THE TOMANDUNDS.—The Todamundis are a tribe that do not mix with other people. They worship the buffalo, and their principal work is feeding buffalo. They live in very funny little houses. The only light and ventilation is the door by which they enter, which is about one and one-half feet square. They will not allow any but their own people to enter their houses. Their houses are about as large as an ordinary kitchen—six or seven persons living in each one. One woman has a number of husbands. The women never leave their homes. Their dress is simply a long piece of cloth that they wrap around them, and they have no changes, but wear these until there is not much left of them. They are quite good looking. Most of the women have curly hair.—Jessie M. Saunders.
LETTERS FROM INDIA

From Miss Spence

Y. W. C. A. HOME, OOTACUMUND.


The numbers in our schools are: Velacheri Caste and Non-caste, 125; Adyar 70; Jeldenpet 65; Guindy school 40; Bangalore 65; total 375. I shall send you the ages of all the children as soon as possible. The schools at Adyar and Jeldenpet will soon be twice their number after they become well known. The photos of the children will be forthcoming also. I shall try to do them as cheaply and as well as possible.

I think the estimate you have made for monthly expenses is just splendid. It takes in everything and will leave us a balance every month to get the much needed furniture both for the school and the Mission House. I don't think I could make a better estimate than the one you have drawn up. It takes more than $5 a piece to keep each school going every month. It takes about $7 a month for each school. But this deficiency is made up I think by the large margin you have left for incidental expenses. It will therefore be advisable to let your estimate stand good.

We are both hard at work during our holiday learning all sorts of fancy work which we mean to teach the girls when we get back. We are taking lessons in point lace making, knitting and drawn work. It will pay us to teach our girls such work and I am sure they will find ready sale for them both in India and America.

You will be sorry to hear that I have not been well since coming here, not because the climate does not suit me but that the doctor says I am completely worn out and need perfect rest and quiet. I am trying my utmost to get strong and rested and I am sure that with God's blessing I shall be quite well at the end of my holiday. Jess keeps very well and is very strong. She has lost 25 pounds since January but this is a good sign for it is well to keep thin in India where the heat tries one so considerably. Bro. Edwards is plodding on diligently with the buildings in Madras. He too is thinking of taking a trip up to the hills.

YOURS in the Master's service,

A. G. SPENCE.

FROM OLD ORCHARD, MAINE

THE Old Orchard branch of the Woman's H. & F. Mission was formed September, 1900, with a membership of six. Now we have eleven members. In 1901 we took an orphan and paid fifteen dollars for its support and gave it a name. Our S. S. Orphan has been reported. This year we have paid (so far) $5 for our business helper, $5 for expenses of outgoing missionary. $5 for general work.

BELLE B. JORDAN, Sect.
DESCRIPTION OF OUR CHILDREN

MISS Spence is sending every two weeks descriptions of ten of our children. She will do this until all the foster parents have a description of their children. After that, at least as often as once a year each one supporting a child in our orphanage will hear directly from that child.

We have among the last lot of famine orphans three sisters from Cumbum. Their mother is dead and their father came with them. He does the cooking for the girls orphanage. He is a good worker and a christian. The children's names are Martha, Mary and Solma.

Martha is eight years old, small for her age but bright and smart in her studies. A very willing little worker, takes her turn with the others sweeping and gathering up the dry leaves of which we use a great many for fuel.

Mary is six years old. She is a very good girl and never gives any trouble and is happy as the day is long. She seems to enjoy very much having three good meals a day and a good place to sleep nights. Her complexion is the same as all the rest, dark. She does her hair in a funny little knot at the back. The children do not often wear their hair hanging and they feel very badly if for any reason they have to have it cut off.

Solma is four years old. She is the youngest girl we have. We call her the baby. She is the pet of the whole school. She is very cunning and bright. She has learned the twenty-third Psalm so she can say it correctly without being prompted at all. We love little Solma very much and the one that has adopted her has got a jewel.

Loganazie or L. Ruth is the second eldest girl in our school. She is very backward in her studies being naturally slow in intellect. She has a mother who is a lunatic and this to a great extent accounts for her dullness in her studies. She has a splendid physical frame and will do any amount of the hardest manual labor she is given. When she grows up she will I think do well to be a matron in charge of a hospital or some other work of this kind. She has learned to love Jesus and tries to serve Him daily.

Camalam is a tiny little girl although she is almost eleven years old. She is very prim and old-fashioned in her ways and takes especial care to have her hair well brushed down and nicely braided. She has been in our school for more than two years and loves it. She is of a very affectionate nature. She has been well instructed in Bible stories and verses and would I am sure outstrip many an English child in this respect. She is very smart in her lessons but rather slow in arithmetic. She tries her best to please us and her heavenly Father whom she loves.

Janakie or Sarah Ross is Camalam's sister. She is the biggest and oldest girl in our orphanage. She is about fourteen years old and is growing to be a very fine woman with sterling qualities. She is particularly devoted to me and it is pretty to see her anxiety for me if I ever happen to look a bit thin or pale. She is very domesticated and a good needlewoman. I hope to have her in a few years as my first Bible woman turned out at our school. This will be a glad day for me as she has been rescued out of the hands of a reprouder father and made an heir of eternal life.

Lydia is a nice bright girl, rather of a reflective turn of mind, very sensitive but sensible. She is very devoted to her studies and sometimes does better than the boys in lessons. She is remarkable how well she says her scripture verses without any mistakes and knows all her Bible stories very well indeed. She is almost thirteen years old and will grow to be a fine woman. She has an open honest face, very white teeth but her ears are pierced so that their circumference is almost larger than that of a dollar. She comes from South India where it is the custom to pierce the girls' ears till they become an enormous size. She is a bright christian and will I am sure be one of "His chosen ones" in the kingdom.

Annal is sister both to Lydia and Pakiam. She is a wee delicate little girl and although she is two years older than Pakiam who is nine years old, she looks younger. She came to us in a fearful state of emaciation. Her whole body was one mass of itch and it has taken two years for us to rid her of it. It seemed to be rooted and grounded in her system. This has naturally affected her general health and growth. She is just now looking brighter and more cheerful and the look of pain is leaving her. She is a dear little girl, so patient and gentle to all. She is very smart in her lessons and gives her verse of scripture every day most faultlessly.

Pakiam is sister both to Annal and Lydia. They have all come from South India and all have long pierced ears. She is about nine years old. She has a very open honest face, so much like her sister Lydia. She is very bright for her age and it is remarkable how well she says her scripture verses with the chapter and verse from which each is taken. Her hair is kept short but she is longing for the day when she will be able to braid it like her sister Lydia. She is a good little girl and tries to serve Jesus to the best of her ability.

Addmah and Ashhmah are two sisters. Addmah is a girl eight years old. When she came to us she was very poor and had been living on just what she could pick up mostly wild hedge fruit; but there has been a great change in her since coming to us, and she with her sister have lovely times. When we asked them recently if they would like to go back to their own country again they said "no." We are glad that they are so well pleased with their new home.

Achhmah is a girl seven years old with large bright eyes. She is a very obedient child, rather quiet but that is not strange for before coming to us she scarcely had food enough to keep life in her. Now she is looking very well and takes an interest in her studies. Her native tongue is Telugu but she is learning Tamil now. She is a sister to Addmah. Anybody that has adopted these two girls will have the satisfaction of knowing that they have saved two little lives from starvation that we hope in after years will be an honor to both their adopted parents and God.

Alice G. Spence.
MY BELOVED BROTHER EDWARDS.

In a letter published in our last paper Miss Spence speaks of the formation of a church in Guindy, which is, so far as we can learn, the first A. C. church ever organized in India. As there were several converts who desired baptism, and as Brother Edwards had never been ordained, we wrote to the former President of our Illinois Conference, stating the facts, and the Ordination Committee of that conference of which Brother Edwards is a member, sent Brother Edwards a license, a copy of which with the kind letter accompanying we publish.

THIS is to certify that as Brother W. I. Edwards now in India, is a member in good standing of the Advent Christian Conference of Southern Illinois, we the President and Chairman of the Ministerial Committee of said conference do hereby authorize our brother, W. I. Edwards to administer the ordinances of the church namely, baptism (by immersion only), and the Lord's supper, and also to perform the duties of a missionary and to conduct meetings, to preach and lecture and do any other gospel work that circumstances may require in his field of labor which is now in India.

This shall be considered valid until the annual meeting of the above named conference in the month of October, 1902, and also the action of the conference concerning the matter may have ample time to reach him in his far away field of labor.

MARSHALL MCCULLOCH,
President of A. C. Conference.

ELDER A. C. CALKINS,
Chairman of Ministerial Com. on Ordination.

TO MY BELOVED BROTHER EDWARDS.

I can assure you that it is with great pleasure that I have put my name to the above document, and I can assure you that the conference of which you are a member will do all within its power to help you in your work so far from home and native land.

May the dear Lord bless you more and more in your work, and give you many precious souls for your hire is the prayer of your brother in hope of life eternal when Jesus comes.

A. S. Calkins.
HEADQUARTERS

The Headquarters at Alton Bay was purchased by the President of the W. H. & F. M. S., and transferred by her to the W. H. & F. M. S., which is a corporate body legally competent to hold property. The bill of sale is in charge of the clerk of the society. Names of EEE previously acknowledged which have purchased shares in Headquarters:

Mabel E. Place ........................................ 1 00
Mrs. R. J. Edwards ................................... 1 00
Dover local ............................................. 1 00
Hartford local .......................................... 2 00
Northwood Narrows local .......................... 1 00
Nellie Jenness ........................................ 1 00
A. R. Organ ........................................... 1 00
Woodstock local ..................................... 1 00
Westfield local ....................................... 2 00

METHODOIST CHILDREN

The pretty little badge we had made for our members is very pleasing to all children. We have had orders for nearly 500 of these badges for the children of the Methodist mission societies, and we hope all our Advent children will buy and wear the badge. We publish a notice which someone published in the Little Worker.

A PRETTY BADGE

The children of the missionary societies of one of our churches are wearing such a pretty and appropriate little badge. It is a small white button with a blue border and the words of our Savior, "Go teach all Nations." If any of our little workers would like to get them, they can do so on the following terms: One button, postpaid, 3 cents; two for 5 cents; one dozen 25 cents. Address Mrs. S. K. Taylor, Rockland, Me. Mention the Little Worker when you write.

NEW PICTURES

We have just received some pictures of the houses where our schoolchildren live, our schoolhouses, strange modes of conveyance, curious homes, odd fashions in dress and many other interesting views. Some of these will be published in our paper. We are sure that if our people knew more about what we are doing they would love to help carry on the good work. Will you not take the paper and see if you can not get some subscribers?

A BOOKLET

We have some neat little booklets which have been given to us to sell for the benefit of one of our famine orphans. They are appropriately illustrated, spiritual in tone, and just published by the A. C. Pub. Society. The title is "Jerusalem the Golden," the author Miss M. O. Vaudry, M. A., and the price 30 cents. Order of Mrs. Sarah K. Taylor, Rockland, Maine.

Our September All Nations will be published earlier than usual because of the campmeetings. It is possible that the October paper will be a little late for the same reason.

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RESIGNATION AND BRIEF REPORT

Manchester, N. H., July, 1902.

To the Officers and Members of the Executive Board of the Woman’s Home and Foreign Mission Society:

It is with sincere regret that I tender to you my resignation as Junior Superintendent of our Mission work. Additional school duties have compelled me to relinquish this much loved labor, but I am confident that the work so feebly begun will broaden and bear rich and plenteous fruitage for the Master under future superintendence.

The need of a home for our newly acquired orphans in India seemed an excellent opportunity for practical mission interest among our children, and a year ago the "Pearl Seekers" cards were sent out for collecting money toward the erection of what should be known as the "Junior Orphanage."

To raise the five hundred dollars which would be needed seemed a large undertaking, yet as has been reported monthly on the Children’s Page of the "All Nations," the cards have been steadily received until the sum has amounted to over two hundred and fifty dollars, about one-half the needed amount realized in one year.

We have been most agreeably surprised at the response to our call and wish to thank not only the children throughout the country who have worked so loyally to send help to the less fortunate in the dark land of India; but also the officers of our Junior Societies, the Sunday School officers and teachers and the parents of the children, who merit our appreciation and gratitude.

During the year we have received reports from fourteen Junior Societies in the United States, and the Cradle Roll shows a membership of twenty-one children under the age of five years.

The educating of our children in mission work and the arousing of an interest strong enough to sympathize with and labor for those in heathen lands is surely a worthy one. Let us with stronger faith and more earnest zeal draw the children nearer to humanity and to Christ our Master.

My interest in the Junior work which has been strengthened as the months have passed will ever be strong, and my prayers and best wishes for success will ever attend the society.

Very sincerely, Lucy H. Olmsted.

NOTICE TO MAINE LOCALS

The Maine State annual business meeting of the W. H. & F. M. S. for the election of State officers and other matters of business, will be held at McFalls campground Aug. 22nd, 8:30 a. m. Let every local send delegates and reports.

Flora M. Brown, Pres.
Retha A. Glover, Sec.
A WATER FAMINE IN GUNTUR

In one of Miss Spence's letters she encloses part of a letter she received from a missionary friend in Guntur, which we know our readers would like to see.

"We have all heard a great deal about the dreadful famines in India, and those who are in charge of Famine Orphanages realize what a famine means. But a Water Famine is something different. A water famine means every garden dried up and bare, all the wells and tanks dry, hardly any water for cooking, or drinking or bathing.

Think of the poor people walking miles and miles to other villages to get a little water to carry home, think of them digging holes in the ground and waiting and watching for the water to come up. Sometimes they bring their cots there, and put them over the holes and wait there all night, in the early morning they get up collect the precious water from the hole and carry it home to cook their morning meal. The richer people buy their water. Isn't that terrible? Fancy having to buy so free a thing as water!

In the Girls' Boarding School a water famine means no daily baths, no washing schoolroom floors and verandahs; it means very many thirsty children and very many dirty children, also very many grumbling children: It means every drop of water is treasured like gold and the child who willfully wastes water has to go without any.

The want of water causes sad distress in the Mission Hospital and the precious fluid is measured and given out and very carefully watched. Sometimes kind friends will present the hospital, with a pot or two of water which is most joyfully and gratefully accepted.

There are three very large tanks in Guntur, with hundreds of steps leading down to the bottom. These steps or at least a very few of them can be seen when there is plenty of water, but if you were to take a walk to these tanks during a water-famine you would be able to see every one of the hundreds of steps, and on these steps crowds of men women and children, each with their pot waiting hours, some perhaps a whole day to get that pot full of water to carry home. It is a most heart-rending sight to see the poor little bits of boys and girls, almost babies in fact, sitting and waiting so patiently for the drops of water that ooze out of the crevices of the stone steps. These drops they catch in their half coconut shells and pour them ever so carefully into the pot, then when the pot is full they carry it up, up the many steps home, and perhaps are sent back again for more.

Such is the sad state of things now in Guntur, but we are hoping and praying that we shall soon have the rains and that God will be graciously pleased to send upon the dry and thirsty land refreshing showers.

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FROM INDIA
From W. I. Edwards

GUINDY, INDIA.
A. C. MISSION HOUSE, May 28, 1902.

DEAR MRS. TAYLOR:

WILL you please state to the W. H. & F. M. S. that I enjoy and appreciate the bicycle sent out for my use very much. I trust that I shall be enabled to use it to the glory of our Master and feel grateful indeed for the kindness thus shown to me. Please thank the sisters for me.

You may be somewhat surprised that I am still at Guindy after the way you wrote me in yours of the 3rd of April. But don’t you fear about me breaking down. I believe the Lord will sustain me in what he leads me to undertake. Then too, my manner of living is still plain so I think that I am less subject to the heat than many others. I may take a short run up to the hills for a few weeks if I feel at all as if the heat should be getting the best of me. While I keep in good trim here, I am sorry to say that Miss Spence is having some trouble with her health even up at Ooty. I am not the only white man here by any means. There are ‘lots of Tourists’ at St. Thomas Mt. only three miles off.

Yes I have had the comfort of the things that came to me in the box and I am now getting the comfort of my bicycle.

The repairs to the buildings here that are being done occupy considerable of my time and I have to trot back and forth to Villecherry to see that the children who have been ailing with the itch are properly looked after. There are two boys there who have the chicken pox. I am also getting ready to build some more there, partly for my own convenience and also for the convenience of the children who have been ailing with the itch. I am also getting ready to care for our children. I feel that I must have a hospital there.

W. I. EDWARDS.

OUR CHILDREN

WE publish this month the description of a few of our children, but after this we do not expect to publish the personal word sent to the foster parents, unless the child should be supported by several parties, residing in different localities as is Meshak who was “adopted” at Beebe Plain camp-meeting. Everyone who pays $1.00 a year towards his support will like to read this description of Meshak.

Meshak is one of three brothers, Shadrack, Meshak and Abednego. He has been very delicate ever since he has been with us but this year he seems to have lost the cough he has had ever since he came to us. He is a very studious boy and loves his studies. He is of a very gentle and contemplative nature. He is a very good boy and promises to be a bright Christian lad. He is eleven years old.

THE annual meeting of the W. H. & F. M. S. of New Hampshire will be held at Alton Bay, Tuesday, August 19. Let every member in New Hampshire come and help us. Each Local is requested to elect delegates as per constitution.

LULA H. BOY, Pres.
LILLA M. STEVENS, Sec.

THE FAMINE ORPHANS

AGAIN we thank those who have “adopted” children in India and have not received them for their great patience, and again we explain the circumstances to the many who do not yet understand the reason of this long delay.

When we were impressed to make an effort to rescue starving children in India, we at once wrote to Captain Spence, our general manager in India laying the matter before him, and at the same time called upon our people to take up the great work. The response was prompt and generous. In a few weeks about forty children were “adopted” by different parties, that is forty different parties agreed to support one of these famine orphans if we could rescue them, and sent money to board a child for a year. As our mission station is located about seven hundred miles from the famine district, Captain Spence advised us to get someone in the district to rescue the children for us, so we applied to the Christian Herald.

The Christian Herald missionaries rescued for us a hundred famine orphans, and we sent $1200 to pay their board a year in some institution that would keep them for us until we could erect orphanages and get ready to receive them. Meanwhile the government prohibited the removal of famine orphans, some of the missionaries having charge of this department died, the new missionaries were overworked and lost track of part of the business, and when the time came that the government would permit the children to be removed, no one knew where our children were being boarded. However, after much correspondence all around, they were found, and thirty were taken to Guindy and delivered to Miss Spence. These were at once assigned to the parties who first “adopted” famine orphans, but many have had to wait, and are still waiting to hear from the child they have supported for two years. THE CHILD IS SAFE.

We have seventy more famine orphans somewhere in India which God has given to us, and we are expecting every mail to hear from them. The Christian Herald sympathizing with our trial, generously donated to us $1200, and with this we are building an orphanage and otherwise getting ready to care for our children. The expense of moving the children is not small, and will take a considerable share of the $1200.

The poor orphans since coming to us have had small pox, measles, chicken pox and itch and all this costs money as parents will understand. However every need has so far been supplied, and we expect that “our God will supply all our need according to His riches in glory through Christ Jesus, our Lord.”

Our children in America are trying to raise money to erect an orphanage for our girls, to be called the Junior Orphanage. They have raised over $250 for this purpose, and are still at work.

BADGES

A SMALL white button with a blue border and the words of our Savior, “Go teach all nations.” Do you wear this little preacher? Price 5 cents; two for 5 cents. When sent singly by mail, one cent extra. 25 cents a dozen.
GRACIE'S MISSIONARY DOLLS

Ada Melville Shaw

Gracie had seventeen dolls, and each doll had three full sets of clothes. Besides these, there were four very fine dresses with wraps, hats and shoes to match, that belonged to the big family in common, to be worn turn and turn about as there was occasion. But the dolls were well-educated little people, and never said an ugly word when one was dressed up and taken out while the others were let at home.

I am sure you want to know these dolls' names. They are very funny, but then Gracie was a funny child. She called her pets as follows: Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Red, Yellow, Purple, Pink, Orange, Blue, Scarlet, Prunes, Prisms, Peaches.

She would never tell me why she named the poor things so, and I could never guess! Can you? But I must tell you the story:

Gracie was interested in missionaries and missionary work from the time she could toddle. That was because her mother belonged to the W. F. M. S. (Who knows what that is?) When she was old enough she became a Mission Band lassie, and among all the members none was so busy, and so in earnest to help send the story of Jesus to heathen lands, as this same Gracie. She loved to play with Monday and Peaches and Yellow, and all the rest, but she loved to work for the dear Saviour much better.

A big box was going to be sent by the W. F. M. S. to some of the people in India who escaped the dreadful plague, and the dreadful famine, and were growing up in the Christian missions, taught every day more about Jesus. The Band that Gracie belonged to had nothing to do with this box. Sometimes they "helped" but not this time. Gracie felt very badly to be left out, and finally made up her mind she must send those dear little "starvation children" in India a Christmas present.

When the W. F. M. S. ladies were packing the box here came Gracie, puffing and blowing.

"Oh, please?" she panted, "I've got a whole 'spres load outdoors to go in!"

Sure enough! She had dressed sixteen of the dolls in their very best, packed up all their extra suits in a play trunk and wanted them sent to India. But she had done more than that; she had written sixteen little letters—and oh, how hard it was for Gracie to write letters!—and pinned one to each doll's dress. The letters were alike.

Some of the ladies thought there was no room in the box, but others said those dolls would preach sixteen sermons and must go. And they did.

I wish I could have been there when the dolls were given away. I am sure they were real missionary dolls and that Jesus blessed the little Gracie kept Prisms for herself—a shabby little doll with all her teeth knocked out—but dollies and little mother are very happy.—Children's Missionary Friend.