
THE INDIA ALLIANCE

Jesus only, Jesus ever,
Jesus all in all we sing;
Saviour, Sanctifier, Healer,
Glorious Lord and coming King."
The India Alliance.

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Child of My love, Lean Hard,
And let Me feel the pressure of thy care,
I know thy burden;
Posed it in Mine own hand;
In its weight to thine unaided strength;
For even as I laid it on, I said,
"I shall be near, and while she leans on Me,
This burden shall be Mine, not hers;"
So shall I keep My child within the circling arms
Of My own love." Here lay it down, nor fear
To impose it on a shoulder which upholds
The government of worlds. Yet closer come;
Thou art not near enough:
I would embrace thy care
So I might feel My child reposing on My breast.
Thou lovest Me? I knew it. Doubt not then,
But, loving Me, Lean Hard.

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL.

Christmas passed by very quietly. Tokens came from the home land in the mail in the shape of Christmas cards and books. The new missionaries had hard work to make believe it was really Christmas, as the hot rays of a tropical sun so belied all their consciousness of the season. The calendar persistently pointed Dec. 25. The pundits get the day as a legal holiday, but beyond that there was no change made in the routine of work: and a missionary wakes up to the fact that tradition and education have much to do in making some things what they are. India is a good place for a man to get his balance.

A man was baptised at Amraoti last month.

One missionary writes:—"If ever I had any romantic notions about touring, they are all gone now. The people are not receptive and so ignorant, and the villages often dirty and dusty; and I often get very tired."

Another writes:—"I had been out in the district nearly a month, and had had no news from any of the stations until I got back home and got your letter. I did not know that either of the ladies had been ill, but during my tour I had been led distinctly to pray for them." We were touched as we read this and saw how if one member of the body suffered, the rest suffered with it, even though we do not always know distinctly what it means at the time.

Marathi and Gujarati are the themes now a days. God has given the Mission two or three good teachers which are a great boon. The burden of the conclusion of all the new missionaries is, to tell the out coming missionaries that learning a language is hard work, and is a useful instrument in dispelling romance, but that God gives gracious help and courage.

Miss Bates has taken the Girls' School for a month to let Miss Goss have a few weeks' vacation which she is spending at Igatpuri.

The new parties came in detachments. Messrs. Lenth, Back, Moyser, Hamilton and Andrews arrived in Bombay by the s.s. "City of Agra." They reached earlier than they were expected, and so came one met them, and we were taken by surprise by their driving into the compound in Akola unannounced. Misses Holmes, Park, Smiley and Petrie came by the s.s. "Horatio," Wilson Line, and immediately came to Igatpuri. A heavy rain had preceded them, the home was wet and damp, and not yet in order. They had a time of roughing it, and God tenderly kept them from fever. Nov. 2, the French mail reached Bombay with party No. 3, consisting of Misses Peabody, Jean, and Misses Grover, Mallory, Mahaffey, Bush, and Seasholtz. Mr. Fuller and our agent met them on board. Lying near their steamer was a Hall Line steamer which had come into harbour a few hours before them. Never dreaming that there was any one on that steamer who was of interest to them, party No. 3 disembarked and proceeded to their lodging. In the evening, just as they were preparing for a welcome meeting, who should step in the room but Mrs. Miller, Miss Anderson and Mr. Borup, with our agent—party No. 4, who had been on that Hall Line steamer and were not expected for two more days! It was a happy surprise. They all proceeded up country to scintillate on their allotted places in a few days, and were all united, new missionaries and old, at our third Convention and Annual Meeting, November 6th, in Akola. Party No. 5, consisting of Mr. and Mrs. Woodward and children with Miss Montgomery, did not arrive until two weeks later by the Wilson Line steamer "Lorenza."

The little verses at the head of our first column were one of the connecting links in the conversion of one of our missionaries. She knew nothing of missions or missionaries, but was much touched to know in after days that it was a real incident in the life of Fidelia Fiske whose biography had much to do in shaping her missionary life in India.

God has wonderful ways of leading His children into their path in life. Expressing some surprise to one of our ladies that she was an Alliance missionary, we asked her how she ever came to hear of the Training Institute. She said her life had led her among an entirely worldly people: that she had just been converted through a singular providence and was longing for service. She had never heard of the Institute, Alliance or Mr. Simpson: but one day in ripping open an old hat which had been too large for her, she found a copy of the Alliance paper which had been rolled inside the crown of the hat to make it smaller, "I have no idea where that paper came from originally, but in it I read of the Training Institute and I felt a conviction that it was the place for me, and immediately applied for admission and was received."
E send all our friends greetings for the New Year; may it be a year of unusual blessing to you all. Here in the field we look forward hopefully with earnest longings to see God's power in a dry and thirsty land. We are believing for much. It may witness many trials and much hard work: but we believe it will also witness much blessing and favour. The beginning of the year witnesses our opening up of an entire new field in the Gujarát country, and the departure of twelve of our number for that field. We have other prospects which, if the Lord tarry, we believe we will witness before the end of 1895. We again beg our friends to stand with us in prayer. We believe what will be accomplished will be through prayer. Let our friends be co-workers with us. Do not simply ask God's blessing upon these fields, but prevail for the outpouring of the Spirit upon them.

Pray for our missionaries as they study the language and are being adapted to a new climate, people and work.

Pray that we may be kept in touch with God, and be kept in the unity of the Spirit. There is great leakage of power in missions through lack of unity: "That they may be one even as We are one ... that the world may know that Thou didst send Me." (John xvii. 23).

Pray that the Lord of the harvest will thrust forth many native labourers in our field. He has marvelously answered prayer and thrust forth so many of us here. And we need to pray the Lord (who has commanded us to do it,) to thrust forth native helpers. This Mission was founded in answer to prayer. Many of us at that time were unconverted; but God called us, and filled us. He has His eye on men of this country in like manner whom He is going to call and prepare. Let us pray that this year may witness many thrust forth.

Pray for the outpouring of the Spirit upon the people and that many may be led to Christ; that God would work with His own power among us for soul and body. As we sought the Lord for a motto for the year, the words, "Lord, teach us to pray," were given us. It was emphasized to our hearts by our little daughter who knew nothing of it, hanging a beautiful card, with those words over our writing table on Christmas day. God's heart yearns to bestow much upon us. He yearns for men and women through whom He can work with power. "Yet for all this will I be inquired of, saith the Lord." (Ezek. xxxvi. 37). We pass the motto on to you. We believe believing prayer will pave the way to all that God has in His heart for 1895 for us.

"Lord teach us to pray."

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OUR CONVENTION.

At the early part of November of each year we hold our Convention and yearly meeting. The Convention for the deepening of spiritual life among us, and the yearly meeting for the transaction of business and counselling over the work. The Convention comes first, and the blessing received oils the wheels of the business meeting. We landed in Bombay this year Nov. 2, and after a day or two's rest in Bombay proceeded at once to Akola where preparations had been made for the meeting to open the 6th on a little larger scale than usual. Beside our own large number, there were seven missionaries present from other missions. The tents pitched in the large mission compound gave the appearance of a camp. From the very first service the hush of the Holy Spirit rested on the meeting, and a very deep feeling ran through the meeting, especially in searching power. The first three days were given to the subject of Sanctification, with its many phases of walking in the Spirit as "Guidance," "Praise," "Prayer," "Walking in the Light," &c. Saturday was devoted to Divine Healing and the Sabbath to the Coming of the Lord. Mr. Garrison led the morning service of Divine Healing with a Bible reading. As he had often spoken to us, and as many of us were familiar with the Scriptures, one of our number was led to pray at the opening of the meeting that God would make the
Scriptures fresh and real to us anew. To this Mr. Garrison said "Amen," and stepping to the platform in the faith that God would do it, to His praise it must be said that He wonderfully did it. One lady said afterwards: "I always like to look a speaker in the face, but I was so situated this morning that I could not see him, and so the Bible reading dropped down into my heart like the very Word of God. I came to the Convention on the elective principle meaning to get all the spiritual good out of the Convention but let divine healing alone, but all my prejudices are gone, and I take Christ for body, soul and spirit."

Sunday morning the Lord's Coming was presented, and in the afternoon the Marathi and English Christians partook of the Lord's Supper together, and in the evening our Superintendent spoke from the words "Go ye." We missionaries, right in the midst of heathenism, need to refresh our hearts with the great command, and make our commission our plea with God for full equipment.

Perhaps to a reader the account of this Convention will sound like all other conventions, but it was a very unusual one to many of us. There have been but few times in the writer's life, when she witnessed the presence of the Holy Ghost to teach a company as there was in this gathering. The Word was so wonderfully made clear. The addresses were simple but the Holy Ghost taught, removed difficulties, and prejudices, showed faults and weaknesses, and revealed sin and brought about tender confession. The work in many hearts was genuine and real, and made us long to see such a scene among our Native Christians. Some in the audience grew under the influence of the Spirit more in the few days, than months before had accomplished. Two of the brethren were weak in their bodies from recent illnesses, and it was beautiful to see how strength returned in the meetings, proving so beautifully that healing is the work of the Holy Ghost on the body. Another lesson taught, it was the ones that opened their hearts to the Holy Ghost for reproof and instruction, that were blessed in the meetings. More and more, we see that the Holy Ghost gives light and the will must immediately close in with it. We know no other path to blessing. The Spirit is easily grieved, by delay, controversy or justifying self.

In short, all united in saying it was the best, the deepest Convention we have ever had, and we purposed at the close to hold one in Marathi in a few months.

THE APPOINTMENTS.

The last session of the business meeting was looked forward to with much interest as the appointments were to be read and some changes made. These appointments had been made the subject of much prayer; and also it was the opening up of an entire new field and a step of advance in the work.

Mr. Garrison was transferred from Amraoti to Akola to have charge of the young men's Home, and also to act as assistant superintendent of the Marathi field. Mr. Johnson was also transferred from Amraoti to work with Mr. Foster in Kamgaon. Miss Miller was sent to Chandur to work with Mr. and Mrs. Ramsey.

Dr. and Mrs. Simmons were sent to Amraoti, Mr. and Mrs. Franklin were to have the Boys' School, and Marathi services in Akola, Mr. and Mrs. Bendixen were appointed to the district work around Akola, Mr. and Mrs. Heron were sent to Jalgaon to work with Mr. Dutton, as Mr. Wood through his marriage had been transferred to Buldana. But the interest culminated in the appointment of the new missionaries who had just arrived in the field. Miss Case was sent to Gujarât with the following ladies,—Misses Bush, Seasholtz, Petrie, Montgomery, and Smiley; while Mr. and Mrs. Woodward were sent with Messrs. Andrews, Borup, Back, and Hamilton. Mr. Lenth and Moyser were kept in the Marathi field; and also Misses Holmes, Grover, Mahaffey, Park, and Mallory. Mrs. Fuller was given charge for a few months of the ladies' (who were studying Marathi) Home in Igatpuri. Miss Miller and Miss Anderson were sent temporarily to Poona. Little Jean Fuller sat and listened to the appointments with all gravity. She had been promised that she might go to Poona for a few weeks with her sister. As the appointments were read out for Poona, she slid off her chair and in a stage whisper said to her father: "And Papa, Jeanie Fuller is for Poona!" The laugh that it brought refreshed the meeting.

How happily and with what new courage all turned to their stations at the close of the Convention, with the faith that the coming year should see more of the power of God in their own lives and work. And the new party turned to our new field in Gujarât soberly and
earnestly, knowing that to them was given the privilege of laying the foundation of a work in a new field and language.

**SINCE THE CONVENTION.**

The time since the Convention has seen every bit of the ground gained at the Convention deeply tested. “That the proof of your faith being more precious than gold that perisheth, though it is proved by fire, might be found unto praise and glory and honour at the revelation of Jesus Christ.” (1 Pet. i. 7).

Owing to the heavy rainfall, the rainy season has been followed by much sickness in many parts of India, and we have come in for our share of trial. One or two of our dear missionaries have been seemingly given back to us from the very brink of the grave. Bro. Neilsen was taken with what appeared to be smallpox but turned out to be scarlet fever. One dear brother who took Jesus as his Sanctification had his advance ground proved on the way home from the Convention and found Jesus very real. He left Akola very happy and rejoicing. He had one cart in which he and his wife sat, and another cart laden with his tent, furniture and crockery which he had used in camping during the Convention. The latter cart was completely overturned, dishes and all, and while looking at it, the bullocks in the other cart ran away, giving them a run of a mile, aside from the prospect of seeing the whole cart broken to pieces. Once he would have been angry and fretted, but Jesus kept him perfectly. We have learned in a Convention where God is working, and after some advance has been taken in our souls, to be watchful. The devil usually contests it. This country has been so completely in the devil’s possession, that he lets go no part without a hot dispute. Let no one come lightly to India. But we have had some precious healings and many have come off in times of trial “more than conquerors,” while the spiritual life of the Mission has been greatly deepened since the Convention and we still believe that God is able to do exceeding abundantly above anything that we have asked or even thought.

Mr. and Mrs. Fuller have been visiting the Gujärát field for more than a week, and of which we hope to hear more again.

**NOTES FROM THE FIELD.**

**BERAR.**

**KOLA.** Mrs. Franklin writes:—When I came into the Boys’ School, nearly three months ago, there were fifteen boys. Two have left since and three new ones come in. The last two were beggar boys but not confirmed in their habits, so they are very happy here. One is an unusually good boy, and loving in his manners. The other one was very disobedient and outwardly wicked, but is beginning to feel such conduct is not pleasing here. It is a great comfort to see how the boys who have been in the school despise and shrink from the bad habits of this new boy. There has been once or twice a spirit of murmuring and discontent among the boys if I failed to give them what they wanted. But we continued in prayer and now they understand they are to get what we think best.

The smaller boys are very sweet in prayer and their trust. We have not had much sickness, but whenever we have had, they have trusted God and been quickly delivered. One boy had a hard attack of fever, but his trust was beautiful. He arose even in the fever and praised God.

Christmas passed off pleasantly. The schoolmaster gave them their dinner. Mr. and Mrs. Bendixen sent them the fruit. We took them to the gardens and played games with them and gave them each some gift. But best of all we are in a place of blessing in the school.

Mr. and Mrs. Bendixen have been out almost constantly among the villages.

**Amraoti.** Miss Olmstead writes:—In a little village a group of children had been gathered into a Sunday-school. Their timid voices had for the first time been used to sing the praise of the one true God and His well-beloved Son; and now with eager faces they were all intent upon learning a Scripture verse. Their elders were in the background like Miriam of old, watching “to wit what should be done to them.” Just then a woman rushed in, seized her little girl, and began to whip her. She tried to drag away the child, but the little thing stood firm and refused to go. Blow after blow fell mercilessly upon the slender child, but she courageously repressed her sobs and bore the pain until the mother, awed by the
Holy Spirit, hung her head with shame and walked away; my own tears fell fast as I told of God's love and the love which my precious mother had always shown me; and there flashed upon me a glimpse of the army of the Lord which shall yet be revealed here in this land.

For two weeks we have missed from Sunday-school at the mission house one of the most punctual and promising boys. Up to that time he had managed to come in spite of his father's opposition. This being no longer possible, he comes now on Saturdays and Mondays, and has a private lesson. His face looked so wistful this morning, as he told me his grief in not being allowed to come, that my heart went out in prayer for God to give him his desire. After he had learned and recited his lesson well, I gave him a picture card and was about to dismiss him, when he asked if we might not sing some hymns together. The dear boy has learned to love the songs of Zion.

Murtizapur. Mrs. Bannister writes:--We left home Monday, December 10th, taking with us enough provision to last a couple of weeks (as we would not be able to get much by the way,) two boxes full of books, bedding, etc. Our two servants accompanied us, so that we were quite a cartload, but our faithful bullocks did their work well. Our purpose was to visit as many bazaars as possible, because by so doing we reach more people and are more likely to sell books. It is hardly necessary for my husband to use his cornet when we are in a bazaar, as our presence soon draws a crowd and we immediately begin to sing and preach, Mr. Bannister speaking first and I following, then we stand and sell books. In this our Garri walla gives material help. We are enabled through the Bible and Tract Society to sell our books so cheap as to be within the reach of all who will buy, and it is very amusing sometimes to notice the pride of a little fellow, who has scarcely more than learned his letters, when he has bought a book for a pice. Their choice of books is governed by the size and colour. For this reason we oftentimes sell Gospels where we would not otherwise, and we look for fruit through the scattering of the Word in this way. We can only give the message and pass on, and this is the hardest part of the work; to have to leave half awakened enquiring souls without a shepherd to guide them into the fold makes us feel very sad, and our heart longs for more labourers. Did we not have the faith that God is able to multiply the little and feed the multitude with what is nearest His hand, we might well be discouraged with such a large parish on our hands, not being able to get over it once in three years: but God is with us and we are not discouraged. We were greatly cheered and encouraged by an incident which occurred during our last tour. It was in the large town of A---, where the Bazaar is one of the largest in the Taluk.

For this reason we hoped to sell many books and came as early to the bazaar as we could, but in this we were disappointed; for as soon as we alighted in the bazaar a rough crowd, chiefly Mahomedans, surrounded us and it was with difficulty that we could preach. We stood by our cart until it grew dark, then going to another part of the bazaar we unloaded, prepared and ate our evening meal then retired to rest, tired as the work but not of it. In the morning we rose, rested and refreshed, and after a light breakfast we set out to preach in some corner of this large town. We soon came to a place where four roads met and here we took our stand. The cornet soon drew a large crowd, and as soon as it became known who and what we were, a man came and handed to us a New Testament in which was inscribed "A weaver's, presented by M. B. Fuller, December 2nd, 1890." This was indeed like finding bread that had been cast upon the waters many days before by our beloved Superintendent, thus illustrating the hymn,

The seed I have scattered in spring time with weeping,
And watered with tears and with dews from on high;
Another may shout when the reaper's reaping,
Shall gather my grain in the "sweet bye and bye."

The book was well preserved and the man asked for the Old Testament. We had not one with us but promised to send him one. While we were preaching, the people listened very earnestly and seemed to take in the truth. We also sold some books here and as we were going away, a man who had bought a book, called out to us that from this time he was going to worship the God above. May God help him to do so.

We met with several other interesting cases along the way, indeed I think in nearly every village where we preached there were some earnest listeners. In all we have visited forty towns and villages, but there are still more than this number yet to be reached, and we are hoping to start out again in a day or so. I would like to say to the glory of God that my
health has improved while touring; thereby proving the promise that "As thy day so shall thy strength be." May God help us to be faithful even as He is faithful.

Khamgaon. J. W. Johnson writes:—I have been out on several tours among the people, and even with the limited knowledge of the language which I have, the Lord has used me to His glory, and gives me such delight in the work that I can repeat the same words several times a day to the same congregation with the freshness which the Holy Spirit imparts. At first when I saw the difficulties of the language I prayed for a native helper (two years ago). The Lord has not answered yet, but will. Instead of a helper to do some of the preaching, He sent me out alone on the first tour with my cart driver, who could witness some, but the Lord did not let me depend upon him, but gave me the words to speak, and to my own surprise I spoke for half an hour. I write this to the glory of Jesus.

On my second tour I was alone with cook and cart driver, Brother Foster having been called away to a Conference. Was out three days, preached five times, sold seventy-five Gospels besides free distribution of tracts. At the last place the Mahomedans snatched books from my hand and stole some from my book bag.

When within two miles of home the cart wheel broke which was the second break we had had on the trip. When the ox yoke broke before I said "Praise the Lord." The cart driver, a native brother, says, "Why! must we praise the Lord for everything?" and I replied "Yes"—but it puzzled him—he didn't know what to make of it. When we were entering the town where our station is located the cart wheel broke again. And while I was hammering away at it trying to fix it, an English doctor came up and asked me if there were not enough people in my own country to preach to without coming here and wearing my life out for these unthankful people.

Brother Foster and myself have been on two tours together, first time without any one to talk for us, as our native brother's (cart driver) wife was sick with fever. Our patience was tried with two playful boys for cart driver and cook. On this trip we had our tent stoned at midnight by Mahomedans. At one place we preached to a congregation of 150 men by lamp light. They thought it strange that we were sure our sins had been forgiven, because Jesus died for them.

We have just returned from a six days' tour, preaching in many places where they had never heard of Jesus. We travelled about a hundred miles in six days, reached fifteen villages and towns, preached eighteen times, and sold a hundred Gospels, besides other Gospel books and free distribution of tracts. There was only one book burnt and one torn up by the people on the whole trip. The people heard gladly. We were in four large markets. At two of these we had congregations numbering between 200 and 300. We held two inquirers' meetings at our tent. One old man was convicted and said he would forsake his idol worship.

One said, "They preach a living Saviour." It sounds very strange to them to testify that your sins are gone by faith in the atonement of Christ. The preaching of the Resurrection causes them to wonder. In preaching to the people the Gospel has become more real to me.

Khandesh.

Jalgaon. Mr. Dutton writes:—The old year with all its failures and shortcomings is past and gone, and I praise God it is all under the blood. I launch out into the new year with a fuller abandonment to God that He may use me as He will.

We started out on tour December 10th, and up to the end of the month have visited twenty-four villages, preaching in most of them twice, and have sold over three rupees' worth of books. A gooroo whom Bro. Wood met last year has been to visit us twice since and borrowed and read many of our books. He had been to many of these villages which we have visited and had told the people about us, so that they received us gladly. But when we pressed the truth none were willing to forsake their sins and confess Christ. The gooroo maintains he does not worship idols, and many of the villagers say so too. But few of them have ever heard the Gospel before.

My Marathi has greatly improved on this trip and I can understand what the people say much better than before. The Herons and I have blessed fellowship together.

Chalisgaon. Mr. McGlashen writes:—Mr. Carroll and I have been travelling from village to village . . . . During our whole trip we have had the sweet consciousness of our Father's protecting care. One day while going to a village in our two-wheeled cart and were
trotting along at a lively pace, we suddenly remembered that we had some directions to give to the man with the baggage cart, and so stopped short to await for him to catch up with us. He surprised us by saying that one of our wheels was almost off and that he had been shouting to us but failed to get our attention. We immediately got out of the cart, and sure enough we were on the point of a bad accident. The hub had become detached from the box and was almost off. Two or three revolutions of the wheel more, at the pace we were going would have given us a very decided plunge, which with the probable fright to the ponies would have been very serious. How we praised God for His care!

At another time while going down the steep bank of a river, the cart overturned. I was thrown out and the whole weight of the vehicle came down upon my leg but I was not injured in any way. Another time one of the ponies kicked me in the chest with both feet and knocked me down, but I escaped unhurt. To God be all the praise.

Pachora.—This is Mr. A. W. Johnson’s district and there was recently a large Jutra there. Mr. Fuller, Mr. Garrison, Mr. Dutton, Mr. Heron and wife, and Mr. McGlashen and Carroll joined him for a week. Mr. McGlashen speaks of it as follows: “We worked at the fair for three or four days. There were great crowds of people with the usual amount of din and dust. We held some very successful meetings, especially those at night after the people had eaten their dinner. No edifice was ever so charmingly filled as this great tabernacle of God’s. Above for a ceiling was the starlit canopy of heaven, and instead of electric lights was the beautiful moonshine streaming down. Some of the people climbed the trees to see the speakers better. The large audience listened most eagerly. What a strange scene it was. The mellow moonlight, the dusky faces looking up to Mr. Fuller as he spoke. Many hearts must have been touched but Oh, the chains that bound them! Calvary did avail to break them, praise God.”

GUZERAT.

Ahmedabad. Miss Case writes:—The presence of the Lord has been manifestly with us during our two months’ sojourn in this new field. His mercies have been ever fresh and new, and His blessings have not been withheld. All have been graciously kept in health; though a number have been threatened with sickness, the “standard” has been lifted up and Jesus was victor.

The dear sisters left Ahmedabad about two weeks ago, and are now comfortably settled with brother and sister King in their new home in Kaira.

The house which the Father has chosen for them, is said to have been the summer residence of a former Hindu rajah or king, and it comes to us as a sign of encouragement, that the Lord has appropriated this ancient relic of heathenism for the abiding place of His own dear Son—the King of Kings—may He reign supreme within its walls, and His presence make a summer palace to the dear ones there.

Ahmedabad is a city of great antiquity and historical interest. Its imposing temples and palaces, its strong fortifications, all tell of past greatness, and the power with which Mahomedanism and Hinduism have reigned in its midst.

Our home is situated just inside the city wall, and as I look day after day upon its massive barred gates, so long closed to the so-called intruder, my heart goes up in thankfulness that they have at last opened to admit the Saviour—and a few among its hundreds of darkened souls have come into the light, and been washed in His blood.

The I. P. Missionaries have been labouring here for some years, and we have found in them warm friends, whose hospitality and assistance, especially in the language, we would not fail to mention.

On the Sabbath we attend services in Gujarati at their mission during the day, and in the evening some of the brethren walk to the camp some three miles outside the city to hold English services with the soldiers.

Their labours there have been much blessed, a few souls have found salvation, and others—believers—have been strengthened and brought into a closer walk with God. Mrs. Woodward’s gift in music has been a great help.

I have now and then an opportunity to give out a message in Marathi, but my Gujarati vocabulary is so limited at present, that I am obliged to confine my efforts in that language to work among the servants of our household with whom I have family worship every day. I hope soon to be able to do at least a little work among the women.
The Lord has given us a deep and tender love for the souls in Gujrat. We can truly say "the harvest is great and the labourers few." Kaira. The ladies' home has been located here, and Mr. and Mrs. Gutteridge are at Kapadvanj.

IGATPURI.

Igatpuri is truly beautiful for situation. It lies on a plain at the head of the Ghauts on your way from Bombay to Akola. The little plain is bordered almost completely by mountains some of whose tops are cut into most fantastic shapes, one group like pillars of an old broken temple. We never tire of the views. The two little cottages that comprise the ladies' home are in a hill quite away from the railway station. The natives for some reason, call all the houses on this hill, the devil's bungalows, a name that we ignore and call the hill, Praise Hill, instead. Hard study is the order of the day here, the ladies working at Marathi from five to seven hours a day. We are a very happy family. We rarely are without some guest, and have all the outside work that we have time for.

Miss Mallory writes:—"Bless the Lord O my soul, and all that is within me bless His Holy name." This is the language of our hearts at the opening of our life in India, and surely the Lord is more than making up by His own sweet presence, all that we seemingly lost in leaving home and friends.

I found India much as I had pictured it; its beautiful verdure, abundant animal and insect life, and the intensified brightness of the heavenly phenomena, are all striking features. We have no such moonlight nights at home as we have here, and of the intense heat of the direct rays of the sun, we know nothing in America.

We have had a decided welcome, since coming to India, from the numerous crows, bats, rats, lizards, mosquitoes, flies, etc. However, I have not yet seen a scorpion and only two small snakes.

Already we are learning that in more ways than one, the life of a missionary tends to develop one into a well rounded character, and I think by the time we return home the rough edges will be well polished and the little nooks and corners well filled out.

We found things much better than we expected, and certainly God is very tenderly caring for us day by day. We enjoy so much the delicious fruits, such as bananas, oranges, dates and guavas. The mountain scenery here is grand, and the climate so far very delightful.

I had formed no true conception of the people and their condition. The majority of them live in such ignorance, superstition and poverty. The many little villages near by, with their mud huts and little naked children, constantly speak to us, and we long to be able to go among them and tell them the sweet story of Jesus, and see their faces light up with the joy of an indwelling Saviour. Marathi seems to have a peculiar attraction for us, and we have thoroughly enjoyed the study thus far, and we trust the time is not far distant, when we shall be able through His help to give some simple little messages of love to the people.

We realise the great possibilities that lie before us in this field, and we often catch glimpses of what we believe God would like to do through a company of men and women wholly lost in Him, and we long to see it realised, and to know from experience, "The exceeding greatness of His power to usward who believe, according to the working of His mighty power." Oh, that the chains might be broken and the Marathi field know something of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, and His power to convict men of sin and reveal to them the light of the Gospel.

I feel much of the responsibility lies with us and the Christian friends at home. Christ said, "This kind goeth not out but by prayer." May we lose sight of self entirely and fully grasp the mind of Christ, and be able to prevail with God for this work. "But let him ask in faith nothing waver ing, for he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea, driven of the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive anything of the Lord." "Lord teach us to pray." "For we know not what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit itself maketh intercession with groanings which cannot be uttered."

Mr. MacDonald arrived by the mail steamer on the 27th. He stopped off one day at Igatpuri to see Mr. Fuller and then proceeded to Akola. A young man from this country, Mr. Leonard Cutler, has also joined the Training Home, so that there are four young men in the Young Men's Home at Akola, five young ladies at Igatpuri and in the Gujerat field, four young men in the Home at Ahmedabad, and five young ladies in the Home at Kaira.
LEARNING A LANGUAGE.

We have a two years' course of study for each missionary, but let none think that study ends there. It simply lays a good foundation for it, and the thorough missionary will continue some study from year to year. We found the following in a copy of "Triumphs of Faith," by Mrs. Nevins of China, which may give some idea of what getting a language may mean to some. Back of all this account is dear Dr. Nevins' fruitful labors, and his thorough knowledge of the language was doubt a large element, apart from the Holy Ghost, of his success.

"Many people think that any good truly consecrated person has only to go and mingle with the people and by some sort of miracle he will be able to 'pick up' the language, at least, enough of it to preach the Gospel of Christ. Let me give you my husband's experience. Like other young ministers he had his 'holy ambitions.' He had made a beginning in Hebrew, and on our long voyage continued the study of it, also Greek and Latin and other studies dear to a student's heart. But we had not been in China many months before he found he must sacrifice these studies, if he would master Chinese. The first to be given up were Hebrew, then Latin. Greek he kept because he needed it for Bible study. He allowed himself no light reading of any kind, and for ten years he did not read a single book in English, except such as were necessary in the study of the Scriptures and in the preparation of Theological work. Morning, afternoon and evening he plodded at the Chinese, sometimes with a native teacher sometimes by himself, committing words and phrases to memory, and when he was able translating or composing in it. Before the end of our first year we were able to begin our missionary work, he going regularly to the street chapel to talk with the people who came in, and visiting the women from house to house.

"He was studying the language (in connection with other work of course,) all through his first ten years; the same was true of the second ten years; it was almost equally true of his third ten years, and would have been to the end of his life, had not other duties crowded it out. He made a great many books. Neither he nor I ever felt that we knew the language any too well, certainly not perfectly."

The italics in the above are our own. Those who knew Dr. Nevins know that book making was not all his work. His evangelistic work has been a great help to us. We did not quote his wife's story to discourage any one; but with the hope that the spirit of his faithfulness to the language might be an incentive and help. The man who keeps up a large amount of English reading will not often be a good vernacular speaker. Dr. Judson confined himself, like Dr. Nevins, to a limited amount of English reading. We do not count it a sacrifice. Our great desire is to be a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth in their own tongue to the people God has called us. We would not discourage any one in America thinking of the foreign field with the language as something very formidable, at the same time we would like all to count the cost and resolutely set their faces to acquiring as good a knowledge of the vernacular as possible, not shrinking from any sacrifice or toil it may involve.

Many of our missionaries had the privilege of attending the meetings held by Pastor Stockmayer, Mrs. Baxter, and Miss Murray. They first held a Convention at Ellichpur, the headquarters of the Kurku Mission. These meetings lasted a week and were exceeding helpful and precious. Then a few weeks later, just before Mr. and Mrs. Stockmayer and Mr. Baxter sailed for England, they held a week of services in Bombay at Miss Richardson's Home. Miss Murray stayed on in this country visiting more thoroughly all their mission stations, sailing some time in March. We hope to have a few day's visit from her beginning the 5th of March. How God moves His people about these latter days as witnesses.

HEALING.

AN INCIDENT. By Mrs. MILLER.

"He Holy Ghost is given to those who obey Him." Acts v. 32. A few years ago I was anointed and healed and my body was thus set apart for the Lord to go anywhere and do anything. He asked me to do. Shortly after this, not fully realising it at the time, I disobeyed. I was asked to speak at a meeting and being busy at the time refused to do it and thought no more about it until the next day, when I grew very hoarse and could not speak to be heard. The following day my voice was entirely gone and remained so until the next week. In the meantime I had been advertised to take another meeting. Here was a dilemma. The night of the meeting came and I could not utter a word; but the Lord had given me a message for the meeting and I felt I must go forward and trust Him for a voice to deliver it. At the door of the Hall I met the chairman of the meeting who spoke to me but I could..."
not answer him. At once he saw how things were and said to me. 'You will not be able to take the meeting,' but I let him understand that I was to take it. He looked at me and I saw that he was astonished at what he considered my foolishness. The Lord had given me the promise that I should not be put to shame and that I was to fear not; and He made me willing to be thought a fool for His sake. The chairman opened the meeting, with praise but I could not sing a note, but by faith I praised Him in my soul that He had given me my voice to deliver His message. The chairman then read a passage of Scripture and gave out another hymn and when we stood up to sing, my voice came back and I praised the Lord with a loud voice. Glory be to His name! I gave the message and the power of the Lord was present and souls were saved. Then the Lord revealed to me that He had permitted my voice to go because I had refused to speak for Him when He asked me. He taught me this lesson of obedience. And also that the Holy Ghost, who is come to quicken our mortal bodies, can only dwell in those who obey. Disobedience stops the life of Christ in us and through us, 'Ye are not your own for ye were bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body' (1 Cor. vi. 20). "Even Christ pleased not Himself." (Rom. xv. 3.)

"HE ABIDETH FAITHFUL."

Miss Bates.

REMEMBER how the Lord first brought these words particularly to my heart. For some time I had had a serious physical trouble. God had wonderfully strengthened me for my work, and especially when I was called upon for extra service, like taking meetings, etc. I had suffered greatly; the trouble was increasing, and I was growing weaker, until I realised forcibly that I must have definite healing or break down. I sought most earnestly to know the reason for God's delay in the matter, and was shown that while I had really trusted much of the time to be strengthened for duties as they came up, I had not definitely done so for complete healing, and consequently it was growing harder to take the Lord for daily strength.

He guided me to this verse, which I trust I shall never forget, "If we believe not, yet He abideth faithful. He cannot deny Himself." I saw then in a flash just how I had failed to trust my loving Lord. I sought and found forgiveness, took Christ afresh to be my trust, was quickly healed, and have had no return of the disease.

Many people say, "I trusted God for so long a time, to heal me; He did not, and therefore I returned to medicine." Impossible, my friends. God is too true to break His Word. He has said, "The prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up," and there must have been a flaw in your faith somewhere. The Lord never gives real faith for healing when He wishes to take a dear one Home; but oftentimes, I believe, that somehow those who are asking for healing fail to trust at some little point, and thus the enemy comes in and finds them too weak to resist. It is not for me to judge one another; but we each can individually take God to reveal our special need to us. We must have an utter yieldedness to Him, and a very definite trust; a general, vague sort of faith will not do; but there must be a real letting go of everything else, and just putting ourselves upon His almighty strength. When I was first healed these words were given me, "And if in anything ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you."

It is the same in our spiritual lives. God has given us His will, "For this is the will of God, even your sanctification," 1 Thes. iv. 3. We have been called unto holiness, 1 Thes. iv. 7. God longs to be sanctified in us, Ezek. xx. 41, but He cannot dwell in a heart that is not utterly surrendered to Him; and then we must take Him to keep the surrendered and cleansed heart moment by moment. Sometimes when I had been bitterly humiliated at repeated failures to be kept sweet and free from irritation and foolishness, I was looking to Jesus to show me where the trouble lay, He would show me, that, although I had meant to consecrate every particle of my being to Him, still I was not fully trusting Him for keeping, that I was afraid of failing, and so according to my faith was it unto me. "I feared a fear, and it came upon me." God has promised "to keep us from stumbling," Jude 24 (R.V.), and so any failure to be kept must be on our part. "If we believe not, yet He abideth faithful. He cannot deny Himself." Let God be counted true even though every man should seem to be a liar. Rom. iii. 3. 4. We cannot rest in any state of sanctification. God must be our abiding Sanctifier, our Indweller. Dear readers, let us take Him for all He longs to be to us, for a full salvation for spirit, soul and body.

Then will there be a precious overflow into other lives, and we shall be hastening the Coming of our loving Lord. 2 Pet. iii. 12. (Margin).

Your sister, "Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,"

C. B. B.
**LIST OF ALLIANCE MISSIONARIES.**

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*There is held in all our stations every Friday evening a workers' meeting whose object is to pray for the work and the workers. Allowing for the difference of time between Akola and New York, this meeting comes five hours before the three o'clock Friday meeting in the Gospel Tabernacle.*

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