MINUTES
OF THE
THIRTEENTH SESSION
OF THE
Bengal - Burma
Annual Conference
OF THE
Methodist Episcopal Church,
HELD AT
Calcutta, January 25—30, 1900.

BISHOP J. M. THOBURN,
President.

WILLIAM P. BYERS,
Secretary.

Calcutta:
Printed at the Methodist Publishing House,
46, Dharamtala Street,
1900.
Rules of Order.

I.—All the business of the Conference, excepting such as may be brought forward by the President, shall be by motion.

II.—All questions of order shall be determined by the President, whose decision shall in all cases prevail, unless overruled by an appeal to the Conference; and three members dissenting from the President's judgment shall have a right to appeal to the Conference.

III.—The President shall appoint all committees not otherwise specially ordered by the Conference.

IV.—All motions or resolutions introduced by any member of the Conference shall be reduced to writing, if the Secretary or any member requests it.

V.—No new motion or resolution shall be entertained till the one under consideration shall be disposed of, which may be by adoption or rejection, unless one of the following motions should intervene, namely, indefinite postponement, postponement till a given time, to lie on the table, or to amend; and these motions shall have precedence in the order in which they are placed.

VI.—Every member shall have a right to speak on any motion, but not speak more than fifteen minutes at any one time, nor more than once on any one subject until all have spoken who desire to do so; unless by special permission of the Conference.

VII.—Every member when he speaks, shall rise from his seat, and respectfully address the chair; and shall not, on any occasion, use personal reflections or intemperate language.

VIII.—When a member intends to make complaint against another having a bearing upon his moral character, he shall apprize such brother of his intention, before he brings it into Conference.

IX.—No member shall absent himself from the services of the Conference unless he be sick or unable to attend.

X.—It shall be in order for any member of the Conference, when he thinks a question has been sufficiently discussed, to move that the question be taken without further debate; and if the motion be sustained by two-thirds of the members present and voting, the main question shall be put without further discussion.

Rules of Finance Committee.

I.—The Committee shall do business only in session convened.

II.—A majority of the members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

III.—Presiding Elders shall have authority to call a meeting of the Committee during the interim of Conference sessions.

IV.—A copy of the proceedings of such meetings shall be forwarded to absent members.
Conference Officers.

William P. Byers..................................................Secretary.
Joseph Culshaw..................................................Assistant Secretary.
Homer Wroten.................................................. Statistical Secretary.
Frank E. Lieden.................................................. Assistant Statistical Secretary.
Benjamin J. Chew........................................... Corresponding Secretary.
John E. Robinson................................ Conference Treasurer of the Mission Board.
Benjamin J. Chew................................ Treasuror of the Conference Board of Stewards.

CONFERENCES.


Board of Deaconess Work.—F. W. Warne, C. B. Hill, D. H. Lee, Miss Campbell, Mrs. Robinson, Miss Craig, Mrs. Warne, Miss Samson, Mrs. Chew.


Board of Epworth League.—President, W. P. Byers; Burma District, A. T. Leonard; Calcutta District, Miss Samson; Tirhut District, Miss Sudeistrom; Secretary and Treasurer, Joseph Culshaw.

Bareilly Theological Seminary Board.—Bengal-Burma Conference Member, Henry Jackson.

STANDING COMMITTEES.


Missions.—J. P. Meik, Homer Wroten, B. J. Chew, C. C. Das.


Temperance.—Homer Wroten, B. M. Mozumdar, L. C. Sircar.


Public Worship.—The Presiding Elder and the preacher-in-charge of the place where Conference shall be appointed.
MINUTES
OF THE
Proceedings of the Bengal-Burma Conference of the
Methodist Episcopal Church.
Held in the City of Calcutta, India, Commencing on Friday,
January 26th, 1900.

JOURNAL.

FIRST SESSION.

Calcutta, January 26, 1900.

The thirteenth session of the Bengal-Burma Conference convened in the Dharamtala Street Methodist Episcopal Church, on Friday, the 26th of January, 1900, at 11 o'clock A.M., Bishop J. M. Thoburn, D.D., LL.D., presiding.

Opening.—The Conference was opened by the singing of the 54th hymn, "Jesus shall reign where'er the sun," after which Dr. Luering read the second chapter of Titus and led in prayer.

Roll.—The Secretary of the previous Conference called the roll, when the following brethren answered to their names:


Organization.—On motion, W. P. Byers was elected secretary and Joseph Culshaw was chosen as assistant secretary. Henry Jackson was appointed Statistical Secretary and B. J. Chew, Treasurer of the Conference Board.

Transfer.—The Bishop announced the transfer of Homer Wroten from the Upper Iowa Conference to the Bengal-Burma Conference.
Address.—Bishop Thoburn addressed the Conference, and announced that acting on his physician’s orders, he would leave the main business of the conference to be directed by the presiding elders in turn, Henry Jackson to take the chair to-day.

Chair.—Henry Jackson, Presiding Elder of the Tirhut District, took the chair.

Introduction.—The following were introduced to the Conference: Dr. and Mrs. Luering of Singapore; A. T. and Mrs. Leonard from Pegu; Homer Wroten; F. E. Lieden just returned from furlough; Miss Samson; Miss Fisher from South India; Miss Kyle from North India; Miss Knowles returned from America and Miss McKinley; Miss Dart, and Mrs. Smith.

Hours of Session.—On motion of J. P. Meik, the hours of session were fixed from 10-30 A.M. to 1 P.M.

Standing Committees.—On motion of J. E. Robinson, the Standing Committees were confirmed.

The 13th Question.—The name of J. E. Robinson, Presiding Elder of the Asansol District, was called, and his character was passed. He read the report of his district.

Introduction.—Dr. J. L. Humphrey, of the North India Conference, the senior Methodist Missionary in India, was introduced, and addressed the conference, also Miss Dunhill, an honorary worker in the Wesleyan Mission at Bangalore.

Committee on Resolutions.—A committee of three on resolutions was appointed by the chair, viz.: J. E. Robinson, Julius Smith and B. J. Chew.

Committee on Training School.—On motion of F. W. Warne, the following committee was appointed to consider the matter of a Training School for Bengali preachers: The Presiding Elders of the Asansol and Calcutta Districts, J. P. Meik, W. P. Byers, B. J. Chew, J. Culshaw, F. E. Lieden and B. M. Mozumdar.

Rules of Order.—On motion, the rules of order printed in the conference minutes were adopted.

Order of the Day.—On motion, the election of delegates to the General and Central Conferences was made the order of the day for Monday, at 12 o’clock.

The 13th Question.—The name of W. P. Byers was called, his character was passed, and he reported his collections.

The name of J. P. Meik was called, his character was passed and he reported his collections.

The name of Julius Smith, Presiding Elder of the Burma District was called, his character passed, he reported his collections, and read the report of his district.
Introductions.—Mrs. Fawcett Shaw of the South India Conference; B. R. Barber of the Y.M.C.A., of Calcutta; and Miss Turrell of the Girls' School, Rangoon, were introduced to the Conference.

Dr. Humphrey.—The following resolution was presented: Resolved:—That it has afforded us sincere gratification to have Dr. J. L. Humphrey of the North India Conference visit us at this time, and to hear his cheering testimony respecting the growth of our Church and its present prosperity. We thank God for what He has permitted our brother to do and to see during the long period of his connection with our Indian Mission field. Now that he is retiring from active service we affectionately commend him to God, praying that his life may be prolonged, and that he may be permitted to aid the cause he loves by his personal advocacy thereof in the home land.

It was adopted by a standing vote.

The 13th Question.—The name of F. W. Warne, Presiding Elder of the Calcutta District, was called, and his character was passed. He reported his collections and read the report of his district.

Introduction.—Mrs. Humphrey was introduced to the Conference.

Adjournment.—On motion, the Conference adjourned to meet on Saturday at 10:30 A.M.

The announcements were made and the benediction was pronounced.

SECOND SESSION.

Saturday, January 27th, 1900.

The second session was called to order at 10:30 by J. E. Robinson.

Opening.—The devotional exercises were conducted by A. T. Leonard.

Minutes.—The minutes of the previous session were read and approved.

Introductions.—W. A. Mansell, from North India, was introduced to the Conference, and was asked to sit within the bar of the Conference and to take part in the deliberations. Mrs. Stephens and Mrs. D. O. Fox from the Bombay Conference, and Miss Dr. Sheldon from the North India Conference were also introduced.

The 13th Question.—The name of Henry Jackson, Presiding Elder of the Tirhut District, was called and his character was passed. He read the report of his district and reported his collections.
**Introduction.**—Dr. H. Mansell of North-West India Conference was introduced to the Conference.

**The 13th Question.**—The name of F. E. Lieden was called, and his character was passed.

The name of A. T. Leonard was called, his character was passed, and he reported his collections.

The names of B. J. Chew, J. Culshaw, Charles Dowring, and D. H. Lee were called, they reported their collections, and their characters were passed.

The names of John Robert and Nain Sukh were called, they reported their collections, and their characters were passed.

**The 7th Question.**—The names of S. C. Biswas, C. C. Das, and L. C. Sircar were called. They answered the usual disciplinary questions and gave satisfactory written answers to question (1) and (2) of ¶ 146 of the discipline. The Presiding Officer addressed them upon the sacred duties and obligations of the ministry.

The name of Sitol C. Biswas was called, his character was passed, and he was reported to have passed in the studies of the second year. On motion of J. E. Robinson, his Presiding Elder, he was admitted to full membership with the Conference, elected to deacon's orders, and advanced to the studies of the third year.

**Lay Electoral Conference.**—The Chairman of the Lay Electoral Conference, C. J. A. Pritchard, was introduced, and the Secretary of the Lay Electoral Conference, Miss Blair, read the report of its proceedings, which, on motion, were ordered to be printed in the Conference Minutes.

**The 7th Question.**—The name of C. C. Das was called, his character passed, and he was reported to have passed his examinations. On motion of F. W. Warne, he was received into full connection with the Conference, elected to deacon's orders.

The name of L. C. Sircar was called, his character was passed, and he was reported to have passed the examinations of the second year. On motion of F. W. Warne, he was continued on trial in the studies of the third year.

**The 8th Question.**—The name of G. S. Henderson was called he reported his collections, his character was passed, and he was continued in the studies of the third year.

**The 10th Question.**—The name of B. M. Mozumdar was called, he reported his collections, his character was passed, and, having completed his course of studies, on motion of F. W. Warne, he was elected to elder's orders, and advanced to the class of effective elders.

The name of S. M. Mondol was called, his character was passed, he reported his collections, and having completed his course of studies, on motion of J. P. Meik, he was elected to elder's orders, and advanced to the class of effective elders.
Ordination Service.—On motion of F. W. Warne, the ordination of deacons and elders was ordered to be held in the Bengali Church on the Sunday afternoon.

The 15th Question.—It being stated that no death had occurred among the members of the conference, the Presiding Officer asked the Conference to sing the doxology.

Standing Committees.—On motion of Joseph Culshaw, the Presiding Elders were appointed a Committee to nominate the Standing Committees.

The 30th Question.—On motion, it was decided to hold the next conference at Pakur.

A Needy Case.—On motion, the case of the support of Behari Biswas was referred to the Finance Committee.

Calcutta Christian Schools Society.—On motion of F. W. Warne the following persons were elected on the Committee of the Calcutta Christian Schools Society for 1900. R. Laidlaw, C. J. A. Pritchard, William Ross, and H. H. Remfry.

Visiting Committee.—On motion of F. W. Warne, it was resolved that the members of the Board of Education be requested to visit the schools under the supervision of the Conference and to make their report from personal observation of the working of the schools.

Corresponding Secretary.—On motion of F. W. Warne, B. J. Chew was elected Corresponding Secretary of the Conference.

Memorial to Central Conference.—On motion, the following memorial to Central Conference was adopted:

In view of the necessity of sending to the mission fields of the church only such men and women as will give the most satisfactory evidence of fitness and ability to be missionaries, and to provide a preliminary training to candidates, we, the members of the Bengal-Burma Conference, memorialize the Central Conference to request the Board of Missions and the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, to officially recognize or organize Missionary Institutions in which missionary candidates may spend some time in study and training under experienced supervision, before being sent out to the foreign field.

B. J. Chew.
F. W. Warne.

Extension of Time.—On motion, the time was extended for ten minutes.

Grant of Tract Money.—On motion of Joseph Culshaw, the Conference resolved to request the Local Publishing Committee of the Methodist Publishing House to make a grant of Rs. 200 towards the expenses of a Catechism in the Burmese language prepared by A. T. Leonard, from the next grant to the Publishing House.
Adjournment.—The time having expired, the conference adjourned to meet on Monday morning at 10:30.

The announcements were made, the doxology sung, and the benediction was pronounced.

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THIRD SESSION.

Monday, January 29, 1900.

The third session was called to order at 10:30 by Julius Smith.

Opening Services.—The devotional exercises were conducted by W. P. Byers.

Minutes.—The minutes of the previous session were read and approved.

Certificate of Ordination.—The following certificate of ordination was presented by the Bishop:

This is to certify that I have this day ordained Bono Mali Mozumdar and Surju Mohon Mondol to the office of Elder in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and at the same time and place I have ordained Chunder Kanto Das and Sitol Chunder Biswas to the office of deacons in said Church.

Calcutta, J. M. Thorburn.

January 28, 1900.

The 9th Question.—The name of C. B. Hill was called, his character was passed, he reported his collections, and, having passed in the studies of the third year, he was advanced to the studies of the fourth year. The committee on examinations reported that he had passed the first year examinations in Burmese.

The 22nd Question. The name of E. S. Ekdahl was called, and he was continued in the supernumerary relation.

Statistics.—The report of the Statistical Secretary was read by H. Jackson, in part, and adopted.

The Chair.—The Bishop at this stage of the proceedings took the chair.

Central Conference Election.—On motion of Julius Smith, it was resolved that the five members receiving the highest majority be the delegates to the Central Conference.

The Order of the Day.—The Order of the Day was called for, and, on motion, the order of the elections was changed, and the election of delegates to the Central Conference was proceeded with first. B. J. Chew and B. M. Mozumdar were appointed tellers. J. E. Robinson, F. W. Warne, and B. J. Chew were elected on the first ballot.
Memorial to Central Conference. — The following memorial to Central Conference was adopted:

That we recommend to Central Conference to amend para ten of the Constitution of the Board of Publication, so that it shall more definitely prohibit vernacular translations and publications by individual missionaries being sent forth under the auspices of our church, without first submitting the same for approval to some appointed competent authority.

Official Minutes. — On motion of D. H. Lee it was resolved that the printed minutes of the Bengal-Burma Conference for the past four years be the official record of the Conference.

Memorial to Central Conference. — On motion of F. W. Warne, the following memorial to Central Conference was adopted:

Whereas Methodism has been in Burma for nearly twenty-one years, first, entirely on self-support among English-speaking people, and till now chiefly so, and though so long here, for want of even a comparatively small appropriation for evangelizing the Burmese, we have only been able to make a slight beginning in mission work among these people, and

Whereas the field, a large province with 8,000,000 of Burmese, not 3,000 of whom are members of evangelical missions, is as needy as any portion of the non-Christian world, and

Whereas the missionaries from the first have done as heroic service as any in the Church, and waited long for men and money enough to really found our mission among the Burmese; but they have not had these reinforcements, and do not see them as probable under the present organization of our Conference boundaries, and

Whereas the Missionary Committee is being asked to open new missions in various fields, thus giving expression to the missionary spirit of the Church, at the opening of the Twentieth Century; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That while cordially approving of the opening of new mission fields, we, the members of the Bengal-Burma Conference, urge upon the Central Conference that it memorialize the General Conference to constitute Burma a “Mission,” as it is a large, needy field, and distant and distinct in character from any other portion of our Southern Asiatic Methodism.

Central Conference Delegates. — The tellers returned and reported that there was no election on the second ballot.

Board of Conference Stewards. — The report of the Board of Conference Stewards was presented by H. Jackson and adopted.

Board of Education. — J. P. Meik presented the report of the Board of Education. On motion, it was recommitted.
Central Conference Delegates.—Julius Smith was elected on the third ballot to Central Conference.

Extension of Time.—On motion of Joseph Culshaw the time was extended.

Central Conference Delegates.—On the fourth ballot there was no election.

Deaconess Board.—The report of the Deaconess Board was presented by D. H. Lee, which, on motion, was received.

Central Conference Delegates.—On the fifth ballot there was no election. On the sixth ballot there was no election.

Introduction.—F. W. May and Mrs. Dr. Mansell were introduced.

Missions.—The report of the Committee on Missions was submitted by D. H. Lee and adopted.

Central Conference Delegates.—On the seventh ballot D. H. Lee was elected. On motion, J. P. Meik was elected alternate.

General Conference Delegate.—On motion, it was decided that the election for General Conference delegate be by ballot: F. W. Warne was elected.

Sunday Schools.—The Report of the Committee on Sunday Schools was read by Joseph Culshaw and adopted.

General Conference Alternate Delegate.—Julius Smith was elected alternate delegate to General Conference.

Adjournment.—The Conference adjourned to meet at 7:30 this evening.

The announcements were made and the Bishop pronounced the benediction.

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FOURTH SESSION.

Monday, January 29, 1900.

The Fourth Session was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by Julius Smith.

Opening Service.—The devotional services were conducted by W. A. Mansell.

Minutes.—The minutes of the previous session were read and approved.

Benevolent Collections.—B. J. Chew, Treasurer of the Conference Board, reported aggregate of the Benevolent Collections at Rs. 10,891.
Conference Boards.—On motion of J. E. Robinson, the following report of the Presiding Elders concerning the Conference Boards was accepted.

BOARD OF DEACONESS WORK.—F. W. Warne, C. B. Hill, D. H. Lee, Miss Campbell, Mrs. Robinson, Miss Craig, Mrs. Warne, Miss Samson, Mrs. Chew.


BOARD OF EPWORTH LEAGUE.—President, W. P. Byers; Burma District, A. T. Leonard; Calcutta District, Miss Samson; Tirhoot District, Miss Sunderstrom; Secretary and Treasurer, Joseph Culshaw.

Standing Committees.—On motion of J. E. Robinson, the following report of the Presiding Elders concerning the Standing Committees was accepted.


TEMPERANCE.—Homer Wroten, B. M. Mozumdar, L. C. Sircar.


PUBLIC WORSHIP. The Presiding Elder and the preacher-in-charge of the place where Conference shall be appointed.

Theological Seminary Board.—On motion of Joseph Culshaw, Henry Jackson was re-appointed the Conference member of the Bareilly Theological Seminary Board.

Statistical Secretary.—The resignation of Henry Jackson as Statistical Secretary, was accepted. Homer Wroten was appointed Statistical Secretary, and he chose F. E. Lieden, Assistant Statistical Secretary.

Treasurer.—On motion of W. P. Byers, J. E. Robinson was nominated Treasurer of the Missionary Society for the Bengal-Burma Conference.

Thanks to the Treasurer.—On motion of F. W. Warne, by a standing vote the Conference expressed its sense of gratitude to J. E. Robinson for his good work as Treasurer of the Board of Missions.
Relief Fund.—B. J. Chew presented the following resolution from the Finance Committee, and it was adopted: Resolved, that we recommend the Annual Conference to establish a Relief Fund for the assistance of mission agents who have no claims upon the Benevolences of the Annual Conference, and that they request the churches to take a collection yearly for this Fund.

On motion of F. W. Warne, it was decided that this fund be administered by the Conference Board of Stewards.

Payment of Wives of Native Workers—Resolved: That this Conference considers it inexpedient to lay down any hard and fast rule concerning the payment of the wives of our Native Workers.

J. Culshaw.

B. J. Chew.

Board of Education.—On motion of F. W. Warne, the report of the Board of Education was adopted.

Auditing.—On motion, it was ordered that the certificates of auditing of the Presiding Elders be attached to the Auditor's Report.

Auditing Committee's Report.—The report of the Auditing Committee, as presented by B. J. Chew, was adopted.

Temperance Committee.—The report of the Committee on Temperance was read by G. S. Henderson and adopted.

State of the Church.—The report of the committee on the State of the Church was read by C. B. Hill and adopted.

Finance Committee.—The Conference, on motion, proceeded to the election of the Finance Committee. It was moved that six persons, in addition to the ex-officio members, be elected. G S. Henderson and D. H. Lee were appointed tellers.

Printing the Minutes.—On motion of W. P. Byers, the Secretaries of the Conference were appointed a committee to print and publish the minutes. An edition of 300 was ordered to be printed.

Committee on Resolutions.—The report of the Committee on Resolutions was presented by J. E. Robinson. It was adopted as far as read. [See Resolutions].

Finance Committee.—The result of the first ballot for the Finance Committee was found to be in favour of C. Dowring, B. M. Mozumdar, W. P. Byers and C. B. Hill.

Colportage Report.—The report of the Colportage Committee was presented by C. Das and was adopted.

Delegates from the Woman's Conference to the Central Conference.—It was announced that Miss Knowles and Miss Maxey were elected by the Woman's Conference as the delegates to the Central Conference. Mrs. Lee was elected alternate.
Finance Committee.—On the fourth ballot for the Finance Committee S. M. Mondol and Joseph Culshaw were elected. J. P. Meik and John Robert were elected as alternates.

Adjournment.—On motion, the Conference adjourned to meet at 10-15 to-morrow morning.
The doxology was sung and the benediction pronounced.

FIFTH SESSION.

Tuesday, January 30, 1900.
The Fifth Session was called to order by the Bishop.

Opening Service.—The devotional services were conducted by J. W. Robinson.

Minutes.—The minutes of the previous session were read and approved.


Introduction.—Dr. E. W. Parker and N. L. Rockey of the North India Conference were introduced and asked to sit within the bar of the Conference.

Bishop Thoburn.—Resolved, That we view with unusual sympathy and concern the present serious indisposition of our beloved leader, Bishop Thoburn, and hereby convey to him the assurance of our deepest affection and esteem, earnestly praying that it may please God speedily to restore him to perfect health. We pray that during these days of physical depression the sustaining and comforting grace of God may be vouchsafed unto him in abundant measure. Assured that it will be a comfort to him in this time of enforced rest and comparative inactivity to know that the work which lies so close to his heart shall not suffer loss, we pledge our best efforts to carry it on with increased zeal and efficiency.

We also desire to express our sympathy with Mrs. Thoburn in this time of feebleness and separation from her husband, and pray that through the Divine blessing she may soon have her shattered health restored. We send her most affectionate greeting in our Master's name hoping that it may please God to see her among us in India once more, to resume her earnest labours for Christ in behalf of the needy people of this land.

Conference Sermon.—B. M. Mozundar was appointed to preach the Conference Sermon.

Adjournment.—On motion, it was resolved that after the hearing of the minutes, and reading the appointments, the conference adjourn sine die.

W. P. Byers, Secretary.

J. M. Thoburn, President.
## Conference Directory

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<th>Vernacular</th>
<th>Year of Ver. Course now studying</th>
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<td>19. Sircar, Lakhon C. Tumlook</td>
<td>1890</td>
<td>1890</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>Bengali</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Smith, Julius, Rangoon...</td>
<td>1890</td>
<td>1894</td>
<td>Bengal-Burma</td>
<td>4th</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>Bengali</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. Sukh, Nain, Chapra</td>
<td>1892</td>
<td>1895</td>
<td>Rock River</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>Bengali</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. Warne, Frank W., Calcutta</td>
<td>1893</td>
<td>1897</td>
<td>Upper Iowa</td>
<td>4th</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>Bengali</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. Wroten, Homer, Calcutta...</td>
<td>1893</td>
<td>1897</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Disciplinary Questions.

Question I. Who have been received by transfer and from what Conference?
Homer Wroten, from the Upper Iowa Conference.

II. Who have been re-admitted?
None.

III. Who have been received on credentials and from what churches?
None.

IV. Who have been received on trial?
None.

V. Who have been continued on trial?
1. In the studies of the second year. None.
2. In the studies of the third year. Lakhan C. Sarcar.

VI. Who have been discontinued?
None.

VII. Who have been admitted into full membership?
(a) Chander C. Das, Sitol Chunder Biswas.

VIII. What members are in studies of the third year?
(a) Sitol C. Biswas,
(b) G. S. Henderson.

IX. What members are in studies of the fourth year?
E. S. Ekdahl, to bring up Supernatural Book and Hermeneutics of the third year. C. B. Hill, Homer Wroten.

X. What members have completed the Conference Course of study?

XI. What others have been elected and ordained Deacons?
None.

XII. What others have been elected and ordained elders?
None.

XIII. Was the character of each preacher examined?
This was strictly done as the name of each preacher was called in open Conference.

XIV. Who have been transferred and to what Conference?
None.

XV. Who have died?
None.

XVI. Who have been located at their own request?
None.

XVII. Who have been located?
None.
XXVIII. Who have withdrawn?
None.

XXIX. Who have been permitted to withdraw under charges or complaints?
None.

XXX. Who have been expelled?
None.

XXXI. What other Personal Notation should be made?
None.

XXXII. Who are the Supernumerary Preachers?
E. S. Ekdahl.

XXXIII. Who are the Superannuated Preachers?
None.

XXXIV. Who are the Tiers of Appeals?

XXXV. What is the Statistical Report for this year?

XXXVI. What is the aggregate of the Benevolent Collections ordered by the General Conference, as reported by the Conference Treasurer?
Rs. 10,891.

XXXVII. What are the claims on the Conference Funds?
$266 \times 3 = Rs. 800.

XXXVIII. What has been received on these claims and how has it been applied?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Rs.</th>
<th>A. P</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Received by balance, 1897</td>
<td>274</td>
<td>0 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference Collections for 1899</td>
<td>273</td>
<td>0 0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Due by interest</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>4 0</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>To date Total</strong></td>
<td>692</td>
<td>4 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debit balance to be realized from Methodist Book concern</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>1 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>800</td>
<td>0 0</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Rs.</th>
<th>A. P</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To Rev. E. S. Ekdahl</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Goodwin $200 \times 3 =</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>0 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance carried forward</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>800</td>
<td>0 0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

XXIX. Where are the Preachers stationed?
See appointments.

XXX. Where shall the next Conference be held?
Pakur.
APPOINTMENTS, 1900.

BENGAL-BURMA ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

ASANSOL DISTRICT.—J. E. Robinson, P. E. (P. O.—Calcutta.)

Asansol... ... ... ... W. P. Byers.
Bolpur and Rampur Haut... ... F. E. Lieden, Surju M. Mondol.
Pakur ... ... J. P. Meik, Sitol C. Biswas.
Editor, Indian Witness ... ... J. E. Robinson.
Supernumerary ... ... E. S. Ekdahl.

BURMA DISTRICT.—Julius Smith, P. E. (P. O.—Toungoo.)

Chauktan ... ... ... Khokine, supply.
Pegu and Sittang ... A. T. Leonard, John Krull, supply.
Rangoon English Church ... ... C. H. Hill.
" Seamen's East ... B. Lichtenberg, supply.
" Tamil and Telugu ... Supplied by R. E. Cully.
" Chinese ... " Gau Tay.
Than Daung ... ... Julius Smith.

CALCUTTA DISTRICT.—F. W. Warne, P. E. (P. O. Calcutta.)

Calcutta, Beg Bagan ... ... ... D. H. Lee.
" Bengali Church ... ... Joseph Culshaw.
" Boys' School ... ... J. Gordon Kennedy.
" City Missions and Baliaghatta ... D. H. Lee, Chunder C. Das.
Diaphanous Harbour Circuit B. M. Mozumdar, Lakan C. Sircar.
" English Church ... F. W. Warne, Homer Wroten.
" Hindustani Mission ... Charles Dowring.
CALCUTTA DISTRICT—continued.

CALCUTTA, Principal, American Methodist Institution ... B. J. Chew.


SOUTH VILLAGES ... ... ... ... B. J. Chew.

Agent, Methodist Publishing House, Joseph Culshaw.

TIRHOOT DISTRICT.—H. Jackson, P. E. (P.O.-Mozafarpur.)

Bettiah ... ... ... ... John Robert.

Chapra ... ... ... ... Nain Sukh.

Darbhanga ... ... ... ... Supplied by Khushyal.

Dinapur ... ... ... ... " Kali Charan.

Mozafarpur ... ... ... ... Henry Jackson.

Samastipur ... ... ... ... Supplied by Mulchand.

Sitanari ... ... ... ... " John Peter.

W O M A N ' S C O N F E R E N C E.

Asansol District.

Asansol Woman's Work ... ... Mrs. Byers.

" Girls' School ... ... Miss Forster.

" Evangelistic Work ... ... Miss Lamb.

Bolpur ... ... ... ... Mrs. Robinson.

Pakur ... ... ... ... Mrs. Meik, Miss Jacobson.

Burma District.

Pegu Woman's Work ... ... Mrs. Leonard.

Rangoon English School Miss Turrell, Principal; Miss Illingsworth.

" Burmese School ... ... Miss Illingsworth.

" English Church ... ... Mrs. Hill.

Than Daung ... ... ... Miss Perkins, Mrs. Smith.
**Calcutta District.**

**Calcutta, Beg Bagan** ... ... ... Mrs. Culshaw.

" Girls' School, Miss Samson, Principal: Miss McKinley, Miss Caw.

" Bengali Church ... Mrs. Culshaw.

" Supt. Deaconess Home and Pastor's Assistant Miss Maxey.

" Dennett Training School and Bengali Work Mrs. Lee, Principal.

" " " and Kindergarten Work ... Miss Moyer.

" " " and Evangelistic Work ... Miss Day.

" Orphanages ... ... ... Miss Craig.

" English Work ... ... ... Mrs. Warne.

" Hindustani Work ... Miss Maxey, Mrs. Dowring.

" Seamen's Mission ... Mrs. Henderson.

**Diamond Harbour** ... ... Mrs. Mozumdar.

**South Villages** ... ... Mrs. Chew.

**Tumlook** ... ... Miss Blair.

**Darjeeling** Arcadia Girls' School ... Miss Knowles, Principal.

Absent on furlough ... Miss Stahl, Miss Boggs.

**Tirhoot District.**

**Mozafarpur** District Work ... ... ... Mrs. Jackson,

" Zenana Work ... ... Miss Soderstrom.

" Orphanage and Boarding School Miss Campbell.
BENGAL-BURMA ANNUAL CONFERENCE, 1900.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS

THE REV. WILLIAM BUTLER, D.D.

Resolved,—That we avail ourselves of the first available opportunity to express our sense of the great obligation India Methodism owes to the late Rev. William Butler, D.D., the honoured founder of the missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church in this land. The honour of establishing two great missions in different parts of the world has rarely fallen to the lot of any servant of God. Not only had Dr. Butler this great privilege, but also the joy of seeing the missions he so wisely founded in the Eastern and Western hemispheres attain to very large development before he heard the Master's voice, saying, "It is enough; come up higher." Whatever names adorn the pages of Methodist history in India, that of William Butler will ever be accorded a pre-eminent place. While we deeply sympathize with our esteemed sister, Mrs. Butler, and the surviving members of the family, in the death of the one they loved, we rejoice that a life so useful and honoured had such a peaceful and triumphant close.

THE MISSIONARY EPISCOPACY.

Resolved, That we heartily endorse the action of the last Central Conference respecting the Missionary Episcopacy. In view of the serious condition of Bishop Thoburn's health—the direct result of overwork—and the great need which exists for careful oversight of our widespread work, we hereby recommend to the Central Conference to memorialize the General Conference that two additional Missionary Bishops be elected for the Southern Asiatic field.

REV. AND MRS. D. H. LEE.

Resolved,—That we desire to express our heartfelt sympathy with our dear Brother and Sister Lee in the bereavement which came to them through the terrible disaster at Darjeeling. Our earnest prayer is that God will continue to bless them richly with His grace and strengthen them with His love and presence in their great trial. We also desire to express our hope that their purpose of erecting a Memorial building will be speedily fulfilled and our belief that the story of the translation of their children will continue to touch many hearts and lead many, especially Bengali women and girls, to consecrate their live, to the Master's service.

MRS. SELINA MAY.

Resolved, that we hereby express our grateful recollection and thankfulness to God for the long, valued and consecrated services of our esteemed sister, Mrs. Selina May—so well and widely known as the "Seamen's Friend"—whom God has recently called to Himself; and our heart-felt sympathy with Brother May in his grief. We pray that God will strengthen and comfort our brother, and cheer him with His constant presence.
RESOLUTION.

VERNACULAR EXAMINATIONS.

Resolved, That this Conference, with the approval of the Presiding Bishop, adopt the almost universal practice of the missionary bodies operating in Bengal, and require that all our missionary candidates follow the course prepared by the Calcutta Missionary Conference, and appear for examination before the committee appointed for the purpose by that Conference, the certificate of which Committee shall be accepted by this Conference.

STATISTICAL SECRETARY.

Resolved, That we gratefully appreciate the valuable service rendered by Brother Henry Jackson as the Statistical Secretary of the Conference for many successive years, and in accepting his resignation of the office once more unanimously conferred upon him, we reluctantly allow him to lay down the burden he has patiently and efficiently carried so long.

REV. JULIUS SMITH.

Resolved, That we regret illness should at this time necessitate the return to America of our esteemed colleague, Rev. Julius Smith, Presiding Elder of the Burma District for the past nine years. We commend our brother and his family to God as they proceed on their homeward way, and will rejoice when our brother returns to resume his labours among us.

BOARDING ARRANGEMENTS.

Resolved, That we desire to express our hearty appreciation of the excellent boarding service rendered to the Conference by Brother Henderson and the ladies associated with him.
Presiding Elders' Reports

ASANSOL DISTRICT.

J. E. ROBINSON, Presiding Elder.

The statistics show that a fair amount of progress has been made during the past year. One of our three stations was without a supervising missionary for the second year in succession. Our weakness in Native assistants—teachers and evangelists—has been very manifest. Some provision for the regular supply of such workers is imperatively required. Cannot the Calcutta and Asansol Districts join in establishing some kind of a training school from which we can obtain a class of pastor-teachers for village work? Such an institution, separate from existing boarding schools, could be fed by selected orphan lads from these schools, and by promising young men from the villages who might be equipped for humble, yet useful and efficient, service by a two years' course of simple instruction.

In the following detailed account of the various circuits, I quote freely from the reports submitted by the missionaries in charge to the recent District Conference, which show what has been done during the year and give a fair conception of the present status of the work generally.

Asansol Circuit.

We had the pleasure of welcoming Brother and Sister Byers back to their old battle-field at the beginning of the year. Probably they felt aggrieved that they were denied the privilege of passing through the distressing famine experience and epidemic of cholera which occurred during their furlough, and which we devoutly hope there may be no recurrence of. It was a great pleasure to welcome Miss Forster who took charge of the Girls' School, somewhat depleted by marriage of girls, deaths by cholera, and reluctance of villagers to return or send their daughters after the holidays, a reluctance which bids fair to be fully gotten over in due time.

We wish we had more room for development at Asansol. The Railway authorities have recently exercised their right and re-claimed a large section of the Girls' School compound. Fortunately we have been able to add a little to the available space surrounding the Boys' School, and negotiations are proceeding which, we trust, will very substantially increase the size of the compound.

Evangelistic Work. — This, the missionary's report says, has not been as extended as we could have wished owing to such demands on the missionary's time at Asansol itself. A short time was spent in the villages at the beginning of the season and since then we have been able to give the people only occasional visits, consequently the work has not been as satisfactory as is desirable. A great deal could be done in the district if we had sufficient suitable helpers. The people are much
more ready to hear than formerly, and with good, faithful preaching might soon be made to understand the claims of our religion and the blessedness of Christ's service. There have been only thirty-two baptisms all told, eighteen of which were from heathenism. A little chapel has been put up at the village of Rampur, in which the Christians of that distant section may worship. Some of the people say they have gone back to their caste but we never give up any who have been baptized. Providence usually brings about such circumstances as eventually lead to their return. At present there are several families under instruction who seem to be earnest enquirers, and we trust they may shortly be added to the church and brought into Christ's fold.

**Educational Work.**—During the hottest part of the season we brought in all our village leaders and went over the principal events of the Old Testament up to the time of David and through Matthew's Gospel in the New Testament. We also had them struggling with the alphabet, doing what they could at learning to read. The Boys' School has had its vicissitudes in a variety of teachers, none of whom up to date have been ideal educationists. Until we have a resident teacher or a lady worker as head teacher, we have not very sanguine hopes of a very vigorous school. We have ten nice boys in the children's home at the leper asylum who have been learning to read, and who write fairly well.

**Medical Work.**—A great deal of work has been done amongst the sick during the year, large numbers coming, some from long distances, for medicine and advice. It takes a great deal of the missionary's time diagnosing and prescribing for so many, and we should have a dispensary, and if possible, a small hospital into which we might receive worthy patients. Amongst our own people we have had very little serious illness.

**Leper Work.**—This work has been much as usual, only three or four of the inmates having died during the year. Soradah, who has charge of them, is kept busy and bothered, but they are happy, and for the most part contented, and those who have come from other places say there is no asylum in which they are so carefully looked after and instructed as in our asylum.

**Self-Support.**—Our English church has contributed in eleven months Rs. 302-6-9; and our Bengali Church, in collections, Rs. 66-10-6. Our Bengali people have given for pastor's fund Rs. 64-5. For the leper work Rs. 129 have been donated and Rs. 222-12-6 for the English S.S. During eight months the mission bakery has earned Rs. 222-7-9, making a total raised in Asansol of a little over a thousand rupees.

**Women's Work.**—This will be reported in the Women's Conference, but it should be mentioned here that we are thankful the W.F.M.S. sent us one of their workers to take charge of the Girls'
School. It is doing well, and has 30 boarders and 75 day scholars. The municipality has expressed its pleasure by making it a grant of thirty rupees. We were sorry Miss Biswas' illness required her absence all the year; and now that she is well again we have been obliged to lend her for a time, as illness in her family required that she should live in Calcutta.

Building.—Much time has had to be given to building and making repairs. An addition has been made to the Boys' School by which its capacity has been doubled, and the compound has been enclosed with a brick wall. The Girls' School and W.F.M.S. home have been put in a thorough state of repair. A new verandah has been made on the caretaker's home at the leper asylum, also on one of the men's buildings, two verandahs on the children's home and a parapet on the lepers' church, and still there is more to be done.

Literature.—Like the early Methodists we believe our people should be kept supplied with good Methodist reading and we have been doing our best to increase the subscriptions to the Indian Witness. We would like to see it in every home in Asansol, if possible. A large number of the Children's Friend have been distributed in the Sunday School, also thirty-six copies of the White Ribbon every month, twelve copies of the Juvenile Templar and a dozen copies of Mohilla Bandhab. Everything is now in good shape for a vigorous prosecution of the work. The English congregations are large and the Bengali people fill the church.

Bolpur Circuit.

The work on this circuit has been cared for another year by Brother Soorjoo M. Mondol under the general supervision of Brother Meik, residing at Pakur. While much advance cannot be reported, things have been held together fairly well. There has been no loss. The mission property has been well looked after. The schools, both for boys and girls, have been kept going. Sunday services have been maintained. Bible Women's work has been carried on. Villages have been visited. The Colportage work has not been neglected. Though his health and that of some of his assistants has not been good, Brother Soorjoo has faithfully cared for the work. Everything is in good order for the missionary, to be appointed, as we hope, at this Conference, and there will be plenty of scope for all his activities. There is a nice mission residence at Bolpur, and any amount of land for erection of buildings of all kinds. We hope to see Bolpur advance in the near future.

Pakur Circuit.

Pakur has endured one of the most trying years in its history. A wave of sickness has swept over the whole region in a way never experienced before. Fever, cholera and dysentery have been alarmingly prevalent in Pakur and adjacent villages. Most of our mission workers
have been down, and a number of our Christians have died. Two or three of the boarding school children also. It has been very trying and difficult to carry on the work. But God has been gracious, and Mrs. Meik and Miss Jacobsen have not spared themselves. The work, while it has suffered, has not by any means become demoralized. The missionary in charge was able to report as follows:

The spiritual, educational and industrial part of our work have been properly maintained this year, and we are thankful to be able to report that some have been added to our number, and those in the fold have been instructed and strengthened in the faith.

Our great need is efficient workers. We have a great and promising field before us, but we have not the men and women to put into the field. And the saddest part of the matter is that we are doing nothing to prepare men and women for the work. We cannot hope to do any good work with those who drift to us from other missions. Last year we opened up work in Chendupore; this year we have entered a new village, Saridhala, and hope soon to have a fair number of Christians there.

Our Orphanage and Boarding School are growing. We now have 60 girls and 50 boys. We do not take any children from outside of our own circuits. It is my policy to take the children of our own people and people of the locality and train them to live Christian lives and work in our Church. Last year we had to add to the girls’ dormitory and this year we are obliged to add to the boys’ place. We now have 11 Christian widows in our home for widows.

The number of patients attending the Dispensary is increasing, and we shall soon have to employ a doctor Babu to help us in this part of our work. The Colportage has been pushed this year and we have been able to sell quite a large number of scripture portions and books. The Carpenter’s shop has been busy all the year, and has had as much work as we could do. This shop just about pays its way, as yet it yields no profits.

The Poultry Farm.

The Poultry Farm is doing well. We have had to considerably increase our stock and expect larger demands for our supplies. I expect a large number of new birds from England in a few days. The fruit and timber trees are doing well and bid fair to become a source of profit to the mission. A great deal of work has been done in improving the compound and building much needed accommodation for our workers.

All our workers have laboured well, as bad health permitted. One of the encouraging features of our work this year has been that we have been able to take four girls and one boy from our school and set them to work as teachers. These have passed the upper primary examination and are quite able to teach. I hope in a couple of years to be able to send out two preachers and some more teachers from this school.
The account for 1899 is as follows:

**Cash Account.**

**By Expenditure:**
- Current expenditure food, servants, &c. ... 1,191
- Printing, advertising &c. ... 253
- Building and Coops ... 801
- Purchase of new stock... ... 3,902

**To Receipts:**

Sales of fowls and eggs ... 3,651
Loan per Treasurer Bengal-Burma Conference ... 1,200
Loan from William Watson, & Co.... ... 1,000

Total Receipts Rs. ... 6,137

Expenditure over Receipts Rs. ... 286

**Stock Account.**

**Assets:**
- 400 stock birds ... ... ... 6,760
- 200 chickens @ 1 ... ... ... 200
- 3 Incubators ... ... ... 500
- Chicken houses and coops ... ... ... 250
- 36 Pens ... ... ... 900

Total Assets Rs. ... 8,610

**Liabilities:**
- Due to J. P. Meik ... ... ... 1,434
- Loan due Treasurer Bengal-Burma Conference... 1,200
- Loan due W. Watson & Co. ... ... 1,000 3,634

Excess of Assets over Liabilities Rs. ... 4,976

J. P. Meik.

*N.B.*—The estimates of stock are fully twenty per cent below the present market value.
CALCUTTA DISTRICT.

FRANK W. WARNE, Presiding Elder.

The occurrence which has made this year one ever to be sadly remembered, is the one known worldwide as the "Darjeeling Disaster." In this disaster it fell to our lot as a mission to sustain, the entire loss of European lives, except one, Erick Anderson, son of Rev. Herbert Anderson, Indian Secretary of the Baptist Mission. The following are the names of the nine pupils of Arcadia, who perished on that terrible night, September 25th, 1899. Vida Maud Lee; Lois Gertrude Lee; Herbert Wilson Lee; Ada Eunnice Lee; Esther Dennett Lee; and Wilbur David Lee, who lingered until October 2nd, seemingly providentially, to tell his parents the story of the victorious manner in which their children's faith triumphed over the fear of death, and the calm victorious manner in which the children commended themselves to God, and asked to be taken to heaven together. I believe that the history of the Christian Church has not a more splendid example of a victorious faith triumphing over the fear of death under the most trying circumstances. Those who were boarders in Arcadia and who went during that terrible night with the school to Ida Villa in that fearful cyclone and there lost their lives were: Ruth Elizabeth Wallace and Phoebe Wallace, daughters of Dr. James R. Wallace; Eric Anderson, and Violet Pringle, daughter of J. W. Pringle, Esq., an official member of this church and a well known and much respected Government servant in this city. To all the bereaved our sincerest sympathy is extended. It is not necessary to say more here as the Conference will take appropriate action.

The Arcadia School had a good attendance, but the disaster caused us to close at an irregular time and therefore the pupils did not appear for their examinations. The examinations reported for the previous year shows that an Arcadia girl passed higher than any other girl in Bengal in the entrance examination, with honours in French. One hundred per cent of passes was made in the Middle School. Fourteen girls sat for the London College Examination in the Theory of music and all but two passed with five in the first division. Other departments were equally prosperous. Queen's Hill has been secured for next year and one of the most centrally located houses in Darjeeling, and one which the Government Committee appointed to examine all the houses in Darjeeling, has pronounced "perfectly safe and secure from the likelihood of any landslips." We believe we have acted wisely in continuing the school, and believe Arcadia School will yet be housed in our own property, and be a very prosperous Institution.
The year 1899 has been one of growth in the Bengali church. We have had during the year several seasons of special services which have proven of incalculable benefit to the members of the congregation, and especially to those members of the congregation which are found in the Dennett Training School and the American Methodist Institution. We believe that many of the pupils in these institutions will date the commencement of their religious life from some of these services.

The membership is now eighty-four full members, and 152 probationers, an increase for the year of seven probationers and seven full members. There have been four adult baptisms during the year from heathenism which have greatly gladdened our hearts, though we could wish there had been more.

It has raised for pastoral support during the year Rs. 172, for conference claimants Rs 5, for missions Rs. 24, besides paying all expenses for lighting, punkahs, etc., etc. We are still a long way from the goal we are anxious to reach, viz., financial independence, but each year we hope to get nearer to it, until we shall feel able to walk without a pice of help from the Missionary Society, so far as the Native preacher is concerned.

Good work has been done in both the Sunday School and the Epworth League. Bro. Mozumdar during the year was put in charge of the Diamond Harbour Circuit, and Bro. Rakhal made the assistant pastor of the Church. Bro. Culshaw, his wife, and the other co-workers are to be congratulated on the success of the year.

South Villages.

During the year this work has been divided. There are now two circuits instead of one. The conditions which necessitated this change unsettled the work for a large part of the year, but the division and changes will probably produce in the near future more satisfactory results than we have had in the past. Notwithstanding these changes our people have in the main been loyal and the schools, Sunday Schools and Sunday congregations all show signs of promise. Rev. B. J. Chew has been in charge during this year. He has been assisted by Bro. Collier who made a tour through the Villages with a magic lantern, and the illustrations gave the villagers clear conception of Bible truths.

Diamond Harbour.

About the 1st of July Bro. Mozumdar was transferred from the Calcutta Bengali Circuit to the Diamond Harbour Circuit. This comprises our work along the railway for about fifty miles. Already there is abundant evidence that the change was wise. The churches have been regularly visited, and have taken on new life. At Kulpi where they had done practically nothing for self-support, and had not had a baptism from heathenism for nine years now have had baptisms and have raised fifty rupees toward local expenses. This
circuit opens up a great field, and we are praying that God may greatly bless Bro. Mozumdar and give him abundant fruit.

**Bengali Students.**

Rev. D. H. Lee, first for want of a place, and next because of the sorrow of the year, has had his work for young educated Bengalis greatly interfered with, but it has not been abandoned, and he hopes shortly to have suitable arrangement for the continuance of this excellent work. Under his supervision we have two out-stations Baliaghata, a large district in close proximity to the city. Here there is a small membership and five Sunday schools. Charlie Babu is supported by the young men of the English Church, and they call him their missionary. He has perhaps done his best work in selling a large number of Bibles and Testaments, and distributing many thousands of leaflets and tracts.

Tamluk is about fifty miles south of Calcutta and is a large district of over twenty miles square, densely populated, practically untouched by any mission worker, except the work of one native pastor. Recently Miss Blair has gone there with two Bible women to represent the Woman's Foreign Missionary work. One's heart aches that we have neither the man nor the money to send a missionary to this large, unoccupied district lying in easy access to Calcutta.

**Hindustani.**

There have been a number of converts from heathenism and the new converts have won seventeen others during the year. At Sanai Bazar the people have subscribed toward building a church over three hundred rupees, and are willing, without a pice of European help, to assume the responsibility for 500 rupees, 175 of which has already been paid, but up to date we have been defeated in all our efforts to secure a piece of ground. The Christians have each promised a month's salary. It is contemplated opening a Seamen's Coffee Rooms for Seamen, and I have no doubt this will be in full operation long before next Conference. There is much encouragement connected with our Hindustani work in and around Calcutta. There is a much greater field for Hindustani work in and around Calcutta than is generally known. I believe if the W. F. M. S. in America knew they would not have withdrawn their support from the needy and growing work.

**Institutions.**

**Calcutta Girls' School.**

The Calcutta Girls' School continues its good work. Miss Widdifield was principal last year. When the results of the Government examination for 1898 were published in January, it was found that the Calcutta Girls' High School had maintained its former high record in scholarship, and the High School class headed the Girls' Schools of Bengal. According to the Government report of the High Schools only three girls in all Bengal passed in the first division. All three were from this School, and two of them received Scholarships. Seven of the nine presented for the Middle School passed.
The teaching, the Kindergarten, the music, Bible study and religious instruction have each received careful attention, and produced good results. The debt on the school is now reduced to five thousand rupees, which we hope will this year disappear. Miss Samson has been here for several months getting accustomed to work in Calcutta, and is prepared to help in the work of the school. We are greatly pleased to have her with us.

A new feature in the routine of the school is a Scripture course, prepared by the Pastors' Association of Calcutta. The prescribed course has been followed throughout the year, and in December a committee from the Pastors' Association conducted an examination in all the standards, giving the Fifth Standard and upwards a written examination, and the fourth and all below an oral one.

The Committee reported that they were much pleased with the splendid knowledge the children had of the Bible. This is one of the very pleasant features of our school work.

**Calcutta Boys' School.**

The aim of the School is to give on the plains a thorough all-round education on English Public School lines to boys whose parents are not able to send them to England. The Principal—Mr. J. Gordon Kennedy, M.A., is a Scottish Graduate, an Honoursman of London University, with fifteen years' experience in English Schools. The staff is complete and efficient. Pupils are prepared for the Primary School, Middle School and High School and Entrance Examination. Recent Successes are: Out of twenty-one candidates presented at the last Primary, Middle and High School Examinations, twenty passed, seven of whom gained distinction.

Mr. Kennedy makes a speciality of maintaining a good volunteer Cadet Company. The school has in this way on several occasions distinguished itself.

The boys followed the same course of Bible study as the girls and with equal success in the final examination. The schools have been systematically visited during this year by the Nonconformist pastors of Calcutta. The purpose has been to more thoroughly interest the Nonconformist churches in the schools. In this we are succeeding. Friends have come forward this year and have given the necessary funds to select nine boys on free scholarships, and twelve boys as demi-foundationers on eight rupees a month. In this way we hope to increase the efficiency of the school. In 1899 there was only one failure from all the boys sent up and all passed in the Primary Department.

**American Methodist Institution.**

The work has gone on successfully during the year. The staff has been strengthened by the addition of Mr. J. Collier and Mr. F. Smith, and the public appreciation of this is manifested in the greater confidence shown by the public. There has been progress both in
numbers and in studiousness. Nine boys were passed at the Entrance examination in March and the Principal expects a larger number to pass at the next examination.

The finances of the school are in better condition than ever before; besides the usual salaries, rent and taxes, about Rs. 1,100 have been spent on improvements.

The work among the Christian students has gone on in school and Church and the Principal feels that many of them are growing in manly Christian qualities. Of old students several are working in our press, two are teachers in our Mission Schools, two are employed in American Baptist schools in Burma, while three are studying for the F. A. examination.

There is a fine lot of manly earnest Christian students in the Institution, and they are an excellent unpaid missionary agency. What we hope to build up is an Institution where the predominant influence is Christian, and where the non-Christian students will come under a healthy manly Christian influence. The Principal has during the year concluded that "It is not good that the man should be alone," and the Lord has provided him with an earnest enthusiastic "helpmeet." We heartily congratulate the happy pair, and predict a brighter future for the Institution.

The financial embarrassment concerning the property remains unchanged, except that the debt is greater, by the amount of a year's interest on the price of the land. I made an exact estimate of our indebtedness a few weeks ago to an interested friend. He went and secured an official valuation of the property from Mackintosh Burn & Co. and they estimated the property as being worth 26,000 rupees more than our total debt. It should be said, however, that we have reached a crisis, and must have help before this year closes, or the property must be sold.

**Dennett Training School**

One scarce knows how to approach a report of this Institution this year. It is a miracle of grace such as is not recorded, that our dear Brother and Sister Lee, are able to go on with the good work. It seems to me that most people would have broken down in health and faith, but the Lord has sustained and inspired them to larger work for Bengali girls since their own loved ones are with the Saviour who loved them, died for them, and has now taken them to himself. Through it all the school work has continued, with about one hundred Christian girls as boarders, several hundred Hindu girls in the day schools, and Bible women going on with their work. During the year about twenty thousand rupees has been sent in answer to prayer for the work. We greatly rejoice that Sister Dey, a trained earnest Christian worker has come to Sister Lee's help and also that Sister Moyer has just arrived from America, to join in this good work. These workers are heartily welcomed to our midst.
In addition to all the above property adjoining the Bengali Church has been purchased, and three others are being negotiated for, when these properties and the Church site are united, it will make the best location in the city for the kind of work these beloved workers have been called to do. The building to be erected is to be called "The Lee Memorial Building." A committee of representative business men of Calcutta has been formed, with the Lord Metropolitan Bishop of Calcutta at the head, to raise funds for this purpose. We have no doubt that the necessary funds will be forthcoming, and that a very fitting and useful memorial building will be erected on the corner of Dharamtala Street and Wellington Square. One of the beams of light and hope shining through the darkness is, that these dear children will be able to do more for the cause to which they were dedicated by their parents, and to which they had dedicated themselves, through their triumphant death, than they could have done had they lived. It will not now be only six earnest lives, that will be interested in this work, but as the story is being told around the world, and will continue to be told for many years to come hundreds of thousands of hearts will be touched. May comfort come to the bereaved hearts from this interpretation of the otherwise inexplicable providence, and may their largest hopes be more than realized, is our prayer.

Deaconess Home.

Miss Maxey, Miss Blair, Miss Lamb, and for the last part of the year Dr. Mulford, have been in the Deaconess Home. Miss Blair, and Miss Lamb have given their time to Bengali work, and Miss Maxey to English. Miss Blair at our District Conference was transferred to Tumlook. In addition to the regular work among the people of the city, the Home has a special Mission in entertaining those who are passing through the city. Miss Maxey reports over 1,600 visits made in the homes of the people, and has been an inspiration to many a person during the year. We would not know how to go on without the Deaconesses, and the Deaconess Home. The finances have been very close this year, but the end of the year formed a small credit balance.

Coffee Rooms.

Naturally during a quarter of a century the form in which almost any work is done will change, so now in the Coffee Room, much of the best work is done by boarding sailors, and thus saving them from the many dens of vice in the city. Brother Bjork has been steadily at work visiting the ships and hospitals without intermission during the past year and his visits have been greatly blessed and the means of much good. The Scandinavian meeting conducted by him is also very well attended, as many as fifty to seventy being present every meeting night, and in this meeting there have been a number of conversions during the year.
The work sustained a great loss by the death of Mother May, "The Seamen's Friend," who originated this form of work and who has been connected with it for so many years and whom all the old seamen coming to Calcutta will miss. She laboured long and faithfully and has been called up higher to receive her reward.

No one will doubt the good work that is being done in the Coffee Rooms who was with a large company of sailors, who, as they left to join their ships a short time ago with tears in their eyes, told us this had been the happiest and most profitable time they had ever spent on shore, for here they had found Christ and many Christian friends. It is needless to add with our Scotch brother at the head, that the Coffee Room finances are alright. Bro. Henderson not only does good work at the Coffee Rooms but is always ready, and often has an opportunity to help in a great many kinds of Christian work.

Methodist Publishing House.

The Methodist Publishing House, Calcutta, has had a successful year. An examination of the Balance Sheet, which has been duly audited by Messrs. Lovelock & Lewes, Chartered Accountants, of Calcutta, shews that the value of Assets as against Liabilities is Rs. 52,181-1-2, to Rs. 43,538-13-4 leaving a balance on the side of the Assets of Rs. 8,642-3-10.

During this year the plant has been increased by buying two machines for Rs. 3,300, for which Rs. 1000 is now owing and which will nearly all be paid for by the sale of one of the older machines. There has been spent during the past two years Rs. 4,780 for new type in order to keep abreast with competition in Calcutta.

The Bengali Department has been almost entirely refitted with new type and it is now in a position to do better vernacular printing than at any previous period in our history due to the fact that those in charge have not only a practical knowledge of printing but also a measure of acquaintance with the vernacular.

Charitable Institutions.

Boys' Orphanage.

Miss Craig reports that the year closed with fifty-two boys on the roll. From the financial point of view perhaps the struggle has been more severe than most years, as our income from the sources we have depended most largely on has been smaller than in previous years. We have received less from fees than usual. We have received more really destitute boys during the past year than in any other years. Boys for whom no support could possibly be got from friends. Some subscriptions that were received other years have been withdrawn because of inability to give them. This being the case the outlook from month to month was a little more discouraging than usual, but our God knew just how much was needed for our daily supply,
and from sources that we did not expect the needed help came. At one time during the last month it looked as though we must close the year with a deficit, but when the books were closed at the end of the year, we found we had eight annas balance to our account.

That eight annas did me good. It seemed to show that God cared for our orphanage work as he cared for the widows’ “meal” and “oil,” not much over, but always enough. I wish the Conference would visit the Orphanages. Somehow I feel that some of the best men that are now growing up in this city will be found to come from that Orphanage. We greatly need additional room as does also the Bengali school in the same building. There are great and difficult problems just before us.

**Girls’ Orphanage.**

Miss Craig this year has had charge of both orphanages, and writes:

“We closed the year with forty-six children enrolled. The work of the home, with the exception of the cooking, is done entirely by the girls, and we hope by this means to train girls in such ways that in the future they will be successful home-makers. These girls are willing and teachable and will abundantly repay all efforts made in this direction. Owing to the fact of not being able to live with the girls, as careful supervision cannot be given to this work as it deserves, but we have tried to do the best possible under the circumstances, and trust that in the future some better arrangements can be made for them. Our experiences financially have been much the same as in the boys’ orphanage Without any assured income we have been provided for month by month, and were able to close the year with a balance to our credit.” The story of the girls’ orphanage and the boys’ has much in common. The Girls’ School gives the girls free scholarships, as day scholars, which comparatively reduces the expenses. Rent has to be paid for both buildings in which the orphans are kept. It is hoped the time will soon come when the buildings will be owned by the mission.

**Industrial Home.**

The Industrial Home has now passed beyond the stage of experiment, and has become an established Institution. The Government has now recognized it; and gives a grant of 1,000 rupees per annum. Mr. Osmond, of Mackintosh Burn & Co., left the Institution 1,000 rupees in his will. Our debts are all paid and we have over one thousand rupees as the commencement of a building fund and a good working cash current account. We have kept each day throughout the year about thirty persons, and handled about ten thousand rupees. We are steadily adding new departments of work. Our last, and one that promises well, is bicycle repairing. Thanks are due to Mrs. Remfry, and many others who have assisted in this good work.
REPORTS.

It would seem that in New Testament times charitable attention was first given the widows, but here the boys, girls, and men, have had the precedence in point of providing Homes, though almost all of the monthly offerings from the church for the poor is given to widows. The question of opening a home for widows is pressing us, and it will probably be our next new department of charitable work. The question has seriously been considered for two years past, and I might almost say it has begun.

ENGLISH CHURCH.

Last, but not least, we report the English Church.

During the year ninety persons have been received on probation and into full membership in the church, which, when all deductions have been made for deaths and removals, leaves a membership of five hundred and forty-six, the largest in the history of the church.

The Sunday School has had one of the best years in its history. The five Societies which meet weekly in the interests of the young people have done steady and excellent service. The treasurer is able to report a balance on the right side on all current accounts, the benevolences are above the average and Rs. 1000 raised toward the parsonage debt. We owe now only 6,000 rupees. Our friends will notice the very excellent marble floor in the vestry, the cost of which has been paid, and the contract is let for having electroliers put into the church, the best that are to be had. For this we are indebted to Mrs Laidlaw, and for which we tender our sincerest thanks. I wish to express my heartiest appreciation of the multiform excellent assistance received from the Pastor's Assistant, Miss Maxey. She has made own 1,600 visits in the homes of the people, given inspiration to the work among the young people, and, helped in ways innumerable. It has also been a great pleasure, for the last two months, to have in our midst Rev. Homer Wroten; his preaching, visiting, and assistance in the smaller services of the Church have all been much appreciated, and I feel sure I voice the sentiments of all our missionaries and the congregation when I express a hope that our Bishop will leave him with us in Calcutta.

NEED OF NEW WORKERS.

In concluding my report last year I said, "If I were asked to mention the help that Bishop Thoburn has given on this District, since the time of his election to the Episcopacy, which has produced the largest results and most helped our work, I would answer, 'The Brotherhood Home.'" We rejoice greatly that during the year twelve young men have come to India on a plan somewhat changed from the Brotherhood home plan, and believe it will be a great relief to the various centres in India where these young men have gone. We are grateful for this but reiterate, with all possible emphasis, that, when all due allowance is made for the good work done by our Bengali
brethren, still we greatly need four or five young men in training in Calcutta for our Bengali work. We are here in the midst of 40,000,000 Bengali speaking people and on our District, we have not one European missionary free to give his time to Evangelistic work among the Bengali people. Rev. B. J. Chew is in Educational work, and can only give the time he snatches from that. Rev. J. Culshaw, is agent of the press, and can only give a little time to Bengali work. Brother Lee is tied up in his special work, and we have no other who makes any pretention of knowing Bengali. If we had not had the former brotherhood, so far as I can see, we would be shut up altogether. Brother Chew has put in seven years, and will in a few years need furlough, and so will some others, and unless we plan ahead and make provision, we will soon be in utter chaos. I believe if the situation is clearly placed before the home church and all the church colleges, four suitable young men can be secured and supported by the colleges from which they come, or by their friends. The need is imperative, and I trust this conference will take some action that will bring to us the urgently needed workers.

TIRHOOOT DISTRICT.

HENRY JACKSON, Presiding Elder.

As we review the work of another year our first thought is to give thanks to Him whose care has been over us, who through dangers seen and unseen has been our guide and for whom we have in all things endeavoured to spend and be spent.

We would that we had sheaves gathered from a rich harvest field to lay at the Master’s feet; that we could, to the honour and glory of His name, tell you to-day of glorious seed sowings and bountiful gatherings. We can, however, only tell you that we have been toiling on. We have done what we could. We have sown the precious seed, at times by the way side, at times on ground somewhat prepared for its reception. This seed is not all lost, we trust it has taken root and may yet bear fruit. At Bettiah Bro. Robert has been in very poor health during the greater portion of the year. A very heavy cold contracted in the winter of 1898 continued to trouble him till within a few weeks, when he began to find relief. He has kept up regular preaching in the bazaar and in the adjacent villages.

Bro. Nain Sukh at Chapra reports regular preaching in the city and among the villages during a tour which he was able to make. He has been unable to persuade those who were baptized several years ago to return to Christian instruction. A cemetery ground has been purchased entirely by contributions, the Chapra municipality being the largest contributor.

Bro. Khushyal an ordained local deacon from the North India Conference who joined us early in the year, has succeeded in
gathering a scattered flock at Durbhanga. This accounts for the increase in our number of probationers in our statistics for this station. On this circuit there are five appointments at each of which there is an exhorter who has about him a small company of native Christians. These are very imperfectly taught, but it is the best we can do as the teachers are very little removed from those instructed. These teachers were under the personal care of Bro. Khushiyal during the summer months. He gave them daily lessons in the Scripture, in singing and in reading and writing. They returned to their work we trust, somewhat better fitted to instruct others. We hope to be able to repeat this plan this year.

Our work in Mozafarpur among the class of which we baptized a large number in 1898 has not been very encouraging. They have gone back to their former habits of drunkenness and gambling, though threatened with expulsion they refuse to leave us, appear for a while penitent and promise to reform. We have borne with them in the hope that they may yet come under the influence of grace. For a while in the month of November we were visited with an outbreak of cholera. Out of fifteen cases in the mission compound two succumbed, one the wife of a colporteur and the other an orphan boy. The Civil Surgeon, Dr. Brown, was unceasing in his attendance upon the sick. At Samastipore we have two outstations at which we have small Christian communities. They are under the charge of Brother Mulchand who visits them from time to time. Bazaar preaching is kept up in the town. Brother J. Peter at Seitamari and Brother Kali Charan at Dinapore have carried on alone the preaching and distribution of the word. We very much need to occupy these points much stronger—the fields are large and will repay greater attention could it be given.

Our Colportage work has met with better results during the past year. Five men have been regularly employed.

Miss Campbell who has been in charge of the Girls' Orphanage has had a very trying year. The orphanage for a while were more like a hospital them a school. Dr. Hindmarsh who has given his services free, has been very kind in his care and attention to the children. We owe to him more than words can express for we owe to him in the providence of God the lives of many of the little ones who are now enjoying perfect health. All this care and anxiety told upon the health of Miss Campbell and but for a short respite I fear she would not have been able to remain at her post. At the close of the year very encouraging meetings were held with the larger girls and Miss Campbell reports very satisfactory evidence of the conversion of several of them.

Miss Söderström and Miss Campbell have organized a Junior Epworth League made up of the girls and boys of both orphanages. These meetings have been somewhat interrupted during the sickness in both schools but are again resumed. Two Leagues, a senior and
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a junior league have been organized at Samastipore. The attendance is not large. We hope to see better results during the coming year.

Miss Söderström, with her Bible women, has kept up teaching in the Mahallahs. This work this year has been carried on without any appropriation from the society. It has been with difficulties, of course, but it has been done and Miss Söderstrom has been very much encouraged by the interest that has been shown by the women of all classes to whom she has gone. Hundreds through her have this year, for the first time in their lives, heard of the gospel message. As the direct result of this work a young woman found her way to the Ladies' home, placed herself under instruction and I had the pleasure last sabbath of baptising her.

Our district has again been refused aid from the W. F. M. S. This means that our girls' schools and zenana work must remain closed. It means more than this, for it means that our failure to carry on this work leaves an open field to others who are already entering it. A lady unconnected with any society has begun work in Mozafarpore, and two ladies connected with the Zenana mission of the Church of England have opened up work at Darbhanga. Seeing our Christian women and girls uncared for Miss Pointer wrote and asked me if I had any objections to her giving them Christian instruction. I replied at once that I was very thankful indeed for her kind offer and wished her every success. This field has been in our hands for over ten years. We have asked again and again that help should be sent to us and now it must go into other hands, who will undoubtedly occupy it with increasing workers from year to year.

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BURMA DISTRICT.

JULIUS SMITH, Presiding Elder.

THE BURMESE AND OTHER DISTRICT WORK.

Brother and Sister Leonard were appointed to Pegu with the beginning of the year, and had little to greet them except an opportunity to make beginnings. The mission house was sadly out of repair, and was at once renewed in large part, and made into a comfortable residence. Brother Leonard began the study of the language about April, and has justified the expectations of all who know him in the rapidity with which he got a working knowledge of the language. He translated Mudge's "Bible Questions" about August, and during the last three months of the year has been preaching to the Burmese without an interpreter. He has also begun a school for our Christian boys and connected therewith the training of several adults. They have all made commendable progress, and our long set purpose to begin a school of this kind has had a favourable start, and has in it possibilities of far-reaching usefulness. The Tamil school and congregation in Pegu have been directed by Brother Leonard also to their advantage.
REPORTS.

Several baptisms have been reported also from in and immediately around Pegu. Altogether, the situation of the Pegu Circuit is an improvement over any thing that we have had within its present bounds at any previous period.

Brother Krull has done faithful work on the Sittang Circuit throughout another year. He has had not had much in the way of helpers to assist him, nor has he had any schools. Lately Brother Leonard has been aiding him, and from their counsels and work together valuable plans are likely to result. Some have been baptized recently, and there is every indication that the accessibility of the people and our opportunity that took us in that region in the first place still hold good. The industrial features that we have undertaken there, though we have not been able to follow them up, were clearly practical, as is now apparent, in that Brother Leonard has just been able to secure 250 acres of Government land for five of our recently baptized converts. This kind of mission aid might have been carried out on a large scale any time in recent years if we had had some one to meet the opportunities and work out the plan carefully.

Kyauktan has been on the hands of the presiding elder for over two years, without regular or constant missionary oversight, as it has been impossible to give the field the direction it required. In the last quarter of the year, the circuit has been visited and well canvassed by Brothers Leonard and Krull, to the encouragement of the Christians and to the advantage of the missionaries, as it has revealed to them the fine opportunities for our work, in all the region from Rangoon to the gulf of Martaban. There have been inquiries reaching us from places to the westward of the Rangoon river also, and it is quite clear that in our Burma work we have an unlimited field, and perhaps as encouraging conditions to push that work as almost any field where broad foundations are not yet laid. We ought to have at least three men devoted entirely to the Burmese language, but the addition of only one has added new life to this branch of our mission.

Rangoon City Work.

Here we have conditions more or less constant for many years. The English Church has had another year of careful and capable pastoral care by Brother Hill. The congregations have kept up well and the church has been alive spiritually. The benevolences have increased, the amount raised for pastoral support has been something more than the preceding year, and besides this, a handsome subscription has been raised toward a new and well-built parsonage. The building of this home for the pastor was necessitated by the intended occupancy by the Girls' School of the bungalow used by the church as a parsonage for nearly six years past. As was originally intended, this building is to become the property of the Girls' School for their boarding department. The total cost of the parsonage will be about Rs. 9,000. The church had Rs. 4,000 loaned to the district and it has
been repaid, and to this a subscription nearly covering the remaining cost has been secured. This enterprise reflects credit on the management and enterprise of the pastor and the congregation.

The Girls’ School has another good year. Miss Turrell has introduced method and system into the entire school to its advantage. She has been greatly assisted by Misses Files and Illingworth. Special care has been given to the health, comfort, and most of all the spiritual interests of the boarders, with advantage to the children and the school. It would be difficult indeed to give better care than is now devoted to these ends. The large number of day scholars still keeps up, but the boarding department is much below the attendance deserved by the conditions of the school, or desirable for the school. It is hoped that removal to the Cantonment property will be occasion of adding a goodly number of boarders to the school, as we will then be in one of the best locations for comfort and health in all Rangoon. One surprising and agreeable fact in the school is that there are twenty Roman Catholic children in attendance at the present time. This shows an independence in the matter of education that I was not prepared for on the part of the Catholics of Burma. It is also very suggestive on the whole educational problem, if it has parallels in other or our fields. If it has now, then it will be of interest to find out how this breaking away from priestly authority has come to pass in Rangoon.

The Seamen’s Rest has done its usual work through another year. Brother Lichtenberg has been very faithful and capable as Superintendent. The difficulties of this kind of work increase rather than decrease, and hence holding our own is real progress. We have removed from the old building where the Rest was first started after a residence of fifteen years, and after paying in rent about as much as the old property was worth. The new premises are better located than the former. We are likely to get into difficulties in collections for the Rest, as every body is now carried away with charities connected with the Transvaal war.

The Tamil and Telugu work in Rangoon has been supplied by Brother Culley. There has been the average activity, but not much growth. The Dalla Tamils are building a suitable little church. It is unfortunate, however, that they have found collecting subscriptions from Europeans easier than paying the expenses themselves.

Services have been maintained in Chinese, and our preacher has been faithful, and has done all he can, until he has some suitable missionary direction. The linguistic difficulty is in the way, but what to do with all such work is becoming a serious question. The same is true in part of the Burmese school work that we have in Rangoon. This school has had seven or eight years’ continuous history and has demonstrated its right to live, and its usefulness. But the W.F.M.S. has declined to send out a missionary for this important beginning in Burmese until the parent society reinforces the field, and meantime we in Burma would like to peer into the future, and discover when this re-
inforcement will likely arrive. Still we must continue to do something in Burmese in this capital of Burma. Mrs. Smith has done what she could to direct the school from her distant residence, but constant direction is what is needed, by one who can also give her efforts to acquiring the language.

Prolonged observation on the field has led me to the following conclusions. 1. Wherever we have given good and continuous super­vision, the work has prospered. Wherever this care has been intermit­tent or wanting, a hopeful beginning has dwindled into an actual disappointment. 2. If reinforcements are surely not coming, so that all departments of our work can be cared for, the question is on us, whether we are to close up such fragmentary work as we have begun, and confine our efforts only to that which we can immediately direct. Certainly I am not in favour of starting any new work that has not a missionary for its guide. It is just here we meet another standing want in Rangoon. It seems we must have a boys' school. We lose over forty boys annually from our own schools because we have no boys' school, and cannot carry their education to the higher standards, and we fail to direct the boys that will be the men in Burma. For the school, though we have the encouragement of the Director of Public Education, and have advertised diligently for a suitable man for it, none has come forward. I am convinced that we will have to depend upon an imported man for this place, and probably a missionary, before we can hope to succeed with the undertaking.

**Thandaung.**

Thandaung is closing its best years. Miss Perkins, Mrs. Smith and the young teachers have all passed the educational standards, and the examinations, which were in progress when we left for conference, indicated that there would be a good percentage on passes, and of a good grade in their standards. This will mean a satisfactory grant and materially aid the finances of the school. The industrial features of the school have been maintained, and have gained in public favour. This is especially true in the case of several leading officials of the province, who have visited our institution during the year, and cordially approved it, and have recorded their sentiments and we have recorded their satisfactory subscriptions. Many inquiries and applications reach us, seeking admission to the school, and we have had to decline most of them for want of room. A new building will be inclosed before the rains, which will increase the accommodations considerably. Some experiments of cultivation have failed, some have succeeded very well and some will need further trial, but enough is established to direct us to results from this time forward. It is clear that all citrous fruit, strawberries, and most vegetables will do very well there, also peaches. The coffee has been smitten with the plague, but may rally, as the indica­tions now are that the disease has done its worst, and is abating. If it does die away, the coffee industry will certainly thrive. A bequest
has been left us, out of which we should get at least Rs. 5,000, though some technicalities are yet to be decided.

The Government has a growing interest in Thandaung, and the application for building sites have trebled during the year, though only a few buildings have as yet been undertaken. There are already a number of people planning to spend the coming hot season on the

বাংলার কনফারেন্সের সভ্যগণের
পরীক্ষার প্রশ্নক

প্রবেশিকা।

১। বাঙালী ভাষায় সাধারণ জ্ঞান।
২। মেঘদূষিত ইপিস্কোপেল মণ্ডিলার কাউন্সিল।
৩। মেঘদূষিত ইপিস্কোপেল মণ্ডিলার ডিনিংলুন।
৪। পবিত্র আত্মা বাসিন্দা এবং মানবতার তাহার কার্য।
৫। রাস্তার শিক্ষামায় (রাউন্স সাহেব কর্তৃক লিখিত)।
৬। সার্ব্বিক লিখন।

১ম শ্রেণী।

১। পবিত্র আত্মা ও তাহার কার্য। (রাউন্স সাহেব কর্তৃক লিখিত।)
২। সংক্ষিপ্ত শ্রেণীতে বাইবেলের শিক্ষা।
৩। মণ্ডিলার ইইডিয়াস। (রবার্টসন সাহেব কর্তৃক লিখিত।)
৪। বাইবেল।—পুত্রন নিয়মের পুনরালোচনা।
৫। ইসলাম দর্শন। (যাকুব বিশ্বাস কর্তৃক লিখিত।)
৬। সার্ব্বিক লিখন।

২য় শ্রেণী।

১। ঈশ্বরের সহকারী। (রাউন্স সাহেব কর্তৃক লিখিত।)
২। বাইবেল।—পুরাতন নিয়মের পুনরালোচনা।
৩। বাইবেল প্রকাশিত ধর্মের সহিত হিন্দু শাস্ত্রোক্ত ধর্মের তুলনা বিষয়ক প্রশ্ন। (টাইটো সাইফিদ।)
৪। উইলিয়াম ব্রাঞ্জারেলের জীবন। (এ, সি, মুঘাজ্জা কর্তৃক প্রকাশিত।)
inforcement will likely arrive. Still we must continue to do something in Burmese in this capital of Burma. Mrs. Smith has done what she could to direct the school from her distant residence, but constant direction is what is needed, by one who can also give her efforts to acquiring the language.

Prolonged observation on the field has led me to the following con
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51 যীশু পুত্রের জীবন চরিত। ( ইকার সাহেব কত্রুক লিখিত। গার্ড নার মিস সাহেব কত্রুক প্রকাশিত )  
61 সার্মণ লিখন।  
3র শ্রেণী।  
11 গৌরীনন্দের শিক্ষা সারার। ( বিষ্ণু সাহেব কত্রুক লিখিত।)  
Binney’s Theological Compend.  
( মেধদিই পরবর্তি হাওস কত্রুক প্রকাশিত। )  
21 রোমীয় মণ্ডলীর ভাবনা বিভাগ। ( বাউস সাহেব কত্রুক লিখিত। )  
31 আলিয়া দেশহ সম্পূর্ণ মণ্ডলী। ( ভন সাহেবের। )  
41 মিস্তার উলহোর। ( শাকুব বিশ্বাস কত্রুক লিখিত। )  
51 পাঠাপকার অব ভাগ। ( বল সাহেব কত্রুক লিখিত। )  
61 সার্মণ লিখন।  
4র শ্রেণী।  
11 বটলারস এন্টালজি। ( সি, এম, এস রক ডিপো কত্রুক প্রকাশিত। )  
21 বোধক অভিজ্ঞতা। ( বিশ্বপ মেরিল কত্রুক লিখিত। )  
( মেধদিই পরবর্তি হাওস কত্রুক প্রকাশিত। )  
31 মেধদিই মণ্ডলীর শিক্ষাসার। ( পটার সাহেব কত্রুক লিখিত। )  
 Compendium of Methodism, by Porter.  
41 মেধদিই মণ্ডলীর ইতিহাস।  
51 পাঠাপকার ২য় ভাগ। ( বল সাহেব কত্রুক লিখিত। )  
61 সার্মণ লিখন।
has been left us, out of which we should get at least Rs. 5,000, though some technicalities are yet to be decided.

The Government has a growing interest in Thandaung, and the applications for building sites have trebled during the year, though only a few buildings have as yet been undertaken. There are already a number of people planning to spend the coming hot season on the hill. All these indications point out that we will have a sufficiently large community around our school plant and any advantage growing out of that fact.
Reports From Committees.

AUDITING COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

Your committee beg leave to Report that the undermentioned accounts have been audited and found correct:

1. The Accounts of the Treasurer of the Board of Missions for the four quarters of 1899.
2. The accounts of the Bishop's Special Fund, 1899.
3. The accounts of the Presiding Elder of the Asansol District and the Women's Work of the Bolpur Circuit.
4. The accounts of the Presiding Elder of the Calcutta District.
5. At the request of the Presiding Elder of the Calcutta District—the accounts of the Hindustani Circuit, and of the Diamond Harbour Circuit.
6. The accounts of the Treasurer of the Conference Board of Stewards.
7. The accounts of the Treasurer of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society.
8. The accounts of the Presiding Elder of the Burma District and at the request of the Presiding Elder, the Burmese Girls' School, Rangoon.
9. The accounts of the Presiding Elder of the Tirhoot District for 1899.

J. Culshaw.
Charles Baylis Hill.
Benjamin J. Chew.
W. P. Byers.

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EXAMINING BOARD'S REPORT.

Those who have completed the conference course of studies:—Bonomali Mozumdar, Soorjoo Mohun Mundul, Chunder C. Das.

In the fourth year's course of studies:—Charles B. Hill, Homer Wroten.

In the third year's course of studies:—George S. Henderson, Lakhon C. Sircar, Shitol C. Biswas.

In the second year's course of studies:—C. B. Hill in Burmese, A. T. Leonard in Burmese.

In the first year's course of studies:—None.
COLPORTAGE.

We thank God that there has been a gratifying increase in number of Scripture portions sold and tracts distributed in several places, but it is desirous that all the missionaries should give themselves to this work with renewed energy, we believe that in the coming year will find us far in advance of our present position with regard to dissemination of Christian literature. Nothing can be a better introduction to or reminder of the Christian minister's visit than the Bible or Bible portion. More and more the people will read, and we should take this quiet messenger that can enter families and communities unchallenged, where the preacher would be rejected with scorn and the result of his work guarded against. Let us send out each Bible portion and tracts with prayer for God's blessing.

CHUNDRA CANTO DAS.
F. E. LIEDEN.
J. ROBERT.
NAIN SUKH.

REPORT OF DEACONESS BOARD.

The Board unite in thanksgiving to God for His great goodness during the year, and suggest that the motto for the beginning of the Century shall be, "Let your loins be girded about and your lights burning and ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their Lord."

The names of Miss Maxey, Miss Craig, Miss Blair, Miss Perkins, Miss Stahl, Miss Campbell, also the name of Probationer deaconess Miss Jacobsen were called and their characters passed; also the names of Miss Knowles and Miss Boggs, Associate Deaconesses and their character passed; the name of Miss Keeler was called and it was answered that she was married during the year.

RESOLUTIONS.

1st We recommend that the Deaconesses have charge of the homes in which they respectively reside and that they hold a monthly Meeting with the Members of the Conference Board residing where the Home is located.

2nd That the rate of board for Deaconesses in the Calcutta Deaconess Home be fixed at Rs. 40 per month.

3rd That in the death during this year of Mrs. May the Church has lost no ordinary worker. Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of the saints.

FRANK W. WARNE, President.
D. H. LEE, Secretary.
REPORT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

The Conference recognizes educational work as a vital department of effective missionary operations, and therefore we rejoice to report progress in our educational work.

The sad occurrence which closed Arcadia School in the month of September is known to all. We are pleased to report that arrangements have been made for re-opening the school about the first of March. We have pleasure in welcoming Miss Knowles back to take up the principalship of the Arcadia School. The Calcutta Girls' School, the Calcutta Boys' School, are both continuing their good work. Mr. J. Gordon Kennedy continued as Principal of the Calcutta Boys' School, and he is making an excellent record in passing boys at the Annual Government Examinations. Miss Stahl, who has completed seven years of excellent service in our educational work, now goes on a much needed and well-earned furlough. Miss Samson has arrived from America, with experience as an educationist to take charge of the Calcutta Girls' School, and also Miss McKinley, who has also had experience in teaching to be associated with her. The outlook for the educational work in the European Schools of the Calcutta District is very hopeful. The two Orphanages into which European and Eurasian boys and girls are cared for and educated are also in a prosperous condition, and are doing great good.

The American Methodist Institution has had a successful year financially, and in other respects. The Christian young men are growing in manly Christian character. It is believed our Christian boys are a good missionary agency among the non-Christian boys.

The Dennett Training School has during the year made a good beginning toward a permanent home, and it is believed that are long one of the best sites in the city for the purpose for which the Institution exists will be secured, and suitable buildings erected; and the Institution, we believe, will become a great factor in the evangelization of the Women of Bengal.

The work in the Village Schools has continued much as in former years.

Pakur: We have sixty girls and fifty boys in our Orphanages and Boarding Schools and eleven widows in the widows' home. Ten boys are learning carpentering, twelve boys are learning to raise chickens. The girls are taught sewing, household work, and teaching; and three are assisting in teaching schools. There are also three village schools for boys and one for girls, in which both Christian and non-Christian children are taught. Pakur is doing all it can to prepare the boys and girls for future usefulness and work in our Mission.
BENGAL-BURMA ANNUAL CONFERENCE, 1900.

BOLPUR: The schools for boys and girls are doing well. These village schools are a means of giving us great influence among the people.

At Asansol the W. F. M. S. Girls' School is developing very satisfactorily under the supervision of Miss Forster, who has taken hold of her new work with enthusiasm. The school had suffered considerably through the epidemic of cholera which swept through the mission compound in 1898, and from the panic which took hold of the girls' parents, leading to their withdrawal from the school for the time. Several of the oldest girls, also, were married in the year specified. But the school is gradually being filled up with girl boarders, of whom there are now 35, with 75 day scholars in addition. The boys' school has suffered through the impossibility of securing an efficient head-master. The number of boarders during the last year averaged between 20 and 25. We are negotiating for an enlargement of the boys' school compound which will afford room for erection of needed buildings. Last year an addition was made to the existing school building by which the accommodation has been increased. We hope to further the prosperity of the school during the new year by adding to the permanent staff.

BURMA DISTRICT.

The Girls' High School, Rangoon, has had a year of prosperity in all departments of work. The discipline has been excellent, and there has been a most marked improvement in the spiritual life of the institution. A large class of girls has been prepared for the ensuing entrance examination. The boarding department is small, but it has been made a Home, with all the advantages of Christian family life. Recent Government rulings prevent the reception any longer of Burmese girls, who have hitherto been taught the advantages of English surroundings, and it is apparent that the Burmese Girls' School must be developed to give increased facilities for an English education to Burmese girls seeking it. The boarding department of the English Girls' School will soon be housed in their commodious dwelling situated in the Cantonments.

At Pegu our Schools have had the careful oversight of the resident missionary and the beginning of a successful Burmese boys' boarding school has been witnessed.

The industrial features of the school at Thandaung have been maintained successfully, while with increased school accommodation now in course of construction, and an efficient corps of teachers employed, it is confidently expected in due time to become a popular hill school for Burma.

TIRHOOT DISTRICT.

The work of Christian education in this District is confined to the Boys' and Girls' Orphanages. They are instructed in the
elementary branches and during the past year have made very satisfactory progress. An opening for giving Christian education in Hindi Schools by subsidizing the income of the teachers is denied us as no mission funds are at our disposal.

B. J. Chew,
J. P. Meik,
F. E. Lieden.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

We believe that God is placing his special seal of approval on the effort of our church in carrying out His Commission, Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel.

In doing this work in future, it is becoming more evident from the increased demands on account of the ever-widening fields that we must lay before our people constantly the necessity of more special attention to the matter of self-support in Mission work, and hence rejoice in the action of the Conference in appointing a committee to arrange for the training of young men on the field for the work.

D. H. Lee,
Chundra Canto Das.
S. M. Mondol.
J. Robert.

THE CONFERENCE BOARD OF STEWARDS.

The Board met and found Rs. 274-0-3 as balance in hand on the 30th of November, 1899; the Conference collections for 1899 amount to Rs. 273, interest due from the Calcutta Publishing House for 1899 Rs. 145-4, making a total of cash in hand Rs. 692-4-3. They recommend that the sum of $200 be paid to Mrs. Goodwin, the widow of F. A. Goodwin. They further recommend that Conference authorize Bishop Thoburn to draw the dividend that may fall to this conference from the Book Concern of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The Board also recommends that Rs. 200 be paid to E. S. Ekdahl.

C. B. Hill,
H. Jackson,
Benj. J. Chew.

SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT.

Your committee note with pleasure that the Sunday School work of the conference has been carried on with energy during another year, and we are glad to know that the Sunday School work has a place of special significance to our Methodist preachers.
We believe, however, that a very much larger work could be done, especially in the Hindu and Muslim communities if the older boys in our schools were utilised. It is a training in Christian work of very great usefulness, and we are pleased to know that in some cases this is being done.

We would beg to repeat a suggestion made last year, and would be glad to know that our missionaries are using the leaflets, a series of which on the life of Christ has been printed by the B.S.S.U. in Bengali; they are very suitable for use in our small Sunday Schools. They serve the purpose for which they are intended admirably. We would be glad to know that all our missionaries were using them. For more advanced schools the Bengali leaflets on the International Lessons are to be highly commended.

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COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

We recognise intemperance to be one of the greatest evils of the age, and rejoice that the Churches of our Conference utter no uncertain sound regarding the necessity for total abstinence from intoxicating liquor.

We are happy to report that greater attention has been given to the evils of the tobacco habit and that our workers at the District Conferences have been earnestly exhorted to forsake the unclean thing.

We recommend that sermons be preached at least quarterly regarding these evils.

GEO. HENDERSON
B. M. MOZUMDAR.
L. C. SIRCAR.

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STATE OF THE CHURCH.

CAUSE FOR GRATITUDE AND PRAISE.

The past year has been one for which the Church should give thanks and praise to our God. He has blessed us and our work, more than we or our efforts have deserved. To Him be the glory. No member of our Conference has died, and while personal afflictions have come to some, the sustaining grace of God manifested in their lives has strengthened our faith in the wisdom of His will for us. Some of the members of our Church, rich in faith and good works, have died triumphing in Christ. For their testimony and life we devoutly thank our God.

CAUSE FOR HUMILIATION.

While we thank God for the successes, we are conscious of our failures. Have we done all we might have done? Are our Churches increasing in spirituality? Are we ourselves blessed with the fulness of the Holy Spirit? Is our God using us, to raise up a holy people
unti Him in our Conference? May the Lord help us to make our calling and election sure.

MEMBERSHIP.

The Churches of our conference have increased their membership by 65. The number of probationers shows an increase of 383. We are gratified with this increase; but when we remember the millions among whom we work, we pray that we may so work, that we may bring forth “much fruit.”

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

The number of our Sunday Schools has increased by 9, and the scholars in them by 135. We invite our preachers to continue their efforts to make the conversion of the children under our care their chief aim.

EXHORTATION.

What a century this has been in the development of Christian work and particularly of missionary operation? It has seen the marvellous origin and growth of the work of our beloved Church in Southern Asia. May its closing year see its greatest victories. To this end let us bend all our energies, and take into the new century a rich harvest of precious souls.

C. B. HILL.
J. P. MEIK.
C. DOWRING.

AUDIT CERTIFICATES FROM PRESIDING ELDER.

The Presiding Elder of Calcutta District reports that the books of the Calcutta Girls' School, Calcutta Boys' School, Arcadia Girls' School, Methodist Publishing House, Coffee Rooms, and Industrial Home are audited by professional Auditors; and further that he has audited the books of the Deaconess Home, the Dennett Training School, the Boys' Orphanage, the Girls' Orphanage, The Balaighata and Tumlook Circuits, The books of the Calcutta Bengali Balaighata and Tumlook Woman's Work and has found them correct.

Presiding Elder,
The Presiding Elder of Asansol District reports that he has audited the accounts of the missionaries in charge of Asansol, Bolpur and Pakur circuits in most part, and will complete the audit on the occasion of next quarterly visits to the stations named.

Presiding Elder.
Lay Electoral Conference

OF THE

Bengal-Burma Conference

HELD ON

January 27, 1900.

MINUTES.

The Lay Electoral Conference of the Bengal-Burma Annual Conference met in the vestry of the Dharamtala Street Church, January 27. Present nine members. C. J. A. Pritchard, Esq., was elected chairman.

Present:—Mrs. Robinson, Pakur Quarterly Conference; Mrs. Byers, Asansol Quarterly Conference; C. J. A. Pritchard, Hindustani Quarterly Conference; Mrs. Lee, Baliaghata Quarterly Conference; P. C. Das, Diamond Harbour Quarterly Conference; R. C. Biswas, Dharamtala Bengali Quarterly Conference; Miss Blair, Tumlook Quarterly Conference; John Peter, Mozafarpur Quarterly Conference; R. Laidlaw, Calcutta English Quarterly Conference.

Mr. Laidlaw moved the following resolution:

Memorial to General Conference.—The Lay Electoral Conference of the Bengal-Burma Conference beg to submit the following memorial to the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, 1900.

Whereas the membership of the Church in India and Malaysia has increased enormously during the past twelve years, as has also the geographical area to which the work of the Church has extended since it was placed under the superintendence of a missionary bishop,

And whereas, the efficient supervision of this large and evergrowing field has become a task far beyond the strength of any one man, be he ever so richly endowed in physical and mental strength,

And whereas, to the knowledge of your memorialists there are in the field several able and capable missionaries whose long experience and magnificent devotion to the work marks them out as well fitted for the duties of organizing and superintending the extending work of the Church in this country;
Your memorialists having the best interests of the Church of God at heart, and the needs of the multitudes of His people who are needing light and guidance, earnestly pray that at least two more missionary bishops, to devote the whole of their time and strength to the duties of this office, be appointed for this service.

The resolution was adopted unanimously.

**Election to General Conference.**—A ballot for the election of one lay delegate and one alternate to the General Conference resulted in the election of R. Laidlaw as delegate and C. J. A. Pritchard as alternate.
### STATISTICAL FORM I.

**STATISTICS OF THE BENGAL-BURMA ANNUAL CONFERENCE RELATING TO CHURCH MEMBERSHIP AND WORK, FOR THE YEAR ENDING NOV. 30TH, 1899.**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>NAMES OF CIRCUITS</th>
<th>CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY.</th>
<th>BAPTISMS.</th>
<th>SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.</th>
<th>EPWORTH LEAGUES.</th>
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### Statistical Form II.

**Statistics of the Bengal-Burma Annual Conference Relating to Church Finances, For the Year Ending November 30th, 1899.**

#### Names of Circuits.

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<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Number of Churches</th>
<th>Value of All Property</th>
<th>Total Value of All Property</th>
<th>MIssionary Collections</th>
<th>Total Missionary Support</th>
<th>Ministerial Support</th>
<th>BENEVOLENT COLLECTIONS</th>
<th>OTHER COLLECTIONS</th>
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**Total MIssionary Collections**

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**Total Ministerial Support**

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**Total BENEVOLENT COLLECTIONS**

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**Total OTHER COLLECTIONS**

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**Total INCOME EARNED IN SOUTHERN ASIA**

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**Note:** The table details the financial statistics of various circuits within the Bengal-Burma Annual Conference for the year 1899, including the number of churches, the value of property, and various financial collections. The data is organized by district, with subcategories for each collection type and a grand total at the end.
### STATISTICAL FORM III.

**STATISTICS OF THE BENGAL-BURMA ANNUAL CONFERENCE RELATING TO SCHOOLS, FOR THE YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER, 30TH, 1899.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAMES OF CIRCUITS</th>
<th>VERNACULAR SCHOOLS</th>
<th>EUROPEAN AND ANGLO-VERNACULAR SCHOOLS</th>
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<td>Calcutta District.</td>
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<td>Seamen's Work</td>
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<td>Dacgha</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samastipur</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seemari</td>
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<tr>
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</table>

*END OF YEAR.*
## STATISTICS OF THE BENGAL-BURMA ANNUAL CONFERENCE RELATING TO COLPORTAGE, FOR THE YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30TH, 1899.

### TABLE: SCRIPTURES AND TRACTS SOLD AND DISTRIBUTED.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Names of Circuits</th>
<th>No. of Men employed as Colporteurs</th>
<th>No. of Vernacular Bibles Sold or Distributed</th>
<th>No. of Vernacular Portions Sold or Distributed</th>
<th>No. of English Bibles Sold or Distributed</th>
<th>No. of English Portions Sold or Distributed</th>
<th>Total No. of Bibles, Testaments and Portions Sold or Distributed</th>
<th>No. of Tracts and Books Sold or Distributed</th>
<th>Amount of Sales of all kinds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td></td>
<td>2,940</td>
<td>2,245</td>
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### Increase
- **36**
- **50**

### Decrease
- **14**
- **12**

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<td></td>
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<td>745</td>
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### Increase
- **3**
- **49**

### Decrease
- **3**
- **12**

<table>
<thead>
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<td>14</td>
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<td>76</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seamen's Work</td>
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<td>64</td>
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<td>76</td>
<td>85</td>
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<td>2,549</td>
<td>29,438</td>
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### Increase
- **21**

### Decrease
- **1**
- **12**

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<tr>
<td>Dinapore</td>
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### Increase
- **2**

### Decrease
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- **154**

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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>256</td>
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<td>10,206</td>
<td>51,986</td>
<td>579.3</td>
</tr>
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<td>4,590</td>
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### Colportage How Supported.
- Mission and Bible Society.
- Bible Society.