

For the CANADIAN RECORD.

THE CHRISTIAN'S WEAPONS.

BY REV. C. H. WETTERBE.

Every true christian is a soldier. Hence, he is a warrior. This implies that there is a conflict going on, between two parties. One wars against the other, and each endeavors to gain advantages, and win victories over the other. Both fight for a cause, but only one army is engaged in fighting for a good cause. Both cannot be right. One must be wrong. The christian's cause is God's cause, and, therefore, it is a right cause. Now, though the cause be a good one, in the very best of causes, yet we may use the wrong weapons in attempting to defend and advance it. No christian is authorized, by his divine captain, to employ any but spiritual weapons, to wage war against the enemy. Our true weapons are not carnal. He who undertakes to use a carnal weapon, against the enemy, loses the battle.

The christian soldier must take something into his hands to meet the enemy, besides human philosophy, and science, and theoretical speculations. He may hurl these things at the foe, as swiftly and mightily as he pleases, but they will not make the foe surrender. But, let the christian use such weapons as are furnished him, from his captain's arsenal, and victories are secured. Let him take "the sword of the spirit, which is the word of God," and "the helmet of salvation," and "the shield of faith," "praying always with all prayer and supplication, in the spirit," and then he is armed with those weapons, which are vilitized with omnipotence itself. If these weapons cannot conquer scepticism and infidelity, no others can. These weapons are as old as the history of man's fall, and none have been invented, since these were, that can begin to compare with them, for efficiency. Brethren, let us continue to use these heaven-forged weapons, with all of our might, for we can never succeed without them.

OUR SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Spragg's Point, Kings Co.

The Sabbath School of the First Springfield church has been maintained throughout the winter, at 2 p. m. On the first Sunday in May we expect to re-organize for our summer session at 9.30 a. m. We find the most successful work is done by continuing the Lessons for the whole year, and strongly recommend neighboring schools to adopt the same course. One great help to our school is the several clubs of the CANADIAN RECORD, *Youth's Visitor* and *Gem*, which deeply interest the scholars and secure regular attendance. Present Superintendent, David H. Crandall; Librarian, A. B. Foster.

W. E. MCINTIRE.

THE VOICE FROM THE HOPIA TREE.*

BY M. B. FOUNTAINE.

The far off Hopia Tree is stirred
By India's faintest air;
We listening catch a low refrain,
Forever lingering there,
Follow, follow, follow my lead.

I brushed, with my woman's timid hands,
The briars and thorns aside—
I trod with my tender, shrinking feet,
A path through the jungle wide;
I bore my heart to the farthest front—
The fray was sharp and hot—
I spared it not, till broken and crushed,
It sank on this lonely spot.
Follow, follow, follow my lead.

I regret not the wounded, blood-stained feet—
Each drop is a jewel now;
I regret not the pierced, aching hands—
Each thorn adorns my brow;
I regret not the early broken heart—
Each bruise had the Master's touch;
One blissful throb 'neath the Sacred Hand,
Were worth a thousand such.
Follow, follow, follow my lead.

Oh, ye beloved in the dear home-land!
By the love our Saviour bare,
Follow my lead; with heart of faith,
Follow on wings of prayer;
Follow in gifts of incense and gold—
Follow in words of cheer;
For the sake of our dark-eyed sisters come,
Keep ye the pathway clear.
Follow, follow, follow my lead.

Listen to-night—the low refrain—
Hark to the melody!

India's air awakens the leaves
Of the far off Hopia Tree.

*Mrs. A. H. Judson, the first American female missionary, lies buried under the Hopia Tree in India.

CHICACOLE.

Under date April 2nd, Rev. J. R. Hutchinson writes:—

The past month has been as quiet as usual and about as full of steady-going work. Bagavan Bayarah made a tour of 16 days in the region beyond Kimidi, and seems greatly encouraged. Everywhere he went the people listened well, while many came to him secretly by night to hear more of the gospel message or to have their doubts laid at rest. I shall some day send you one of his monthly reports—which are models of neatness. Shauthama, the Bible woman at Akalatampara, has been in poor health for several months and does not appear to be improving. I have sent her some medicine obtained from the Hospital here, and hope soon to hear that she is better. James has been compelled to close his school for a time and come in for medical treatment. He is improving and will soon be able to return to work. The school in Comminapilli is growing, and may yet prove a success.

Both colporteurs have been on the field for 20 days of the month—the Bible Colporteur selling upwards of Rs. 10 worth of Bibles and Scripture portions; the Tract Colporteur selling upwards of Rs. 2 worth of books.

I considered the question of giving Paulus the position and work of a native preacher a long time; but finally concluded to do

so. I increased his pay from Rs. 8 to Rs. 9 per month, (his commission from sale of books being gone), and his joy was very great—at receiving the new work I mean. But when I proceeded to tell him that now, since he had no books to take on the field, he would not need a cooly, and that henceforth I would expect him to tour without any assistance for cooly from me, his joy was turned into mourning. I had been led to this decision by two things, the first and most weighty of which is that no other American Baptist Mission in India allows its men cooly, they doing their work very thoroughly without it; and the second, that Suthenah and Bagavan Bayarah have made so much trouble about this very matter. Except B. B., who is an old man, no other preacher on this field will receive cooly assistance unless I have good reason to change my present view of the matter. For a colporteur it is necessary; for a preacher I do not regard it as so. But Paulus did; and although I labored long and hard with him, and showed him how he *could* go alone (as he acknowledged) he steadily refused to budge a step, and finally asked leave and has gone off once more. He thinks nothing of taking a few things and walking alone to Vizianagram—several days journey—but cannot make up his mind to go in another direction upon the Lord's business with an equal amount of assistance. I regret that he has again "taken leave," but feel that I could have pursued no other course. God will yet, I believe, give us workers who can preach this gospel without a cooly to carry it. Another young man—one of the Akalatampara christians—recently offered himself for the work. He came in a few days ago to talk the matter over. This young christian, Uppanah, is a fine young fellow of some 28 years. He says he will not want a cooly.

Gorahuthee and Venkia are in. They came in on Friday last. The former came in to marry Herriamah. We have been working and planning for this ever since we came here, and Miss Hammond before us. When they were Hindus, Herriamah was his concubine. She is now his wife. They were married on Saturday evening, March 31st, here by me. Bro. Archibald (who came here on the day previous) assisted—by holding the lamp while I read the service. The pair are very happy. He is a most repulsive looking man because of his leprosy, but he is a good man and she calls him "her Rajah." A long and interesting romance has come to an end.

Bro. Archibald came over a few days ago, and we are enjoying his visit very much. He is a genial, earnest fellow, and a devoted christian. He goes on to Bimili after a few days. All were well in Bobbilly when he left.

Pray for us often and earnestly. God alone can make us instrumental in saving souls here. The work seems hard and discouraging at times; but we rejoice because of the few tokens of God's blessing that we do see and eagerly look for more—not back, but forward.

The *India Witness* of Calcutta estimates the native christians of India, Burmah, and Ceylon at 528,590.