

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger

THE KARENS.

The following extracts are from a work entitled "Sketches of Mission Work among the Karens" by Mrs. Mason of Burmah.

She gives the following account of the first convert at Dong Yahn, on the Salween River, twenty-five miles north of Maulmain.

"One day Gaupung was in a shanty by the Salween River when she saw a 'Flying Ship' come up the river.

"Ma, th'kyen—well, my lord"—she replied with native grace. The stranger had only time to ask after her business, and say 'Go in peace,' when he returned to the Flying Ship.

"No," said Gaupung "no, ever since I was a child I have served Satan and Shen Gaudama, yet they have never stopped my husband from beating me once.

True to her purpose, she began that very night to pray to the unknown God of the white foreigner, and this was her prayer:—

'Great Aling! Mighty Judge. Father God, Lord God, Uncle or Honorable God, the Righteous One!

This prayer, she told me, she prayed for several years, never once again making offerings to idols or demons.

All this was the result of a little human sympathy toward woman.

Farther on Mrs. Mason says—"Guapung and I were talking to the women from six o'clock in the morning till ten in the evening, in the bungalow, for they thronged us continually, so that, although I remained with them four months at a time, I never could command time to touch a needle, or take up an English book;

"My husband loves me now." "My boys bring me fire-wood now." "My little girl do'n't run away now."

One day a woman in great distress came some five miles to Guapung for a charm to cure her husband from running away.

'Now go,' says Guapung, 'and ask your husband home, and then don't scold him again, and see if he don't love you.'

About three weeks after, a man came over from that woman's village to see 'Guapung, the big teacheress, who had the charm;'

'Ah,' said Guapung to me that night, 'if Jesus Christ's women only make home happy, the men won't oppose them.'

'Was she not right? Yet how sadly has this truth been forgotten!

Yes! if preachers and teachers are only sent to men, and women are left idolaters, scolds, and gamblers, how slowly the work moves on.'

In this department of mission labor, woman has yet a great work to do—woman in christian lands and in pagan lands.

'Mother's meetings at Dong Yahn, under the inspiring lessons of the Bible. The missionary woman who has the native language, and the confidence of the people, wields a wand as magical as the orator of London or New York;

'Mrs. Mason adds "If you would have Burmah redeemed to the Lord, send woman to woman, and let her teach the A B C of christianity; which is mothers' work all the world over."

For the Christian Messenger.

CAUTION AGAINST INDISCRETION.

Mr. Editor,—

Men of talent and notoriety, especially those who are professedly ministers of the gospel, evidently ought to be very careful not to make indiscreet remarks, which are liable to produce injurious effects.

These thoughts have been suggested to my mind by noticing, with grief, that several Editors—I presume with no ill intention—have inserted in their papers, with apparent approval, the following remark, said to have been made in a sermon delivered by the celebrated Henry Ward Beecher:—

To some this may appear very smart, and well adapted to rebuke the pharisaic punctiliousness of certain sharpers and slanderers.

Such remarks as those quoted above from H. W. Beecher are manifestly adapted to encourage the desecration of the Lord's day.

It was in his heart to devote himself to the gospel ministry. To this end he sought to acquire education; and applied to me to teach him the rudiments of Latin.

[Soon after the decease of this valued brother, a request was sent me to publish an Obituary of him.

For the Christian Messenger.

IN MEMORIAM.

MR. EDWARD A. BENNETT.

In the time of my pastorate in Amherst, bro. Bennett, who was a native of Horton, was for several years a member of the church under my care.

It was a point of true wisdom to discover the name of God in the voice of God, and to learn what he is from what he says.—M. Henry.

If it be right to do these things on it, what acts that may be properly done on week days are forbidden?

In accordance with this view of the subject which is obviously the only consistent one. I observe with pleasure, notice by a barber in Windsor, as follows:—"The subscriber wishes to inform his customers that . . . he will close his barber shop on Sunday, and will positively do no business on that day.

So strong is the propensity to violate this divine and beneficent command, so numerous the pretenses for the violation of it, and so ruinous are the consequences of its desecration, that it is obviously incumbent on all ministers of the gospel, editors of periodicals, teachers of Sabbath, and week day schools, parents, guardians, &c., to do all in their power, by precept and example, to promote the strict observance of it.

The reader will please ponder attentively my text for last Lord's day morning, viz.: Isa. lviii. 13, 14.

Yours fraternally,
CHARLES TUPPER.

Aylesford, March 10, 1870.

For the Christian Messenger.

A FRATERNAL EXHORTATION.

I join with all God's weeping Israel in deep humiliation over the sinful slumbers of his professed people. Has the church forgotten her mission? Does she believe that there is nothing for her to weep for, or to labor for in this world of souls sinking every hour into an endless hell!

The Lord Jesus bled under all the curse of Calvary for the very souls under our eye. He lives this day to pity them and to love them as in that awful hour! He weeps through his church which is his body. Sinners cannot see the pity of Jesus only as they see it in his members.

Brethren in the Lord, God's anger is kindled against us. Our sins have risen up to heaven in his sight. He has taken His Holy Spirit from us. Sins are cherished within our hearts. We have coveted some accursed thing and hidden it in our tents. Our backs are turned before our enemies.

Thus shall God be honored and the soul shall be blessed with the presence of its Lord. Israel shall lift up her head in rejoicing, the Word of God shall slay the foes of the gospel and many shall arise to call our Saviour blessed.

E. N. A.

For the Christian Messenger.

to me, expressive of esteem and gratitude, and generously enclosed four dollars.

When he was about to visit parts of the United States where I had acquaintances, at least by correspondence, I wrote him introductions to several of them.

The following extracts from a letter addressed to me by my esteemed bro. Bennett, dated "Philadelphia, Feb. 13, 1854," furnish a pleasing outline of his course to that time.

"I was glad, last autumn, to receive your letter, and to hear from you verbally through your son, who is here attending medical lectures. It seems hardly possible that nearly a quarter of a century has elapsed since I had the pleasure of seeing you; and yet it is only about one year and a half less than that period since I bade you farewell.

"To you, who stood to me in the relation of one of my first pastors (the second) and who, in the days of my youth, always evinced a deep interest in my temporal as well as my spiritual welfare, I presume a brief outline of my history, since I saw you, will be as interesting as any thing I can communicate; especially as it is illustrative of God's goodness, and the truthfulness of His promises.

"Of my connexion with the Academy at New Hampton, and also at South Reading University, I believe I wrote you. When I graduated in 1830, Dr. Wayland recommended me to fill a situation in Fredericton, N. B., but I declined the proffer on account of the probable coldness of the climate; and concluded to go to Kentucky with the former principal of New Hampton Academy, Rev. B. F. Farnsworth.

"My connexion in marriage was occasioned so unusually that it was to me as obviously the Providence of God, as if that Providence were written in a book. Mrs. Bennett being a native of Philadelphia, and her father and family residing here, I was induced to come to this city, and to go into my brother-in-law's store; and in 1847 was admitted as partner in his business.

"I have thus far adverted to temporal mercies alone; but these are among the least of the mercies that have been my portion. Now that I am seated in my pleasant home, more pleasant than in my youth I aspired to, enjoying the society of an excellent companion, surrounded with half a dozen happy playful children, (one having, I trust, joined the redeemed,) engaged in a pleasant and honorable business, situated in one of the most delightful cities in the world, having a conscience void of offence, enjoying a place among God's people, and entertaining a good hope in the Redeemer, which is as an anchor of the soul, I can say, from my heart. Surely goodness and mercy have followed me all my days. Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me bless His holy name. Not unto me, not unto me, but to Grace be the praise.

"As a memento of my respect for you, I purpose making you a life member of the American Tract Society; and to hand your son the certificate of life membership. Each life member is entitled to receive their books yearly to the amount of one dollar. This will procure about 1500 pages of tracts."

I learn that this pious, benevolent, and happy man was, as many others have been, called to taste the cup of sorrow by the removal of a beloved wife; that he subsequently enjoyed the society of another for a short season, and, on the 18th day of October, 1867, leaving a widow, 6 children of the former family, and 2 of the latter, he was himself removed, unquestionably to a higher, holier, and happier state.

His generous-benefaction of \$30 on my behalf, to aid an excellent Institution, and to afford me the pleasure of gratuitously circulating many highly useful tracts, seems to me the best way in which he could have indicated affection and esteem. It is a measure well worthy of imitation, with reference to esteemed friends and benevolent Institutions.

The upright, useful, and happy life of Edward A. Bennett daily illustrates the truth of the Apostle's declaration, (1 Tim. iv. 8.) "Godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come."—Com. by Rev. C. Tupper.