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A CALENDAR

OF EVENTS CONNECTED
WITH THE STORY OF THE
BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY

ISSUED FOR THE USE OF MINISTERS
IN CONNECTION WITH THE

1942 CELEBRATIONS

To celebrate is to consecrate :

To consecrate is to evangelise.

LONDON :

THE CAREY PRESS,
19 FURNIVAL STREET, E.C.4.

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PREFACE.

THIS is a calendar of dates, marking events in the history of the Baptist Missionary Society and related institutions. It is issued only to ministers, and to none else. It cannot be purchased in the market. It is for the use of ministers, enabling them to keep their people informed week by week of some of the things that have gone to the story of the Society. The right-hand page offers material for the nucleus of an address, and may be used in the Sunday services or during the weeknight meetings. It is also hoped that further information will be sought in the many works that have been published, and of which a list is to be found in this volume.

If this publication for 1942 is a success, and its success will be determined by its use, another for 1943, with different incidents recorded on the right-hand pages, will be issued. In that possibility, any suggestions for either improving the date list or making known events which ought to be mentioned, will be welcomed.

It may be that there are still some inaccuracies. A word of correction will be appreciated.

The officers of the Society hope that this volume will be found helpful in making the celebrations of the 150th anniversary of the Society notable in every respect.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MANY friends have given willing service in the compilation of this Calendar. We express our thanks for their help to—

Rev. Herbert Anderson, India.
Mrs. H. M. Angus, B.A., India.
Rev. Percy Austin, B.A.
Rev. E. W. Burt, M.A., China.
Rev. S. Pearce Carey, M.A.
Rev. A. G. Castleton, China.
Dr. C. C. Chesterman, O.B.E.
Rev. James Cross, India.
Rev. H. A. Emmott, China.
Rev. J. A. Ewing, Ceylon.
Rev. Robert Glennie, Congo.
Miss D. F. Glover.
Dr. Helen Gregory, India.
Rev. B. Grey Griffith, B.D.
Rev. Malcolm Guthrie, B.Sc., Congo.
Rev. George Hooper, Congo.
Rev. E. K. Jones, D.D.
Rev. Gilbert Laws, D.D.
Mrs. C. T. LeQuesne.
Rev. E. A. Payne, B.A., B.D., B.Litt.
Dr. J. H. Rushbrooke, M.A.
Mr. G. F. Timpson.
Rev. Gordon S. Wilkins, India.
Rev. C. E. Wilson, B.A.

H. L. HEMMENS

DECEMBER

28

29

30

31

JANUARY

- 1 1807 South Wales Baptist College—now in Cardiff—formed at Abergavenny.
1809 Calcutta, Lal Bazaar Church opened.
1819 *Missionary Herald* established.
1841 Dr. Prince and J. Clarke, pioneer missionaries, reached Fernando Po, West Africa, from Jamaica.
1889 First B.M.S. church in Belgian Congo formed at Wathen.
-
- 2 1810 Regent's Park College founded at Stepney.
1829 James Chater, pioneer to Ceylon, died at sea.
1916 First baptism at Wayika, Upper Congo.
-
- 3 1803 Serampore missionaries begin work in Calcutta by renting premises.

CAREY'S CHURCH, CALCUTTA, OPENED FOR WORSHIP.

January 1st, 1809.

THE Serampore trio, Carey, Marshman and Ward, put first things first. The founding and spread of Christ's Church throughout India and Asia was their passionate ambition.

Carey's Church at Lal Bazaar, Calcutta, was planned in 1805, built at a cost of £3,200 and opened for services on January 1st, 1809. The Church's first duty, anywhere and everywhere, is to seek and to save that which God has lost. Carey's Church was founded for that purpose, and it has maintained that ideal. *Lal Bazaar* signifies the red Bazaar. Why red, is not now known. But the area was notorious in those days for its *red* life. It was a sink of iniquity, crowded with members of several Asiatic and European races, including Chinese and Jews, poverty-stricken and of evil character. Lost sheep with no shepherd. The Church still seeks and saves such souls. (See *Missionary Herald*, July 1941).

Carey's Church was the first Union Free Church in India. Denominational emphasis was strong, but tolerant, with Christian leaders of the Serampore type. Congregationalists were united with Baptists in founding Carey's Church. Subsequently, when their own sprang up, the union was dissolved. To-day, after 133 years, the Master's prayer that His fold of many flocks may be one, characterises the Church's life and service. Indian, like British Christianity, is fast awakening to this crying need. The year 1942 with us may well begin in the spirit of true fellowship with Christians of other communions which is so characteristic of Carey and his Calcutta Church.

The Lal Bazaar Church on January 1st, 1809, was, as all Christ's Churches should be on the first Sunday of a new year, a mountain-top of remembrance and vision. The Serampore trio had settled in Calcutta because it was, like Nineveh, a throbbing city of business, of pleasure and of sin. The chequered history of the Church has been a pilgrimage from mountains of vision into valleys of gloom and storm. But the vision of the glory of God in the face of His Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ, has never been lost.

*Forward be our watchword,
Steps and voices joined.*

H. A.

JANUARY.

- 4 1931 Tshumbiri Station, Middle Congo, taken over by B.M.S. from American Baptist Foreign Missionary Society.
-
- 5 1806 Carey reports church formed in Dinajpur, Bengal.
1878 Comber and Grenfell receive Home Committee's letter inviting them to undertake prospecting journey to Congo.
-
- 6 1873 Nathan Brown, American Baptist missionary in Assam, appointed to Japan.
-
- 7 1793 James Pegg, pioneer of General Baptist Missionary Society, born.
-
- 8 1852 Charles Lacey, of Orissa, died.
-
- 9 1793 John Thomas appeared late in evening at third meeting of B.M.S. Committee in Kettering.
1793 Carey offered himself to B.M.S. Committee for service in India.
-
- 10 1800 Carey settled at Serampore.
1926 J. S. Whitewright, of Shantung, died.

OFFER OF THOMAS AND CAREY FOR INDIA.

January 9th, 1793.

EVENTS moved swiftly after the Society's formation, and along a track which Carey had never conceived.

To the bow of his desire there had been two main strings, that he should either be permitted to be Christ's envoy and evangelist to Captain Cook's South Seas, or in Africa to strike some blow at Western Christendom's monstrous slave-trade. But that he should be commissioned to *India* was not in his or anyone's mind.

None, however, in the Northamptonshire Association knew of *John Thomas*, the Christian doctor, the zealous Baptist, the ex-surgeon of the East India Company's fleet, who, for some years in Bengal, had done the work of a medical missionary, before any British missionary society was born. He had been the first man of British, or, indeed, of any other race, who had spent himself for Bengal's evangelisation and healing. He had learned the vernacular ; translated; though he could not publish, two gospels ; healed the sick ; and preached with rare power.

Of all this, the Society's Committee was ignorant, and of his return to London for brief rest, and his proposed resumption of his humanitarian and missionary labours ; and, as he hoped, with a colleague. Presently, he and the Society met and by his glowing report of his Indian experience, they were so heartened that they accepted Bengal as their first field, and himself as their first missionary. When he begged for a colleague, Carey was in great perplexity. Yet he felt that his whole integrity was being suddenly tested ; for, long before, he had indissolubly pledged himself to go whithersoever his Master should enjoin him, and this seemed to be the due bidding and thrusting and direction ; especially when Dr. Thomas persuaded him to read the request of an Indian for preachers who should also give themselves to the work of *translation*.

So, unable to confound, or doubt, or deny the " Spirit of the Highest," Carey volunteered. Like St. Paul, Carey was diverted from the track of his dreams, and was thrust upon India. Nor can anyone familiar with his later experience and service judge that it was other than the goading and guiding of God.

S. P. C.

JANUARY.

11 1915 Graduation of first medical students of Union Medical College, Tsinanfu, Shantung, China.

12

13 1939 Opening of Moorshead Memorial Hospital, Kond Hills, India.

14 1861 John H. Weeks, of Congo, born.

15 1920 Miss E. M. Dyson, principal of Ballygunge Training College, Calcutta, retired.

16 1816 Dr. Joseph Angus, Secretary of B.M.S. and Principal of Regent's Park College, born.
1930 Lady Pearce Gould, Joint Treasurer of B.M.S., died.

17 1840 Dr. J. Liddell Phillips, American Baptist missionary "to the children of India," born.

MOORSHEAD MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, KOND HILLS. January 13th, 1939.

THE Konds who number about a million, are an agricultural, animistic tribe inhabiting the hill country of Ganjam, in Orissa province, India. They are a short statured, dark-skinned people with Dravidian features; and are independent, good natured and kindly disposed. Though naturally brave, they are ignorant and superstitious. Buffalo sacrifices form a prominent part of their religious rites. Formerly infanticide and human sacrifices were prevalent. Each village has its stone altar to the worship of Tana-Penu, the earth goddess.

Early attempts at medical work were made by non-medical missionaries. Though appallingly inadequate, they were bravely made, oft-times with amazing success. With what elementary knowledge of medicines they possessed, they tackled the dangerous fevers of the Hills, and brought a measure of succour and relief to many. By love, destroying prejudice and winning the people's confidence, they laid the foundations of the present highly efficient and successful medical work.

Dr. Moorshead, then secretary of the Medical Mission Auxiliary, visited the Kond Hills in 1906 and saw everywhere sights which moved him. From that time it became his dream to see a hospital established and the witch-doctor displaced by the teacher-healer. The long promised doctor did not arrive until January, 1930, however. But the Konds' day of rejoicing was short lived for, in 1932, the doctor, whose coming held such promise, had to return home, stricken with fever.

The long cherished dream was realised on January 13th, 1939, when, at Udayagiri, amid a vast crowd of people and with great rejoicing, the hospital was opened by Mrs. Moorshead in memory of her husband from whom the building takes its name. The scheme still needs another ward, electric light and an X-Ray plant, but temporary adjustments have been made in an attempt to cope with ever-increasing demands.

"The blind see, the lame walk, the sick are healed, and the lepers are cleansed." The miracles which Jesus did are happening again to-day through His servants—healing and cleansing for body and soul. Thus, the dream is being realised in that Temple of Healing at Udayagiri, the Mountain of the Dawn.

J. C.

JANUARY

18 1801 First Bengali woman convert, Joymuni, Krishna Pal's sister-in-law, baptised at Serampore.

1937 Extension to Stewart School, Cuttack, India, opened.

19 1788 Moravian missionaries set out for Greenland.

20 1823 Thomas Knibb, elder brother of William Knibb, reached Jamaica.

21 1802 Amos Sutton, of Orissa, born at Sevenoaks.

1831 Robert Hall, contemporary of B.M.S. founders and Carey's successor at Harvey Lane, died.

22 1803 First Brahmin convert, Krishna Prasad, baptised at Serampore.

23 1803 Serampore missionaries begin regular Sunday services in Calcutta.

1807 Chater and Mardon sail for Burma from Calcutta.

1878 Comber and Grenfell reach Congo.

24 1807 John Chamberlain arrived in India.

BAPTISM OF JOYMUNI, KRISHNA PAL'S SISTER-IN-LAW.

January 18th, 1801.

MOST people know the name of the first man convert in India—Krishna Pal—but how many know the name of the first woman convert? Yet, it was only a few months after Krishna Pal was baptised that his wife and sister-in-law passed through the waters of baptism. As soon as Carey and his colleagues had won the man, they sought to win the whole family for Christ, and to show them how the family life must be centred in God and all family relationships be ruled by His will. When Krishna Pal went out to carry the gospel to his fellow-countrymen, Joymuni, his sister-in-law went too, saying: "The gospel has long been planted in Europe: now a sapling has been transplanted in Bengal and is beginning to yield fruit. I want to taste it abundantly that I may tell all its sweetness to others."

Her baptism took place on January 18th, 1801. In spite of her backsliding from time to time, there are constant references from Serampore as to her sincerity, her constancy, her cheerfulness in the Christian way of life. But she is significant not only for herself, but because, when her heart was won to Christ, a door was opened through which an ever-increasing stream of her countrywomen has gone to find forgiveness and salvation.

Two years after these first women were baptised, Carey and his fellow-workers at Serampore planted the seed of Christian marriage in India when Krishna Pal's young daughter, Ananda, was married to Krishna Prasad—a Brahmin—the carpenter's daughter to the high caste man, she signing the marriage covenant, being the first Hindu girl ever to do such a thing: and, at the simple festival which followed the wedding, Krishna Pal and his family, the Brahmin and the European missionary, sat down joyfully side by side to share that meal. Surely a strange sight for India in those days, and one full of promise for the future.

The faith and daring of these pioneer women converts who forsook their old faith for the new way of Jesus should be held in everlasting remembrance.

F. E. E. le Q.

JANUARY

- 25 1807 Ward opened chapel in Clippore Road, Calcutta.
1814 Jabez Carey, William Carey's third son, left Calcutta to begin work in Amboyna.
-

- 26 1800 J. G. Oncken, first Baptist in Germany, born.
1881 Union of Baptist churches in Holland formed.
1926 J. D. Bate, of India, died.
1950 *Indian Republic Day*
-

- 27 1806 I. Fernandez, of Serampore, ordained pastor of Dinajpur church, Bengal.
-

- 28 1853 Mrs. Thomas Lewis, missionary in Congo, born.
1910 United Training College for Women Teachers opened at Ballygunge, Calcutta.
-

- 29 1753 Dr. John Ryland, a B.M.S. founder, born.
1856 Spurgeon's College founded.
1907 W. R. Rickett, B.M.S. Treasurer, 1887-1904, died.
-

- 30 1939 Dr. Gurnos King, Principal of Calabar College, Kingston, Jamaica, died.
-

- 31 1834 Adoniram Judson, of Burma, finished translation of Bible into Burmese.
1919 Girls' School, Delhi, India, opened.

ADONIRAM JUDSON OF BURMA.

January 31st, 1834.

ADONIRAM JUDSON is the founder and the outstanding hero of the Baptist Mission in Burma, which to-day numbers nearly 140,000 church members who represent the leading Christian communion of the land. No mission field has shown more remarkable advance in the proportion of self-maintaining churches. The Baptist educational institutions in Burma, with Judson College, a constituent of the Rangoon University, at their head, render immense service. The advance among the Karen people of the land is especially notable.

In Burma, Judson stands out as does Carey in India. Of English descent, he was born in America in 1788. His conversion took place on December 2nd, 1808. He was offered a professorship and a home pastorate, but the call of the mission field claimed him. He was a member of the famous "haystack group," and, in 1812, he sailed, with his bride, Ann Haseltine, for India. Both were Congregationalists and, on the voyage, they prepared themselves to counter the Baptist position of the Serampore missionaries. But a study of the New Testament convinced them of the soundness of the Baptist position and, shortly after their arrival in India, both were baptised. They resigned from the mission which had sent them out, and this action led to the beginning of American Baptist missions.

After many hazards, the Judsons reached Burma, then a land of disorder and danger. Judson's services as translator of the Scriptures, his years of working and waiting for a first convert, his cruel imprisonments, and the heroism of his devoted wife, are parts of the romance of missionary story.

His translation of the Bible into Burmese was completed on January 31st, 1834. This work was done under almost incredible hardships. It passed through many adventures. Once, Mrs. Judson buried the manuscript beneath the house to save it from destruction by the authorities. From the beginning of his missionary career until the close of his life in 1850, this man endured one hardship after another for the sake of Christ. He was rewarded by seeing his work bear rich fruit. He was known as "Jesus Christ's man," and no man more richly deserved the title.

J. H. R.

FEBRUARY

- 1 1801 William Ward finished printing New Testament in Bengali at Serampore.
1922 First Preachers' School opened in Estonia.
-

- 2 1796 John Fountain, third missionary to India, appointed at Kettering meeting of B.M.S. Committee.
1881 Christian Endeavour Movement founded.
-

3

- 4 1862 Bangor Baptist College founded.
1940 John Drake, missionary to India, died.
-

- 5 1812 Adoniram Judson, pioneer to Burma, married Ann Haseltine in America, before sailing.
1844 *The Dove*, missionary ship of Cameroons, left Cowes on first voyage to Africa.
-

- 6 1754 Andrew Fuller born at Wicken, Cambridgeshire.
1812 Ordination of first American Baptist missionaries.
-

- 7 1903 F. W. Savidge and J. H. Lorrain, pioneers in the Lushai Hills, appointed by B.M.S.

OPENING THE LUSHAI HILLS.

February 7th, 1903.

THE South Lushai Hills form a huge forest-covered region, 2,500 miles square, north of Chittagong in Bengal. Savidge and Lorrain, the pioneer missionaries to Lushailand, worked together in London in their youth. Their friendship grew strong. They were members of Highgate Road Baptist Church and active in its service. With the help of the Arthington Aboriginal Mission, Lorrain went to India and was followed a few months later by Savidge. They worked together for 35 years.

This is how Lorrain sums up the story of their work. "We have seen great and wonderful changes during our companionship in the Master's service. In almost all the Lushai villages throughout Lushailand there are now Christian communities of various sizes. Bamboo churches and schools crown many a mountain-top in every direction."

When Savidge retired in 1925, he left behind as his living memorial, a number of Church leaders, Challiana, Handala, Zathunga, and many others : and a Christian community with half of the Lushai tribe enrolled under the banner of the all-conquering Saviour.

While both men were, first and foremost, evangelists, Savidge devoted himself especially to education, and Lorrain to Bible translation and literature. Their wives were heroic co-workers among Lushai women. Since 1917, the Women's Association has carried on their work, under gifted leadership, with gladsome success in every sphere. The Christian history of Lushailand has been one of happy, successful co-operation, in which, more recently, medical work has been helpfully joined.

The ministry of sacred song has played an important part in the evangelisation of Lushailand. Our hymns, translated and sung to English and Welsh tunes, helped much, at first, to gather in the harvest fields of God. Now, Lushai hymns and tunes have taken their place.

Apart from Bible translation, Lorrain's *magnum opus*, a standard Lushai dictionary, has just been published. Bright features of vigorous Christian life to-day are the widespread voluntary labour, the generous pecuniary self-support of the churches and their self-propagating enthusiasm in missions to tribes on their frontiers.

Is the foreign missionary enterprise worth while ? Tell the story of Savidge and Lorrain in Lushailand. H. A.

FEBRUARY

- 8** 1863 First members of Garo tribe, India, baptised at Gauhati.
-
- 9** 1858 Miss Isabel M. Angus, B.Z.M. secretary in India, born.
-
- 10** 1807 Chater and Mardon arrive at Rangoon, Burma.
-
- 11** 1881 W. Holman Bentley and H. E. Crudgington reach Stanley Pool on Congo river.
1884 First baptisms in Estonia.
-
- 12** 1822 Cuttack, Orissa, first occupied by Bampton and Peggs, pioneers of General Baptist Missionary Society.
1930 Alec Tyler, founder and first honorary secretary, Baptist Laymen's Missionary Movement, died.
-
- 13** 1796 Formation of Scottish Missionary Society (approximate date).
-
- 14** 1801 "Let us, by mutual communication, cement a union between Asia and Africa." Letter from Serampore Brotherhood to Vanderkemp, pioneer L.M.S. missionary.
1825 Jonathan Price, first medical missionary to Burma, died at Ava.

CUTTACK, ORISSA, OCCUPIED.

February 12th, 1822.

WHEN William Bampton and James Peggs, pioneers of the General Baptist Missionary Society, with their wives, reached Cuttack on February 12th, 1822, they had with them a copy of the whole Bible in Oriya, the language of most of the peoples of Orissa. This precious "seed for sowing," they had received from Dr. Carey whom they had visited at Serampore on their way out. Carey, Marshman and Ward had not only made the translation into Oriya, but had made the paper on which to print it, and the type from which to print it. So of Bampton and Peggs, even, it could be said—"Others have laboured, and ye are entered into their labour."

Cuttack is on a river island formed by the division of the waters of the Mahanudi into two parts, the second of which, flowing on the south of the town, is called the Katjuri. These rivers, during the rainy season, are very deep and, if they overflowed their banks, Cuttack would be flooded to a depth of six to twelve feet. The protection against such a disaster is a revetment on both sides of the town. These two were built by the Mahrattas before the British occupation. Our pioneers must often have walked along these embankments, and seen the swirling waters rising higher and higher, but felt themselves safe because of the skill and toil of those well-nigh forgotten Mahrattas into whose labour they had entered.

Finally, the Mahratta fort from which Cuttack takes its name, still stands with its encircling moat. It is not a formidable-looking object to-day, but in Bampton and Peggs' day it must have been seen for what it was, the last stronghold of the enemy. Courage and daring were required to subdue it, and much patience and perseverance were needed for the pacification of the land so long torn by constant strife. Bampton and Peggs entered into the benefits of the "Pax Britannica." They preached freely in the bazaars of Cuttack because of the law and order established by British rule.

Cuttack has, ever since, been an important centre of B.M.S. witness.

G. S. W.

FEBRUARY

15 1867 Bombay first opened as B.M.S. station by Edmund Edwards.

16 1825 William Knibb arrived in Jamaica.
1844 Alfred Saker, arrived at Fernando Po, West Africa, in the *Chilmark*.
1936 Bembe school-chapel, Portuguese West Africa, opened.

17

18 1909 Work begun at Faridabad, India, by Miss Thorn.
1926 W. K. Landels, missionary in Italy, died.

19 1888 Nlemvo, Bentley's Congo collaborator, baptised.
1914 Nathaniel H. Shaw, missionary in Italy, died.

20 1813 New Testament in Tamil published at Serampore, 5,000 copies printed.
1879 W. Holman Bentley, Congo pioneer, accepted for service.
1911 W. R. James, missionary in India, died.

21

SAKER ARRIVED AT FERNANDO PO.

February 16th, 1844.

ALFRED SAKER, like his great forerunner Carey, had a long and trying voyage to his field of labour. He joined the *Chilmark* at Portsea on August 16th, 1843, with the Rev. John Clarke and their wives, to make the journey to Fernando Po via Jamaica.

On the voyage they studied grammars and vocabularies of African languages. Saker wrote in his diary, "May the Lord assist me to study those languages until we shall be able to give to the millions of Africa the Word of God in their own tongue!" Embarking 43 volunteers from Jamaica, they sailed eastward on 1st December for eleven weary weeks. One storm carried away or split their sails and broke the bowsprit; a fire broke out and all hands fought it. The ship was overcrowded, food scarce and bad, the captain violent, while the crew tormented the black men. But when the ship dropped anchor in Clarence Cove, the whole party landed, to receive such a welcome from the inhabitants and their friends of the mission that sent the memory of their sufferings to the background.

Saker's troubles were not at an end. Ants ate his clothes' chest, a tornado unroofed his house, rain flooded the rooms, and in twenty days fever laid him low four times. His first sermon, however, preached on the Sunday after arriving, won Thomas Horton Johnson and made him a life-long friend and fellow-labourer.

When Saker settled at Akwa's town he was among Duala speaking people. To them he dedicated his ideal, "The whole Bible in their own tongue." It was a road beset by sickness and weakness. He was carpenter, builder, brick-maker, printer, ship-wright by turns, teaching his own children to read and men to handle tools.

When he began men and women were naked savages, workshy. Before he left Cameroons, permanent buildings for the mission, for the worship of God and for homes for the workers, were the monuments of his success. The Gospel and civilization went hand in hand to transform the country. His hymns and tunes, with the Scriptures in Duala, are the seed producing harvests without end in that dark land.

R. G.

FEBRUARY

22 1898 A. B. Wilkinson, missionary in Orissa, died.

23 1816 John Rowe, pioneer to Jamaica, died.
1827 Serampore College charter granted by King of Denmark.
1872 Bible in Duala, language of Cameroons, completed by Alfred Saker.

24 1925 Opening of Hospital at Yakusu, Upper Congo.

25 1907 Opening of Women's Hospital at Berhampore, Orissa.

26 1806 Henry Martyn's pagoda at Serampore consecrated for service.

27 1816 Monghyr, North India, occupied by John Chamberlain.

28 1839 John Wenger, D.D. missionary translator in India, baptised at Denmark Place Chapel, Camberwell, London.

BERHAMPORE HOSPITAL.

Opened February 25th, 1907.

BERHAMPORE hospital, Orissa, opened on February 25th, 1907, with 24 beds, now has 90 beds—52 for women and 38 for children. Verandas as well as wards are used, and some patients have to lie on the floor. Patients come from all parts of the province to this, the only hospital for women and children in the area. From 150 to 200 out-patients are seen daily and the yearly number of in-patients is over 1,500. Beyond this, private calls are made to the homes of women who are kept in "purdah," or who are unable to travel. So doors, from the Rajah's palace to the meanest huts in outcaste villages, are open to the Christian doctor.

The present staff is made up of one European doctor and two nursing sisters: two assistant Indian doctors, four evangelists, four staff nurses and eighteen nurses in training; for the hospital is a recognised training school for Oriya nurses and midwives.

The patients are mostly Hindus of all castes, from the Brahmin to the outcaste. Others are Moslems and yet others, Christians. Some come from wealthy homes and more from poor homes. While a few are educated, the majority are illiterate and ignorant. All receive the same attention and treatment and have an opportunity of hearing the message of the Gospel while they are in or about the hospital.

As maternity work has increased, ante-natal and post-natal work has developed. The value of this preventive and educational work is proved by this increase and also by the growth of interest and support from local authorities and Indian friends.

There is much needless suffering in and around Berhampore, as everywhere in India, owing to lack of proper care, to ignorance and dirt.

A mission hospital is part of the Church's response to the cry of human suffering: a cry from which Christ never turned away. It brings relief, not only to suffering bodies, but it gives hope to the hopeless and tells of a Father's love to those who believe in *Karma* (fate), and of a God who suffers, to those who think that disease is a punishment from the gods.

H. G.

MARCH

1 1847 Mrs. Hannah Marshman died at Serampore.

2

3 1889 First baptism at Bolobo, Middle Congo, by
George Grenfell.

1912 Opening of church building at Bolobo,
Upper Congo.

4 1817 James Smith, of Delhi, born.

1818 Elizabeth Geale, born. As Mrs. Sale, she
was the founder of the Baptist Zenana
Mission. *

5 1801 Bound copy of New Testament in Bengali
laid on Communion Table at Serampore.

6 1803 Petumber Singh, first B.M.S. evangelist in
Bengal, preached for first time.

1851 Arthur James, Principal Calabar College,
Jamaica, born.

1920 Robert Spurgeon, missionary in India, died.

7 1804 British and Foreign Bible Society formed.
Rev. J. Hughes, Baptist minister, was
first secretary.

1822 William Knibb baptised by Dr. J. Ryland
at Bristol.

1823 William Ward died at Serampore.

THE NEW TESTAMENT IN BENGALI.

March 5th, 1801.

○ N this day, the first bound volume of the New Testament in the Bengali language was laid upon the Communion Table of the mission chapel at Serampore, and a service of dedication and thanksgiving was held. William Carey had spent seven-and-a-half years in its translation and had prepared it for William Ward to print at the Serampore Press. Ward, in his journal, describes the service on March 5th as a "comfortable meeting." Krishna Pal, the first baptised convert, offered prayer. A hymn composed by Joshua Marshman was sung. Carey preached in Bengali and English from the text: *Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly*, and "the rest of us prayed."

The total cost to the mission of this publication was £612. Fifty copies had been previously subscribed for at rupees 32 a copy. One hundred copies were sent to England. One was presented to the King and another was sent also to the King of Denmark. Copies of this first edition found their way, as Ward predicted they would, as "missionaries" to many parts of Bengal. Years later, in the Dacca district, some peasant worshippers were found who were nourishing their religious life by reading a copy of this version of the New Testament, though they had never met a Christian preacher and no one could trace how they came into possession of their treasured volume.

The complete translation of the New Testament was the first of the thirty-five versions published at the Serampore Press in Carey's lifetime and under his personal direction. Carey had begun to learn Bengali on the outward voyage to India in 1793. He devoted great labour to his studies in Bengali and Sanskrit, the Hindu sacred classical tongue, while he was living at Madnabati as an "indigo planter." The publication of the New Testament in Bengali gave Carey a reputation as an Indian linguist and led to his appointment by the Marquess Wellesley as Professor in the Fort William College, Calcutta, where he taught Sanskrit, Bengali and Marathi and became master of many Indian languages.

Eight revisions and editions of the Bengali version were issued in Carey's time.

C. E. W.

MARCH

- 8 1807 William Carey received degree of Doctor of Divinity from Brown University, U.S.A.
1857 Dr. W. Y. Fullerton, B.M.S. secretary, 1912-1932, born.
-
- 9 1933 Kekirawa, Ceylon, occupied by women evangelists.
1938 Nlemvo, Bentley's Congo collaborator, died.
-
- 10 1934 Kekirawa, Ceylon, girls' school and hostel opened.
-
- 11 1812 Great fire at Serampore ; loss £7,000.
-
- 12 1806 James Chater, pioneer to Ceylon, and W. Robinson, missionary in India, ordained at Oxford.
1826 Bampton's first service at Berhampore, Orissa.
-
- 13 1880 Alfred Saker, pioneer to Cameroons, died.
1903 *Fr. Sausage + J.H. Loran arrived in Unigo*
-
- 14

JAMES CHATER : PIONEER TO CEYLON.

March 12th, 1806.

JAMES Chater was born at Bourton-on-the-Water in 1779. He was baptised at Middleton Cheney on November 5th, 1802, and, after training at Bristol College, was accepted by the B.M.S. for India, the church recording that he was "dismissed to the Infant Church at Serampore in Bengal." He arrived in Calcutta on August 29th, 1806. The Serampore missionaries decided to begin work in the Burmese Empire and, for this, Chater volunteered. By 1809, he had prepared a volume of Scripture passages in Burmese and was steadily at work translating the New Testament. Civil war and the illness of Mrs. Chater led him, at the beginning of 1812, to abandon Burma: but, a year and a half later, there arrived in Rangoon, Adoniram and Ann Judson who found their first home in the Baptist Mission House which Chater had built.

After consultation with the Serampore missionaries, Chater decided to go to Colombo, Ceylon, where there was no missionary and where the people were in spiritual darkness, perishing for lack of knowledge. On his arrival in Colombo on April 16th, 1812, he was cordially welcomed by the Governor and leading citizens.

To make the mission self-supporting, Chater commenced an English school, as he had done in Rangoon. An earnest young Burgher, Hendrick Siers, was baptised by him in 1814, and he became a valued helper in all his labours. It was not until 1817 that Chater baptised his first Sinhalese convert, Theophilus, a Buddhist priest.

In the years which followed, Chater had the joy of seeing many "reclaimed from a life of sin and become new creatures in Christ Jesus." He was preaching constantly in Sinhalese, Portuguese and English, establishing schools in a number of villages for the furtherance of the Gospel and founding churches in Colombo and jungle villages.

His health broke down as the result of his unremitting labours of twenty-two years in a tropical climate and, with shattered frame, he sailed for England to seek renewed strength. He died at sea on January 2nd, 1829, before the ship reached the coast of France.

J. A. E.

MARCH

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- 15** 1908 United Training Institute for pastors and teachers opened at Kimpese, Lower Congo.
1937 James Russell Watson, B.M.S. medical pioneer in China, died at Tsinanfu.
-
- 16** 1913 Dr. Cecil F. Robertson, Sianfu, China, died.
1936 B. A. Nag, Indian church leader, died.
-
- 17** 1793 William Carey took farewell of Harvey Lane Church, Leicester, of which he was pastor.
1800 First sheet printed of Matthew's Gospel in Bengali.
1840 W. H. Pearce, Calcutta, died.
-
- 18** 1798 William Carey's membership of Harvey Lane Church, Leicester, transferred to Mudnabati, Bengal, India.
-
- 19** 1868 Revision of Hindi New Testament by John Parsons, completed.
1887 F. C. Darling and J. H. Shindler, Congo missionaries, died.
-
- 20** 1793 William Carey and Dr. John Thomas, valedicted in Leicester.
1893 W. Holman Bentley completed translation of Congo New Testament.
-
- 21** 1921 Principal George P. Gould, D.D., of Regent's Park College and Member of B.M.S. Committee, died.

VALEDICTION OF THOMAS AND CAREY.

March 20th, 1793.

THE first valedictory service of the B.M.S. ! How many such services have been held since in little chapels and in large assemblies, no one knows.

Harvey Lane Chapel, Leicester, was the scene of the first meeting, and Carey was its minister. Here is an extract from the *Periodical Accounts* :

“ Before their departure, we spent a solemn day with our brethren at Leicester (20th March, 1793). The forenoon was devoted to prayer : in the afternoon, brother Thomas preached from Psalm XVI : 4, and a public collection was made for the mission : in the evening, brother Hogg delivered a suitable discourse on the solemn occasion from Acts XXI : 14, and after him brother Fuller addressed the missionaries from John XX : 21.” He said :

“ Every part of the solemnities of this day must needs be affecting, but if there be one part which is more so than the rest, it is that which is allotted to me, to deliver you a solemn parting address. Nevertheless, I must acknowledge that the hope of your undertakings being crowned with success swallows up all my sorrow. I could myself go without a tear, so at least I think, and leave all my friends and connections, in such a glorious cause. Impressed, therefore, with these sentiments, I can the more readily and cheerfully part with you.”

Continuing, he said : “ 1. There is an analogy between the objects of Christ’s mission and those of yours. 2. Christ, . . . was under the direction of Him who sent Him, and you must be the same. 3. Christ, . . . had great difficulties and trials to encounter, and you must do the same. 4. Christ was not sent forth in his undertaking without a promise of support in it, and a glorious reward for it. You also shall have your reward.”

In his diary, under date 28th January, 1794, Carey writes : “ This evening, after a day of dejection, I had much relief in reading over Mr. Fuller’s charge to us at Leicester : the affection there manifested almost overcame my spirits. O, I think, I am not only ready to suffer any thing, but if I be offered upon the sacrifice and service of faith, I joy and rejoice therein. O what a portion is God.”

MARCH

22 1811 Felix Carey arrived in Burma.

23 1828 Gunga Dhar Sarmgi, first Oriya Brahmin convert, baptised in Cuttack.

1836 American Baptists begin work in Assam.

24 1840 Bible Translation Society formed.

25 1785 William Carey settled at Moulton, Northamptonshire.

1885 First Baptist church in Czecho-Slovakia formed near Prague.

26 1814 Gottlob Bruckner, pioneer missionary, reached Java.

1906 S.S. *Endeavour*, Congo steamer, launched.

1919 Dr. Richard Glover, of Bristol, member of B.M.S. Committee, died.

27 1820 First steam engine in India set up at Serampore, to help in paper-mill run by the missionaries.

1911 Daniel Jones, missionary in Agra, India, died.

28 1816 Allahabad, India, occupied by L. Macintosh.

S.S. "ENDEAVOUR," CONGO STEAMER, LAUNCHED.

March 26th, 1906.

BOATS are a necessity when a river is the line of advance. Because the Congo was the sole highway into Central Africa from the west coast for B.M.S. missionaries, boats had to be built and used from the beginning.

The first was the *Peace*, whose epic story has often been told. This was George Grenfell's boat. He designed it, supervised its construction on the banks of the Thames at Chiswick, and undertook its reconstruction on the banks of the Congo. It was his main home from its launching in 1884 until its dismantling in 1906. On it, he made his pioneering and exploratory journeys up the Congo and its tributaries. With it, he carried missionary recruits and building materials to the new stations which he had marked out. Without it, the work could not have been established or developed.

The growth of the mission made a second steamer necessary and the *Goodwill*, one of the products of the Society's Centenary Celebrations in 1892, was built.

Further expansions, and the worn-out condition of the *Peace*, were responsible for the building of a third vessel. This was launched on March 26th, 1906, and it was named *Endeavour*, in recognition of the fact that members of Christian Endeavour Societies largely contributed to meeting its cost. It was far bigger than its predecessors. It covered the thousand miles between Stanley Pool and Stanley Falls three times a year. It carried missionaries of our own and other societies, mails, food supplies and materials and equipment to our half dozen up-river stations. Like the other vessels, it played its part in the evangelisation of Congoland.

The increase of state and trading boats made it no longer necessary to maintain mission steamers to ply the whole navigable course of the Congo. Smaller craft like the *Grenfell* and the *Ndeko* have since served different station areas, and motor boats are now attached to most.

The fact that the *Endeavour* was a young people's boat is a call to the young men and women of our churches to take a worthy part in our present celebrations and to lead in the Society's advances during the coming years.

H. L. H.

MARCH AND APRIL

29 1886 Mantu Parkinson, Thomas Comber's personal boy, baptised : the first baptism in Congo.

30 1800 Carey, Marshman and Ward preach in Serampore bazaar for first time.

1822 Publication of James Montgomery's poem on daisy in Carey's Serampore garden.

31 1793 William Carey first met William Ward, in London.

1 1838 Church at Berhampore, Orissá, formed.

2 1866 Mrs. William Knibb died.

1909 Dr. George H. Rouse, Bible translator and apologist in India, died.

1916 Opening of Hospital at Choutsun, Shantung, China.

3 1803 Carey's second son, William, baptised at Serampore.

1887 Miss Spearing, first single woman missionary to Congo, died.

1894 Baptist Zenana Mission became auxiliary of the B.M.S.

4 1803 First Christian marriage of converts at Serampore.

WILLIAM MANTU PARKINSON.

Baptised March 29th, 1886.

FROM the day when his gentle eye and manners attracted the Rev. Thomas Comber, to that great day when he became the "point" for that army of the Lord in Congo, Mantu Parkinson's life was a clearly marked progression.

Mantu was a San Salvador boy, who knew the royal town and its morals *au fond*, but gave great heed to the things his white man taught. Comber returned to England on furlough in 1885 bringing Mantu with him. Mr. William C. Parkinson entertained Mantu, re-named him, and sent him for a term to school with his own son. Mantu used his opportunities to find the Saviour. In October, 1885, he returned with his master to Congo and there, among his own people, gave clear evidence of a change of heart.

Comber had hoped to baptise three together, but circumstances prevented. When he came to San Salvador on March 27th, 1886, he accepted Mantu and, in the Sunday service next day, announced that the baptism would take place on the morrow, March 29th.

A mile from the station there is a little waterfall with a pool below, and there the first baptism of a Congo Christian took place in the presence of three Europeans and a small company of the Congo people.

Mantu shared his master's peregrinations until he was appointed transport store-keeper at Lukunga. Then he married Aku, the first woman convert baptised, and pioneered the first Christian wedding. Her story is a romance and she has made a success as a home-maker.

Tom Comber, driven away by fever, died at sea. Mantu won golden opinions for his service, but the coming of the railway ended the need for it and he went back to his own town. The San Salvador church welcomed the couple and elected Mantu a deacon. After Buta's rebellion in 1913, he was a scapegoat and was exiled by the Portuguese. When his sentence had expired, he hesitated to return and so was able to meet and welcome the B.M.S. deputation in 1919 at Kimpese.

"I have fought the good fight. I have kept the faith," said this honest, sincere, faithful man. R. G.

APRIL

-
- 5 1922 Pandita Ramabai, outstanding Indian woman Christian, died.
-
- 6 1784 J. G. Pike, founder of General Baptist Missionary Society, born.
1913 Dr. H. Stanley Jenkins, of Sianfu, Shensi, China, died.
-
- 7 1816 Gottlob Bruckner, pioneer to Java, baptised.
-
- 8 1801 William Carey received invitation to become Professor of Bengali at Fort William Government College, Calcutta.
1935 Herbert Marnham, Treasurer of Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland, and member of B.M.S. General Committee, died.
-
- 9 1930 Dr. Janet Hoare, of India, died after three months' service.
-
- 10 1874 Dr. J. Wenger's fifth revision of Bible in Bengali completed.
1911 Opening of Tsinanfu Hospital, Shantung, China.
-
- 11 1838 Alfred Henry Baynes, General Secretary of B.M.S., 1871-1906, born.

CAREY, THE COLLEGE PROFESSOR.

April 8th, 1801.

ONE of the triumphs of William Carey's life was the work he did, and the far flung influence he exerted as tutor, and then (from August, 1806) as professor, of Bengali in the College of Fort William, Calcutta, from 1801 to 1830. This is how it happened.

The Governor, Lord Wellesley, decided to found a college for young civilians, who could not discharge their duties in the East India Company's service without, apart from previous home training, a good working knowledge of the Indian vernaculars, and of Asiatic customs and literature. A brilliant staff of European linguists was appointed, but no one with any reputation as a Bengali scholar could be found. The Rev. David Brown, a friend of Carey's, had been appointed provost: and another clergyman, Claudius Buchanan, as vice-provost. They recommended Carey to the Governor as being fully qualified for the post.

So, the offer was made, through them, on April 8th, 1801, and, after consulting his brethren, straightway accepted. His appointment was as tutor and he commenced his duties on May 12th on a salary of Rs. 500 a month. He collected round him a band of learned Indian pundits, the chief of whom is seen in the well-known painting of the doctor. With their help he soon published books in Sanscrit, Bengali and other languages. As tutor and then professor, he was brought into direct personal touch with students who afterwards became famous as judges, magistrates, commissioners and other high Government officials.

The position also greatly aided Carey in carrying forward his translations of the scriptures in the chief languages of India. As a Government servant, his professorial salary was Rs. 1,000 a month, most of which, to the end of his thirty years' service, went, not into his own pocket, but into the common exchequer of the Serampore Mission.

How wonderful a story it is! The man who, because of official Government opposition, had to be a camouflaged missionary, an indigo planter for the first six years, is called to a position of high trust, as Pearce Carey says, in the collegiate service of the British Government, and his work and influence for Christ is marvellously extended thereby.

H. A.

APRIL

-
- 12** 1799 Church Missionary Society formed.
1801 Carey appointed Professor of Bengali at Fort William College.
1806 James Chater and W. Robinson leave England for India.
1850 Adoniram Judson died.
-
- 13** 1803 J. Rowe, R. Mardon, W. Moore and J. Biss accepted for service in India at Clipstone, Northamptonshire.
-
- 14** 1877 First baptisms in Czecho-Slovakia.
1903 Fort Lungleh, Lushai Hills, India, occupied by F. W. Savidge and J. H. Lorrain.
-
- 15** 1886 Miss Gange, Delhi, born.
-
- 16** 1812 James Chater landed at Colombo, to begin work in Ceylon.
1815 W. Yates landed at Calcutta. He was the first missionary to receive licence under the Charter of the East India Company.
-
- 17** 1919 Dr. Timothy Richard, of China, died.
-
- 18** 1920 Sir George Macalpine, Chairman of B.M.S. General Committee, 1903-1918, died.

DR. TIMOTHY RICHARD.

Died April 17th, 1919.

DR. TIMOTHY RICHARD was for over forty years an outstanding personality in China and gained the respect and esteem of the Chinese people, including their rulers, in a degree attained by few foreigners. He had the knack of finding the good in every man, continually sought out the worthy and, by his humility and devotion, coupled with his practical statesmanship, he was enabled to accomplish much outstanding work that still bears fruit.

Four months after his arrival at Chefoo in 1869, typhus robbed him of his only colleague, and so, alone, he faced the future with characteristic Welsh courage. After many evangelistic journeys in Manchuria and Shantung, he decided to settle at Tsingchowfu in the centre of Shantung. His journey of 250 miles in the depth of winter was historic, for it meant the beginning of the Shantung mission. After seven years' successful work there, he left for the province of Shansi, where one of the most serious famines on record was raging. Out of this horror the necessity for education to prevent its recurrence was branded on his soul.

In 1891, Richard became secretary of the Christian Literature Society in Shanghai and, from that vantage point, he was enabled to influence the educated people of the land, his books finding their way into court circles, and among the reformers. Through his literature and his personal contacts with the most powerful people in the land, he made the name and work of the Society known all over the Empire.

Richard was able, by his advocacy, to lead missions in China to stress in their work the training of men and women for leadership. That this policy was the right one is seen to-day in the large number of Chinese officials and other leaders who are Christian.

Richard proved to be the man of the hour. He was the real founder of our Shantung Mission, the sole founder of our Shansi Mission. He became known everywhere as a true friend of China. He was one of the greatest of missionaries, a statesman in his broad vision, and an inspirer of men, a prophet of God.

A. G. C.

APRIL

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- 19** 1814 First Baptist Home Mission Society formed by B.M.S.
1922 Sir Alfred Pearce Gould, B.M.S. Treasurer, 1914-1922, died.
1935 William Carey, the "younger," of Barisal, India, died : great-grandson of William Carey.
-
- 20** 1768 Joshua Marshman born at Westbury Leigh, Wiltshire.
1804 Church founded at Jessore, Bengal, India.
1845 John Brown Myers, B.M.S. Home Secretary, 1879-1912, born.
-
- 21** 1802 John Chamberlain accepted for service in India at Clipstone, Northamptonshire.
-
- 22** 1804 J. Rowe, R. Mardon, W. Moore and J. Biss reach India.
1834 J. G. Oncken, first German Baptist, baptised.
1847 Presbyterian Church of England Foreign Missions began.
1860 First Baptist Church in Norway formed at Tolnoes.
1870 First B.M.S. grant of £100 for support of work in Italy.
-
- 23** 1834 First Baptist Church in Germany formed.
1879 Valediction of first Congo party—W. Holman Bentley, H. E. Crudgington and John Hartland—with Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Comber, for Congo.
-
- 24** 1800 First buildings completed at Serampore.
1800 Church formed at Serampore with Carey as pastor and Marshman and Fountain as deacons.
-
- 25** 1812 Work begun at Patna, North India.
1824 Thomas Knibb, Jamaica, died, after three months' service.
1906 Alfred Henry Baynes, B.M.S. General Secretary, retired.

VALEDICTION OF FIRST CONGO PARTY.

April 23rd, 1879.

LIKE all great city railway termini, Cannon Street station, London, is accustomed to the stir of great crowds. But never before or since have its precincts witnessed a crowd such as that which gathered in its spacious hotel on the evening of April 23rd, 1879. For that was the occasion when the first party of recruits for the newly established Congo mission was farewelled.

There were five in that party, and London church members, reinforced by people from the provinces, assembled in huge numbers to bid them "Godspeed." They were, Holman Bentley, bank clerk and member of the Downs Church, Clapton; Henry Crudgington, of Manvers Street Church, Bath; John Hartland, of Camden Road Church; and Thomas Comber, fresh from his service in Cameroons and his pioneer journey to Congo, and his bride, both members of Denmark Place Church, Camberwell.

The dramatic circumstances in which the Congo mission had come to birth and the appeal of this venture into almost unknown pagan Africa, had stirred the imagination of the churches. "This way for Congo!" was the cry of the hotel staff as they guided the people to the large hall. Soon, the pillar room had also to be requisitioned for an overflow meeting. Even so, both were packed almost beyond capacity. One man, at least, had tramped five miles from his suburban home because he could not afford the tram fare, so that he might cheer the outgoing missionaries.

The chairman, Mr. Joseph Tritton, treasurer of the Society, was unconsciously prophetic in his speech. "Disappointments may await our brethren and ourselves, and trials neither few nor small. Africa has had her martyrs. She may have them again. There are graves of the saints in Africa. More may be opened yet." They little knew that, six weeks after the party reached their objective, San Salvador, a grave would be dug for Mrs. Comber, who so swiftly yielded up her life for Africa.

Each of the recruits and Thomas Comber spoke, and impressiveness was added to the proceedings by the presence and address of Alfred Saker, the wraithlike veteran of Cameroons, whose course was nearly finished.

Thus the Congo mission was launched on its glorious career.

H. L. H.

APRIL AND MAY

- 26 1833 William Knibb sailed for England from Jamaica to launch Anti-Slavery campaign.
1846 John Mack of Serampore died.
-

- 27 1888 First Christian marriage in Congo at Wathen, Lower Congo.
1939 C. E. Wilson, B.A., B.M.S. Foreign Secretary, 1905-1939, retired.
-

- 28 1858 C. H. Spurgeon preached his first sermon for B.M.S.
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- 29 1922 Dr. Andrew Young, Sianfu, Shensi, China, died.
-

- 30 1818 Prospectus issued of the *Friend of India* by Serampore missionaries.
1882 Nlemvo, Bentley's Congo collaborator, decided for Christ.
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- 1 1800 Opening of Marshman Boarding School at Serampore.
1887 Joseph Tritton, Treasurer of B.M.S., 1867-1887, died.
1919 Miss A. G. Angus, Honorary Secretary of Baptist Zenana Mission (Women's Missionary Association) retired.
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2.

NLEMVO DECIDED FOR CHRIST.

April 30th, 1882.

NO Congo Christian is worthy of greater honour than Don Zoao Nlemvo who passed to his eternal rest on March 9th, 1938, when nearing his seventieth year. As a lad of eleven, he entered the service of Holman Bentley two years after the latter landed in Congo. Bentley was his father in God. He guided him to Christ as his Saviour and Lord and, on April 30th, 1882, Nlemvo made the great decision.

Nlemvo was of royal blood and, as such, the heir to the chieftainship of his people. After he had become a Christian, strenuous efforts were made to win him back to native village life, and the chieftainship and seven wives, which represented wealth, were promised him. He accepted the chieftainship for a time, but returned to the service of the mission. He is rightly regarded as the first Congo convert, but his baptism was delayed until 1888. This was followed by his marriage and, when the Wathen church was formed in the following year, Nlemvo and his wife became foundation members. He held many offices in the church and it was largely through his steady persistence and evangelistic zeal that the extensive B.M.S. Lower River district was opened up for the gospel.

Bentley's outstanding translation and literary contributions could not have been made without the help of Nlemvo. They worked side by side in the compilation of Bentley's notable Congo Dictionary and Grammar and in the translation of the Bible into Ki-Kongo. In order that this work might not be interrupted, Nlemvo accompanied Bentley to England during three furloughs. On one of these, Nlemvo developed eye trouble which eventually resulted in blindness. On the third, he spoke at the first Baptist World Congress in 1905.

Amid his handicap, his cheerfulness was proverbial. He was taught Braille in order that he might continue his work. As physical darkness closed about him, his spiritual insight grew. He was the friend and counsellor of younger generations of missionaries. He was beloved by the Christians throughout the entire district. He received high honours from the King of the Belgians. Above all, he was a Christian gentleman.

H. L. H.

MAY

-
- 3 1775 Andrew Fuller ordained to ministry at Soham, Cambridgeshire.
1836 Orphan Asylum founded at Cuttack, Orissa.
1862 F. W. Savidge, Lushai Hills, India, born.
1936 Church membership at San Salvador, first church in Congo, reaches 2,000.
-

- 4 1800 Government College at Fort William, Calcutta, founded by Lord Wellesley.
-

- 5 1821 James Bampton valedicted at Loughborough, for service in Orissa with General Baptist Missionary Society.
1938 Dr. Henry Wyatt and Miss Beulah Glasby killed in Shansi, China.
-

6

- 7 1799 William Ward and D. Brunsdon ordained at Olney, Buckinghamshire.
1815 Andrew Fuller, first B.M.S. secretary, died at Kettering.
-

- 8 1799 Religious Tract Society (now United Society for Christian Literature) formed. Rev. J. Hughes, first secretary.
1801 British flag hoisted over Serampore.
1914 Stone-laying of Union Medical College, Tsinanfu, Shantung, China.
-

- 9 1821 James Peggs, pioneer missionary to Orissa, valedicted at Wisbech, Cambridgeshire.
-

ANDREW FULLER DIED.

May 7th, 1815.

THE first secretary of the Baptist Missionary Society should be held in everlasting remembrance by all Christians. Son of a farmer, he was born at Wicken in the Cambridgeshire Fenland on 6th February, 1754. After dire spiritual struggles, occasioned more by false Calvinism than by natural corruption, he found peace in believing at the age of sixteen. He became a member, and soon pastor, of the church at Soham near his birthplace. Here he preached, prayed and meditated until a clear view of truth was reached. This he wrote and published under the title, *The Gospel Worthy of All Acceptation*. The work had a great influence in liberating many from the bondage in which they, like Fuller, had been held.

Called to Kettering, Fuller found himself in company that could appreciate the native strength of his mind and the vigour of his conceptions. How he and others planned for the formation of the B.M.S. is well known. While the origin of the Mission, as Fuller nobly testified, "was to be found in the workings of brother Carey's mind," the practical steps were taken by the wise energy of Fuller's resolute will.

From the moment the famous £13 2s. 6d. meeting was over, the secretary devoted himself to the cause of the Mission. He travelled over the three kingdoms, preaching wherever he could get a hearing, canvassing from door to door, and sometimes meeting such rebuffs that he must go up an entry to shed an unseen tear and say a little prayer for grace to go on. Carey was "down the mine" and he had "promised never to let go the rope while he lived."

So he went on until he was sixty-one and worn out, travelling, organising, corresponding, interviewing. And all the time he was pastor of an important church, adviser and friend of scores of other churches, first choice for every ordination in five counties, and writing important works in defence and exposition of the faith.

On Sunday morning, 7th May, 1815, sitting up in bed, he listened to his people singing in the chapel, and passed away, his hand still on the rope. G. L.

MAY

- 17 1811 John Chamberlain reaches Agra to found Mission there.
1815 Dr. John Ryland appointed B.M.S. secretary.
-
- 18 1805 General Bie, Danish Governor of Serampore, who befriended Carey, died.
1814 American Baptist Board of Missions founded.
-
- 19 1805 General Bie buried by Carey at Serampore.
-
- 20 1823 Robert Arthington born.
-
- 21 1885 Alexander Cowe of Congo, died.
1916 Alexander Young of Cuttack, India, died.
-
- 22 1791 William Carey first met Samuel Pearce at former's induction at Harvey Lane Church, Leicester.
1791 Carey read his *Enquiry* to group of ministers.
1867 Baptist Zenana Mission founded.
-
- 23 1803 B.M.S. Home Committee cordially approved plans of Serampore missionaries for Bible translation.
1807 Chater and Mardon returned from Burma to Serampore to report on their journey.
1812 R. Mardon died at Malda, Bengal.

BAPTIST ZENANA MISSION FOUNDED.

May 22nd, 1867.

THE wives of the early missionaries in India noticed the absence of women from any gatherings which assembled to hear their husbands preach. Enquiry elicited the fact that high caste ladies lived in seclusion, and did not mingle at all in the life of the community. Into the "zenana," or women's quarters, no male missionary might enter. Nor might the ladies who lived there come out to listen when he addressed their men-folk.

Our missionaries' wives thought and prayed about this strange and deep-rooted custom and waited their opportunity. At last it came when Mrs. Sale was asked to prescribe for a sick child. By tact and kindness, she made her way into one household, and the work of zenana visiting began: the visitors teaching sewing, reading and the Gospel by slow degrees.

Realising that India's women could never be reached but by women, they told their story at home with such urgency that, on May 22nd, 1867—three-quarters of a century after the birth of the B.M.S.—the Baptist Zenana Mission was formed. The event took place at John Street Chapel, Bedford Row, London, at a meeting of ladies presided over by Dr. Underhill, secretary of the B.M.S.

Local auxiliaries were quickly formed to support the London committee, to inform the churches, and to collect the money needed. Consecrated young women offered themselves as messengers of Christ to those imprisoned souls.

Though secluded, the Indian mothers and grandmothers are far from being without influence, and it was realised that, without the winning of the women for Christ, the work of winning the men and the children would have to be begun afresh with every generation.

Those who know India to-day marvel at the immense influence on the community wielded by the comparatively small number of educated women who have "broken purdah." Looking round upon the assembly of the All-India Women's Conference at Lahore a few years ago, a distinguished Indian Moslem judge affirmed that "such a gathering could not have been held but for the devoted and self-sacrificing labours of pioneering Christian women on behalf of the ladies of the zenana." D. F. G.

MAY

24 1804 Rawdon College founded at Horton, Bradford.

25 1799 Mr. and Mrs. Marshman, Mr. and Mrs. Grant, D. Brunson, William Ward and Miss Tidd sailed for India on board *The Criterion*, Captain Wickes.
1825 John Ryland, D.D., died.

26 1931 E. C. Smyth, of China, died.

27 1824 Missionary work initiated by Church of Scotland.
1858[†] Alfred Saker conducted last service on Fernando Po after occupation of island by Spaniards.

28 1821 Bampton and Peggs sailed for India with William Ward and Mr. and Mrs. Marshman.

29 1890 Founding of Upoto Station, Upper Congo.

30 1821 Second Mrs. William Carey, nee Charlotte Rumohr, died.

MEN AT THE HELM.

Week beginning May 24th.

FROM the days of *Andrew Fuller*, the B.M.S. has been served by a succession of able secretaries. Sixteen have filled the office, although in some cases their tenure has overlapped. They have varied in type, character and talent, but all have been uniform in their missionary conviction and leadership.

It was fortunate that Fuller was followed in 1815 by *John Ryland*. He was of the original band. When he came to office, he had given more than twenty years of distinguished service as President of Bristol College and pastor of Broadmead. His missionary interest was deep and far-spread and his secretaryship was a fitting crown to his devoted career. *John Dyer* next held office during difficult years from 1825 to 1841. Then *Dr. Joseph Angus* guided affairs for nine years. The Society's Jubilee (1842) fell at the beginning of this period. *Dr. Angus'* subsequent work as Principal of Regent's Park College and elsewhere should not be allowed to obscure the record of his zeal for the Society. Throughout his long life the overseas work of the denomination was a dominant interest and, in his old age, he presided at the New Year's Prayer Meeting in 1892.

Dr. Underhill held office from 1849 to 1876, and *Dr. Trestrail* was his colleague for all but six years. The Society owed much to *Dr. Underhill's* painstaking application to the affairs of the Mission and, in particular, to his concern for Jamaica and Cameroons. *Alfred Henry Baynes'* connection with the Society covered forty-five years, first with the accounts, and then as secretary from 1871 to 1906. This was a period of wide expansion. The Congo Mission was begun and developed, and the China Mission extended from the coast to inland Shantung, Shansi and Shensi. The expansion in home support kept pace with these advances overseas. Like his predecessors, *Baynes* stood firm on the rock of reality and maintained his visions of the far horizons.

Those who succeeded him led the advance still further through vast expansions which have resulted in great gatherings of converts into the Church. We honour these servants of God and give our confidence to those who serve now.

H. L. H.

MAY AND JUNE

- 31 1792 Carey's famous sermon at Nottingham.
1818 Serampore Press issues *The Mirror of India* ;
first newspaper in an oriental language.
-

- 1 1800 First Free School for Bengali boys opened
at Serampore.
1806 Ward holds first open-air service on site
of Bow Bazaar Chapel, Calcutta.
1842 B.M.S. Jubilee Celebrations at Kettering.
1892 B.M.S. Centenary Celebrations at Kettering.
-

- 2 1844 Ebenezer Daniel, of Ceylon, died.
-

- 3 1679 Bristol College founded.
-

4

5

- 6 1802 Golook, Krishna Pal's eldest daughter,
baptised at Serampore.

CAREY'S SERMON IN NOTTINGHAM.

May 31st, 1792.

THE supremely eventful day of Carey's English career was when he preached by appointment in Nottingham to his brethren the ministers and delegates of the Associated Baptist Churches of Mid-east England. Not that such assemblings made much local stir, or were counted of great public import. Probably less than a couple of hundred were gathered on that May Wednesday morning, and the sermon was never printed. Yet history began to be made there.

Carey drew his bow with his arrow well fixed. He exposed the guiltful ineffectiveness of their churches: indeed, of British Christendom as a whole. He glimpsed and made vivid the world's appalling spiritual need. He interpreted the many providences which urged them to adventurous advance. He bade them, on the basis of his Isaianic text (liv. 2, 3), "stretch forth the curtains of their habitations, lengthen their cords, and strengthen their stakes, to spare not and fear not"; to catch wider visions and dare bolder programmes, and dwell in an ampler world; for "their Maker was their husband and He was Lord of all the earth." He thrilled them with a presentation of their divinely-destined vocation: and, in watchwords that have never been forgotten, which leapt out of his own valorous heart, he goaded them to *Expect great things from God and to attempt great things for God*. It was a veritable bugle-call. Had there been an instant open response, a repentance as of Israel at Jordan, a unanimous dedication and enlistment, none would have marvelled. But the set programme for the rest of the session broke the spell.

When, however, the next morning's business had been completed, the importunate Carey once again called for action. But fear and caution prevailed. None made response to the challenge. Then Andrew Fuller became the Captain Courageous, for, seeing the anguish of Carey's spirit, he rose and constrained them to agree that the whole question should be thoroughly canvassed in the Northampton district at their next ministers' meeting. So Carey was a little comforted, and his word did not quite return void, but moved forwards to become in time a brave deed.

S. P. C.

JUNE

7 1806 First Mission to Ireland by B.M.S.

8 1923 University Church opened at Tsinanfu,
Shantung Christian University, China.

9 1834 William Carey died at Serampore.
1858 Alfred Saker began new work at Victoria,
Camerouns.

10 1781 William Carey married to Dorothy
Plackett.
1834 William Carey buried at Serampore.
1845 Alfred Saker left Fernando Po to begin
Camerouns work.
1913 Opening of Hospital at San Salvador,
Portuguese West Africa.

11 1871 Bessie Campbell Renaut, China martyr,
born.

12 1912 Conference of British Missionary Societies
formed.

13 1793 William Carey and John Thomas embarked
for India with Carey's family.
1884 The Peace launched at Stanley Pool, Congo.

UNIVERSITY CHURCH AT CHEELOO, SHANTUNG, CHINA.

Opened June 8th, 1923.

CHEELOO University, Shantung, is known as the University of the blue gown—the symbol of thrift. It was necessary to avoid wasteful expenditure in this university, for it was for training men and women from our country churches—people rich in spirit, but poor in this world's goods—for the service of the Church of God. In normal times, over 500 men and women receive their training here under the guidance of Christian teachers. The war has caused dislocation, but the university has still over 400 students, most of them in Free China.

The Kumler Memorial Church in the centre of the university grounds, the most prominent building of all, beautiful in grey stone, symbolises the purpose behind the university. It was the generous gift of an American friend. It is a thrilling sight to stand in the pulpit and look down upon a church filled with eager young student life, all listening attentively to the message of the Gospel. We have found that the longer the student stays in the university, the greater the likelihood that he will leave for his life's work, a Christian. For years, at least, 90 per cent. of the doctors we trained went out as Christian men and women. Nearly 2,000 graduates from this inter-denominational university are to be found in leading positions all over China, and at least two-thirds are Christians. What a contribution to the Church of God in that land !

Japan has recently seen the departure of most of its missionaries. The leadership of the Church there thus falls entirely upon Japanese Christians. Its future depends on their calibre and devotion, and shall we add, their training ? In China the Church must be indigenous, so that if missionaries should be compelled to leave the country its work may go on. It is no exaggeration to say that without men and women trained to understand the faith that is in them, the Church would be in serious danger. Let us thank God for the share of the Baptist Missionary Society in this essential work of training men and women for the service of God in His Church and in the nation.

A. G. C.

JUNE

14 1910 Opening of World Missionary Conference at Edinburgh.

15 1800 William Carey began work as indigo planter at Mudnabati, Bengal.

1854 Baptist Church in Stockholm formed.

1922 Samuel Couling, M.A., China missionary, died.

16 1701 Society for the Propagation of the Gospel founded.

1786 Olney Baptist Church unanimously agreed to call William Carey to the ministry "at the proper time."

1794 William Carey preached his first sermon in India.

17 1812 Adoniram Judson and his wife welcomed to Serampore.

18 1938 Publication of revised translation of the Bible in Sinhalese.

19 1937 Nathaniel Das, India, died.

20 1905 Miss Isabel M. Angus appointed secretary of Baptist Zenana Mission in India.

BIBLE TRANSLATION IN CEYLON.

June 18th, 1938.

A FEW months after James Chater reached Ceylon, the British and Foreign Bible Society was formed in the island and, at its first meeting, it decided to have printed at the Serampore Press, the Sinhalese New Testament, which the Dutch had issued in 1780, pending the translation of a new version. In 1815, a Grammar of the Sinhalese language compiled by Chater was printed at the Government Press. Thus Chater was one of the first to attempt to systematise the study of Sinhalese for Europeans with a view to the future dissemination of the Scriptures. Along with William Tolfrey, a civil servant and an eminent Orientalist, and others, Chater took a large share in the translation of the entire Bible which was published for the first time in 1823. Chater also, with the help of Siers, translated the New Testament into Portuguese.

In 1854, Charles Carter from Horton College, joined the ranks of the Ceylon missionaries. He was a brilliant linguist. He preached his first sermon in Sinhalese four months after landing in the island. He compiled an English-Sinhalese Dictionary of 80,000 words and, later, a Sinhalese-English Dictionary, both of which are still in use. But, greatest of all his achievements, was the translation of the Bible from the Hebrew and Greek, a translation noted for its accuracy, clarity and simplicity of style. The New Testament was published by the Bible Translation Society in 1862, and the Old Testament in 1876.

This Bible has undergone three revisions by Mr. Carter, the last issued as a portable edition on India paper through the generosity of the late G. B. Leechman. In June, 1938, a Sinhalese Union version of the Bible was published by the British and Foreign Bible Society for use by all sections of the Protestant community. Two of the four revisors—S. F. Pearce and S. J. de S. Weerasinghe—are Baptists. During this revision, full use was made of Carter's version. In this edition the word for baptism is translated in the margin.

How essential it is to have God's Word in its purity in the language of the people, and what mighty transformations have taken place through it in Ceylon.

J. A. E.

JUNE

21

- 22 1807 Nathan Brown, American pioneer missionary in Assam, born.
1813 William Wilberforce made famous speech in House of Commons in defence of Serampore missionaries.
1813 General Union of Baptists formed. Origin of Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland.
1814 John Sutcliffe, a founder of the B.M.S., died at Olney.
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23

- 24 1803 Frederick Trestrail, D.D., Secretary of B.M.S., 1846-1870, born.
1809 Publication of Old Testament in Bengali.
1886 Kinshasa Station, Congo (now Leopoldville), destroyed by fire.
1891 B.M.S. Committee voted for union with General Baptist Missionary Society.
1905 J. G. Pike, missionary in Cuttack, died.
-

- 25 1849 Joseph Angus, Secretary of B.M.S. since 1840, accepted principalship of Regent's Park College.
1865 China Inland Mission founded.
1931 Opening of new chapel at Roscoff, Brittany.
-

- 26 1809 William Carey completed revision of New Testament in Bengali.
1816 General Baptist Missionary Society formed.
-

- 27 1804 First enquirers from Jessore, Bengal, visit Carey at Serampore.
1819 First Burmese convert baptised.
1887 Thomas J. Comber, Congo pioneer, died at sea.
1934 Arthur Sowerby, China missionary, died.
1937 Dedication of new church building at Yakusu, Upper Congo.

OPENING OF NEW CHAPEL IN BRITTANY.

June 25th, 1931.

BAPTISTS in Wales awakened early to their missionary obligation. In 1772, John Williams gave the Christian world his famous hymn, *O'er the gloomy hills of darkness*. In 1794, Rhys published his *Table and Enquiry* on the lines of Carey's treatise and urged the Baptists of Wales to support the B.M.S. Welsh Societies became concerned about the evangelisation of the Celtic peoples and Thomas Roberts of Llwynrhudol visited the Bretons of north-western France. A Breton translation of the New Testament was made and published in 1829 by the British and Foreign Bible Society.

A new Missionary Society was formed in Newport, Mon., in 1821. W. Rogers and W. Rees went to Brittany as missionaries, but soon returned home. T. Boyes of London proved a strong supporter of the mission. A Welsh Society to support the work was formed in 1836.

The mission passed through various vicissitudes however until, in 1854, a new period opened when the Rev. John Jenkins of Hengoed entered upon his duties as a missionary. He made Morlaix his home and first station. Tremel, St. Brieux, Guingamp, Brest and other stations were opened later. Mr. Jenkins soon acquired a working knowledge of French and Breton. He also produced a revised translation of the New Testament.

Brittany proved a difficult sphere. Roman Catholic priests did everything to hinder. The people were illiterate, ignorant and superstitious. As one stated: "Every nation has its superstitions, but the superstitions of all the nations are in Brittany."

After devoted labour, John Jenkins passed to his rest on October 28th, 1872, and was succeeded by his son, A. Llewellyn Jenkins, who was assisted by two Breton workers. Several others, including John Jones of Pontypool and David Davies of Bangor, served in the mission for short periods. Charles Hanmer Jenkins, now in the home ministry, led the Brittany Mission from 1913 to 1926 and taught the churches to fend for themselves.

The Mission was taken over by the Baptist Missionary Society in 1843. At present the work is largely self-supporting and is served and shepherded by Breton preachers.

E. K. J.

JUNE AND JULY

28 1878 Thomas Comber and George Grenfell left Cameroons to begin Congo Mission.

29 1825 Joseph Jackson Fuller, negro slave of Jamaica and missionary to Cameroons, born.

30 1891 Union of Baptist Missionary Society and General Baptist Missionary Society ratified.
1936 Arthington Fund wound up.

1 1906 George Grenfell, Congo pioneer, died at Basoko, Upper Congo.

2

3 1801 D. Brunson died at Calcutta.
1845 William Yates, Bible translator in India, died.

4 1878 Beginning of Congo Mission.

FROM CAMEROONS TO CONGO.

June 28th, 1878.

GRENFELL and Comber had done their best to force their way into Africa from Cameroons river, believing that in the interior there was a large opportunity for the Gospel. Continually they were thwarted by the Duala people of the river, anxious to protect their monopoly of trade. They wrote to the secretary of the B.M.S. asking to be allowed to try another route into the hinterland—that by the Congo river. Mr. Alfred Henry Baynes sympathised; Mr. Robert Arthington of Leeds offered money for a reconnaissance and a further thousand pounds to establish a mission on the Congo, "for Livingstone's Lualaba and the Congo are the same river". Sir Charles Wathen of Bristol offered £500 to found a station. The Committee of the B.M.S. consented to the change of policy and chose Grenfell and Comber to go.

Their instructions and supplies arrived by the *Roquelle* on the 28th March. But she was in haste to be gone and only offered a few hours to embark the expedition. It was impossible to wind up the affairs in time. Not till the 28th June did they get another opportunity to sail. The delay allowed changes to be made which Comber whimsically likened to the sifting of Gideon's army. Many Dualas who volunteered drew back and the party that sailed comprised the two Englishmen, two teachers, two Kru boys, a Congo man escaped from slavery on St. Thomas Island (he would have been re-enslaved by the Dualas if the missionaries had not rescued him) who became their interpreter in Congo and Portuguese, three boys and a donkey. A boat ordered from Hamburg by Grenfell rendered essential service to the expedition.

Every step of the way seemed provided for by the Divine leader. Grenfell did service to Dr. Jones at Cameroons and his reward was an introduction by Dr. Jones to the head of the Dutch House, than whom no better friend could have been found. The King of Kongo was pre-disposed to welcome Englishmen in gratitude for the service Lieut. Grandy had done for him at San Salvador.

Thus every wind seemed to swell their sail as they launched out on their great adventure. R. G.

JULY

5 1920 Liberty of conscience in Congo granted by Belgian Government.

6 1816 Formation of East Queen Street Baptist Church, Kingston, Jamaica—largest in island.

1894 C. E. Wilson, B.M.S. Foreign Secretary, 1905-1939, accepted for service in India.

7 1839 Francis Tucker and John Wenger sailed for Calcutta.

1884 S.S. *Peace* begins first voyage up the Congo.

8 1877 J. C. Marshman, son of Joshua Marshman and editor of "Friend of India," died.

1914 Charles Carter, missionary in Ceylon, died.

9 1706 "Birthday of Protestant Missions in India." Ziegenbalg and Plutschau—Danes—land at Tranquebar.

1857 Gottlob Bruckner died.

1900 Martyrdom of 16 B.M.S. missionaries—entire staff with families—at Taiyuanfu, Shansi, China.

10

11 1877 B.M.S. Committee decide to embark on Congo Mission.

MARTYRS OF TAIYUANFU, CHINA.

July 9th, 1900.

JULY 9th, 1900, is a day that should be held in everlasting remembrance, for it marks the martyrdom of our missionaries in Taiyuanfu. Every member of the B.M.S. then in Shansi perished. Here is the record of their names—Mr. and Mrs. Farthing and three children : Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Dixon : Mr. and Mrs. McCurrach : Mr. and Mrs. Underwood : Mr. and Mrs. Whitehouse : Mr. Ennals : Miss Renaut : and Miss Stewart—sixteen in all. Of these, some met their deaths in Taiyuanfu and the others in Hsin Chow. The entire staff was wiped out, and with them 120 Chinese Christians out of a total membership of 250.

It has sometimes been doubted if men and women would die for Christ as they did in Nero's day. Here is the glorious answer, when hundreds of missionaries and thousands of Chinese Christians laid down their lives for their Saviour. Not only did strong men face death with calm courage, but also tender women and children. The converts were not a whit behind them in their devotion, though they might have escaped by renouncing their new-found faith. Yet these babes in Christ, who had only recently been won from idolatry, were faithful unto death. Such loyalty should silence for ever the cynical sneers of those who term converts "rice Christians."

Taiyuanfu, being the seat of the provincial government, was the first to suffer. All the missionaries were arrested and, from June 28th onwards, they remained in Mr. Farthing's house, awaiting their doom. On July 5th they were ordered to move to another house to be under the governor's immediate eye. They suspected a trap, but had to obey. On July 9th the governor himself, accompanied by officers and soldiers, made his way into the house, marched the entire party to his official residence and there gave the order, "Kill!" which was answered by a shout as the soldiers fell upon their helpless victims.

Both at Taiyuanfu and Hsin Chow appropriate memorials now mark the sites of the martyrdoms, but their best memorial is in the lives of those for whom they died, and in the land which their blood sanctified for Christ.

E. W. B.

JULY

- 12 1928 John Howell, missionary in Congo, died.
1932 Emily Saker, daughter of Alfred Saker, and
missionary in Cameroons and India, died.
-

- 13 1803 National Sunday School Union formed.
1813 Charter, authorising missionary work in
India, granted by House of Commons.
1813 Adoniram Judson and his wife arrived in
Rangoon, Burma.
-

- 14 1879 W. Holman Bentley, H. E. Crudginton,
John Hartland, with Mr. and Mrs. T. J.
Comber, reached Congo.
1937 Joshua J. Turner, pioneer in China, died
in Taiyuanfu.
-

- 15 1818 Issue of prospectus of Serampore College.
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16

- 17 1905 Alfred G. Jones, pioneer and honorary
missionary in Shantung, China, died.
-

- 18 1856 John Ellison, pioneer missionary among
Garos, Bengal, India, born.
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SERAMPORE COLLEGE PROSPECTUS ISSUED.

July 15th, 1818.

CAREY and his colleagues had been eighteen years in Serampore. Converts had been gathered and the first Bengali Protestant church established. A paper mill and a printing press were erected, through which the Scriptures in many languages were published and much literature issued. Education, vernacular and English, for boys and girls, flourished. Evangelistic campaigns as far away as Burma and the Himalayas had been carried through.

Then came the vision of attempting still greater things for God—a College, its aim the conquest of the mind, all the intellectual powers of the East, for Christ. The missionaries drew up a prospectus for its foundation and issued it on July 15th, 1818. It was to be “for the instruction of Asiatic, Christian and other youth in Eastern literature, and European science,” and, to crown all, to possess a theological department to equip students to be leaders of the Christian Church in India. So Serampore College started on its wonderful career.

Dr. Marshman, in 1827, brought back from Denmark a Royal Charter conferring university status on the College. His Majesty Frederick VI took keen personal interest in the undertaking to “promote learning and piety, to erect buildings, found a library” and, by examination, to have the power of conferring degrees of rank and honour upon the students of the College.

Now compare these ideals with Serampore College and its activities to-day. 300 students are resident under the shadow of the beautiful Ionic building. They study arts, science and theology. Since the re-organisation of the College by Dr. Howells and the passing of the Serampore College Act in the Bengal Legislative Council in 1918, the visions of its founders have been wonderfully realised. It is international and interdenominational in character. It possesses a strong staff of professors and lecturers with the Rev. G. H. C. Angus, M.A., B.D., as principal. It has equipped 250 Indian Christian leaders, who have splendidly strengthened many branches of the Christian Church.

Will you not join the Society of the Friends of Serampore? There is still pressing need for a broader and stronger financial basis and for a wider Christian co-operation.

H. A.

JULY

19

- 20 1766 Samuel Pearce born at Plymouth.
1783 Samuel Pearce baptised at Plymouth.
1933 R. H. Carson Graham, Congo pioneer, died.
-

- 21 1814 Alfred Saker, pioneer in Cameroons, West Africa, born.
-

- 22 1841 John Dyer, first B.M.S. paid secretary, 1817-1841, died.
1928 R. L. Lacey, missionary in Orissa, died.
-

- 23 1892 Great B.M.S. Centenary Festival for young people at Crystal Palace, London
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- 24 1777 John Chamberlain, pioneer in North India, born at Welton.
1806 Krishna Prasad, first Brahmin convert in Bengal, died.
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25

BIRTH OF SAMUEL PEARCE.

July 20th, 1766.

THE personality and ministry of Samuel Pearce in the close of the eighteenth century were unique. He was only granted fifteen public years, yet therein he exerted an extraordinary influence. He was the preacher and the leader of the burning heart.

He was fitly born in Plymouth in Devon's midsummer warmth. Alas ! his mother paid for his life with her own. But his father sought every way to repair this great loss with an extra love-measure of his own. Also, to woo him into the love of the Saviour, till at sixteen, he was His in happiest trust and consecration and, at seventeen, found in baptism his boundless joy.

Soon he was yearning and seeking to sail to our infant empire's farthest bounds to win for Christ the Maoris and our convicts in Botany Bay. But the gates would not open. Soon his father freed him from his own silversmith's craft for ministerial studentship in Bristol. The spirit of "Cannon Street," Birmingham, ever kindled by his own, was the most blest of our churches. He and his dearest friend, Carey, were our outstanding missionary advocates. His presence was in wide demand and his every message a baptism of fire. Birmingham was the first of the Society's auxiliaries, with £70 quickly raised for its funds. Spite of his church's phenomenal advance, he was entreating to be sent to India as Carey's first colleague, but had to crucify his longing, because his brethren insisted that he could not be spared from his leadership of the new movement at home. He was learning Bengali towards possible service, when Carey's first Indian New Testament should be printed. He was editing the Society's *Periodical Accounts*. He was Carey's most devoted correspondent. He was writing a considerable *History of Protestant Missions*. As things proved, he was burning his strength out. After he had gone, in October, 1799, Ryland canonised him as "the seraphic" and the multitudes, who had known him, talked of his *endearing saintliness*.

His son and his daughter both gave themselves to India, the latter, to Carey's great joy, becoming the wife of his youngest son, Jonathan.

S. P. C.

JULY AND AUGUST

26

27

- 28 1796 B.M.S. Committee gave support to village preaching near Oxford.
1823 James Hinton, B.M.S. Secretary, 1813-1817, died.
1929 John Reid, B.M.S. Indian Secretary, died.
-
- 29 1794 First letters from William Carey in India reach this country.
-

30 1895 Henry Wyatt, China martyr, born.

31 1790 Dr. J. Ryland wrote hymn, *Let us sing the King Messiah.*

- I 1834 Emancipation of Slaves in West Indies.
1838 Freedom from slavery made absolute ; end of the Apprenticeship System.
1847 F. O. Nilson, founder of Baptist work in Sweden, baptised in Hamburg by Oncken.
1879 Completion of translation of New Testament into Japanese by Nathan Brown, American missionary.

EMANCIPATION IN JAMAICA.

August 1st, 1834.

ON August 1st, 1834, the slaves of Jamaica became technically free. The day was passed in quiet religious celebrations, somewhat subdued by the fact that chapels all over the island were in ruins and the most loved pastors were in Britain pleading with Parliament for their replacement. Five years later, the hated apprenticeship ended and the negroes were really free.

The celebration of freedom passed off amid demonstrations of gratitude to God and of loyalty to the queen. The whole negro community ascribed the deliverance to God. At a great watchnight service in Falmouth Chapel, William Knibb cried out, as the last stroke of midnight sounded; "The monster is dead: the negro is free!" The whole congregation rose and broke into a chorus of exultation. "Never did I hear such a sound," wrote Knibb. "The winds of freedom appeared to have been let loose. The very building shook at the strange yet sacred joy."

In the capital, Spanish Town, 7,000 negroes gathered at the Baptist Chapel for services conducted by J. M. Phillippo. With 2,000 children, they then marched in solemn procession to Government House, bearing a Union Jack and twenty-seven banners with devices such as, "Education, social order and stability": "England, land of liberty, of light, of life." The company was addressed by the Governor, Sir Lionel Smith, in the presence of the Bishop of Jamaica, the Lord Chief Justice, and others. After much cheering, the negroes marched back to the Mission buildings, on nearing which, they carried Mr. Phillippo in triumph to his house.

Amid these scenes of enthusiasm, enacted throughout the island, not one instance of disorder or intoxication was reported. The negroes, all normally armed with a long knife-like axe, had the white population, which had treated them so cruelly for generations, completely at their mercy. Yet no robbery or violence took place and, at the end of a week's holiday, the negroes returned quietly to their work, and many gave a week's free service as a peace-offering. "I aver," wrote Knibb to Joseph Sturge, "that never in the history of man has a finer display of forgiveness been shewn."

G. F. T.

AUGUST

-
- 2 1807 Seebo Ram, first convert at Jessore, Bengal, baptised by Carey at Serampore.
1928 J. Lawson Forfeitt, B.M.S. Congo Secretary, died.
-

- 3 1887 H. G. Whitley, missionary in Congo, died.
-

- 4 1841 John Goadby, missionary in Orissa, died.
1809 Sir Samuel Morton Peto, B.M.S. Treasurer, 1846-1867, born.
-

- 5 1794 William Carey asks Home Committee to send him seeds of flowers, fruits, trees, etc.
1906 Moir Duncan, M.A., pioneer in Shensi and first principal of Shansi University, China, died.
-

- 6 1836 J. D. Bate, missionary in India, born.
1933 E. S. Summers, missionary in India, died.
-

- 7 1833 John Orissa Goadby, missionary in Orissa, born.
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- 8 1878 Thomas Comber and George Grenfell arrived at San Salvador, Congo.
1900 Martyrdom of missionaries at Hsin Chow, Shansi, China.
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CAREY THE BOTANIST.

August 5th, 1794.

○ N August 5th, 1794, Carey wrote home to ask for seeds of English plants, flowers and trees. In the beautiful gardens of the Horticultural Society in Calcutta there is a striking marble bust of its founder—Dr. William Carey of Serampore. He was a botanical student from his boyhood. Though famous in other spheres, his name is immortal in this also. It was while he was an indigo planter, among the jungles of Madnabati, that, in the first letter he wrote to England, he asked for a "yearly assortment of all garden and flowering seeds, and also of fruit, field and forest trees for the lasting advantage of what I call now my own country."

On arrival at Serampore, he planned his famous garden and took for it, a large number of his beloved specimens from Madnabati. He reports that, by June 1800, he had 427 different species in it. It was this botanical passion that led to the establishment of the Agricultural and Horticultural Society of India. His growing fame led to his election as a corresponding member of the Horticultural Society of London, a member of the Geological Society, and a Fellow of the Linnean Society. So Carey was the first and most eminent botanist in missionary ranks.

Professor Bruhl of Calcutta University says that many plants to be found in Bengal to-day came of seeds first bird borne, or wind sown, from Carey's Serampore garden. Until quite recently, there were many noble trees in the College grounds which he had planted. The story is told that only a few days before he died, looking despondent, a friend asked him the cause. He jokingly answered, "Oh, when I am gone, brother Marshman will let the cows into my garden!"

Jesus, we know, loved flowers and gardens, one of which is associated for ever with His prayers. And is there not a love, too, latent in the hearts of most of us, for gardens and trees and flowers? God walks in gardens, whether in Eden or Gethsemane. Have we met Him in ours?

H. A.

AUGUST

9 1752 John Sutcliff, a founder of the B.M.S., born near Halifax.

1788 Adoniram Judson, pioneer missionary in Burma, born.

10 1939 William Forfeitt, pioneer at Upoto Station, Upper Congo, died.

11 1922 John Chown, President Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland and Chairman of B.M.S., 1920-1, died.

12 1815 Johns and Lawson, lay helpers for Carey, reach Calcutta from America.

13

14 1830 Ebenezer Daniel died in Ceylon.

1890 Mrs. Lewis, pioneer in Baptist Zenana Mission, India, died.

15 1860 First baptisms of Latvian converts.

MRS. C. B. LEWIS, PIONEER, BAPTIST ZENANA MISSION.

Died August 14th, 1890.

MRS. C. B. LEWIS—Marianne Gould—is gratefully remembered with her friend, Mrs. Sale, as the prime mover in the beginning of the Baptist Zenana Mission. She went to India with her husband in 1845 and began at once to take great interest in work among women and children. In 1852, she took charge of Entally Girls' School. Gradually, she began regular teaching among the women, though constant ill-health made visiting in the heat and dust of the city streets very exhausting.

In 1866, while on furlough, she wrote her famous pamphlet *A Plea for Zenanas*. In this she set forth the position of Indian women and the efforts that were being made by the wives of missionaries and by other voluntary workers to educate and lead them to Christ. She made it clear that it was impossible to cope adequately in this way with the rapidly growing work, and asked that full-time workers should be specially employed for the purpose.

The pamphlet and her addresses so impressed the women interested in the B.M.S. that, in May 1867, a meeting was called when it was decided to form a "Ladies' Association" for the support of work among women in India. At first only Indian Biblewomen and European workers recruited in India were engaged, but by 1871, sufficient funds had been raised to send out the first woman worker from England.

Mrs. Lewis returned to Calcutta and, in 1868, finding that the work was greatly hampered for want of teachers, she opened a normal school for training converted widows as Biblewomen. These she was able to send farther afield to places such as Serampore and Baraut.

Through years of suffering she persevered in the placing and oversight of the work, acting as corresponding secretary even when it was impossible for her to do active work.

In 1878, both she and her husband became so seriously ill that they were obliged to give up their work in India. Mrs. Lewis continued to press the claims of Indian women to the freedom of the Gospel throughout the remainder of her life until her death on August 14th, 1890.

D. F. A.

AUGUST

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- 16** 1806 First meeting house, built by Krishna Pal, first convert, opened by William Carey.
1843 Alfred Saker sailed for Africa.
1933 W. Ernest Lord, joint B.M.S. Treasurer, 1925-1933, died.
-
- 17** 1761 William Carey born at Paulerspury, Northamptonshire.
1861 Moir Duncan, missionary in China, born.
1932 W. Y. Fullerton, D.D., B.M.S. Secretary, 1912-1932, died.
-
- 18** 1818 First L.M.S. missionaries landed in Madagascar.
-
- 19** 1801 Day of Thanksgiving in Leicester for good news received of work of Serampore missionaries.
1935 William Carey, the "younger," died.
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- 20** 1800 John Fountain, missionary in India, died at Dinajpur, Bengal.
1867 Nikita Voronier, pioneer evangelist in Russia, baptised.
1880 John Wenger, D.D., Bible translator in India, died at Calcutta.
-
- 21** 1822 Krishna Pal, Carey's first convert, died.
1849 George Grenfell, Congo pioneer, born at Sancreed, Cornwall.
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- 22** 1838 Mrs. William Yates, India, died at sea.
1866 Baptist Union of Wales and Monmouthshire formed.
-

DAY OF THANKSGIVING IN LEICESTER.

August 19th, 1801.

THE dawn of the nineteenth century was made the more radiant for Andrew Fuller and the many other friends of the Society by the receipt of stirring details of many favours shown to the Serampore band and of conversions and baptisms of the first Indian convert and of Carey's eldest son. So heartening was this news that a day of public thanksgiving was held in Leicester on August 19th, 1801. This was followed by the sending of a letter from the Society to the missionaries. These extracts show also what the news was.

“ Dearly beloved in the Lord,

All your communications are grateful : but the last, up to Feb. 14, 1801, are peculiarly reviving to our hearts. And we are met this day to give thanks unto the Lord because he is good, for his mercy towards Israel endureth for ever, and because the foundation of the Lord's house is raised.

“ The friendship of Messrs. Brown and Buchanan, and of the people in general—the kindness of Governor Bie, and of the Danish magistrates—the recovery of such of you as were afflicted—the finishing of the New Testament—the instances of mercy towards Europeans who have visited you—the gracious change in Felix and William Carey—the effectual work among the Hindoos—in short, the prosperity and harmony of the church and family—are events for which we as well as you, brethren, are constrained to say, ‘ The Lord hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad ! ’

“ Be assured that we will do our utmost to meet your pecuniary wants : and such is the confidence which the religious public in Britain have in you, that we are persuaded they will never suffer you to fail for want of support. Many hundreds esteem it a privilege to give their annual token of love, and would feel sorry to be deprived of it.”

We have the inspiration of greater and gladder news that constantly comes from all our fields. We shall not be behind our forefathers in the measure of our support.

H. L. H.

AUGUST

- 23** 1802 Land purchased at Serampore for first free school.
1806 James Chater and W. Robinson reached Serampore.
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- 24** 1846 World's Evangelical Alliance formed.
1878 Mrs. Thomas J. Comber died at San Salvador, Congo—first death in the Congo Mission.
-

- 25** 1817 William Hopkins Pearce, son of Samuel Pearce, reached Calcutta.
-

- 26** 1887 J. E. Biggs, missionary in Congo, died.
1930 Benjamin Evans, missionary in India, died.
-

- 27** 1931 Opening of new church at Hsin Chow, Shansi, China.
-

- 28** 1833 Royal Assent given to Act for Abolition of Slavery.
1902 Joseph Angus, D.D., B.M.S. Secretary, 1840-1849, and Principal, Regent's Park College, died.
1909 Charles Jordan, missionary in India, died at Calcutta.
-

- 29** 1842 Treaty of Nanking opened new doors for missionary work in China.

OPENING OF MARTYRS' MEMORIAL CHURCH IN HSIN CHOW.

August 27th, 1931.

THE station of Hsin Chow, forty-five miles north of Taiyuanfu, is beautifully situated on a hill which overlooks a wide-sweeping plain and distant blue mountains. It is, however, far removed from the centre of the city and is, moreover, difficult of ascent. For years, a small chapel and museum served as the basis of evangelistic work, but the cramped nature of the premises was a handicap.

This was at last removed by the erection of a fine Memorial Church on the main street. For Hsin Chow shares with Taiyuanfu in being the scene of martyrdom. The news of the tragic fate of the missionaries in Taiyuanfu reached Hsin Chow and led the inmates of the missionary compound to seek refuge in a cave near a village where every family but one was Christian. These people did all they could to feed and shelter their pastors, but at last they were forced to flee for their lives. The party of missionaries endured terrible privations, as was learned from letters recovered afterwards.

In the end their hiding place was discovered and a military official with soldiers arrived and promised them a safe escort to the coast. By that time the missionaries had been four or five days without food. They were famished and exhausted and at their wits' end. They were marched back to Hsin Chow and thrust into the common prison. On August 8th, a guard of soldiers came and repeated the offer of a safe escort. Four carts were provided and they started on their short last journey. But, when they reached the east gate of the city, they were dragged from the carts and brutally murdered. As a further mark of indignity, their remains were thrown outside the city.

A Chinese gentleman, not a Christian, but a friend of Mr. Dixon, paid some beggars to wrap the bodies in mats and bury them close to the city walls, where he himself conducted a short memorial service by burning incense and reading a funeral address.

Thus died men and women of whom the world is not worthy.

E. W. B.

AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER

30 1811 John Wenger, D.D., Bible translator in India, born.

31 1814 William Yates, missionary in India, designated for service, at Leicester.

1924 Joel Waiz Lal, M.A., M.O.L., Indian Christian scholar and preacher, died at Delhi.

1 1895 Founding of work at Yakusu, Upper Congo (approximately).

2 1874 Dr. R. Fletcher Moorshead, B.M.S. Medical Secretary, 1902-1934, born at Bristol.

3 1818 First printing done by Calcutta Printing Press.

1889 Sadhu Sundar Singh, Indian Christian mystic, born.

4 1854 J. G. Pike, Secretary, General Baptist Missionary Society, 1816-1854, died.

1904 C. E. Wilson, B.A., appointed B.M.S. Foreign Secretary.

5 1858 J. S. Whitewright, missionary in Shantung, China, born.

1932 S. C. Gordon, native of Jamaica and missionary in Congo, died.

JOEL WAIZ LAL.

August 31st, 1924.

JOEL WAIZ LAL was one of the greatest sons of the Indian Christian Church—great in soul, great in intellect, great in faith—and yet as humble as a little child. He was a Monghyr boy. When his mother died, he was sent by Benjamin Evans to Stephen Thomas of Delhi to be educated, one of those little incidents in the providences of life which show how God's hand is in the destiny of us all.

As Joel was an orphan lad, Thomas became his foster-father. The boy soon began to show a passion for learning that surprised and delighted his God-given friend and helper. His literary career in the Punjab University was one of glorious successes. He took his B.A. in 1898 with three gold medals and, the next year, won the highest place in the M.A. lists. These brilliant successes were crowned when he took the degree of Master of Oriental languages of the Punjab University, the first Indian Christian ever to have done so. He joined the staff of the Baptist Mission.

Rich in scholarship in Urdu, Persian, Arabic and English, he was also rich in his activities for his Master's Church and for his mother-land. His name as one of the great Indian translators of God's Word is immortal. It was while engaged in that work that his home-call came on August 31st, 1924. He was only forty-five. His gifts and work and reputation made him worthy of the honour previously conferred—a Vice-President of the Baptist World Alliance.

Those who knew him best were most impressed by his humility. The Master's mantle of meekness had fallen upon him, and he wore it with beautiful consistency. He was a jewel of Indian Christian manhood, the soft and lovely light of which never shone for himself, but for others. He loved the shadow and not the glare of public sunshine. And he was not—for God took him.

Joel's beautiful testimony regarding his revision work was, "The Word of God is too deep for the human intellect to sound it fully. I have got an insight into the everlasting love of Christ which has quite humbled me." H. A.

SEPTEMBER

- 6 1812 Adoniram and Ann Judson baptised by William Ward at Serampore.
1926 Miss E. A. Ewing, missionary in India, died.
-

- 7 1803 William Knibb, missionary in Jamaica, born in Kettering.
1845 T. H. Hudson, missionary of General Baptist Missionary Society, arrived in China.
1935 Edward Robinson, J.P., Treasurer of the B.M.S., 1904-14, died at Bristol.
-

- 8 1807 Government in India issued orders for suppression of Serampore Mission.
-

9

- 10 1810 Establishment of work in Delhi proposed by Norman Kerr.
-

11

12

WILLIAM KNIBB.

September 7th, 1803.

KNIBB'S boyhood was spent in humble circumstances in Kettering. When he was thirteen, he went with his elder brother, Thomas, to Bristol, and, as a printer's assistant, helped with the setting up of the *Periodical Accounts* of the B.M.S. Both boys became fired with enthusiasm for the recently begun mission to Jamaica, and Thomas was accepted for service there as a school-master. He had only been four months in the island when he died. "Then, if the Society will accept me, I'll go and take his place," said William.

Slavery was still a grim reality, and the planters did everything they could to hinder the work of the missionaries. Knibb went to Jamaica with strict instructions that he must have "nothing whatever to do with its civil and political affairs," but, "the more I see of slavery," he said, "the more I hate and abhor it." There was growing unrest, as the Emancipation Movement in England gained strength and, in 1831, there was an insurrection. This was cruelly suppressed, and the planters tried, unsuccessfully, to put the blame on the missionaries and to wreck their work. Knibb came to England as their mouth-piece. "Thank God!" he cried, as he heard of the passage of the Reform Bill. "Now I'll have slavery down! I will never rest, day or night, till I see it destroyed, root and branch."

He was as good as his word. Refusing to be silenced, he journeyed from one end of Britain to another, rousing public opinion. The Abolition Act of 1833 owed much to his efforts. The negroes realised how much his championship had meant, and looked to him for leadership and help in the stormy and difficult years which followed the granting of freedom. "King Knibb," the planters sneeringly called him, but his sincerity and disinterestedness were plain. He became increasingly concerned for the adequate training of a Jamaican ministry and for the starting of missionary work in Africa. Death came suddenly when he was only forty-two.

Tall and fearless, of eager sympathy and a simple Christian faith, he had lived his life to the full in the service of a great cause.

E. A. P.

SEPTEMBER

13 1847 Matthew Yates, American missionary, occupied Shanghai.

14 1816 Occupation of Dacca, Bengal, India, by B.M.S. missionaries, reported.

1820 Formation of Agri-Horticultural Society for India through Carey's initiative.

1862 Gertrude Fletcher, missionary in Cameroons and India, born.

15 1874 Mission to Lepers founded (approximately).

16 1795 Baptist Society for propagation of Gospel at home founded in Birmingham.

1795 J. Grigg and J. Rodway, pioneers of (abortive) B.M.S. Mission to Sierra Leone, West Africa, ordained in Birmingham.

1797 John Fountain arrived in Calcutta.

17 1901 Medical Missionary Auxiliary launched at meeting in Mission House, London.

1934 J. Percy Bruce, M.A., D.Litt., missionary in Shantung, China, died.

18 1798 Printing Press set up by William Carey at Mudnabati, Bengal.

1899 Church building opened at San Salvador, Portuguese West Africa.

1925 Church building opened at Kibokolo, Portuguese West Africa.

19 1907 Women's work planned at Baraut and Simla, North India, by Miss Thorn.

CHURCH BUILDING OPENED AT KIBOKOLO.

September 18th, 1925.

KIBOKOLO station, among the mountains of Portuguese West Africa, was founded in 1899 as a memorial to the devoted Comber family. For many years its Zombo people were unresponsive to the Gospel appeal. Some chiefs forbade their children coming to school. A few folk sought aid at the dispensary. Sunday services were sparsely attended. The first decade ended with no apparent spiritual movement. The lack of response burdened the missionaries, but the Spirit was working silently. The answer came when a Zombo lad made the great profession in baptism. The communion service which followed was unforgettable. The staff, a few native Christian visitors, and the first convert, gathered around the Table in remembrance of One whose love had gripped them.

Later, an awakening came through the influenza scourge at the close of the Great War. Patients treated at the mission recovered without exception, whilst whole villages, relying on the cure by witchcraft, were wiped out. The result was a seeking after a better way. Fetishes were brought as a token and burnt in the compound. Thus a curse was turned into a blessing.

For many years worship and school were held in a dilapidated building. Now the church decided that a stone building should be erected. Where could the stones be found? The Kibokolo soil was sand. Search parties were arranged and stones were found in a distant ravine. Groups of stone carriers were organised and about 50,000 stones were carried to the site, each representing a walk of eight miles.

A nearby copse was once the place where folk were tried for witchcraft and killed. Each death was marked by the planting of a small twig. These became forest giants. As a sign of the change, these trees were felled to become the woodwork of the new chapel.

The native Christians bore the cost of building the chapel. It was opened amid great rejoicing. Its site, formerly the scene of the most diabolical deeds, now resounded with the worship of God. The Kibokolo area now has over 2,200 members. Native teachers bear the glad tidings throughout the district. Old things have indeed passed away.

G. H.

SEPTEMBER

20 1813 Lord Minto, Governor-General of India, pays tribute to work of Serampore missionaries.

1890 C. B. Lewis, missionary in India, died in London.

21 1819 Joseph Tritton, Treasurer B.M.S., 1867-1887, born.

22 1835 Establishment of American Baptist Mission in China.

1915 William Carey's cottage in Harvey Lane, Leicester, opened as a museum.

23 1817 John Dyer appointed at Bristol, first paid Secretary of the B.M.S.

1914 New church building opened at Morlaix, Brittany.

24 1795 Closing day of meetings to form London Missionary Society; proposal to go to South Seas.

25 1894 Baptist Theological College of Scotland formed.

1839. John Wesley arrives in Calcutta

26 1911 Founding of Wayika Station, River Lualaba, Upper Congo.

1935 F. W. Savidge, pioneer missionary to Lushai, died.

JOSEPH TRITTON BORN.

September 21st, 1819.

THE Baptist Missionary Society has been well served by a succession of able and devoted Treasurers. Here is the list: Rev. Reynold Hogg, Mr. Thomas King, Mr. William Burls, Mr. Benjamin Shaw, Mr. John Broadley Wilson, Mr. William Brodie Gurney, Sir Samuel Morton Peto, Mr. Joseph Tritton, Mr. William Richard Rickett, Mr. Edward Robinson, Sir Alfred Pearce Gould, Mr. Harry Pearce Gould, Mr. John Hinds, Lady Pearce Gould, Mr. William Ernest Lord, Mr. Harry Langford Taylor. Some have been notable for their generous benefaction, some for their most kind hospitality to missionaries at home. London and the provinces have contributed to their number: The Gould family is conspicuous.

Mr. Joseph Tritton has been chosen as the subject of this outline, because he was present at the celebrations at Kettering in 1842. He was then a young man, and in a description of the meetings, written by one who was present, it is said: "Joseph Tritton Esq., a young man of interesting appearance and high respectability, then delivered one of the most neat and eloquent speeches we ever recollect having heard." He became Treasurer in 1867. He was connected with the Society of Friends, his mother being Mary Barclay, a descendant of Robert Barclay. She was a member of the church at Battersea, then under the ministry of Joseph Hughes, one of the founders of the British and Foreign Bible Society and the Religious Tract Society. He was interested in all the various evangelical societies, and contributed largely to the founding of new Baptist churches in London and elsewhere. In 1884, he wrote *Rise and Progress of the Baptist Missionary Society's Work on the Congo*. In particular he was one of the founders of the New Year's Prayer Meeting, instituted in 1880. So long as his strength allowed, he presided at these gatherings and often gave the address. He also wrote hymns, which were first sung at these meetings. Some of them have found a place in our hymnbooks, and two are included in the present Baptist Church Hymnal: They are, *Head of the Church and Lord of all and Lord God of our salvation*.
B. G. G.

SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER

- 27 1840 First Telugu, South India, convert baptised.
1915 Opening of Union Medical College Hospital, Tsinanfu, Shantung, China.
-

- 28 1936 Dr. A. C. Ingle, honorary worker in the Medical Auxiliary, died.
-

- 29 1812 Ministers' Annual Meeting becomes Annual Gathering of B.M.S. for election of the B.M.S. Committee.
1852 H. E. Crudgington, pioneer in Congo, born.
1883 Pandita Ramabai baptised.
-

30

- 1 1800 Joshua Marshman first preached in Bengali.
1817 Revised Constitution for B.M.S. approved at Oxford.
-

- 2 1792 Formation of Baptist Missionary Society at Kettering.
1807 Indian Government revokes order for suppression of Serampore Mission.
1920 Baptist Women's Training College opened.
1922 Mission House in Kettering handed to B.M.S. by Baptist Laymen's Missionary Movement.
-

- 3 1803 Cemetery ground at Serampore purchased for rs. 550.
1833 Joseph Hughes, Secretary of the British and Foreign Bible Society, died.
1841 Formation of first Baptist church in Lithuania.
1866 Manchester College founded at Bury.

THE RECORD AS IN THE MINUTE BOOK OF THE SOCIETY.

October 2nd, 1792.

At a Ministers Meeting at Kettering the following Resolutions were agreed to. Oct. 2, 1792.

I Desirous of making an effort for the propagation of the gospel amongst the heathens, agreeable to what is intimated in Mr. Carey's late publication on that subject, we whose names are annexed to the subsequent subscriptions, do solemnly agree to act in Society together for that purpose.

II As in the present divided state of Christendom it seems that each denomination by exerting itself seperately is most likely to accomplish the great ends of a mission, it is agreed that this Society be called *The Particular Baptist Society, for propagating the gospel amongst the heathen.*

III As such an undertaking must needs be attended with expence, we agree immediately to open a subscription for that purpose, and to recommend it to others.

N.B. The names of the subscribers and amount of the subscriptions were as follows,

Rev John Ryland	2 2 0	Mr Joseph Timms	1 1 0
Reynold Hogg	2 2 0	Rev William Heighton	10 6
John Sutcliff	1 1 0	William Staughton	10 6
Andrew Fuller	1 1 0	Joshua Burton	10 6
Abraham Greenwood	1 1 0	Thos. Blundel	10 6
Edward Sharman	1 1 0	John Eayre	10 6
Samuel Pearce	1 1 0		
			13 2 6

IV Every person who shall subscribe 10£, or 10/6 annually, shall be considered as a member.

V That Messrs. John Ryland, John Sutcliff, William Carey, Reynold Hogg, and Andrew Fuller be appointed a committee, three of whom shall be empowered to act.

VI That Reynold Hogg be appointed Treasurer, and Rev. Andrew Fuller Secretary.

VII That the subscriptions be paid in at the Northampton Ministers meeting to be held Oct. 31st at which time the subject shall be considered more particularly.

Note : The original spelling has been retained.

You may like to read further on this. The following books are recommended :—*William Carey*, by S. Pearce Carey ; *Life of Carey*, by Dr. George Smith ; *William Carey*, by Deaville Walker ; *Carey, Marshman and Ward*, by J. C. Marshman ; *The First Generation*, by E. A. Payne. All to be obtained from the Carey Press.

OCTOBER

-
- 4** 1813 E. B. Underhill, LL.D., Secretary B.M.S., 1849-1876, born.
1886 Dr. Buckley, President of Cuttack College, India, for 39 years, died.
1892 Dr. Alexander Maclaren preached B.M.S. Centenary Sermon in Exeter Hall, London.
-
- 5** 1783 William Carey baptised by Dr. Ryland in River Nen at Northampton.
1802 Felix Carey, William Carey's eldest son, appointed to missionary service.
-
- 6** 1833 Purushottam Chamberlain, Telugu convert, and poet-preacher, baptised in Cuttack, Orissa.
1843 Opening of Calabar Theological College, Kingston, Jamaica.
1847 W. R. James, missionary in India, born near Lampeter.
1921 International Missionary Council formed.
-
- 7** 1783 Andrew Fuller settled as pastor at Kettering.
1805 Burial of first native Christian at Serampore.
1805 Serampore Covenant drawn up—to be read thrice yearly at all mission stations.
1907 Arrival of first doctor at San Salvador—Dr. Mercier Gamble.
-
- 8** 1931 Arthur Jewson, missionary in Calcutta, died.
-
- 9** 1900 Robert Arthington, princely giver to missionary enterprise, died.
1907 Bruce Etherington, missionary leader in Ceylon, died.
-
- 10** 1796 John Fountain, first missionary recruit for India, welcomed by William Carey at
1799 Samuel Pearce died. [Serampore.
1845 Timothy Richard, D.D., missionary statesman in China, born.

CALABAR COLLEGE OPENED.

October 6th, 1843.

CALABAR College will celebrate its centenary in 1943. It is the main piece of work in Jamaica for which the B.M.S. has direct responsibility. It was founded shortly after the Society's jubilee. The Jamaican churches were eager to become self-supporting and self-governing, so that the Society might have freedom for a new mission to Africa, and this they felt they could do, if the Society would help by setting up a College for the training of Jamaican ministers. The site chosen was in the north of the island, and the opening ceremonies took place while the *Chilmark* was anchored nearby, collecting the first missionary party for Fernando Po. The first batch of students consisted of ten men. All had been slave-children, for full emancipation had come only five years before. "They had everything to learn," said Joshua Tinson, the first Principal.

From 1851-1892, the College was under the leadership of David Jonathan East, affectionately known as "Father East." He transferred it to Kingston. The original premises were taken down and carried across the island on the backs of mules. The work was closely linked with the church at East Queen Street, and a Normal Department for training school-teachers was added to the theological college. Later, this subsidiary work became unnecessary because of the starting of a Government training scheme and, under the next Principal, Arthur James, "Calabar" was moved to its present site on the outskirts of Kingston, and provided with new buildings.

In 1910, James was succeeded by Ernest Price who built up there, with the help of David Davis, a Boys' High School, which quickly made a name for itself throughout the West Indies. It was also during his Principalship that Baptists, Methodists and Presbyterians began to co-operate in the training of ministers and that Calabar was provided with its beautiful little chapel.

Principal Herbert, David Davis and Walter Foster are now at work in the theological college and the high school. They have a difficult and responsible task, which is of supreme importance for the future of the Baptist community in Jamaica and the other West Indian islands.

E. A. P.

OCTOBER

- 11 1814 John Ryland succeeds Andrew Fuller as
B.M.S. Secretary, with James Hinton as
joint secretary.
1865 Outbreak of riots in Jamaica.
-

12

- 13 1799 Ward, Marshmans, Grants, Brunson and
Miss Tidd reached Calcutta.
1801 Dr. John Thomas died.
1859 Thomas Lewis, missionary in Cameroons
and Congo, born.
-

- 14 1798 Marquess Wellesley landed in Calcutta as
Governor-General of India.
-

- 15 1857 Arthur Sowerby, missionary in Shantung,
China, born.
-

- 16 1792 Samuel Pearce organized first B.M.S. Aux-
iliary, at Birmingham.
1798 William Ward accepted in Kettering for
missionary service in India.
1812 Henry Martyn died.
1914 Alfred Henry Baynes, B.M.S. secretary,
1871-1906, died.
-

17

DR. JOHN THOMAS DIED. October 13th, 1801.

SON of a Fairford Baptist deacon, John Thomas was an infant prodigy. He was also a youthful prodigal who failed in nine different apprenticeships. The study of medicine then gripped him and he qualified from Westminster Hospital, London, and became a naval surgeon. He professed conversion in Eagle Street Chapel, next to the site of the present Baptist Church House. Soon, he left wife and debts behind him and sailed in 1783 on an East Indiaman. Stirred by the godlessness of Calcutta, he successfully planned a "Religious Society for the more effectually spreading the knowledge of Jesus Christ and His glorious Gospel in and about Bengal."

Returning home, he was baptised on Christmas Day, 1784. He refused a pastorate at Hoddesdon and returned to India, more sure of his missionary call. He secured the patronage and support of East India Company officials and began learning Bengali.

In England once again in 1792, he started collecting funds for a Bengal Mission. He was looking for a Society and the newly formed B.M.S. was looking for a man and a field. In God's providence they found each other at the third B.M.S. Committee on January 10th, 1793. Andrew Fuller at once sent Thomas on deputation to the churches. Emotional Thomas did well and got record collections at Bristol, Bath and elsewhere and, by the end of March, £800 was in hand. God even used his creditors to prevent him and Carey sailing on the *Earl of Oxford* from which ship they probably would never have been allowed to land in Calcutta, whereas the Danish ship which eventually took them and Mrs. Carey and family, thwarted the exclusiveness of the East India Company.

When funds ran out and the Home Committee's remittances to India were delayed two years, it was Thomas who secured salaried employment for himself and Carey as indigo planters. Thomas made the first translation of the Gospels into Bengali, started the first Baptist church in India and, through his ministrations to body and mind, secured the first convert.

He remained a problem to himself and his colleagues. He was nevertheless an indefatigable preacher and healer, so moved with compassion and compunction that his own brain gave way. He died, a physical and mental wreck at Dinajpur on October 13th, 1801.

C. C. C.

OCTOBER

-
- 18 1806 Land bought for chapel in Calcutta.
1915 Y.M.C.A. buildings, erected from Arthington Fund, opened in Taiyuanfu, Shansi, China.
1920 Sir John Horsfall, Bart., member of B.M.S. General Committee, died.
1930 Mrs. Edward Robinson, leader in Baptist Zenana Mission (Women's Missionary Association), died.
-

- 19 1799 Government of India order Joshua Marshman and William Ward to leave the country.
-

- 20 1769 William Ward, missionary in India, born at
1785 Felix Carey born. [Derby.
1821 William Ward reached Serampore after his only furlough.
1821 John Mack, missionary in India, reached Serampore.
1856 Herbert J. Thomas, missionary in North India, born at Calcutta.
-

- 21 1859 H. Z. Kloekers and C. J. Hall, pioneer B.M.S. missionaries, sailed for China.
1869 Baptist Union of Scotland formed.
-

- 22 1813 Dr. J. Buckley, missionary in Orissa, born at Measham.
1828 John Pearce, missionary in Bengal, reached India.
1856 Joshua J. Turner, pioneer missionary in China, who baptised Pastor Hsi, born.
-

23

- 24 1860 Ratification of Treaty of Tientsin between Britain and China by which interior of country was opened to foreigners.
-

THE FIRST MISSIONARIES TO CHINA.

October 21st, 1859.

It is usual to date the beginning of B.M.S. work in China from 1875, when the mission as we know it was first established in Tsingchowfu in the province of Shantung. But, like most missions trying to establish themselves in a foreign land, the B.M.S. in China had an earlier chequered and disappointing chapter which should not be forgotten.

Mr. Kloekers, a Dutchman, already employed in China, in connection with the American Baptist Southern Mission, and Mr. Hall of the Chinese Evangelisation Society, were the first men appointed by the B.M.S. Both had the advantage of knowing the language already. In 1866, Laughton, Kingdon and McMechan joined them. But the time was unpropitious, for the empire was torn and distracted by the Taiping Rebellion. Various abortive attempts were made to start work in Ningpo, Nanking and Peking, but a home was finally found at Chefoo on the Shantung coast. There Mr. Hall died, and illness drove the others home within five years of their setting out, until, in 1875, Timothy Richard found himself the sole survivor of the original band.

Experience proved that a Treaty port is one of the worst places to be the headquarters of a mission, for it is usually a cesspool of the lowest and most degraded of the people. Moreover, rebels were in the neighbourhood of Chefoo and two American missionaries were murdered by them. So that it was a wise instinct that led Richard to transfer the mission to the interior of the province in 1875 and, now, for the first time, the mission took root in China. From that date there have been many marked signs of the divine blessing. The handful of converts who had been gathered in Chefoo were handed over to the care of another mission, and our B.M.S. work was henceforth entirely confined to the interior, first in Shantung, then shortly after in Shansi, and some years later in Shensi.

But it would be ungracious and ungrateful to forget the early labours of our first missionaries to China who paved the way for the achievements of their successors.

E. W. B.

OCTOBER

-
- 25 1858 W. H. Denham, missionary in India, died.
1921 Baptist Seminary opened in Prague.
-

- 26 1869 John Parsons, reviser of New Testament in Hindi, died.
1923 Donald Smith, missionary in China, died.
-

- 27 1807 William Grant, merchant, died at Berhampore, Murshidabad, leaving £20,000 to Serampore Mission.
-

- 28 1817 Henrietta Shuck, first American woman missionary to China, born.
1931 H. E. Crudgington, pioneer missionary to Congo and afterwards of India, died.
-

- 29 1939 Miss Isabel M. Angus, Indian Secretary of the Baptist Zenana Mission, died in London.
-

- 30 1855 W. Holman Bentley, D.D., missionary pioneer in Congo and Bible translator, born at Sudbury, Suffolk.
-

- 31 1792 Second Meeting of B.M.S. Committee in Kettering when Samuel Pearce brought £70 from Cannon Street Church, Birmingham, the first church gift.
1799 W. Grant died at Serampore after eighteen days in India.
1937 Opening of church building at Bhiwani, North India.

-W. HOLMAN BENTLEY, D.D.

October 30th, 1855.

THE birth of a son to Mrs. Bentley, of Sudbury, Baptist minister's wife, was a cause for rejoicing and, in the prayers of the parents, their infant was dedicated to the service of the Lord, the Giver.

In his early days, William gave his heart to the Saviour and engaged in work for the Kingdom. A bank-clerk, his leisure hours at the week-end were filled with tract distribution among the foreign population of London's east end. The languages spoken intrigued him and may have given him that bent to his mind which came out later in his Congo service.

Comber's appeal for men to pioneer in the new field was widely broadcast and Bentley was one of those who impressed the Committee. At starting there was a clear field. Nothing of value was known about the speech of the people and a quick ear, a knowledge of how to represent the sounds on paper, and patience, with sensitive poetical sympathy, were the outfit for the speakers and translators. Comber and Grenfell had already some experience in the Bantu language in Cameroons. They would the easier detect the similarities of the Kongo. Bentley was gifted and presently set down, not only the words he heard but, profiting by Bleek's labours at the Cape on Livingstone's vocabularies, made comparisons and tables of concords. The soul of the people is enshrined in their speech and he became a master of their language. He worked in the King's town and saw the effect upon their culture of the language used at San Salvador. Then he moved to the northern area and heard the dialectal variations, and again at Stanley Pool, he found yet other dialect.

Into his crucible he threw his own and others' collections of words and idioms and out of it came his great dictionary and grammar. These were the prelude to greater work. Others had translated Gospels but, by consent, the privilege of translating the New Testament was given to him. Genesis, Proverbs and part of the Psalter were also done by him. In spite of eye trouble, he worked on, perfecting the service for Congo for his colleagues and successors.

R. G.

NOVEMBER

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- 1 1795 First Baptist Church in India formed at Mudnabati, Bengal, by William Carey, with two Europeans besides Carey and his wife as members.
- 1812 Luther Rice, later missionary advocate in America, baptised by William Ward at Serampore.
- 1815 Yorks. and Lancs. B.M.S. Auxiliary founded at Manchester.
- 1894 Women's Missionary Training College in Edinburgh formed.
- 1914 Church building opened at Yen-anfu, Shensi, China.
- 1924 A. Llewellyn Jenkins, missionary in Britany, died.
-
- 2 1886 (approximately). Founding of Lukolela Station, first on Upper Congo.
-
- 3 1930 (approximately). First baptisms at Bembe, Portuguese West Africa.
-
- 4 1801 Komash, second woman convert, baptised at Serampore.
- 1890 Frederick Trestrail, D.D., B.M.S. Secretary, 1849-1870, died.
-
- 5 1822 Thomas Knibb sailed for Jamaica.
- 1849 First baptism in Cameroons Mission.
- 1915 John Brown Myers, Home Secretary, B.M.S., 1879-1912, died.
-
- 6 1922 Peter Noble, missionary in Bengal, India, died.
-
- 7 1842 British Society for the Propagation of the Gospel among the Jews founded. ■
- 1852 Thomas J. Comber, pioneer missionary to Congo, born in Camberwell, London. ■
- 1869 First converts of Baptist Zenana Mission in India baptised.

LUTHER RICE BAPTISED AT SERAMPORE.

November 1st, 1812.

LUTHER RICE was born on March 25th, 1783, the son of a farmer in America. His conversion, which took place in his twentieth year, led to his joining a Congregational church and revolutionised his career. He was the companion and friend of Judson and, like him, he volunteered as one of America's pioneer missionaries to the East. Like Judson, he used the long outward voyage to study the New Testament with the object of preparing himself to meet Carey and to defend in discussion with him the paedo-baptist position. The weeks of study led him to the same conclusions as those Judson had reached independently, and he landed in India a convinced Baptist.

It was arranged that, while Judson undertook work in his appointed field, Rice should return to the States and there organise a Baptist Society for the support of the new enterprise. In the result, he spent the remainder of his life in his homeland, although his heart was in the mission field. He shared, not only in shaping what is now known as the American Baptist Foreign Missionary Society, but through the consecration of his great gifts of knowledge and organisation, he led in educational and other activities, especially in the Southern States, to which he belonged.

When he offered to go first of all to the East, he had been told that he must raise sufficient money to pay for his passage and also provide his own outfit. This he did in nine days amid great obstacles.

America is vast and travelling was wearing. Of Rice as he journeyed among the scattered churches it is said: "He went through wildernesses and over rivers, across mountains and valleys, in heat and cold, by day and by night, in weariness and painfulness, and fastings and loneliness." He faced apathy and opposition in many places, but in others he met with glorious success. He was the instrument by which the Baptists of America were awakened to their missionary responsibility. He died in 1836, while on a deputation tour.

His life and service are a reminder to us that the home base is equal in importance to the mission field: and that men and women in our churches have their part to play no less than the missionaries at the front. J. H. R.

NOVEMBER

8

- 9 1799 John Fountain and Miss Tidd married at Serampore.
1824 William Knibb left for Jamaica.
1845 William Knibb preached his last sermon.
1915 Timothy Richard, D.D., missionary in China, retired.
-

- 10 1874 George Grenfell accepted for missionary service in Cameroons.
1936 Opening of Leper Hospital, Tsingchowfu, Shantung, China.
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- 11 1793 William Carey and John Thomas landed in India.
1937 Opening of Hospital buildings at Pimu, Upper Congo.
-

- 12 1928 Grace Mann, missionary in Shansi, China, killed.
-

- 13 1792 Third meeting of B.M.S. Committee at Northampton.
1889 Sir Samuel Morton Peto, B.M.S. Treasurer, 1846-1867, died.
-

- 14 1899 Dowager Empress of China issued Anti-foreign (Boxer) edict.

LEPER WORK AT TSINGCHOWFU, CHINA.

November 10th, 1936.

It is estimated that there are about one million lepers in China. The worst affected provinces are Kwangtung in the south and Shantung in the north. The B.M.S. has been established in the latter for about seventy years. At Tsinanfu there is a leper institution in the work of which our Society has a share through its connection with the Shantung University Hospital. Once, when I was travelling by train, a Chinese peasant, sitting opposite me, asked if the book I was reading was a Bible. I enquired if he was acquainted with the Bible, and he replied that he had just been discharged from the Tsinan Leprosarium, where he had been cured. He had become a disciple of Jesus while there, and was now on his way home to a village where there was no other Christian. He showed me the literature he was taking home for distribution. Interest was manifested by other Chinese in the compartment and, with a beaming face, the leper who had been cleansed, bore his testimony to the saving power of Christ. So the Tsinanfu Leprosarium is fulfilling its purpose of bringing healing to body and soul, and its influence reaches out far beyond its own walls.

The Leprosarium at Tsingchowfu is situated near one of the worst leprosy areas in China. A Board, composed mainly of Chinese gentry and officials, was responsible for the building of the institution and for its maintenance, but most of its members had to flee when war broke out with Japan. But the B.M.S. Tsingchowfu hospital has assumed full responsibility for its oversight and so far has been able to maintain the work. Last year, nine of the patients received healing, and nine, including some of those physically healed, accepted Christ as Saviour and were baptised and welcomed into the membership of the church.

So in Tsingchowfu whose Leprosarium was opened on November 10th, 1936, and at Tsinanfu, twofold healing is being brought to the patients. The B.M.S. has leper work also at Gaya, Cuttack and Chandraghona in India : and at Kibentele, Pimu and Yakusu in Congo.

H. A. E.

NOVEMBER

- 15** 1821 William Bampton and James Pegg, missionaries of General Baptist Missionary Society in Orissa, reached Serampore.
1845 William Knibb, missionary in Jamaica, died.
-

- 16** 1810 Government of India grant permit to John Chamberlain to live in Agra and to undertake missionary work there.
1914 Opening of Hospital in Dholpur Native State, India.
-

- 17** 1850 Daniel Jones, missionary in Agra, North India, born.
1869 Timothy Richard, pioneer in China, sailed.
1898 James Smith, missionary in Delhi, died.
-

- 18** 1838 George Rouse, M.A., LL.B., D.D., missionary translator and apologist, born at Melton, Suffolk.
-

- 19** 1923 Destruction by fire of Men's Hospital, Taiyuanfu, Shansi, China.
-

- 20** 1834 Alexander Henderson, missionary pioneer, arrived at Belize, Honduras, West Indies.
1921 Destruction by fire of Harvey Lane Chapel, Leicester.
-

21

GEORGE H. ROUSE, M.A., L.L.B., D.D.

November 18th, 1838.

GEORGE H. ROUSE was one of the most notable scholars and Biblical translators of the B.M.S. in India. He was born in Suffolk and educated at Regent's Park College and London University. He obtained the M.A. and LL.B. degrees and a gold medal. In later years he received the degree of D.D. from America.

In 1860, he was appointed to work in Bengal, but after three years, he was forced to return in broken health. He took an appointment as classical tutor at the Baptist College at Haverfordwest. Among his students was Timothy Richard who became the famous missionary to China. After nine years, Mr. Rouse regained sufficient health to enable him to renew his missionary life in India. He continued until his retirement in his seventieth year. He died on 2nd April, 1909.

During his long missionary career, he rendered many kinds of efficient service. He was B.M.S. Field Secretary, Press Superintendent, Pastor of Circular Road Church and of Lal Bazaar Church, and evangelistic superintendent of the South Villages. But his chief labour was in Biblical translation and literature. He wrote many books and tracts in Bengali which were also found useful in other Indian languages, and also in Arabic, English and French. One of his most useful works was the preparation of editions of the gospels in the dialect used by the Mohammedans of Bengal. He became the successor of Dr. John Wenger as the chief reviser of the Bengali Bible. The result was a version not only remarkably accurate in its rendering of the original, but more simple and akin to modern Bengal usage than any of the former versions.

He was always an interesting preacher. His mind was saturated with the Scriptures. Photography was his hobby. He was greatly beloved by the Indian Christians among whom his preaching visits were always keenly enjoyed. Under many physical handicaps, he accomplished a vast amount of work involving close and wearisome application such as Bengali proof reading. But he was ever the same cheerful, modest Christian scholar, the friend of everybody.

C. E. W.

NOVEMBER

-
- 22 1853 J. H. Anderson, missionary in India, accepted for service.
-
- 23 1881 William Brooks, first missionary printer in Cuttack, Orissa, died.
1934 R. H. Kirkland, missionary pioneer in Congo, died.
1936 W. Bowen James, missionary in India, died.
-
- 24 1825 Amos Sutton, missionary in Orissa, visited Berhampore for first time.
1900 Opening of orphanage at Berhampore, Orissa.
-
- 25 1800 John Thomas first met Krishna Pal, first Indian convert.
1876 Alfred G. Jones, pioneer missionary in Shantung, reached China.
-
- 26 1926 Opening of school-chapel at Kinshasa (now Leopoldville), Congo.
-
- 27 1934 Leonard Tucker, M.A., missionary in India and Jamaica and home advocate, died.
-
- 28 1822 John Chamberlain Page, missionary in North India, born.
1858 Baptism of first converts in Poland.
1912 Opening of Carey Hall, Birmingham, for training of women missionary candidates of Baptist Missionary Society, London Missionary Society and Presbyterian Church of England.
1918 Dr. Percy J. F. Lush, Chairman, Medical Mission Auxiliary, died in London.

OPENING OF SCHOOL-CHAPEL IN KINSHASA.

November 26th, 1926.

JUST over forty years after the B.M.S. had been established at Stanley Pool, on the Congo, the first school-chapel in the native quarter of Kinshasa was opened on 26th November, 1926. Until then the little church of a hundred or so members had been worshipping in the B.M.S. compound. How many foresaw the subsequent developments of that work ?

Within a few years, Kinshasa became the capital of the Belgian Congo, and was given a new name, Leopoldville-Est. The growth of the place as a commercial and administrative centre necessitated the planning of a new native city. And so another school-chapel had to be erected only five years after the first. The B.M.S. now became responsible for the sole Protestant witness in the capital with its more than 35,000 natives.

To-day, the Gospel is being preached to men and women speaking over forty different languages, while the existence of two main languages has divided the work into two distinct parts. The Church of Christ which reached 1,000 members some years ago, is in very truth the salt of life in this city of corrupting influences. Within the fellowship of this Church, men and women, the prey to temptations to every form of evil that flourishes in a place like Kinshasa, are being succoured. In the face of fierce and powerful Roman Catholic opposition, the special Protestant emphasis on a life with a high moral standard is finding a response in an ever-increasing number of hearts.

Apart from the half dozen full time workers, there are numbers of others who gladly sacrifice almost all their leisure for the cause of Christ. Without their help and their understanding of the needs of their own people, the white staff would be totally unable to cope with the demands created by the opportunities. But by this co-operation of European and native servants of Christ, continual miracles are being performed. Through faith in Him, those who come to the capital city to seek for wealth in a place of corruption are finding courage amidst the corruption to live uprightly.

M. G.

NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER

29 and 30

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- 1 1844 The *Chilmark* sailed from Falmouth, Jamaica, with missionary party for Fernando Po, West Africa.
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- 2 1808 Conversion of Adoniram Judson, pioneer missionary to Burma.
1887 Baptism of first five converts at San Salvador, Portuguese West Africa.
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- 3 1709 First meeting of Scottish Society for propagating Christian Knowledge.
1863 First baptisms in St. Petersburg (Leningrad) by Oncken.
1874 George Grenfell, missionary in Cameroons and Congo, ordained.
1906 W. H. Stapleton, pioneer missionary at Yakusu, Upper Congo, died.
-
- 4 1829 Suttee (widow burning) abolished by order of Governor-General of India.
1887 Formation of Church at San Salvador, Portuguese West Africa, first in Congo.
1915 First Serampore degrees of Bachelor of Divinity granted to N. G. Kuriaker of the Orthodox Syrian Church and to I. W. Johony of the Canadian Presbyterian Mission.
1921 John Town, Chairman, B.M.S. General Committee and Arthington Fund Trustee, died in Leeds.
1934 Dr. R. Fletcher Moorshead, Medical Secretary, B.M.S., 1902-1934, died in London.
-
- 5 1837 Joshua Marshman died at Serampore.
1893 S.S. *Goodwill* launched at Bolobo, Congo.
1929 Thomas Lewis, missionary in Cameroons and Congo, and Welsh Representative, died.
1934 Dr. J. W. Thirtle, Biblical scholar, editor of *The Christian* and Chairman, Bible Translation and Literature Committee, died.

FORMATION OF FIRST CONGO CHURCH.

December 4th, 1887.

EIGHT years passed after the landing of the first missionary party in Congo. These were years of foundation laying and of heart-breaking loss of life. Thomas Lewis says: "God used the agonies of those dark years to prepare the hearts of the people for the Light. It was just when it was darkest that the great change came. . . .

"On the 2nd December, 1887, we had the privilege of baptising the first company of converts to form the nucleus of the Christian Church of our Congo Mission. . . . The scene was at a little stream at the foot of a hill a mile away from the Mission Station. . . . By the water side we read passages of Scripture specially translated for the occasion, bearing on the subject of baptism, and we sang our hymns with great enthusiasm and power. . . . Then we formed ourselves into a long procession and marched back to the top of the hill to our Mission Station, singing hymns all the way. . . .

"Neither shall I forget the following Sunday in our little Mission Chapel. . . . The place was crowded in the morning with an excited congregation, and there were others outside, looking in through the windows and joining with us in the service. Those baptised on the Friday morning were there and gave their testimony."

A communion service followed. "There we were, three missionaries and my wife—four white people—and the five converts. Ross Phillips conducted the service, but very few words were spoken: our joy was too great for speech. We were sitting down for the first time with natives of Congoland around the Lord's Table, and before the end of the service we were unable to speak to one another. At the close there were tears of joy running down every cheek. We stood in a little circle around the Table, and then, moved by some mysterious power not our own, we shook hands with one another across the Table—a sign and token of Christian fellowship. And in that simple way we formed the Church at San Salvador."

That church now numbers nearly 2,500 members while our total membership in Congo is over 32,000.

DECEMBER

- 6 1821 John Chamberlain, pioneer in North India, died at sea.
1829 William Carey spent this day—a Sunday—in translating Government edict abolishing suttee (widow burning).
1914 Opening of church building at San Yuan, Shensi, China.
1925 Mrs. George Kerry, missionary in India and Home Secretary, Baptist Zenana Mission, 1904-1918, died.
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- 7 1807 Mrs. Carey (nee Dorothy Plackett) died at Serampore.
1830 William Bampton, missionary in Orissa, died at Puri.
1837 Re-union of Serampore Mission with the B.M.S.
1843 Mission in Brittany begun with acceptance for service of T. Jenkins, of Morlaix.
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- 8 1813 John Rowe, pioneer missionary to Jamaica, valedicted in Broadmead Chapel, Bristol.
1926 Stephen S. Thomas, missionary in Delhi, died in Bristol.
-

- 9 1919 Bongudi, Congo engineer, s.s. *Goodwill*, died.
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10

- 11 1908 Joseph J. Fuller, ex-negro slave of Jamaica, and missionary in Cameroons, died in London.
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- 12 1829 William Staughton, present at formation of B.M.S., died in America.
1906 George Kerry, B.M.S. Indian Secretary, died.

CAREY SPENDS SUNDAY TRANSLATING SUTTEE EDICT. December 6th, 1829.

THE practice of *suttee*, or the burning of the Hindu widow with her husband's corpse, had, in Carey's days, not only the sanction of antiquity, but also the approbation of most Hindus. It was in some cases voluntary, but more often not so, the widow, often quite young, being forced to play her tragic part by relatives, or by Brahmin priests and by the use of drugs. It was not until the early years of the 19th century that a few leading Indian reformers, like Devaraknath Tagore and Ram Mohun Roy, protested that the practice was a religious outrage. The Serampore missionaries, on three separate occasions, had memorialised Government, urging that something should be done to stop it. A considerable period elapsed, during which Government officials, though their disapprobation of the rite was unqualified, were afraid of the effect of giving umbrage to Hindu religious prejudices, nor could they suggest any adequate legislative remedy.

Statistics gathered from Bengal and other Provinces showed that *suttees* numbered some hundreds every year and, also, that this brutal sacrifice of innocent lives was on the increase. The knell of *suttee* was struck, however, when Lord William Bentinck became Governor-General of India in July, 1828.

His preliminary enquiries took time, but they were thorough, first from the military authorities, lest Sepoy soldiers should mutiny. Then he sought the advice of the highest judicial officers. He called into consultation educational experts. He interrogated personally enlightened religious leaders. He gathered anew reliable statistics. Then, finally, he decreed the abolition of *suttee*, making it a crime of culpable homicide, punishable with fine, imprisonment, or death, in his famous *Suttee Regulation* of December 4th, 1829—a document of eight paragraphs and of 775 words.

Dr. Carey, at that time, was the Government's Bengali Translator. He received the edict early on Sunday morning, December 6th, while preparing his sermon for divine service. This service was more divine and, with a rejoicing heart, he spent the whole day with his *pundit*, translating every sentence and phrase with meticulous exactitude.

Brahminical uproar followed. But the humane decision was upheld, and British dictates of justice and humanity were obeyed.

DECEMBER

13 1821 James Price, first medical missionary in Burma, arrived in Rangoon.

14

15 1862 H. Ross Phillips, pioneer missionary in Congo, born.

16

17 1938 H. Ross Phillips, pioneer missionary in Congo, died.

18 1912 First meeting of National Missionary Conference (now Christian Council of India) held in Calcutta.

19

NATIONAL MISSIONARY COUNCILS.

December 18th, 1912.

FELLOWSHIP between missionaries of differing denominations and nationalities has been a feature of modern missionary enterprise from its beginning. Pearce Carey has said that the founders of the B.M.S. "were denominational from necessity, not from choice," and they proved this on many occasions. Their successors have recognised missionaries of other societies as partners and have shared with them in the common task.

The past thirty years have witnessed a growth in organised co-operation on an amazing scale. It began with the World Missionary Conference in Edinburgh, 1910, which was the most representative gathering of its kind held up to that time. From that Conference actions followed which resulted in the formation of the International Missionary Council with related national or regional councils in every part of the world.

Through these councils the task of world evangelisation is viewed as a whole and policies and programmes are shaped accordingly. The experiences and methods of each society are pooled for the benefit of all. The various fields are allotted to different societies and overlapping is avoided. Plans for advance into new areas, for the adoption of new methods of witness and for the improvement of existing ones, are shaped in co-operation. Some of the results may be seen in the establishment of such institutions as the Shantung Christian University in China; the united training colleges and schools in India: the common approach to the outcastes: and the Kimpese Training Institute in Congo. In these enterprises and many others, it has been possible to do together what could not have been attempted in isolation.

One outcome of the movement has been the emergence of native Christian leadership, both national and local. Responsibility is now in the hands of native men and women of proved Christian character and ability. The age-long phrase, "The Holy Church throughout all the world" has become a reality and, in its urge towards true unity, it is pointing the way to the churches of the west.

In all this work, the B.M.S., in the spirit of its founders, without compromising its convictions, has played a foremost part.

H. L. H.

DECEMBER

20 1888 Arthur D. Slade, missionary in Congo, died.

21 1738 Dan Taylor, founder of New Connexion of Baptists, born.

22 1800 Krishna Pal and Gokool break caste by eating with Serampore missionaries.

23 1822 Farewell visit of Marchioness of Hastings to Serampore—her husband having resigned Governor-Generalship ; Interest in Botanic Garden, Printing Office, Steam Engine and College.

24 1777 W. Brodie Gurney, B.M.S. Treasurer, 1835-1855, born.

1884 Dr. Sidney Comber, first medical missionary in Congo, and brother of Thomas Comber, died.

1924 John H. Weeks, pioneer missionary in Upper Congo, died.

25 1810 Founding of Benevolent Institution at special service in Carey Chapel, Calcutta, by Joshua Marshman.

1827 Erun, first convert of William Bampton, baptised at Berhampore, Orissa.

26 1868 Arthur J. Long, missionary in Orissa, born.

BAPTISM OF FIRST ORIYA CONVERT.

December 25th, 1827.

WILLIAM Bampton, on a missionary tour from Puri, first visited Berhampore in August, 1825. He had to cross the Rhomba Pass to get there. This was a difficult undertaking, for the road was both rough and steep. The wheels of the bullock-carts would have to be scotched every few yards to give the animals a rest, and to let them get their breath. It would only be with much shouting, twisting the bullocks' tails, and pushing at the rear of the carts, that the summit would be reached. One can imagine the missionary as he climbed quoting the promise—"Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low." To-day, the motorist runs up the pass with ease. The road has been raised at the bottom, and cut down from the hill side at the top.

Mr. Bampton's goal was Berhampore—"City of God"—but he would realise that there were no worshippers of the True God to be found there. The town people are, many of them, bi-lingual, speaking both Oriya and Telugu, and they have a disturbing knack of talking to you in the language you do not know!

Among the crowd who listened to the missionary that August day, was a Telugu weaver, named Erun. He was attracted by the Gospel, and followed up his first hearing by interviews with the missionary. This led to his conversion and, on Christmas Day 1827, Mr. Bampton baptised him. Thus the "first-fruits unto God" of the Orissa Mission, was a Telugu, and not an Oriya.

When, many years later, another Telugu was to be baptised there on a Christmas day, the authorities would not allow the use of the Rambujam tank on the plea that the water was now "for drinking purposes only." Soon afterwards a Telugu Church was formed in that part of the town called Bhopur. The Telugu-speaking doctor and nurses from the Mission Women's Hospital attend this church. Their work, we can truly say, is a great leveller of the hills of racial hatred and religious prejudice, and helps to fulfil the promise—"Every mountain and hill shall be made low."

G. S. W.

DECEMBER

27 1905 W. Holman Bentley, D.D., pioneer missionary and Bible translator in Congo, died in Bristol.

28 1800 Baptism of Krishna Pal, Carey's first convert in India, and of the latter's son Felix.

1883 Quintin Thomson, missionary in Cameroons, died.

1938 Mrs. Holman Bentley died at Eastbourne.

29 1889 W. F. Wilkinson, missionary in Congo, died.

30 1867 A. E. Collier, missionary in Bihar, India, born.

31 1813 John Rowe, pioneer missionary, sailed for Jamaica.

1922 R. C. Forsyth, missionary in Shantung, China, died.

JANUARY

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BAPTISM OF KRISHNA PAL.

December 28th, 1800.

DECEMBER 28th, 1800, was a glad day for the Serampore brotherhood, for on it, Krishna Pal, their first Indian convert, and Felix, Carey's first son, were baptised.

Krishna Pal had been a devout Hindu and was a *guru* (teacher) for sixteen years. His first contact with the Christian faith was when he listened one day to the preaching of Dr. John Thomas, who declared that "the sins of the human race required a great sacrifice, that those who believed in Christ's death would be saved from sin, because He offered His life as a sacrifice for sinners. And on that day," adds Krishna Pal, "the Lord was gracious to me." From that time he thought earnestly about the new religion and discussed it with his friends.

Then, while bathing, he dislocated his arm. Thus crippled he sent for Dr. Thomas, who visited his home and set the limb. Contact between Krishna and the missionaries continued until the arm was cured. More important still, Krishna Pal found his way to Christ, whom he accepted without reserve as Saviour and Lord. The friendship which developed between him and the Serampore brotherhood found striking expression in fellowship at the meal-table. This caused great uproar among the Hindus, for, by this act, Krishna Pal broke caste. For a time his life and the lives of his family were in peril.

December 28th, 1800, was a Sunday. The news of Krishna Pal's baptism was noised abroad and the ceremony was witnessed by a great gathering of people, many of whom had travelled fourteen miles from Calcutta. It was a day of testing for him and an occasion of joy for the missionaries.

The convert was set immediately to witnessing to his new faith among his fellow countrymen. Sometimes with a missionary, sometimes with an Indian colleague, he travelled far in Bengal. He is described as being evangelical in his views, mild and persuasive in his speech and consistent in his life. He died on August 21st, 1822. His hymn, *O thou my soul, forget no more*, translated by Joshua Marshman, is in our books.

H. L. H.

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