

The Woman's Missionary Society

[This Department is in the interests of the W. M. Society. All communications for it should be addressed to Mrs. Jos. McLeod, Fredericton.]

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LETTER FROM MISS GAUNCE.

Dear Sisters,—Some weeks ago I received a letter from Rev. E. H. Lougher, regarding N. B. work in India. The report is both interesting and encouraging, and therefore I copy it for your perusal:

"Dear Miss Gaunce,—I expect I ought to have written you long ago but the fact of case is that I have been writing others and in the multiplicity of affairs some got left out. Mrs. Burkholder sent me an extract from your letter asking about Ujorda and N. B. work in general. Since Dr. Burkholder's death I have been trying to do what seemed necessary for it and I will try and tell you briefly how matters are going. . . . I do wish to keep the people in touch with the work, and if you will give me the names and addresses of those most likely to be benefitted by them I will get a message to each of them.

"I. Ujorda has prospered on the whole and Natabar Singh (the native pastor) has done well. I do not see how he could have done better. He is a jewel. There was some insubordination once or twice and he proved the right man for bringing peace and order.

"The school is doing well. Last year two passed, getting scholarship, and the District Board would like to make it the model school of that part of the district. The inspectors are most lavish in their praise of the school.

"The village had exceptionally hard fortunes this year. They lost their first sowing of rice by flood and the second, which I helped them to sow, was also completely destroyed by flood. The magistrate has had to do quite extensive helping clear through to Ballapal. He loaned money and rice without interest to the people.

"The last remittance brought \$25 for 'Ujorda poor,' and with that I am able to help Ujorda buy paddy plants to set their fields and I now think they will get a fairly good harvest. I hope so.

"I don't think the work there requires any increase of funds for the current year, unless it be in the matter of repair on mission buildings. I think the school and church will need quite a general roof overhauling this cold season.

"2. The book-room has been doing a good work. Last year we held the second place in all the Bible Society aided book-rooms for sales. You know we get a small grant from them that helps in the discount of books. The sales average about \$200 per year, which means in the neighborhood of 10,000 copies put

into circulation. I have also through the book-room this year distributed through Lord Radstock's scheme about 175 Bibles and nearly 4,000 Gospels and Testaments. The leading venacular religious papers and one daily (*Statesman*) are kept on file. The book-room has not missed but one day in two and a half years, except Sunday of being open from 7.30 to 10.30 a. m., and 4.30 to 8 p. m. Pretty good record! The average attendance or visits of all classes, Christians, Hindus, Mohammedans, Bram Samaj, is about 300 per month. The \$75 nearly covers all the expense of the room for the year.

"3. The Bible women are regular in their work. Minnie (Miss Lougher) has not had the time. She would have liked to go out with them. She is overburdened with work. The women have had quite a good deal of help in Miss Dawson, who has gone out with them considerable. They report some interesting experiences.

"4. The Austipore school is doing nicely and with the increased government grant the school is not a great expense to N. B. people. On the whole I think the work supported by the New Brunswick people may be considered in a flourishing condition. It is nearly a year since it came into my hands and I have tried not to neglect it in any way. For the amount of money expended I don't know of any work in our field that seems to be productive of larger and more satisfactory results."

E. H. LOUGHER.

This week's mail brought a letter from Ujorda pastor. He reports favorably of the work, especially the school. It has done better far than I anticipated and progress is due the pastor, as he not only preaches but teaches the upper class in the day school.

He made mention of violin—thought it may be too much to expect and I have been very glad to write him that \$30 has been collected and in reasonable time the purchase will be made. I am sure he will be grateful to you for it.

At this time of year missionaries, preachers, teachers and delegates from all over the field have gone up to Bhimpore to yearly meeting, the first session of which was held yesterday. It is later than usual this year; postponed I think until the arrival of the new missionaries, viz., Griffins and Collects. What a welcome will be given them! And what a privilege to join with those gathered from Hinduism to worship the one God and Father!

Yours sincerely,

L. E. GAUNCE.

A Native Pastor's Zeal and Martyrdom.

BY BISHOP FRANK W. WARNE.

About two years ago I was in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, holding evangelistic services in a church built by the Europeans in that place. The evangelistic services were for the Europeans. The Malay Mohammedans are very bitter in their hatred for the native Christians, consequently the missionary had never permitted the native workers to preach

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in the streets except when he was with them. One night while I was preaching to the Europeans the time arrived for the evening service in the street, and our missionary, the Rev. W. E. Horley, was with me in the English service. I was about half through the sermon when word came that our native pastor was murdered. We closed the service, rushed to the place, and found him lying in the gutter, beaten, bruised, bleeding, with his teeth knocked out, and robbed of all his possessions. We took him to the hospital, where his wounds were dressed. In a few days he was able to be about in bandages. But he was not afraid. He went back to the very spot where the attempt had been made to kill him, and bravely witnessed for Christ. He was over sixty years old, with white hair and a saintly face. And his faithfulness and zeal made a very profound impression, giving him such influence and prestige that he was able to raise funds largely from the non-Christians to open a mission hall. Such zeal and consecration on the part of our native ministry very largely account for the success of our mission in Southern Asia. A recent letter from the missionary states that this good man has been translated. The missionary writes:

"The dear old man never recovered from the terrible kicking and cuffing which he received from a Malay policeman while preaching the Gospel in the streets at Kuala Lumpur, and I attribute a great deal of his disease to the shock which he then received to his system.

"I wanted to carry the case before the chief magistrate, but the old man said that he would forgive the policeman for Christ's sake.

"His last days were full of work for Christ—fuller than they had ever been before in all his Christian experience—and he learned the truth of the blessed promise that "at eventide it shall be light." Our brother was 63 years of age, and had been a Christian 33 years. May God raise up others to fill the gap!

"He told the people one evening that when he first heard the Gospel he took up a broom and swept the man out of the room, and he himself was much amused when years afterward, as he

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went to visit an inquirer in Ipoh, a woman came with a broom and swept him out of the house. He told them how his hatred for the Gospel had now turned to love of it, and how the peace of God filled his soul.

"He was in much pain before his release from the body, but his faith was firm and steadfast. He constantly spoke of his joy in Christ to those who came to visit him on his deathbed. His wife asked him just before he died, "Has God left you now?" His reply was, "No, God will never leave me."

"To another he said a short time before his death, "If God should call me to leave this world and to receive my soul I am full of peace because of the great grace of God given to me."

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