

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger. From India.

BY REV. W. B. BOGGS.

IN TENT, NEAR CUMBUM, KURNOL DISTRICT, INDIA. Feb. 19th, 1883.

Dr. Williams, the Principal of the Ramapatam Seminary, having returned from America in December, I was released from my pro tem appointment there. Before proceeding to my new station I decided to avail myself of the opportunity of attending the Decennial Missionary Conference of India, Burma and Ceylon, held in Calcutta Dec. 28th to Jan. 3rd.

Proceeding to Madras by canal, I there took steamer for Calcutta Dec. 23rd, in company with some brother missionaries, and after touching at the ports of Cocanada, Vizagapatam, Bimlipitam, Calingapatam, Gopalpore, and False Point, we entered the Hoogly river on the morning of the 30th, and reached the great capital the same afternoon.

Calcutta, the "City of Palaces," the "London of the East," as it has been called, is, as it has been for a century, the headquarters of British dominion in the East Indies. It is situated about eighty miles from the sea, on the river Hoogly, which is a branch from the sacred Ganges. The river is large, has many windings, and the tide runs very strongly, both at the flood and ebb; hence it is a dangerous river to navigate.

Each morning a prayer meeting was held for an hour. These were seasons of unusual refreshing and comfort, and their influence was felt all through the Conference. The closing meeting of the Conference was one long to be remembered. An hour was devoted to prayer, and how very near spiritual realities seemed during that hallowed hour!

On the passing of a very hearty vote of thanks to the chairman, (Sir Henry Ramsay), he responded in something like these words: "During the course of my long life I have received many honors and distinctions from the Government of my country, even up to the Queen herself, but none that I ever appreciated as highly as being chosen to preside over the meetings of this great assembly of those who are in the forefront of the holy war, the vanguard of the Army of the Prince of Peace."

The intention is to hold another similar Conference after ten years more are past. But who of us shall continue until then? How many new workers in this great harvest shall then be present? What triumphs of grace shall then be celebrated? all this is known only to the Master.

I feel very thankful that it was my privilege to attend this Conference. The memory of it will long remain, and recollections of the many noble workers whom we met there. All felt refreshed and quickened, and ready to buckle on the armor for another ten years of toil and conflict.

ference was held in the city of Allahabad; and as the decade drew to a close many missionaries, especially those who had been present at Allahabad, desired to see another such Conference convened. Arrangements were made, Calcutta was chosen as the place, and invitations were sent out to all missionaries in India, Burmah, and Ceylon. About four hundred and fifty responded, and came together on Dec. 28th, representing all evangelical missions in these lands, "by far the largest assemblage of missionaries which the world has thus far seen," according to a Calcutta periodical. The President of the Conference was General Sir Henry Ramsay, K. C. B., an old and distinguished officer and a devoted Christian. The combined courtesy, firmness, and tact with which he conducted the meetings proved that the choice was an excellent one.

The programme embraced a wide range of subjects, such as: The development of self-propagation and self-support in the native churches; The training of a native ministry; Mission Schools and Colleges; Medical Missions; Woman's work in Missions; Mission work among the lower classes of Hindoos; Mission work among Mohammedans; Vernacular Literature, &c. Speakers had been previously appointed, and day after day we listened to instructive and inspiring addresses on the various topics. All branches of the great work, and all sections of the wide field were represented, thus bringing together much of experience and thought that was not only fresh, but of practical value.

Each morning a prayer meeting was held for an hour. These were seasons of unusual refreshing and comfort, and their influence was felt all through the Conference.

The closing meeting of the Conference was one long to be remembered. An hour was devoted to prayer, and how very near spiritual realities seemed during that hallowed hour! Then four farewell addresses were delivered by four veteran missionaries, viz., Rev. C. Bennett, (Baptist), of Rangoon; Rev. Dr. Newton, (—), of Lahore; Rev. Geo. Bowen, (Methodist), of Bombay; and Rev. Dr. J. Murray Mitchell, (Presbyterian), of Calcutta. These are all aged men, who have spent many years in this great work.

On the passing of a very hearty vote of thanks to the chairman, (Sir Henry Ramsay), he responded in something like these words: "During the course of my long life I have received many honors and distinctions from the Government of my country, even up to the Queen herself, but none that I ever appreciated as highly as being chosen to preside over the meetings of this great assembly of those who are in the forefront of the holy war, the vanguard of the Army of the Prince of Peace."

The intention is to hold another similar Conference after ten years more are past. But who of us shall continue until then? How many new workers in this great harvest shall then be present? What triumphs of grace shall then be celebrated? all this is known only to the Master.

I feel very thankful that it was my privilege to attend this Conference. The memory of it will long remain, and recollections of the many noble workers whom we met there. All felt refreshed and quickened, and ready to buckle on the armor for another ten years of toil and conflict.

A few statistics will show what encouraging progress is being made in the evangelization of India. There were in 1881, when the last census was taken, in India, Burmah, and Ceylon 582,500 Protestant native Christians. The rate of increase in the decade from 1851 to 1861 was 53 per cent.; from 1861 to 1871 it was 61 per cent.; and from 1871 to 1881 it was 86 per cent.

For the Christian Messenger. Baptist Book Room.

Dear Editor,—

I would like through your columns to bespeak for this Institution the sympathy and patronage of the Baptist public. The time and attention which it is receiving from such men as A. P. Shand, Esq., of Windsor, are a guarantee that it will be economically and judiciously managed. The time has come when the Baptists of these Provinces should unite in building up a Book Concern from which may be obtained for their families and Sunday Schools, a literature that is fairly exponential of their sentiments. Hitherto, for the want of such concern, not a few Baptist Sunday Schools have been obtaining books and papers from Pædobaptist sources, and have thus so far turned themselves into Pædobaptist Sunday Schools. The character and prices of the books to be obtained at the Baptist Book Room may be learned from the lists recently advertised in the MESSENGER.

In this connection I would call attention to four books which may be obtained at the "Room," the names of which do not appear in the published list. These books are "True Manliness," by Thos. Hughes; "Cheerful Words," by George McDonald; "Thoughts that Breathe," by Dean Stanley; and "The Might of Right," by William E. Gladstone. I have read these books through and can testify that they contain some of the best utterances of these distinguished writers on moral and religious subjects. They contain each 300 pages and constitute together what is called the "Spare Minute Series." The set can be got in a case with elastic bands by themselves for \$3.00.

D. M. WELTON.

For the Christian Messenger. A Praiseworthy Act.

Mr. Editor,—

It affords me great pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of fifty dollars from Mr. John M. Smith, of Barton, Digby County, N. S., towards the funds of the Foreign Mission Board, and the more, because it displays a sterling integrity combined with a fraternal regard that are also, rare enough to be worthy of special notice. It appears that his sister, Miss Louisa Smith, had expressed her intention of giving two hundred and fifty dollars towards the support of the Telegu Mission, but, unfortunately died, before the donation was made, or the necessary provision was made in her will. Her estate is now sufficiently settled to warrant her brother, Mr. John M. Smith, to forward what would be his portion of the amount, as one of the heirs. I am in hope that the publicity thus given to a praiseworthy act may induce the other heirs of this estate, and also the heirs of other estates where the wishes of deceased friends are known, to do full justice to themselves and to the departed, by sending forward contributions which will be of immense service at a critical period in the monetary affairs of the denomination.

J. MARCH. Sec. For. Miss. Board. St. John, N. B. April 5th, 1883.

For the Christian Messenger. Long and Briar Islands.

Sickness and death are very frequent here of late. Terrible colds, followed by lung fever, etc., among children and youth.

The only physician on these two Islands, Doctor Sidd, is about leaving the Island for the main. He will locate on a beautiful farm in the County of Annapolis. May the doctor have a pleasant and profitable practice in his new home, and finally, a happy termination to a useful career.

The fishermen on these islands are already at successful work. Last week considerable quantities of halibut were taken. One small boat, at Tiverton, on Thursday last took \$40 worth, mostly halibut, in about four hours.

Large preparations are being made in all these parts for the coming season. May expectations be more than realized.

J. F. X. Freeport, April 2nd.

It has been estimated that there have been years in which the benevolence of the late Wm. E. Dodge of New York, reached \$1,000 a day, while frequently the sum given away amounted to \$250,000, and in no time did he give less than \$200,000 a year.

MASON & HAMLIN ORGAN & PIANO CO. BEST ORGAN. POPULAR COMPASS FOR FULL PARTS OF POPULAR MUSIC. AT ALL THE GREAT WORLD'S EXPOSITIONS. ONE HUNDRED STYLES. BOSTON 154 TREMONT ST. NEW YORK 46 E. 14th ST. CHICAGO 149 WABASH AVE.

HALIFAX STEAM DYE WORKS, 566 Upper Water Street, (Opposite H. M. Naval Yard) Established 1871.

JOHN HUBELEY, Proprietor. COATS, Pants, Vests, Shawls, Sacsques, Dresses, Clouds, Curtains, Table Cloths, Cashmere Shawls, &c., Cleaned and Dyed to look like new. FEATHERS DYED AND CURLED.

AYER'S Cherry Pectoral. No other complaints are so insidious in their attack as those affecting the throat and lungs.

SAVE THE NATION! For it is sadly too true that thousands of children are STARVED TO DEATH every year by improper or insufficient food.

RIDGE'S FOOD FOR INFANTS AND INVALIDS. Is all and a great deal more than we have claimed for it. It is simply a HIGHLY NUTRITIOUS and easily assimilated FOOD.

KIDDER'S PASTILLES. A Sure Remedy for Asthma. Sold by all Druggists. Feb. 7.

PURE GRAPE JUICE! UNFERMENTED WINE! For Sacramental and Medicinal use.

Prepared from a very fine quality of CONCORD GRAPES, grown in Vineland, New Jersey, and so rich in the properties of the Grape that it can be diluted about one-third if desired.

PATENTS. We continue to act as solicitors for patents, caveats, trade-marks, copyrights, etc., for the United States, and to obtain patents in Canada, England, France, Germany, and all other countries.

Every Farmer SHOULD OWN THIS BOOK. Dec. 20. PATENTS. obtained for Inventors, in the United States, Canada, and Europe, at reduced rates.

Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass. Sold by all Druggists. Feb. 7.

"BUCHUPAINA." — Quick, complete cure, all annoying Kidney, Bladder and Urinary Diseases. \$1. Druggists.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS. SPRING GOODS WHOLESALE.

WE invite attention to our Warerooms, newly stocked in every department from the best markets in the world. All leading makes in SHIRTINGS AND SHEETINGS at manufacturers' prices. 1,500 pcs. new and beautiful PRINTS. 500 pcs. heavy OXFORD SHIRTINGS. Special lines in cheap HOSIERY and DRESS GOODS.

CLOTHING. Home-made, better adapted to the wants of the Lower Provinces and cheaper than the imported. W. & C. SILVER. April 11. 6 ins.

The Greatest Blood Purifier. GATES' LIFE OF MAN BITTERS, But for Chronic Diseases this Invigorating Syrup Should be used in connection.

Life of Man Bitters, No. 2 and Invigorating Syrup No. 1, using your Nerve Ointment and Acadia Liniment, externally, and with God's blessing I can candidly say that I have not been so well for twenty years as I am at the present time.

TO BE GIVEN TO NEW SUBSCRIBERS TO THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER. A Merciful Man is Merciful to his Beast. 650,000 Already Sold.

HORSE AND HIS DISEASES, BY B. J. KENDALL, M. D. FULL OF Valuable & Practical Information, AND CONTAINING AN INDEX OF DISEASES, Which gives the Symptoms; Cause and best treatment of each; a Table giving all the principal drugs used for the Horse.

PATENTS. obtained for Inventors, in the United States, Canada, and Europe, at reduced rates. With our principal Office located in Washington, directly opposite the United States Patent Office, we are able to attend to all Patent Business with greater promptness and despatch and less cost.

Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass. Sold by all Druggists. Feb. 7.