Minutes of the
Bengal Annual
Conference
&
Fourteenth Session.
1901.
MINUTES
OF THE
FOURTEENTH SESSION
OF THE
Bengal Annual Conference
OF THE
Methodist Episcopal Church,
HELD AT
Pakur, January 3—5, 1901.

BISHOP F W. WARNE. JOSEPH CULSHAW.
President. Secretary.

CALCUTTA:
PRINTED AT THE METHODIST PUBLISHING HOUSE,
46, DHARMATALA STREET.
1901.
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 shall 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 apprise 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.
### Roll of the Bengal Conference, 1901.

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<td>Biswas, Shitol Chunder, Pakur</td>
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Conference Officers.

Bishop Frank W. Warne, D.D. ...................................................... President.
Joseph Culshaw ................................................................. Secretary.
George S. Henderson ......................................................... 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.
David H. Lee ................................................................. Treasurer of the Conference Board of Stewards.

CONFERENCE BOARDS.


Board of Deaconess Work.—J. E. Robinson, G. E. Stokes, D. H. Lee, Miss Campbell, Mrs. Robinson, Miss Craig, Miss Samson, Mrs. Chew, Miss Knowles.


Board of Epworth League.—W. P. Byers, President; G. E. Stokes, Miss Campbell, Mrs. B. J. Chew; Vice-Presidents; Miss Craig, Secretary and Treasurer.

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

Conference Visitors to Bareilly Seminary.—Henry Jackson, W. P. Byers.

STANDING COMMITTEES.


Colportage.—J. P. Meik, B. M. Mozumdar, C. C. Dass, Nain Sukh.

Temperance.—Henry Jackson, F. E. Lieden, K. C. Mullick.


Public Worship.—The Presiding Elder and Preacher-in-charge of the place where Conference is appointed.
MINUTES
OF THE
Proceedings of the Bengal Conference of the
Methodist Episcopal Church.
Held at Pakur, India, Commencing on Thursday, January 3rd, 1901.

JOURNAL.

FIRST SESSION.
Pakur, January 3, 1901.

The fourteenth session of the Bengal Conference convened at Pakur, on Thursday, the 3rd of January, 1901, at 11 o'clock A.M., Bishop F. W. Warne, D.D., presiding.

Opening.—The Conference was opened by the singing of the 798th hymn, "And are we yet alive." The Bishop read the Bible Lesson from Deut. 23: 26-29, and Joshua 1: 1-9, after which Henry Jackson and D. H. Lee led the Conference in prayer.


The name of F. W. Warne was called and the Secretary announced his elevation to the episcopacy.

Organisation.—On motion, Joseph Culshaw was elected secretary of the Conference, and G. S. Henderson was chosen as assistant secretary. Homer Wroten was appointed Statistical Secretary and D. H. Lee, Treasurer of the Conference Board of Stewards.
Transfer.—The Bishop announced the transfer of George E. Stokes, effective elder from the St. Louis Conference. He addressed the Conference.

Burma Mission Conference — J. E. Robinson moved that, in harmony with the enabling act passed by the General Conference, we hereby approve the organization of the Burma District of the Bengal-Burma Conference into the Burma Mission Conference. The Bishop having signified his approval, the motion was adopted by a unanimous vote.

Address.—Bishop Warne addressed the Conference.

Telegram to Mrs. Parker.—On motion of D. H. Lee it was resolved that a telegram as an expression of sympathy and prayer be sent to Mrs. Parker. The Bishop appointed D. H. Lee and J. E. Robinson a committee to draft and send the telegram.

Greeting.—A telegram of greeting was received from C. B. Hill. "Leonard Hill send greetings Bengal Conference, new century." On motion of Henry Jackson, the Secretary was instructed to send a suitable reply.

Introductions.—Mrs. Lieden and Miss McKinley were introduced to the Conference. They made short addresses.

Programme.—On motion of J. E. Robinson, the printed programme was adopted as the programme of the Conference.


Committee on Resolutions.—On motion of J. E. Robinson, a committee on resolutions was ordered, the members to be appointed by the Bishop. The Bishop appointed J. E. Robinson, Henry Jackson, Charles Dowring and B. M. Mozumdar.

Rules of Order.—On motion of D. H. Lee, the rules of order printed in the Conference Minutes were adopted.
The 13th Question.—The name of W. P. Byers, Presiding Elder of the Asansol District, was called, he reported his collections and his character was passed. He read the report of his district.

The name of J. E. Robinson, Presiding Elder of the Calcutta District, was called, and his character was passed. He read the report of his district.

The names of F. E. Lieden, S. M. Mondol, J. P. Meik, Charles Dowring, and G. E. Stokes, were called, they reported their collections, and their characters were passed.

The name of B. J. Chew, Presiding Elder of the Calcutta Bengali District, was called, he reported his collections, and his character was passed. He read the report of his district.

The names of D. H. Lee, Joseph Culshaw, and B. M. Mozumdar were called, they reported their collections, and their characters were passed.

Conference Funds.—On motion of J. E. Robinson, the Board of Conference Stewards was instructed to consider what would be a fair division of the Funds of the Conference between the Bengal Conference and the new Burma Mission Conference, and to report to the present session.

Greetings to Burma Mission Conference.—The following telegram was sent to C. B. Hill, in response to the greeting of the Burma Mission Conference: "Bengal Conference returns greeting. Numbers 6. 24-26."

The 13th Question.—The name of Henry Jackson, Presiding Elder of the Tirhut District, was called, his character was passed, he reported his collections. He read the report of his district.

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

Order of the Day.—On motion of J. E. Robinson, the vote on the Proposed New Constitution was ordered as the order of the day for twelve o'clock on Friday. G. E. Stokes was requested to address the Conference on the subject.

Conference Photograph.—Henry Jackson kindly offered to take a Photograph of the Conference. The Conference accepted his kind offer with thanks.

Adjournment.—After the announcements the Conference adjourned and G. E. Stokes pronounced the benediction.
SECOND SESSION.

Friday, January 4, 1901.

The second session was called to order at 11 o'clock by Bishop Warne.

Opening.—The devotional exercises were conducted by G. S. Henderson.

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

Roll.—John Robert answered to his name.

Introduction.—Miss Robinson, of the Bombay Conference was introduced to the conference and made a short address.

The Order of the Day.—On motion of Joseph Culshaw, the order of the day, the consideration of the Proposed New Constitution of the Methodist Episcopal Church was taken up. George E. Stokes addressed the Conference on the salient points of the Constitution. The vote was taken and sixteen voted in favour, and one against.

The 4th Question.—The name of Keshub C. Mullick was called, he gave satisfactory written answers to questions (1) and (2) of ¶ 146 of the Discipline, and, having passed a satisfactory examination, on the recommendation of the Asansol District Conference, he was admitted on trial in the Conference.

Instruction to the Board of Examiners.—On motion of B. J. Chew, the Board of Examiners was instructed to adopt rules and draw up model questions and answers to guide examiners in the work of examining the classes of the Conference.

The 7th Question.—The name of Lakhon C. Sarcar was called. He answered the usual disciplinary questions and gave satisfactory written answers to questions (1) and (2) of ¶ 146 of the Discipline. The Bishop addressed him upon the sacred duties and obligations of the ministry. His character was passed. On motion of B. J. Chew, he was received into full connection with the Conference, and elected to deacon's orders. He was continued in the third year's class of studies having credit for Churches of Asia, Errors of Roman Catholic Church, and Mizan-ul-Haq.

Adjournment.—After the announcements, on motion of Joseph Culshaw, the Conference adjourned to meet at 4 P.M. Henry Jackson pronounced the benediction.
THIRD SESSION.

Friday, January 4, 1901.

The third session was called to order at 4 P.M. by the Bishop.

Minutes.—After singing a hymn, the minutes of the previous session were read and approved.

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

Conference Visitors to the Bareilly Seminary.—On motion of Joseph Culshaw, Henry Jackson and W. P. Byers were appointed the Conference visitors to the Bareilly Theological Seminary.

The 10th Question.—The name of Chunder C. Dass was called; on motion of B. J. Chew, his character was passed, and he was continued in the fourth year with credit for the fourth year's course of study.

Standing Committees.—On motion of G. S. Henderson, the Presiding Elders were appointed a committee to nominate the Standing Committees.

Bible Society Grant.—On motion of Henry Jackson, the Corresponding Secretary was instructed to correspond with the Secretaries of the American Bible Society in New York, in regard to a grant of two hundred dollars, debited to the Bengal-Burma Conference, which is being sent to Mr. Madsen, who is no longer a member of this Conference.

Niels Madsen.—On motion of J. E. Robinson, the case of Niels Madsen was referred to the Committee on Conference Relations.

Corresponding Secretary.—On motion of G. E. Stokes, B. J. Chew was elected Corresponding Secretary of the Conference.

Calcutta Christian Schools Society.—On motion of J. E Robinson, the following persons were elected on the Committee of the Calcutta Christian Schools Society for 1901: Robert Laidlaw, C. J. A. Pritchard, William Ross, and H. H. Remfry.

Treasurer of the Board of Missions.—On motion of Henry Jackson, J. E. Robinson was nominated Treasurer of the Board of Missions for the Bengal Conference.
Adjournment.—After the announcements, the Conference adjourned, and the Bishop pronounced the benediction.

FOURTH SESSION.

Saturday, January 5, 1901.

The fourth session was called to order by W. P. Byers at 11 a. m., who also conducted the devotional exercises.

The Chair.—The Bishop took the chair.

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

Standing Committees.—On motion of W. P. Byers, the following report of the Presiding Elders concerning the Conference Boards was accepted:


Board of Deaconess Work.—J. E. Robinson, G. E. Stokes, D. H. Lee, Miss Campbell, Mrs. Robinson, Miss Craig, Miss Samson, Mrs. Chew, Miss Knowles.


Colportage.—J. P. Meik, B. M. Mozumdar, C. C. Dass, Nain Sukh.

Temperance.—Henry Jackson, F. E. Lieden, K. C. Mullick.


Public Worship.—The Presiding Elder and preacher-in-charge of the station where the Conference is held.

Statistical Report.—The report of the Statistical Secretary was read by Homer Wroten, and after correction, it was accepted.
Instruction to the Statistical Secretary.—On motion of W. P. Byers, it was resolved that the Statistical Secretary be instructed to make use of Column XI on the forms, in order that the adherents of the church may be reported.

Sunday School Report.—The report of the committee on Sunday-schools was read by Henry Jackson, and, on motion, it was adopted.

Missionaries of the Board of Missions.—On motion of J. E. Robinson, the following resolution was adopted:

Whereas, the Board of Managers of the Missionary Society some years ago made provision for admitting men taken into our Annual Conferences in this country to the status of missionaries of the Board under certain reasonable conditions; and

Whereas, a number of missionary brethren taken on in this country now connected with our Annual Conferences are qualified for admission to such status under the conditions prescribed by the Board; and

Whereas, although the provision for advancing these brethren to the status referred to exists, yet practical difficulties stand in the way of their advancement at present;

Therefore, RESOLVED, That we hereby request the Central Conference to provide at its next session, and at each succeeding session, for the election from the whole number of candidates in our Indian Conferences of not less than two, who shall be recommended to the Board of Managers for adoption as their missionaries, in harmony with the action of the Board, provided the said candidates shall have completed five years of full membership in one or other of our Annual Conferences in India.

Finance Committee.—On motion of G. S. Henderson, the Conference proceeded to the election of the Finance Committee. It was resolved that six persons, in addition to the ex-officio members, be elected. J. E. Robinson and F. E. Lieden were appointed tellers.

Muttra Mission Training School.—W. P. Byers read the report of the Muttra Mission Training School, written by Miss Gregg. In accordance with the nomination of the Board of Trustees, J. E. Robinson was appointed a Member of the Board.

Finance Committee.—The result of the first ballot for the Finance Committee was announced. J. P. Meik, D. H. Lee, B. M Mozumdar, F. E. Lieden were elected.
The 30th Question.—On motion it was decided to hold the next Conference at Calcutta.

Resolution.—On motion of J. E. Robinson it was resolved, That the Corresponding Secretary of the Conference be requested to forward a copy of the resolution, regarding the election of certain brethren to the status of missionaries of the Board, to Secretary Leonard, and at the same time that a special request be made to Secretary Leonard to advise the Board not to advance any missionaries of our Southern Asia field to the status referred to, pending recommendations from the Central Conference.

Finance Committee.—The result of the second ballot was announced. Joseph Culshaw and Charles Dowring were elected. Homer Wroten and G. S. Henderson were elected alternates.

The 15th Question.—It being stated that no death had occurred among the members, the Bishop asked the Conference to sing the doxology. After singing, the Bishop led in prayer.

Board of Education.—B. J. Chew read the report of the Board of Education. On motion it was adopted, and a condensed report was ordered to be printed.


The 17th Question.—On motion of J. E. Robinson, E. S. Ekdahl was located.

Deaconess Board.—The report of the Deaconess Board was read by D. H. Lee; on motion, it was received.

The 9th Question.—The name of Homer Wroten was called, his character was passed, he reported his collections, and he was continued in the studies of the fourth year.

Epworth League Committee.—The Bishop appointed D. H. Lee and Homer Wroten a committee to nominate the Epworth League Board of Control.

Adjournment.—After the announcements were made, the Conference adjourned to meet at 3:30 P. M. Henry Jackson pronounced the benediction.
FIFTH SESSION.

Saturday, January 5th, 1900.

The fifth session was called to order by the Bishop at 4-15 p.m.

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

Assistant Statistical Secretary.— On motion of Homer Wroten, F. E. Lieden was appointed Assistant Statistical Secretary.

The 8th question.— The name of Sitol C. Biswas was called, his character was passed, and he was continued in the third year's course of studies, having credit for, Churches of Asia, Errors of Roman Catholic Church, and Mizan-al-Haqq.

The name of George S. Henderson was called, his character was passed, he reported his collections and he was continued in the third year's course of studies, to be examined only in Psychology, History of the Christian Church, Hurst, Vol I. and Exegetical Studies in Pentateuch.

Board of Conference Stewards.— The report of the Board of Conference Stewards was read by D. H. Lee and adopted.

Benevolent Collections.— D. H. Lee, Treasurer of the Board of Conference Stewards, reported the aggregate of the Benevolent Collections as Rs. 10,011-8-0.

Conference Sermon — The Bishop appointed J. P. Meik to preach the Conference Sermon; B. J. Chew, alternate.

Mrs. Goodwin.— On motion of J. E. Robinson, it was resolved to record the pleasure of the Conference in listening to a letter from Mrs. E. B. Goodwin, to whom we request that the Treasurer of the Board of Conference Stewards shall convey an expression of our affectionate regard, praying God's blessing upon her in her efforts to educate her son; we also request the Secretary to send Mrs. Goodwin a copy of the Minutes.

Bengali Course of Studies.— J. P Meik brought forward the report of the committee on the Bengali course of studies. The Bishop approved it as the regular course of studies in Bengali.

Missions.— The report of the Committee on Missions was read by Homer Wroten and adopted.

The Twentieth Century Forward Movement.— Homer Wroten was appointed the Conference Secretary of this move-
ment. The Conference ordered the appointment of a committee to bring in resolutions in connection with the movement at the evening session. The Bishop appointed Homer Wroten, D. H. Lee, J. E. Robinson, Miss Knowles and Miss Craig.

**Apportionment of Vested Conference Funds.**—J. E. Robinson moved that one-fourth of the Conference Claimants' Funds be apportioned to the new Burma Mission Conference, and we recommend that the same be carefully interested on behalf of the Conference Claimants. The motion was adopted.

**Temperance.**—The report of the Committee on Temperance was read by Homer Wroten, and adopted.

**Colportage.**—The report of the Committee on Colportage was read by F. E. Lieden and adopted.

**Auditing Committee.**—The report of the Auditing Committee 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 D. H. Lee and adopted.

**Committee on Progress.**—The committee appointed by the Bishop on the subject of progress in the old Calcutta District from 1888 to date was read by J. Culshaw and adopted.

**Epworth League Board.**—On motion of Homer Wroten, the following were appointed the Epworth League Board of Control: President, W. P. Byers; Vice-Presidents: G. E. Stokes, Miss Campbell, Mrs. B. J. Chew; Secretary and Treasurer: Miss Craig.

**Relief Fund.**—On motion of G. S. Henderson, the Presiding Elders were requested to draw the attention of the Quarterly Conferences to the following resolution passed at the last Conference:

"**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."

On motion of J. P. Meik, the Committee appointed on this subject at the last United Calcutta and Asansol District Conference was made the Annual Conference Committee with the addition of the name of Henry Jackson.
Printing the Minutes.—On motion of Joseph Culshaw, the Secretaries of the Conference were appointed a committee to print and publish the Minutes. An edition of 250 was ordered to be printed.

The Official Record.—On motion of B. J. Chew, the printed minutes were adopted as the official record of the minutes of the Conference.

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

Adjournment.—After the announcements were made the Conference adjourned. W. P. Byers pronounced the benediction.

SIXTH SESSION.

Saturday, January 4th, 1901.

The Bishop called the Conference to order at 7:15 P.M.

Devotional Exercises.—F. E. Lieden conducted the devotional exercises.

The Twentieth Century Forward Movement.—The following resolution was offered by Homer Wroten. J. E. Robinson, B. M. Mozumdar, and the Bishop addressed the Conference and after earnest prayer, it was adopted.

The Bengal Conference recognizes the importance of the Twentieth Century Forward Movement. We cannot pass the months by without reference to its necessity and encouragement. We would emphasize three phases of the question. In the first place there is need of greater unity in prayer. This would not supplant any private or family devotions which are customary but would effect a greater harmony in our endeavours. With the same pleas we would come nearer each other by coming nearer the same God. We recommend the Indian Witness weekly prayer programme. In the second place it is time to operate upon the plans already suggested. The century toward which we have long been looking is now upon us. So far nothing has occurred more marked than would have been without agitation. Our Conference returns are not encouraging on the whole. There is great need of immediate action. In the third place our native brethren need exhortation—and inspiration from above for this great work. We deplore the native apathy and lack of anxiety with reference to India's salvation. While the movement was born elsewhere it should be most heartily embraced by the Indian Christian workers. The movement, if
it assumes the proportions anticipated, must be largely through the activity of the native Christian community.

Homer Wrotten.
F. Craig.
J. E. Robinson.
E. L. Knowles.
D. H. Lee.

Committee on Resolutions.—The report of the Committee on Resolutions was read by J. E. Robinson, and was unanimously adopted. (See Resolutions).

Telegram from Bishop Parker.—The following telegram was read from Bishop Parker: "Greetings, sympathy appreciated. Colossians ii: 5-7. Slight improvement."

Adjournment.—On motion of G. S. Henderson it was resolved to request the presiding bishop to arrange for the ordination of the brother elected to deacon’s orders and the consecration of the sister elected to the office of deaconess at the approaching Sunday services, and that the Conference stand adjourned sine die after the adoption of the minutes and the reading of the Appointments.

Appointments.—The Bishop addressed the Conference; read the appointments, and the Conference adjourned sine die.

Frank W. Warne
President.

Joseph Culshaw
Secretary.

Certificate of Ordination.—This is to certify that I have this day ordained Lakhon C. Sarcar to the office of Deacon in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and that at the same place I have consecrated Alma C. Jacobson to the office of Deaconess in said church.

Frank W. Warne.

Pakur, Jan. 6th, 1902.
RESOLUTIONS.

BISHOP AND MRS. THOBURN.

We express our sincere regret that the return of Bishop and Mrs. Thoburn to India has been so long delayed, and with little encouragement to hope that we shall have them among us soon. Recalling with thankfulness their unselfish devotion to the work of God in India, and all that they have been enabled to do for our work while in the home land, we unite in this expression of our hearty fraternal esteem and send them our affectionate regards. They are unceasingly remembered in our private and public devotions, and we earnestly commend them to the God of all grace and comfort.

BISHOP E. W. PARKER.

The news of the serious illness of our beloved Bishop Parker causes us unfeigned sorrow. With sincerest sympathy we desire that God may spare and prolong his life to serve the Church for whose welfare he has toiled so long and so successfully. We pray for God's healing hand to be laid upon him. Nor do we forget Mrs. Parker in this time of trial. May the heavenly Father graciously sustain and comfort her.

BISHOP F. W. WARNE.

Resolved, That we have enjoyed with peculiar gratification the presidency of Bishop F. W. Warne, at this first session of our Conference in the new century. One of ourselves for so many years, he has been in a position to sympathise with our difficulties and needs, and we gratefully appreciate his wise counsel and helpful administration. We commend him to God that all needed strength may be vouchsafed to him in connection with the unexpected additional burdens laid upon him because of the illness of Bishop Parker. We pray God's blessing on Mrs. and Miss Warne as they proceed to America, reminding them that they belong in a peculiar sense to the Bengal Conference.

BIBLE TRAINING INSTITUTION.

Resolved: That we express our appreciation of Bishop Warne's promise to become personally responsible for collecting funds for ten scholarships for the Bible Training Institution and trust that friends in the Home land will kindly contribute to these funds.

BURMA MISSION CONFERENCE.

Resolved, That in approving the Enabling Act of the General Conference whereby the Burma District has been set off as the Burma Mission Conference, we and our missionary sisters recall with sincere pleasure the fellowship we have enjoyed with our brethren and sisters labouring in Burma and rejoice in all the success that God has granted
them. We bid the Burma Mission Conference godspeed and pray
that the little one may soon become a thousand and the work grow
and prosper abundantly through the coming years.

Hospitality at Pakur.

Resolved, That we shall carry away with us the pleasantest
recollections of our Conference session at Pakur. We tender our
warmest thanks for the excellent arrangements made for our con­
venience and comfort by Brother and Sister Meik, by which our coming
together has been made so enjoyable. We are also indebted to
Miss Jacobson and Brother Shitol Ch. Biswas for their kind attentions.
It has been very pleasant to transact our business amid the delightful
rural surroundings of the mission compound, and to commune with
nature in the brief intervals of rest from arduous labour. We pray
for God's choicest blessing upon the missionaries and their work at
Pakur.
APPOINTMENTS, 1901.

BENGAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

ASANSOL DISTRICT.—W. P. Byers, P. E., (P. O.-Asansol.)

ASANSOL ... ... ... ... ... W. P. Byers.
,, English Church ... ... Supplied by John Byork.
,, Bengali Church ... ... K. C. Mullick.

CALCUTTA DISTRICT.—J. E. Robinson, P. E.
(P. O.-Dharamtala.)

Bolpur and Rampur Haut ... F. E. Lieden, S. M. Mondol.
Calcutta, English Church ... ... G. E. Stokes.
,, Hindustani Mission ... ... Charles Dowring.
,, Boys' School ... ... Supplied by J. G. Kennedy.
,, Seamen's Mission ... ... G. S. Henderson.
Pakur Circuit ... ... ... J. P. Meik.
,, Pakur ... ... ... S. C. Biswas.
,, Nalhati ... ... ... Supplied by S. C. Mitter.
,, Suti ... ... ... Supplied by A. C. Mondol.
Calcutta, Publishing House ... Joseph Culshaw, Agent.
,, Indian Witness ... ... J. E. Robinson, Editor.

CALCUTTA BENGALI DISTRICT.—B. J. Chew, P. E.
(P. O.-Entally, Calcutta.)

Baliaghata and Bible Training School, Homer Wroten, Principal.
Beg Bagan and South Village Circuit ... Joseph Culshaw.
Calcutta, American Methodist Institution ...B. J. Chew, Principal.
,, City Missions ... ... D. H. Lee.
,, Dharamtala and Kidderpore Circuit, B. J. Chew, [Dharamtala].
,, C. C. Dass, [Kidderpur].

Diamond Harbour Circuit ... B. M. Mozumdar, L. C. Sarcar.
APPOINTMENTS.

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

Bettiah ... ... ... Supplied by John Peter.
Chupra ... ... Supplied by Samuel Budden.
Darbhanga ... ... ... John Robert.
Dinapore ... ... ... Supplied by Kali Charan.
Mozafarpur ... ... ... Henry Jackson.
Samastipur ... ... ... Nain Sukh.
Sitamari ... ... ... Supplied by E. John.

WOMAN'S CONFERENCE.

Asansol District.

Asansol, Women's Work ... ... ... Mrs. Byers.
" Girls' School ... ... ... Miss Forster.
On leave to America, Miss Lamb.

Calcutta District.

Bolpur and Rampur Haut, Woman's Work ... Mrs. Lieden.
Calcutta, English Work ... ... Mrs. Stokes.
" Hindustani Mission ... Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Dowring.
" Supdt. Deaconess Home & Pastor's Assistant, Miss Maxey
" Anglo-Indian Orphanages ... Miss Craig.
" Girls' School ... ... Miss Samson.
" Seamen's Mission ... Mrs. Henderson, (in America)
Darjeeling, Arcadia Girls' School, Miss Knowles, Miss McKinley.
Pakur, Woman's Work ... Mrs. Meik, Miss Wittenbaker.
On leave to America, Miss Jacobson.

On leave to America, Miss Stahl, Miss Boggs; Mrs. Warne, in America.
**Calcutta Bengali District.**

**Beg Bagan and South Village Circuit,** Schools and Zenana Work, Mrs. Culshaw;

**Calcutta,** Baliaghata and Kumardanga Schools ..... Mrs. Lee.

, Dharamtala and Kidderpore Circuit, Woman's Work

, Dennet Training School and Girls' Day School, Mrs. Lee

, City Missions and Baliaghata, Zenana Work ..... Mrs. Lee

, Jaun Bazar School ..... Mrs. Culshaw.

**Champahati, Nihati and Kulpi** Woman's Work, Mrs. Mozumdar.

**Tumluk,** Zenana Work ..... Miss Blair.

, School Work ..... Miss Moyer.

**Tirhooit District.**

**Mozafarpur.**—District Work ..... Mrs. Jackson.

, Zenana Work & Village Schools ..... Miss Soderstrom.

, Girls' Orphanage ..... Miss Campbell.
Disciplinary Questions.

Question I. Who have been received by transfer and from what Conference?
George E. Stokes from the St. Louis 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?
Keshub C. Mullick.

V. Who have been continued on trial?
None.

VI. Who have been discontinued?
None.

VII. Who have been admitted into full membership?
Lakhon C. Sarcar.

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

IX. What members are in studies of the fourth year?
Chander C. Dass, [with credit for fourth year's studies].
Homer Wroten.

X. What members have completed the Conference Course of study?
None.

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?
Edward S. Ekdahl.
XVIII. Who have withdrawn?  
None.

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

XX. Who have been expelled?  
None.

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

XXII. Who are the Supernumary Preachers?  
None.

XXIII. Who are the Superannuated Preachers?  
None.

XXIV. Who are the Tiers of Appeals?  

XXV. What is the Statistical Report for this year?  

XXVI. What is the aggregate of the Benevolent Collections ordered by the General Conference, as reported by the Conference Treasurer?  
Rs. 10,011.8.

XXVII. What are the claims on the Conference Funds?  
$ 200 @ Rs. 3 = Rs. 600.

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

| Received by balance, 1897 | 127 11 9 |
| Conference Collections for 1899 | 121 0 0 |
| Due by interest | 145 0 0 |
| **To date Total** | **393 11 9** |
| Debit balance to be realized from Methodist Book concern | 206 4 3 |
| **Total** | **600 0 0** |

Sent to Mrs. Goodwin $ 200 @ Rs. 3 = ... 600 0 0

XXIX. Where are the Preachers stationed?  
See appointments.

XXX. Where shall the next Conference be held?  
Calcutta.
Presiding Elders' Reports.

ASANSOL DISTRICT.

W. P. Byers, Presiding Elder.

The recent division of the District, setting Asansol apart by itself, and the coming of Conference before the usual time, leaves us less than we otherwise might have had to report, but we must make mention of some things the fleeting months have brought to pass.

Early in the year we were favoured with a visit from Rev. Charles Inwood, of Keswick fame, and a number of our European people were induced to set out for the Kingdom of God. A few weeks later we had with us Rev. C. H. Yatman, of New York, for three days, and under his impassioned preaching large gatherings were held, and more were added to the Church who have found joy and peace in believing. The services and Sunday School have been well attended, and we have now a better working force in the church than we have ever had. A number have taken the Twentieth Century Forward Movement pledge and are working vigorously. Miss Lena Thorley, a member of our English congregation, has taken up the study of Bengali and entered our ranks as a worker in the vernacular. We trust that in the years to come there may be many who shall follow in her steps, and prove useful and efficient in the Master's service.

Bro. John Bjork, sent to us at District Conference time, has found a warm place in the hearts of the people and an active place in the work.

Our Bengali services have been full and joyful ones, and a number of baptisms have taken place among those whom we hope will prove helpful to our Saviour's Kingdom and cause. The work seems slow, requiring much patience and perseverance.

But the seeds of good we sow,
Both in shade and shine will grow,
And will keep our hearts afloat
While the days are going by.

A family helped and instructed some years ago recently came out and were baptized and there are invitations coming in from different parts of the district for us to go and talk over our religion with the people.

We are lengthening our cords and strengthening our stakes, having built a little house at Rampur village for our Santhal Evangelist. Here we have a chapel and a centre for our Santhali work. There are some inquirers among these interesting people, and we trust we may soon have Santhali and Hindustani circuits, in addition to our Bengali and English work. All these things are possible if we have the men and a little more money.

Our School children are a comfort and satisfaction to us in many ways. Those who have been with us for some years have been growing and learning and developing and it is a pleasure to observe their
improvement and growth in knowledge and goodness. Eighteen of our boys and girls passed the Sunday School Union examinations in the first grade, and the Epworth League Meetings shew that they are becoming familiar with their Bibles.

Their ranks have been largely augmented by the addition of 95 children from the famine districts. These have made quite an innovation amongst us, and though causing much additional care, as well as work, it is a delight to see them coming back to health and strength, and to notice how their minds and hearts are taking hold of the truths of Christianity. Mr. and Mrs. de Monte have both given much help in gathering and caring for them, and through the efforts of Bro. Robinson support has been promised for most of them, which relieves us from anxiety for supplies for the present.

So, though we know not what the future hath,
Of marvel or surprise
We are assured, that life or death,
His mercy underlies.

These "legacies of the famine" will be a blessing to the church in days to come, as, in caring for them we are doing saving work. Most of these children were baptized on Christmas day, and all seem anxious to learn and do what is right.

Christmas week we had a visit from Mr. John Jackson, of the Mission to Lepers. He expressed his satisfaction and pleasure at seeing the lepers and all the arrangements for their comfort. The death of one of the oldest inmates a few months ago was one of remarkable triumph. This old woman had always loved the services and songs of Zion and in her last illness rejoiced and gave glory to God, frequently avowing her trust and living faith in Him who touched the lepers and bade them be clean.

Prospects are bright. The W. F. M. S., are seeking for more room for the extending work, and a fine piece of land has been secured which very considerably enlarges the compound at the Boys' School. On this property we hope to erect a comfortable and commodious school this year.

The bakery has been able to net and contribute Rs 600 towards the work. Five of the famine girls are assisting Ellen, and a bread bakery is proposed to be started next month.

While we are grateful for new helpers, we are praying for additional workers, that the Forward Movement may go forward and the year be to all of us one of joy and blessed results.
The year which has passed into history and must ever be memorable as the last year of the nineteenth century, was marked by various changes to which we have hardly had time to adjust ourselves. By the elevation of presiding elder Warne to the episcopacy, the hand of a strong administrator, the personality of a successful leader, was withdrawn from a large district which had witnessed extensive development during the many years of his administration. In full survey of the whole situation, with its varied interests and multiform requirements, one is forced to ask, “What shall the man do that cometh after the king?” The administration of the past, however, has made it comparatively easy for the man that cometh after to take up new lines of duty and to glide into the routine of new responsibilities. In this introductory paragraph it may be briefly noted that at the United District Conference of the Asansol and Calcutta Districts, held last October, the former Asansol circuit was constituted a District by itself; the Bengali work in Calcutta and suburbs was united to the Tamluk and South Villages Circuits, and the whole formed into what is called the Calcutta Bengali District; while all the English work and institutions in Calcutta and Darjeeling, together with the Hindustani Mission, and the mofussil circuits of Bolpur and Pakur, have become the new Calcutta District, the report of which I now have the pleasure to submit. Waiving the time-honoured privilege of observing alphabetical order, I begin with the metropolis:

Dharamtala Street English Church.

When at the end of January last pastor Warne was elected to represent the Bengal-Burma Conference in the General Conference at Chicago, and Brother Homer Wroten was assigned to pastoral charge of the church, it was hardly to be wondered at that some of us should have entertained misgivings as to the effect the change would produce. It was a severe test for the church and a no less severe test for the comparatively youthful pastor problem, and he a bachelor, to have the man drop out who had stood at the helm for thirteen years. But long before the cablegram brought the news of the severance of Mr. Warne’s pastoral relation to the Dharamtala Street Church in May, all misgivings had vanished, and no one felt the least fear that the Church would suffer under the care of pastor Wroten.

And now that the year has closed, it is a sincere gratification to testify that God has abundantly blessed Brother Wroten’s pastorate, embarrassed though he was to no little extent by the uncertainty regarding his future relations to the church. All interests of the church have prospered under his administration. His pulpit work has been of a uniformly high order, inspiring, instructive and helpful to all classes. His pastoral duties which have been more than usually onerous, have
been efficiently and most acceptably performed. Half a hundred times nearly has he been summoned to the cemetery by the imperative call of death that had come to some member of his congregation. The sacrament of Baptism was administered by him on sixteen different occasions, and it was his privilege to pronounce the solemn words by which man and woman become one no fewer than fifteen times. Forty persons have been received into full membership. The Sunday School, the Young Men's Society and the other Young People's Societies have received his solicitous care. The social meetings of the church have been times of refreshing and uplifting. The cottage meetings also have been sustained. On careful reflection, I can think of no interest of the church that has not prospered during the year. It is the simple truth to say that I do not believe there is a single person connected with the church and congregation who would not have voted with both hands for the continuance of Brother Wroten as pastor. The fourth Quarterly Conference of his charge adopted most complimentary resolutions regarding himself and his work, expressing regret that the pastoral relation was not to be continued. A substantial Christmas gift from his people proved their warm appreciation of his services and made glad his heart. But in fulfilment of the conditions on which Brother Wroten came to India, Bishop Thoburn as soon as possible selected the permanent pastor for the church in order to set Brother Wroten free to study the vernacular. The Rev. George E. Stokes, selected by Bishop Thoburn, a man approved of God and his brethren, has arrived. He and his good wife have received most cordial welcome from the officiary and membership of the church, also from the missionary brethren and sisters. The taste we have had of the service Brother Stokes is capable of rendering inspires full confidence that he will prove no unworthy successor of the good men and true who have preceded him in the important pastorate to which he is to be assigned.

It is gratifying to add that the temporal concerns of the church during the year that has just closed have been cared for. Through the kindness and liberality of Mrs. R. Laidlaw the church is now beautifully lighted by electricity to the satisfaction of the people generally. After patient waiting for years, the Methodist Hymnal has been introduced, and it is pleasing to note that there is hardly a member of the church who has not provided himself or herself with a copy. A church directory has been published. The settees have been repaired at considerable expense. The parsonage has been completely renovated in anticipation of the new pastor's advent. The various church benevolences have been provided for, and the several funds carefully supervised. It is with satisfaction that I note that the official meetings have shown marked improvement of late in the number of members present, and the interest taken in the business of the church.

In closing this report of the English church, I desire to add a word, which I am sure many would endorse, expressing our apprecia-
tion of what the church owes Mrs. Warne for the kind hospitality ever dispensed at the parsonage. The many who have sat at her table and have enjoyed the Sunday evening gatherings in her parlour, will cherish grateful memories of her kindness.

**Calcutta Girls' School.**

The Calcutta Girls' School has had a year of solid average prosperity under the efficient direction of Miss Samson. The number of pupils on the roll at the close of the school year in 1900 was 274, an increase on 1899 of forty-six. Thirty-nine pupils were presented for examination in 1900—five from the High, ten Middle, and twenty-four Primary Departments. In a few days the results will be known. There are seventy-four pupils in the Kindergarten, a department which badly needs a thoroughly qualified director. We hope the year will not pass without securing one. Of five music pupils sent up for the examination in theory, four passed. The Scripture examinations conducted by the Pastors' Association of the city have not been as satisfactory this year. The results in Standards I to III were not as good as last year. We hope more careful attention to Bible Study will remedy this deficiency.

Considerable expenditure has been incurred in perfecting the sanitary arrangements of the premises according to the requirements of the Municipal Health Department, so that now there is nothing left to be desired in this direction.

The teaching staff is fully up to the average in qualifications and efficiency, affected in like manner with all Indian educational institutions by more frequent changes than are desirable. Some will probably have to be made for 1901, but the best interests of the school will be steadily kept in view.

We are glad that Miss Samson has returned from her health trip to Burma thoroughly reinvigorated and quite fit for the work of the new year. It is patent to all that the school would be benefited by a capable associate of experience to share Miss Samson's heavy burdens. This should be a first care on the part of the School Committee.

It deserves to be said in closing that the pupils of the Calcutta Girls' School are exceptionally fortunate in the enjoyment of great privileges in connection with the church, Sunday School and Young People's Societies. Few institutions are more favourably situated in this respect.

**Calcutta Boys' School.**

It is a pleasure to report on the authority of the Principal and the statistics available that the position of the Calcutta Boys' School has decidedly improved during the past year. The prospects of the school are regarded as having improved very considerably. The number of pupils on the roll advanced from 128 at the end of 1899 to 173 at the end of 1900, an increase on 45, one less than the increase in the Girls'
School enrolment. This increase includes several parlour boarders. The results of the last examinations will not be known for a few days, but of the fourteen pupils presented in previous year thirteen passed—a very creditable outcome indeed, which I trust, will be paralleled this year. While the staff is quite up to the standard of institutions of similar grade, the need is constantly felt of thoroughly trained teachers a very scarce commodity in India. Few young men in India, unless they have a genuine love for teaching, stick to educational work. They are ever on the look out for some other vocation. It is to be wished that we could offer more inducements to capable young men to make teaching their life work. As it is, frequent changes in the staff are necessitated and this is always detrimental. But we suffer no more than others in this respect, and there seems no immediate prospect of inaugurating a different state of things. The drill exercise of the boys at the Prize Distribution evidenced the attention given to the training of the Cadet Corps.

We regret that the Principal's family should have suffered so much through sickness while at Darjeeling, though the School itself has had a year of excellent health all round.

Arcadia Girls' School.

Arcadia Girls' School, Darjeeling, has had a prosperous year—when the great calamity is taken into account which befell our School in 1899. The inspiration which comes with large numbers was lacking—but we did steady work with twenty-two boarders and a part of the time ten and fifteen day-pupils. Out of this number four were sent for the Primary Scholarship Examination, one for the Middle, and one for the High School. The results are yet to appear. The feeling in regard to our School is, that it is on a good basis for strength in the future, or, in other words we enjoy the public confidence and try to remember the words of the wise man—"the race is not to the swift nor the battle to the strong."

In March we shall begin the seventh year of our Darjeeling school, with a good staff of teachers. Miss McKinley, who came to us last January, has proved her adaptation and efficiency in Indian school work, and has besides created much interest at home in behalf of the school. Miss Lawrence, on her way out from England to re-join us, is well known in the department of music, and will bring with her the freshness of regained health, and European inspiration. So we are quite hopeful of regaining our former numbers, when it is well known that we are established in so safe and pleasant a spot as Queen's Hill and the Repose, which two houses have been taken for the coming year.

The religious condition of the school has been more satisfactory than in any former year. We have had from time to time the advantage of missionary friends with us, and there has grown up a quiet steady influence among the girls, which is born of the spirit.
PRESIDING ELDERS' REPORTS.

Trust that we shall receive the encouragement and patronage of our Protestant people in the interest of Christian education, we begin a new year with faith in Him who has commanded us, "to trust and not be afraid." The need for our school in Darjeeling is more and more apparent. We look to our brethren and sisters of this Conference that they will, so far as they can, influence Europeans in their stations who intend sending to hill schools, and influence them for Darjeeling.

HINDUSTANI MISSION.

The preacher-in-charge reports the baptism of forty-two persons during the year—thirty-seven adult Hindus, three adult Mahommedans, and two children. At the close of the year there are ninety-three full members on the register, seventy-five probationers and twenty children. The condition of the Sunday School and Epworth League is somewhat improved. The singing in the public services and the Sunday School is rather inferior. The day schools at Sanai Bazar, Howrah, Haripara and Kidderpore suffered considerably from the floods, but are now picking up again, with eighty boys in attendance. The Lascar work proceeds as usual. The worker in charge reported for third quarter over 1,700 lascars present at meetings and personally conversed with, besides numerous visits to hospitals, shipping officers, lascar's families, etc.; 150 tracts were distributed and a few New Testaments sold. The building project at Sanai Bazar still hangs fire owing to our inability to secure the piece of land required for a site. A correction is necessary in the amount of subscriptions for this enterprise reported at last Conference to have been paid in. The preacher-in-charge says it should be Rs. 50 not Rs. 175. Collections have been made in Sunday School Rs. 20, for Missions Rs. 13 and for Conference claimants Rs. 3. Brother Dowring pleads for an assistant in his growing work, and I endorse his appeal for the consideration of the Finance Committee. The woman's work has been making some advance, but as it will be reported separately to the Woman's Conference I refrain from dealing with it. We hope for still further improvement in all departments this year. There is large scope for aggressive Hindustani work in Calcutta and the vicinity, but the means to develope it are not forthcoming.

DEACONESS REPORT.

The Superintendent reports:—

As we come to the end of the year, we can truly say, Thus far the Lord has fed us on. Not one of His promises has failed. Our hearts are filled with thanks giving for all His goodness to us.

There have been many special blessings, but the one that stands above the others is His approval of the Home in its continual prosperity. He has inclined many friends to help us in sympathy, kind words and in bounties. We take this opportunity to thank these friends.
Dr. Mulford, who has worked with Mrs. Lee, has been in our home during the year. She has been a help, a comfort and an inspiration. Her prayers and Christian counsel have made many a burden lighter. The home has been made richer in good cheer because we have had Miss Craig with us for her meals.

Miss Scallan came to us in the early part of the year and has been a helper in many ways. We owe much to her for her faithfulness in doing the work of the Lookout Committee for the Young Ladies' Society. We are asking that she may take the success of the past year as a call for more definite work for the Master.

We have been glad to have Miss Blair with us for her vacations and visits to the city. Our Father has kept sickness from us during the year, when so many of our people have been ill and not a few have been called home. Our visits among the people of our church have been times of blessing and encouragement. To have a cordial welcome to a home means much and we wish to thank our friends for the kind welcome always given.

God has sent us many a blessing in permitting us to entertain strangers who have become friends. Our Father has made us rich in friends this year. Through the Home some of our most valued friendships have been formed and we count them among the good things that our Father has permitted to come in our line. The usual work of the Home has been done during the year in the hospitals, grogshops, etc. One thousand seven hundred and eighty-four visits have been made in the homes of our people and strangers. A larger number than usual have "broken bread with us."

It has been a great pleasure to have Mrs. Warne and Edith with us for a few weeks and we shall miss them greatly when they leave us for the home land. Bishop and Mrs. Warne have always had a warm place in their hearts for the Home which they helped by sharing their own home with us when we first came to the city. To have Bishop Warne with us at Christmas time has been a great pleasure. We count it no small blessing to have been associated for a year in the work with one whom God has owned and blessed as He has brother Wroten. We welcome to our circle and home brother and sister Stokes and their little daughters.

As we look out into the future we are not afraid to trust Him, who has called us to this land. "How great is thy goodness which thou hast laid up for them that fear thee, which thou hast wrought out for them that trust in thee."

**The Industrial Home.**

The end of the year being the time for making up the accounts for the year, we are glad to state that our Balance Sheet shows results which compare favourably with any previously obtained by the Industrial Home.
On the 1st of January we had thirty-one men in the Home. During the year sixty-two were admitted. Of these only three were expelled for drinking, which is a better result than we have ever yet attained; twenty-eight left to join appointments, twenty-nine left for other places, and there are thirty-three now remaining with us. We have thus given 10,286 nights' lodging and 30,858 meals, besides about 400 meals on meal tickets, &c.

Our carpentry account which might be more accurately called the "workshop" or "manufacturing account" shows receipts amounting to Rs. 4,258-14 o for the year, against an expenditure of Rs. 2,571-2-3, a profit of Rs. 1,687-11-9, which is more than three times that of last year.

The Board and Lodging account would appear to have slightly decreased, this is due to there being almost double the number of inmates admitted.

The falling off in the amount of donations and subscriptions is probably due to hard times generally.

The Cycle Department is slowly working its way up to a paying point, the expenditure during the year having been Rs. 430, and the receipts Rs. 317-8-0, the former including cost of tools, plant, &c.

Religious services—in addition to the morning and evening prayers—are held on Sunday and Tuesday mornings, and Wednesday and Friday evenings. These are conducted by ladies and gentlemen who take a kindly interest in the welfare of the inmates of the Home.

Christmas Day was spent in a most enjoyable manner; thanks to the help and sympathy of our friends. Mrs. H. H. Remfry and Mr. R. Remfry were on hand at 6:45 a.m. and prepared a substantial Choti Haziri, which was thoroughly enjoyed. This was succeeded by a vote of thanks and cheers. Bishop Warne, Rev. Homer Wroten, Miss Maxey as well as Mrs. Remfry, were present at dinner time and a thoroughly good Christmas Dinner was done justice to and appreciated. A hymn was then sung, followed by a prayer of thanksgiving by Bishop Warne. Each of the inmates was then presented with a useful gift by Mrs. Remfry and they were also each given a new pair of boots. A very pleasant evening was spent and all retired at 10 p.m.

The Anglo-Indian Boys' and Girls' Orphanages.

The Superintendent reports:

"Thou crownest the year with thy goodness." The words of the Psalmist express the experience of those who were connected with the orphanages during the year that is just past.

We have had between ninety and one hundred children in our two orphanages during the year 1900, and at the close of it, we can say that all of our needs have been met. Several times during the year, looking out into the coming days, it seemed as though the supply
would not be equal to the demand. But over and over again we were made to realize that the Heavenly Father knew just how much we had need of and we have not wanted any good thing.

The work of the year has gone on as usual. The boys and girls have attended the two schools with which we have been connected, and the examinations that have just been passed show that a good year's work has been done. Ten boys and four girls sat for the Government examinations, and we expect the results of these examinations will be satisfactory.

Every Sunday during the year a meeting has been held for the study of the Bible, which we trust has been helpful to them. Two of the boys and four girls have united with the church during the year, one of the boys having been taken into full membership. Aside from the substantial help that has been given toward the support of these boys and girls, we have received many other kindnesses. A Christmas dinner was made possible by friends; books, clothing, and other necessaries have been generously given, and we have been made to feel that the work of caring for needy children has taken hold of the hearts of the people. With grateful acknowledgement of all that we have received in the past, we are looking forward to the new year confident that "He is able to keep that which we have committed to His care."

The presiding elder would add that these orphanages deserve our cordial sympathy and support. They are managed on most economical principles. The boys and girls receive instruction of a most practical, personal and helpful sort. The training is of a kind to build up sound character. It is most encouraging that the large necessary expenditure of the year has been met month by month with unfailing regularity. In some instances the answers to prayer and the interpositions of a kind providence have been scarcely less striking than those experienced by George Muller. The last unexpected gift reached Miss Craig on the last evening of the old year just in time to enable her to balance her books, leaving three or four rupees in hand with which to commence the new century.

**Seamen's Mission.**

The work in the Seamen's Mission is so much the same from year to year that it is hard to write a report which will be at all different from preceding ones.

There is abundant reason to thank God for his blessing on the work during the year and for the good results which we have seen from it as well as for the health which all the workers have enjoyed.

No record has been kept of the number of sermons preached or visits made, but we have been working for God where we seemed to be most needed all the year round. Mr. Bjork went over to Gujarat for two months to help the brethren there when some of their workers went down with cholera in the midst of heavy famine work,
and at the District Conference he was assigned to the English Church at Asansol. We are sorry to lose his valuable services in the Institution, but wish him God's choicest blessings in his new sphere of larger responsibility. Mr. Wieborg took up his work and is getting well into it. We have helped at Sunday School, Young Men's Meetings, Church and Cottage Meetings in addition to the work of the Institution which has not been neglected; we have given food to the hungry and clothing to the destitute, supplied board and lodging, and kept a Savings Bank and refreshment room, in short advising and helping them in every way both spiritually and temporally. Our services have been attended, according to the number of ships in port and our object at all these services is to bring them to a saving knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus. Attendance at morning prayers is voluntary but they have been attended by the majority of the boarders in the Institution and some outsiders. Financially the Mission has done very well during the year and never since I have been connected with it did the prospects open so bright for next year's work. Lately ten young men came from Great Britain for work in this city and are living with me where they come under Christian influence and are in a measure saved from the temptations which surround young men in this city.

The usual Entertainment was held on Christmas and was attended by 140 seamen, who spent a very pleasant and profitable evening.

I desire to express my thanks to all who have so kindly helped in the work during the past year and hope they may be long spared to work for God and the salvation of souls.

**Bolpur Circuit.**

After a year's furlough in Sweden, Brother Lieden took up the work of the Bolpur Circuit at the beginning of 1900 with renewed strength and vigour. The field is in some respects a new one, and but little of the solid progress we covet has yet been made. Bolpur has not had the assistance which other circuits derive from the existence of boarding schools, and for a period of three years we were unable to provide proper supervision for the work. There is therefore much initial work to be done and much land to be possessed in this field. A proper church organization, apart from the mission workers and their families, has yet to be formed and the various departments that pertain to a well-organized mission created. Brother Lieden has devoted his time during the past year mainly to village work, and with his workers has spent several hours of many days visiting the village people, conversing with them, gathering them under trees and in convenient places for simple open-air meetings, where all classes of Hindus have listened more or less attentively to the word of salvation. As usual some of the better educated have been anxious to engage in controversy, but this is not encouraged.
The high caste Hindus are often a great hindrance to evangelistic work. But the seed is being sown, and we look for fruit from Bolpur in the near future. A good work in distributing tracts and gospels has been done during the year, and this labour we are sure will not be in vain. It is encouraging to find that people are more eager to obtain tracts than formerly, not merely out of curiosity, but to read them.

The six subsidized schools in the different villages are doing well. They were examined some time ago and the results were fair. The children receive religious instruction daily, and are well up in the catechism, ten commandments, the apostles creed, etc., and many of them have a fair knowledge of the Bible History. In most of these places they meet on Sundays and have Sunday-schools as well.

A number of famine waifs were brought to Bolpur from the famine districts by Brother Lieden a few months ago. Some have died, a few have run away: there are now thirty-six remaining; also four widows. The boys have taken well to Bengali and are now being instructed therein with much encouragement. A few of these rescued lads, we are glad to say, were baptized on New Year’s Day, a happy omen we trust of the harvest yet to be gathered on the Bolpur circuit. We are now considering plans for the industrial training of the boys committed to our care.

During the year two of the largest cutcha mission houses have been re-thatched, over a thousand trees of various kinds planted, besides flowers and crotons and thirty bamboos which will be valuable when ready for use. Most of these trees have survived the perils of the hot season and wandering animals, and are flourishing.

The W. F. M. S. work on this circuit is very small in comparison with other places. There is only one Bible woman and a teacher, both of limited training and experience, who however try to do their work faithfully. The Bible woman works among the women and children, visiting the mohullas and the adjacent villages, and sometimes going to distant villages.

We heartily congratulate Brother Lieden on the excellent helper whom God has provided for him. Commencing the new century together, we feel sure the united service of this young couple will produce good results in the needy field which God has given them. Mrs. Lieden brings the highest commendations from the P. B. and missionaries of the Central Provinces, with whom she was associated for a considerable period. Well acquainted with Urdu, she is now tackling Bengali with eager purpose to acquire a good working knowledge thereof, that in preaching, prayer and song she may teach the Bengalis of the great Saviour who died for them. We look for great things from the Bolpur Circuit.

**Pakur Circuit.**

The missionary in charge writes:—The work at Pakur has made steady progress during the year. There have been only fifteen
baptisms but a great deal has been done to instruct and strengthen
the Christians. Our Native minister, Shitol Chunder Biswas, and the
colporteur have made regular and frequent visits to a number of
villages around Pakur. Their entire time is given to evangelistic and
pastoral work.

We have 110 boys and girls in our two boarding schools at Pakur.
Both have done well during the year. We have an efficient staff of
teachers who have passed the examinations required by Government
and have been approved by the Government Inspector of Schools.
We sent up two boys for the highest Bengali examination, and we
believe both passed. We sent up a boy and a girl for the Upper
Primary examination and both have passed. We are sending up four
girls and six boys for the Lower Primary examination, and expect all
to pass. The Government Inspector, Assistant Inspector, Deputy
Inspector and Sub Inspector all visit the school regularly every year,
and they report very favourably of the work done and the progress
made. Especial attention is given to sanitation, physical improvement
of the children and their moral and spiritual health is specially looked
after. This year three of our boys and one of our girls from this
school have entered mission work at Pakur. This makes a total of
four boys and four girls that have entered our work since the begin­
ning of last year. Another girl has married our local preacher at
Asansol and another has married one of our teachers at Bolpur. It
is our aim to make the Pakur School one of the best institutions of
its kind in Bengal, and especially a training school for mission
workers. Our village day-schools are doing well. The Scriptures
are taught regularly in them.

We have not taken any famine children into our school. We
can find all the children we want in the locality. If we had accom­
modation and support for more we could take more.

Our work in the dispensary is becoming very heavy, and we very
much need a qualified native doctor and a properly equipped dispen­
sary. Instead of $100 that we received, we need $400 a year for
this work.

The colportage work has been pushed forward this year and we
hope to be able to employ more colporteurs next year.

The carpenters' shop is doing well. We now have eleven boys
learning this trade. Two leave the workshop this year in order to
make their own homes and work at their trade in the villages.

The Poultry Farm is still doing well. The whole of this year we
have had a young man to assist in this work. This farm gives employ­
ment to a number of men and women and twelve boys are learning to
run poultry.

The fruit garden is also doing well. The trees are thriving and
in another year or two we expect to get some returns from the sale of
fruits. At present I am paying between two and three hundred rupees
a year on the fruit garden. A native gardener came to see me a few
days ago and talking about our garden he said we ought to in a few years get from Rs. 1,200 to Rs. 1,500 a year from it.

We have put up a new workshop for the carpenters and built two houses for our preachers, and done a great deal to improve our lands. I hope next year to be able to work another ten bighas of land towards the north of our house, and thus remove the paddy fields that are close to us and extend the fruit garden.

We have had a great deal of rain this year, and a consequent increase of sickness among the people. The number of patients at our dispensary rapidly increased.

We have no proper building at Pakur that we can use as a Church and we must very soon build a proper place for worship. It will take Rs. 5,000 to build a church.

We also need a better home for the missionary to dwell in. The present house is quite unsuitable for a dwelling house, and even this has been greatly damaged by water and earthquake. Rs. 5,000 will build us a nice dwelling house.

Mrs. Meik will report the woman's work to the Woman's Conference.

CALCUTTA BENGALI DISTRICT.

Benjamin J. Chew, Presiding Elder.

This District has come into being during the year; it is made up of the Bengali part of the old Calcutta District and so, while new in name, is not new in fact. I believe it will be a very vigorous offshoot and that the time will come when instead of being an appendage to our English work in Calcutta its work will spread in and far around that city. The developments in Baliaghata and Tamluk are an indication of how the work will grow and spread.

But let us consider the District in detail.

The Dharamtala Bengali Church may be regarded as the mother church. The writer has had the pleasure lately of going over the entries of an old collection book of the Dharamtala English Church and noticing the amounts paid to Bro. Meik and other workers. Bro. Meik was at that time, I believe, the only European representative of our mission in Bengali work, and camped out in the Bengali Church much as Mrs. Lee's famine children do now; surely when we remember that this was only seventeen years ago, we have reason to say, "What hath God wrought"? Compare that humble beginning with the extent of our work for Bengales now. I think Mrs. Lee should be encouraged and take pains to introduce her boys to the patriarch of the flock.

In the past year the old church has performed various services. Under the pastorate of our energetic Bro. Culshaw the services have continued to show new life. The congregation and the young people have enjoyed and profited by his scriptural addresses and the church machinery has been more fully operated than ever before. His good
wife and Bro. Rakhal Biswas have endeared themselves to the congregation by their faithful visiting of the people. The work among the young people in the leagues and Sunday School has been very successfully conducted by Miss Dey, Bro. Solomon Christoponthe, and other servants of God. The young people have been led to shoulder the responsibilities of service and quite a number have been, we believe, soundly converted and added to the Church.

Besides this work of the congregation proper, the church has continued to be used as a day school for girls, and dormitory for some of the famine people who have been in Mrs. Lee's charge. Surely God, whose altars give a nesting place to the sparrows, has listened with pleasure to the songs of Zion sung in the church by the little Hindu girl day scholars, and seen with delight that the famine stricken have found a refuge there.

Chronologically our next field of work was

The South Villages.

This is a general name given the villages which lie to the south of Calcutta. These villages from July or August to February are practically islands, for the only means of communicating with them during this period is by means of a small boat called a shalil, propelled by poles. The centre of our work is a collection of villages called Jhanjra. We have Christians in nineteen villages with a Christian community of 533 persons. During the year there have been seven baptisms from heathenism. There are seven Sunday Schools with 410 scholars, six day schools for boys and one for girls with an attendance of 430 scholars.

There are features of the work in these villages that are discouraging, but there is also a great deal to edify and encourage, most of the workers are men of but humble attainments in the knowledge of books, but there are among them servants of God full of the truth and the Divine Spirit. Our people and the people in general in the district were sorely tried by the floods of last September. The water stood from five to seven feet deep in the fields and many of the mud houses were damaged or ruined, while a large part of the crops was destroyed. Kind help has been given by the public to enable the most needy to subsist and to rebuild their houses. Our thanks are due to the generous public of Calcutta for the help granted. One especially encouraging thing to report is the presence of some twenty-five boys and girls in our boarding schools in Calcutta from these flooded districts. We have needed better trained workers among the people and they have needed to see that temporal improvement was possible for their sons and daughters. The charge is now in the care of Bro. Culshaw.

Closely allied in nature, needs and possibilities to the last mentioned work is the work of
THE DIAMOND HARBOUR CIRCUIT.

This work has been under our only native Preacher-in-charge and I think all will concede that it has been well cared for. We have cause to be thankful that at last fruit is being gathered at all but one charge in the circuit. There have not been many baptisms, but a beginning has been made, and there is reason to think that the number will increase. For years past the ground has been sown. One brother reported to me that he alone in a space of about seven years had sold 10,000 portions of Scripture, besides distributing thousands of tracts. For the part year Miss Blair has been living at Tamluk in charge of the work for women and we see in this a prophecy of the time when the work in that broad and promising field shall be well provided with workers. Her school and visits to the zenanas together with Brother Lakhon Sarcar's preaching in the bazar and from house to house, have not been unacceptable to the people, and we hope the time will come soon when hundreds of people will be found disciples of Christ in that district. Miss Blair very much needs a good house, we have a fine site and it is not too much to expect that such a house may soon be built.

CITY MISSIONS AND THE BAIJAGHATA AND BEG BAGAN CIRCUIT.

During the greater part of the year this work has been in the charge of Bro. Lee. He reports some interesting facts. At the beginning of the year he started to build a tile hut in Bajiaghata to cost about Rs. 300, now that project has grown to a piece of land costing Rs. 2,300 and a building costing Rs. 10,700. This place will accommodate a missionary, two assistants and twenty-five or thirty boys. There are three Sunday Schools with 333 scholars, and about 850 Bibles and Bible portions have been sold. Brother Lee has been conducting, besides private Bible classes for young men, a regular class at the Y. M. C. A. He has been circulating volumes of the Moody colportage library and expects to use a room in the property recently purchased, at the corner of Wellington Square for meeting young men and continuing the work of providing them with Christian literature.

At this point Mrs. Culshaw's work at Beg Bagan should be mentioned. She has been visiting there some twenty zenana homes and now has also the homes of some fifteen Christian women. The girls' school which numbers fifty pupils earned a Government grant of Rs. 159 for the year. Much might be said of the good work done by our native brethren and Bible women but space permits only mention of the striking features of the work.

THE DENNERT TRAINING SCHOOL.

Our higher educational and training work may well be introduced by facts about the above-named Institution. It is supplying Bible women and teachers for our work and schools and educated
and converted wives for our workers. Mrs. Lee reports about 100 girls in training. Besides these, she has this year received into her charge a hundred women and children from the famine region. For some years she has been impressed with the need of work among the large Marwari population of Calcutta, and the famine in their country suggested that God was preparing the way for workers to be obtained and trained for this work. Under the brave guidance of Miss Dey a large number were brought from far away Ajmere and already a good number of them have been converted and some are preparing themselves for this work. As one contrasts the present well fed and happy company of people in Mrs. Lee's charge with the famine stricken, wretched emaciated ones that were brought to her doors, she has reason to think her faith was well placed.

The year has seen prosperity in various ways attend the work of this school and Home. Besides the use of the parsonage of the Bengali Church the School holds property worth from Rs 65,000 to Rs 70,000. We believe that Brother and Sister Lee's plan of a Lee Memorial Building will also be realized and then the School will be well-equipped for the great work undertaken. Sister Lee has also had the efficient help of Miss Dey, Miss Moyer and Miss Bews, besides that of a good number of teachers and Bible women. During the year the School has earned a Government Grant of about Rs 1,900.

The American Methodist Institution.

This School has gone on with its usual work. If it had a building and land clear of debt it would be able to do a most useful work and even as things stand young men are being taught and trained who will become good workers in the Mission. Some have already entered on the work. There are 79 Christians, 158 Hindus and 51 Mahomedans in attendance and from them Rs 6,351 have been collected as fees during the past year. The boarding department for Christians has accommodated about fifty boys, more of whom have come from our own people than ever before. This department has continued to pay its expenses and from it the most of the fruit of the School may be expected. The work among the Christian and non-Christian day scholars has some encouraging features but there is much needed to make the work as successful as it should be. Some Rs 1,100 have been spent on the building in improvements. The school has now, what it most needed before,—a mother.

Closing Words.

1. A comfortable house and school have been built at Kidderpore and a book-shop has been opened through a gift from the Christian Literature Society. This is a very promising field and we hope that the work will soon be well manned. Mrs. Chew has repeatedly visited some of the zenanas.
2. A Bible Training School for male workers should be opened either in connection with the American Methodist Institution, or elsewhere. The Finance Committee have provided ten scholarships for young men entering this school. When undertaken, it should not take up work done by Schools already in existence, but its aims should be similar to those of the Bareilly Theological School. It is a great and needed project.

3. More generous provisions should be made by our ladies, for woman's work in the South Village, and Diamond Harbour circuits. The latter is well provided for, at Tamluk, but the other parts of the circuit are almost wholly unprovided for. So with the South Village circuit. Our thanks are due to Mrs. Lee for the work done by the Bible women sent out by her, but there is need that workers be definitely located on the fields. We know it is hard to get workers for the place, and that those employed have not usually been satisfactory, but we present the matter as one of the problems and needs of the District.

4. Our missionaries to Bengalis need to give themselves more heartily to learning the language. It appears to me that a number of our missionaries, male and female, have not realized the amount of labour required to really learn Bengali, and the need of determined application to the task. We pray that all may abound in this knowledge. Finally, as we face the work of a new year, and a new century, we have all the promises of God to go on. It seems that God has been pointing out that what we needed was not so much more money as more consecration, and more need to look to Him for spiritual blessings. Let us put before ourselves, the determination to seek primarily the conversion, and establishment of the people in the faith and love of Christ.

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TIRHOOT DISTRICT.

HENRY JACKSON, Presiding Elder.

The past year has not been a prosperous one in the Tirhoot District. Early in the year our work at Chapra was broken in the first by the death from plague of the wife of our colporteur, and the fear of the Preacher-in-charge, who, with his family, removed to the North-west, where his eldest son, who probably contracted plague before leaving, died after a few days' sickness. This brother was reluctant to return to his field and a new place was selected, where he has laboured during the year with very little success. This new field is a difficult one, being a stronghold of Brahmanism.

At Bettiah there have been some baptisms. Brother Robert has been in very poor health most of the year. The opposition is kept up and every enquirer is closely watched and when possible persuaded to join the other side. We have already in our annual report referred to the source whence this opposition comes.
Our work at Mozafarpore has suffered through the influence of a man who was employed for some time in the mission but who for immoral conduct was dismissed. He had been a money-lender to the people whom we had baptized. They sympathized with him and refused to return unless this man was reinstated.

Preaching is kept up regularly in the bazar. We have found a plan we adopted an excellent one. We have four or five of our orphan boys who sing well, to assist. They draw a large congregation. Women and children, as well as men, old and young, stand and listen with evident interest to the singing.

The orphans have enjoyed excellent health this year. We have twenty-six in all, six of whom are approaching manhood; one has gone into mission work and is employed as a colporteur.

Our colporteur has not met with the success that usually attends this department of our work; he has, however, been diligent and hundreds of books have been sold and hundreds distributed gratis.

The Women's work, under the direction of Miss Söderström and Miss Campbell, has been very thoroughly carried on. The very severe illness of Miss Söderström and the change to the hills made necessary for her recovery, interfered for a while with her work. She has, however, made up for any loss that might have been sustained, for she has been for some months in labours most abundant. Miss Campbell has our sincerest thanks for the very efficient manner in which she has conducted the orphanage under her charge. The progress made in the school department and the improvement in the appearance of the girls, shows the constant care that is had over them. These ladies have had the entire direction of the Epworth League. It is made up from both orphanages and meets once a week. Two services are held each Sabbath morning, one at the girls' and the other at the boys' orphanage. A Sunday-School composed of both orphanages meets in the girls' orphanage every Sabbath afternoon.

At Samastipore and Dalsugsarai preaching and colportage have been carried on. The wife of the preacher-in-charge has been in very feeble health, necessitating the absence of the brother from his work.

Our most important field lying to the north and east of Darbhanga, where we have over 300 baptized adherents, and a large number of enquirers and candidates, is practically without a mission agent. A local preacher who resides at Darbhanga has been unable to do more than attend to the duties of that station. The people to whom I refer are scattered through the villages covering many miles in every direction. They were brought at first to several central points and baptized. Now they are at their homes and need to be regularly visited. I have in prospect a plan for settling a man as far as possible in their midst, and hope he will be able to reach them and if qualified, to baptize all who may worthily present themselves.
The fact that Tirhoot and Northern Behar as a mission field is no longer overlooked by other Societies is being emphasized by the taking up of Darbhanga and Samastipore by the ladies of the Union Zenana Mission, by an independent missionary lady in Mozafarpore, an independent missionary in the eastern part of our field, and within a few weeks, by the advent of two missionaries of the Society of "Regions Beyond" to be followed by two more who will all occupy Motihari, lying between our two stations, Mozafarpore and Bettiah.

An English service is held every Sabbath evening at Samastipore. The attendance is encouraging. We have here also a small Sabbath school.

We are hoping that the blessing, for which we pray may attend the labour of the Church during this new year, may fall in some measure upon Tirhoot, that our adherents may become men and women of faith in our Lord Jesus, and may constitute an army of workers, for it is only when those who now compose the Church move onward that the blessings we expect will be realized.
REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES.

Reports From Committees.

AUDITING COMMITTEE.

Your Committee beg leave to report that the undermentioned accounts have been audited and found correct:

1. The Accounts of the Presiding Elder of the Calcutta Bengali District.
2. The Accounts of the Presiding Elder of the Tirhoot District.
3. The Accounts of the Conference Board of Stewards.
4. The Accounts presented by Miss Lamb of Orphanage and Widows' Home at Asansol.

In consequence of the change of date of Conference from the 10th to the 3rd instant, it was not possible to audit the accounts of the Conference Treasurer of the Board of Missions and of the Treasurer of the Special Fund, in time for presentation to this session. The accounts will be audited immediately after Conference adjourns.

Appended are the Presiding Elders' audit certificates.

J. P. Meik,  
G. E. Stokes,  
Geo. Henderson,  
Joseph Culshaw.

Owing to the change of date of Conference and the pressure of other work at the end of the year it was impossible to get the books of the Asansol District ready for audit. We therefore ask that the Auditing Committee will be so kind as to inspect the books at an early date, as soon as they can be presented.

W. P. Byers,  
Presiding Elder, Asansol District.

The Presiding Elder of the Calcutta District reports the accounts of the Hindustani circuit audited and found correct. The audit of the accounts of other circuits and institutions for which the Presiding Elder is responsible, has been partly accomplished and will be completed at the first Quarterly Conference of the new year.

J. E. Robinson,  
Presiding Elder, Calcutta District.

I have audited, and found correct, the accounts of the following circuits: (1) City Missions, Ballyaghata and Beg jagan; (2) Diamond Harbour; (3) Dharamtala Bengali and South Village circuit when in the charge of Joseph Culshaw. I have also audited, and found correct, the accounts of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, in the charge of Mrs. Lee, Mrs Culshaw and Miss Blair. The remaining accounts of the District were audited by the Auditing Committee.

B. J. Chew,  
Presiding Elder, Calcutta Bengali District.

EXAMINING BOARD.

Those who have completed the conference course of studies:—None.

In the fourth year's course of studies:—Chander C. Dass [with credit for fourth year's studies]. Homer Wroten.

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

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

In the first year's course of studies:—Keshub C. Mullick.
COLPORTAGE.

We notice with satisfaction a goodly increase in the number of Bibles, Testaments, portions, and tracts, sold and distributed during the year. We recognize in this distribution an increase in the advantage we have gained over the heathen throughout the land. A little Christian literature frequently brings an earnest enquirer. The mind is thus opened for personal conversation. When the gospel is preached it is often found that the heart has already been prepared for the message. Too strong emphasis cannot be put upon the colporteurs' work, we are supporting ten colporteurs in the Bengal Conference, thus spending more than 1000 rupees a year for Colportage. Can a preacher in charge employ his time more profitably than in pushing this business to the uttermost? We are sorry to see a decrease of Rs. 78 in the amount of sales and this notwithstanding the fact of increased distribution. The efficacy of Christian literature, other things being equal, depends upon the cost to the reader. We would therefore advise a better return in the amount of sales.

F. E. LIEDEN.

DEACONESS BOARD.

We respectfully report that the work of the following deaconesses has been examined and their characters passed:—Miss Maxey, Superintendent of the Deaconess Home, Calcutta; Miss Craig, in charge of the Anglo-Indian Orphanages; Miss Blair, Tamluk; and Miss Campbell, Mozafarpore. Miss Campbell was advanced to the third year's course of study.

Miss Alma Jacobson, of Pakur, being duly recommended by Pakur Quarterly Conference and having passed her examination, her character also having been passed, is recommended for consecration.

The character of Miss Knowles, of Arcadia Girls' School, Darjeeling, associate deaconess, was passed.

We desire to call attention to the fact that the Discipline requires Annual Certificates of character and standing of deaconesses from the Fourth Quarterly Conference of the charges to which they belong.

Arrangements have been made to audit the accounts of the Deaconess Home, Calcutta, for 1900, as soon as Conference adjourns. The earlier date fixed for Conference has prevented audit in time for report to this session.

We urge upon the W. F. M. S. the necessity of providing a house for their deaconess missionary at Tamluk as soon as possible, and suggest that the W. F. M. S. Finance Committee take the matter into consideration.

Also that they make arrangements to provide better accommodation for their workers and the orphanage at Mozafarpore.

D. H. LEE,
Secretary.

J. E. FRобіНSON,
Chairman.

BOARD OF EDUCATION.

At a meeting of the Board on August 3rd, 1900, sub-committees were appointed to visit and examine the different schools and report upon their work and condition.

The schools were to be examined on the following points: 1.—Religious Instruction. 2. Secular Instruction. 3. Sanitation and the general condition of the premises and the physical condition of the children. 4. The comparative cost of food and of clothing. 5. Qualifications of the teachers. 6. The discipline of the school. 7. The residence and parentage of the children. 8. The results in producing workers for the Mission.

Reports were submitted to the General Committee on all the schools except those in Calcutta and Tamluk which the appointed sub-committee did not find
opportunity to examine. These reports showed that the schools were making very fair progress. In all the schools there was regular religious instruction in connection with the daily lessons. Good teachers were being employed and the results as shown by Government examinations were encouraging. The schools in Mozafarpore, should be brought into line with the Government code requirements, and those at Asansol have now an opportunity to take their children up to higher examinations than before. The children of the schools were evidently well cared for. They were neatly dressed with the general appearance of health except those more recently brought from the famine region. The accommodations at Asansol should be enlarged and a dry house should be obtained for the girls' school at Mozafarpore.

The schools were all economically conducted, and the discipline was good. More perhaps might be done in some schools in teaching the boys and girls the practical business of life. All the girls should learn to cook. The sewing done was well reported of. The carpenter shop, the chicken farm, the fruit garden, at Pakur were both interesting and suggestive, the proposed bakery at Asansol will surely meet with success. Boys and girls can well learn to be masons, weavers of rugs, etc. Doubtless another year will show substantial progress along these and other new lines of work.

There is evidence in the workers employed, in several places, that the mission is beginning to raise up its own trained men and women—something so essential to the real progress and stability of the work.

B. J. Chew.

MISSIONS.

We, as members of this Committee, wish to endorse this present century movement. We are glad to hear of the drops which we trust precede the shower, and that this forward movement belongs to India as to the rest of the world. We learn of the increase in missionary collections with great satisfaction notwithstanding the fact of a cut in our own appropriations. We are pleased to see that it can be said with more and more truthfulness, "Our parish is the world."

J. P. Meik.
Homer Wroten.
B. J. Chew.
C. C. Das

BOARD OF CONFERENCE STEWARDS.

Balance from last year of ... ... ... 127 11 9
The Conference Collection for 1900 ... ... ... 121 0 0
Interest due from Calcutta Publishing House ... ... ... 145 0 0

Total ... ... 393 11 9

They recommend that the sum of Rs. 200 be paid to Mrs. Goodwin, wife of the late Rev. F. A. Goodwin. They further recommend that Conference authorize Bishop Warne to draw the dividend that may fall to this conference.

D. H. Lee.
H. Jackson.
J. F. Meik.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

There is no more important work committed to the Church than the care of her children. Our Master's words are for the Church in all ages "Suffer the children to come unto me." In the Sunday-school we are carrying out this desire of our Lord. Among the questions to be answered by every preacher seeking admission to our Annual Conference is this one; will you diligently instruct the children in every place. The manner in which this question is answered is shown by our return from year to year. We are glad to report some increase in
the attendance of Christian children during the past year. Let us continue in well-doing, and in connection with the Forward Movement of the Church for the Century, make special efforts to bring our young people to Christ.

H. Jackson.

TEMPERANCE.

We are in a land where total abstinence from all intoxicating liquors is not popular. It must be admitted with humiliation that all Christian people are not certain in their denunciation of intemperance. The European community of India is sadly in the wreck and ruin of an unbridled appetite in this respect. We are sorry to say India's millions imitate western vices with greater alacrity than western virtues and that intemperance is fast becoming a vice of India. We recommend strict adherence to our beloved teetotal principles. Let us present an unbroken front, European and native alike, upon this most vital issue.

Homer Wroten.
B. M. Mozumdar.
L. C. Sircar.

STATE OF THE CHURCH.

The past year has been one of marvellous opportunity for the Church of God: The review of work done and the revision of methods in our own branch of the church sends us into the new century with an impetus that promises great things in his name. If we will heed the admonition of our Lord and tarry until we be embued with power, our greater hopes may be realized, and His good and acceptable and perfect will proved and accomplished within our own bounds. The church has improved her material possessions, the membership has increased and more Sunday-school scholars are reported. The Twentieth Century's Forward Movement has heartily been taken up by most of the churches and is being pushed. But in this after all our highest success must depend on personal consecration and the adoption of the motto, "Here am I, send me."

D. H. Lee.
S. C. Biswas.

GROWTH IN THE CALCUTTA DISTRICT.

At the united District Conferences of the Asansol and Calcutta District, Bishop Warne appointed a committee to examine the Statistical Records of the Conference in order to ascertain the growth of the work in what was in 1887 known as the Calcutta District. The one District has now grown into a fully-fledged Annual Conference, and the figures show the progress which has been made in these years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Membership</th>
<th>Probationers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1887</td>
<td>267</td>
<td>221</td>
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<tr>
<td>1888</td>
<td>266</td>
<td>259</td>
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<tr>
<td>1889</td>
<td>404</td>
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<td>1890</td>
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<td>1891</td>
<td>476</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Membership</th>
<th>Probationers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1894</td>
<td>752</td>
<td>919</td>
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<td>1895</td>
<td>847</td>
<td>1090</td>
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<td>1042</td>
<td>1518</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1900</td>
<td>1113</td>
<td>1328</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Joseph Culshaw,
Homer Wroten.
Bengali Course of Study for Missionaries.

Adopted by the

Annual and Ladies' Conferences.

The Calcutta Missionary Conference has formed an Examination Board and arranged a syllabus for a Junior and a Senior Examination in Bengali for Missionaries arriving in Bengal. The Board consists of representatives of the different Missions, and will appoint the Examiners from time to time, and see that the rules are carried out, or make such modifications as experience shall suggest. It is hoped that this will prove to be a convenience and help to all concerned. If candidates offer themselves, there are to be two Examinations each year at intervals of about six months, for both the first and second year course. The following are the rules and syllabus as now constituted. Ample notice will be given if, in the future, any change in the Text Books or otherwise is made.

Rules.

1. The papers on the Text Books, Grammar and Composition shall be calculated for three hours, except the Second Year Translation, which shall be for one and a half hours.

2. In the papers on the Text Books, 60 per cent. of the marks shall be given for translation into English and 40 per cent in each case for questions on Grammar or retranslation of phrases occurring in the Text. These questions shall be of a simpler kind in the First Year.

3. The written questions shall be framed in English.

4. The number of the Examiners shall not be less than three in each Year's course, one of whom must be a Bengali gentleman.

5. The Oral Examinations shall be conducted by a Bengali gentleman, assisted by one or more of the Examiners, who shall consult together in assigning the marks.

6. The Address or Exposition, in the Second Year Oral Examination, must be of not less than ten minutes length. The topic may be chosen beforehand by the candidate, but the address must not be read. In the case of gentlemen, it must be delivered before an audience unacquainted with English. In the case of ladies, the audience may be a class of Bengali girls.

7. The candidates shall be placed in three divisions according as they obtain 40, 50 or 60 per cent. at least of the marks assigned in the aggregate. They must also secure one-third of the marks in each of the papers and 50 marks at least in the Oral Examinations, or otherwise they fail to pass.

8. To help cover the working expenses, each candidate shall pay an entrance fee of five rupees.

9. Notice of the number of candidates likely to appear and of the alternative books chosen should be given by each Mission three months beforehand.
JUNIOR OR FIRST YEAR EXAMINATION.

I. Written.

a. Bododhoy and Naba Kāhini omitting 'Kena' and 'Jaminda' ... ... 100
b. Padya Pāth I, or an equal portion of Hymns, and the Gospel of St. Mark (revised version) ... 100
c. 1. Sisu Byākaran by K. P. Vidyāratna, or Bengali Grammar by Wenger or Beames, omitting Samās, Taddhit and Kridanta, 50 marks
   2. Translation into Bengali from C. L. S. Second Reader, 50 "

Total 450

II. Oral.

a. Dictation from the Text Books ... ... 50
b. Reading and translation at sight from ditto ... 50
c. Conversation ... ... 50

Total 450

SENIOR OR SECOND YEAR EXAMINATION.

I. Written.

a. The Conference Selection ... ... 100
b. Čhārupāth II, and Padyapāth II ... ... 100
c. 1. A Bengali letter on a given subject, 40 marks
   A Bengali written address on a religious topic given at the time, 60 "
   2. Translation into Bengali from the first 100 pages of new C. L. S. Fourth Reader ... ... 50

d. Translation into Bengali from the first 100 pages of new C. L. S. Fourth Reader ... ... 50

II. Oral.

a. Conversation ... ... 50
b. Reading aloud from the Bengali Bible ... 25
c. An exposition or address ... ... 75

Total 500
COURSES OF STUDIES.

BENGALI COURSES OF STUDY.
APPROVED BY BISHOP WARNE,

At the Pakur Conference, January 25th, 1901.

All teachers of the Upper Primary Classes must have passed the Middle Vernacular Examination of the Government Course, and all teachers of the Lower Primary Classes must have passed the Upper Primary Examination. In such cases the teachers will be required to pass only in the following books:—Catechism of the M. E. Church, History of the Methodist Church, Scripture History by Barth, and the following books:—If any teacher takes the Exhorters' Course of studies, he will not be required to pass in the above-mentioned theological books. All teachers who have not passed the Upper Primary Course will be required to pass the following examinations:—

1. নৃতন পাঠ।
2. শরীর সাধন।
3. অমিদাবর হিসাব সহকারী সাধারণ জ্ঞান।
4. পাটীগঠন: মিশ্র ও অমিদ ভাগচার।
5. শিক্ষকরী:—নীতিগীত।
6. শিক্ষাবোধ ব্যাকরণ।
7. প্রথম শিক্ষা ভুগ্ন পাঠ।
8. স্বতের ইংরেজিসাহিত্য মণ্ডলীর শিক্ষাবোধ প্রচেষ্ট।
9. উপনিষদিক বহুব্যক্ত। (সেরেডিট বর্লিসিং হাউস)।
10. যাদু উপনিষদের জীবন চরিত। (রেজাঁ টিকার, মিস্ক পাড়ার ১৪০ খানকুলা)।

2য়, শ্রেণী।

1. নীতিগীত।
2. শিক্ষাবোধ ব্যাকরণ।
3. ব্যবস্থা লিখন।
4. পাটীগঠন:—কোরানাশ।
5. শিক্ষকরী:—পাদণ্ড।
6. জ্যামিতি:—১০৮, প্রতিবেদন পদ্ধত।
7. পার্থিবতি:—সাধারণ জ্ঞান।

2nd Session.

1. Sunday School service.

2. A short prayer.

3. A short testimony.


5. A short song.

6. A short prayer.

ENGLISH—Cambridge Bible. Mark 9-16.

3rd Session.

1. A short prayer.


3. A short prayer.

BENGAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE, 1901.
ENGLISH — The Crossbearer. Farquhar.


Life of Wesley.
The Epistles of Paul. Findlay.
Life of Asbury.

3rd Session.

1. The Epistles of Paul. Findlay.

4th Session.


Life of Hester Ann Rogers.
COURSES OF STUDIES.

1. **ENGLISH** — Cambridge Bible. Galatians.
   How to Bring Men to Christ. Torrey.
   The Citizen of India. Lee Warner.

2. **ENGLISH** — Binney's Theological Compend.

   Christian Experience. Merrill.

4. **ENGLISH** — Cambridge Bible. 1 Corinthians.
   Apostolic Age. Watson.
১ম শ্রেণী।

১। পরিবর্ত আমা ও তাহার কার্য। (রাউস সাহেব কতক্ষ লিখিত)
২। সংক্ষিপ্তনাম সমষ্টি বাইবেলের শিক্ষা।
৩। মূলোচর ইতিহাস। (রাউস সাহেব কতক্ষ লিখিত)
৪। বাইবেল—নতুন শিক্ষার পুনর্গৃহীত ।
৫। ইসলাম দর্শন। (বাইবেল কতক্ষ লিখিত)
৬। সাধন লিখন।

Luther and the Reformation, Lindsay.
Christian Baptism. Merrill.

২য় শ্রেণী।

১। ইসলামের সহায়ী। (রাউস সাহেব কতক্ষ লিখিত)
২। বাইবেল—পুনর্গৃহীত শিক্ষার পুনর্গৃহীত।
৩। বাইবেল প্রাক্তন ধর্মের সাহায্য হিসেব অন্য ধর্মের তৃতীয় বিষয় পুকুর (ট্যাক্স ডেসাইট)
৪। উইলিয়াম ব্রামাওয়েলের বংশ। (এ, সি, মুহাজরা কতক্ষ প্রাক্তন)
৫। পৌরাণিক জীবন। (দিনার সাহেব কতক্ষ)
৬। সাধন লিখন।

ENGLISH—Isaiah—his Life and Times. Driver.
Binney’s Theological Compend.
With Christ in the School of Prayer. Murray.

৩য় শ্রেণী।

১। রোমীয় মূলস্থান ভাণ্ডী বিষয়। (রাউস সাহেব কতক্ষ লিখিত)
২। আলাউদ্দিন বেলহ্স মূলস্থান। (নুন সাহেবের)
৩। মিয়ান উল্লেখ। (বাইবেল কতক্ষ লিখিত)
৪। পাঠাদেশ ১ম ভাগ। (বাইবেল কতক্ষ লিখিত)
৫। চীন এবং রোমের ইতিহাস। (ভূদেব মৃত্তেলাচ কতক্ষ)
৬। মেধাবী মূলস্থান ইতিহাস।
৭। সাধন লিখন।

ENGLISH—The Ministry of the Lord Jesus. Selby.
Christian Evidences. Row.
The Revival and the Pastor. Peck.
1. बंगाल एनालजी। (मि, एम, एस बुक डिपो कर्त्तक प्रकाशित।)
2. इसलैंडी अभिज्ञता। (विश्व रेमरिल कर्त्तक प्रकाशित।)
3. मेंधिस्ट मजालीर शिक्षासार। (पटचार साहेब कर्त्तक लिखित।)
   Compendium of Methodism. Porter.
4. मनिलैंड उइलियम्स दिदुप। (टाइट सोमाइटी।)
5. पाटलपुर बाण कोम। (बल साहेब कर्त्तक लिखित।)
6. जगतेंद्र इंद्रसुर। (शेखन्त्र माहेंद्र कृष्टि धाताबल स्पिन्ने बों कों।)
7. सार्थक लिखन।

ENGLISH—Cambridge Bible. Isaiah. [Wheeler].

*Approved at the Fourteenth Session of the Bengal Annual Conference,*
*January 3—5, 1901.*

[Signature]

President.

*Pakur, January 5, 1901.*
### STATISTICAL FORM 1.

#### STATISTICS OF THE BENGAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE RELATING TO CHURCH MEMBERSHIP AND WORK, FOR THE YEAR ENDING NOV. 30TH, 1900.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAMES OF CIRCUITS</th>
<th>CHURCH MEMBERSHIP</th>
<th>BAPTISMS</th>
<th>SUNDAY SCHOOLS</th>
<th>EPWORTH LEAGUES</th>
<th>CHRISTIAN WORKERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Full Members</td>
<td>Non Full Members</td>
<td>Total No. of Officers and Teachers</td>
<td>Total No. of Officers and Teachers</td>
<td>Total No. of Officers and Teachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Christians</td>
<td>Baptised Children (under 12 years)</td>
<td>Deaths (Sum of B. 1, 2, and 3)</td>
<td>Total Baptisms (Sum of B. 1, 2, and 3)</td>
<td>Number of Officers and Teachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adults</td>
<td>Males</td>
<td>Females</td>
<td>Males</td>
<td>Females</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| ASANSOL DISTRICT | 210 | 157 | 302 | 669 | 2 | 4 | 21 | 30 | 14 | 65 | 3 | 13 | 90 | 110 | ... | 200 | ... | 180 | 1 | 143 | ... | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 23 |

**CALCUTTA DISTRICT**

- **Calcutta English**
  - Full Members: 90
  - Non Full Members: ... 434
  - Total No. of Officers and Teachers: 765
  - Deaths: 13
  - Total Baptisms: 12
  - Number of Officers and Teachers: 200
  - Total Scholars: 320
  - Average Attendance of Officers: 100
  - Senior Leagues: 1
  - Junior Leagues: 1
  - Epworth Leagues: 1
  - Junior Members: 1
  - Senior Members: 1

**ROPAHI DISTRICT**

- Full Members: 115
  - Non Full Members: ... 186
  - Total No. of Officers and Teachers: 346
  - Deaths: ... 13
  - Total Baptisms: ... 6
  - Number of Officers and Teachers: 127
  - Total Scholars: 177
  - Average Attendance of Officers: 70
  - Senior Leagues: ... 1
  - Junior Leagues: ... 1
  - Epworth Leagues: ... 1
  - Junior Members: ... 1
  - Senior Members: ... 1

**HINDUSTANI DISTRICT**

- Full Members: 92
  - Non Full Members: ... 62
  - Total No. of Officers and Teachers: 170
  - Deaths: ... 3
  - Total Baptisms: ... 4
  - Number of Officers and Teachers: 123
  - Total Scholars: 76
  - Average Attendance of Officers: 32
  - Senior Leagues: ... 1
  - Junior Leagues: ... 1
  - Epworth Leagues: ... 1
  - Junior Members: ... 1
  - Senior Members: ... 1

**SEAMEN'S WORK**

- Full Members: ... 135
  - Non Full Members: ... 220
  - Total No. of Officers and Teachers: 535
  - Deaths: ... 18
  - Total Baptisms: ... 6
  - Number of Officers and Teachers: 37
  - Total Scholars: 410
  - Average Attendance of Officers: 20
  - Senior Leagues: ... 1
  - Junior Leagues: ... 1
  - Epworth Leagues: ... 1
  - Junior Members: ... 1
  - Senior Members: ... 1

**Total**

- Full Members: 308
  - Non Full Members: ... 559
  - Total No. of Officers and Teachers: 1323
  - Deaths: ... 9
  - Total Baptisms: ... 8
  - Number of Officers and Teachers: 514
  - Total Scholars: 940
  - Average Attendance of Officers: 746
  - Senior Leagues: ... 4
  - Junior Leagues: ... 13
  - Epworth Leagues: ... 13
  - Junior Members: ... 11
  - Senior Members: ... 11

**TIRHOTU DISTRICT**

- Full Members: ... 18
  - Non Full Members: ... 14
  - Total No. of Officers and Teachers: 46
  - Deaths: ... 2
  - Total Baptisms: ... 7
  - Number of Officers and Teachers: 17
  - Total Scholars: 170
  - Average Attendance of Officers: 28
  - Senior Leagues: ... 1
  - Junior Leagues: ... 1
  - Epworth Leagues: ... 1
  - Junior Members: ... 1
  - Senior Members: ... 1

**Grand Total**

- Full Members: 1328
  - Non Full Members: ... 1131
  - Total No. of Officers and Teachers: 1377
  - Deaths: ... 83
  - Total Baptisms: ... 1088
  - Number of Officers and Teachers: 844
  - Total Scholars: 1249
  - Average Attendance of Officers: 2197
  - Senior Leagues: ... 9
  - Junior Leagues: ... 31
  - Epworth Leagues: ... 40
  - Junior Members: ... 32
  - Senior Members: ... 12

* Bengal Conference is now separated from Barmah. Only one District remains as before; therefore the totals in the Districts could not be compared with one year ago.
**STATISTICAL FORM II.**

**STATISTICS OF THE BENGAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE (RELATING TO CHURCH FINANCES), FOR THE YEAR ENDING NOV. 30TH, 1903.**

### NAMES OF CIRCUITS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asansol</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6,000</td>
<td>1,425</td>
<td>8,425</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcutta</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>120,000</td>
<td>35,000</td>
<td>40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcutta Engl.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>120,000</td>
<td>35,000</td>
<td>40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bolpur</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8,250</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>22,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dakshinpur</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1,24,000</td>
<td>64,500</td>
<td>162,500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CHURCH PROPERTY.

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Asansol</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6,000</td>
<td>1,425</td>
<td>8,425</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcutta</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>120,000</td>
<td>35,000</td>
<td>40,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Calcutta Engl.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>120,000</td>
<td>35,000</td>
<td>40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bolpur</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8,250</td>
<td>12,000</td>
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* Burmah is now set off as a Mission Conference. The Districts have different boundaries so that comparisons with last year could only be made in the grand totals.*

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Excel Table:

**Grand Total**

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**Total Earned Income, Sum of Missionary Aid & Earnings in Southern Asia**

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**Total Earned Income, Sum of Missionary Aid & Earnings in Southern Asia**

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*Note: The table continues with similar columns and data entries.*
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STATISTICAL FORM IV.

STATISTICS OF THE BENGAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE RELATING TO COLPORTAGE,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30TH, 1900.