debt be wiped out?