

Mission to the Barens.

EXTRACTS FROM MRS. WADE'S JOURNAL.

(Continued from page 39.)

Intemperance and the Gospel irreconcilable.

Friday eve., Feb. 6. Besides attending the sick I have spent most of the day with the head man of a distant village, who, having heard that a new teacher had arrived, came with his wife to visit us. The Christians here say he has frequently visited br. Mason, and believes the Bible, but loves his bottle too well, to cast it away, and become a Christian. In all other respects they say his life is reformed, and that he sometimes seems to feel anxious about his future state. I spoke to him of the joys of heaven, and of the terrors of hell which he must soon meet and feel; but he seemed unmoved, and said his situation as head man exposed him to peculiar temptations which he could not resist; that he had prayed to the Eternal God, but He did not help him, though he had given up all his forms of demon worship, &c. I asked him if he expected a holy God would listen to his prayers while he continued drinking ardent spirits? I then talked to him and his wife a long time about the Savior's love, and his sufferings for us. He listened with the most fixed attention, (now and then nodding assent) until I had finished, when he exclaimed, "O, I *will* give up my bottle—I cannot drink any more. I will pray to this Savior: I never felt so before in my life." I had been looking upward for help, from the time he entered the room: now my full heart rose to God for the conversion of his soul.

At evening worship, I read the command to love the Lord our God with all the heart, &c., and remarked that one strong reason why we should love the Lord with all the heart, is, his goodness to us in creation, which all the Karens

know by means of their old traditions. That a still stronger reason is, the Savior's love to us when we had fallen and destroyed ourselves. Here I told them simply the story of the Savior's birth, life, sufferings and death, resurrection, and mediatorial office at the right hand of the Father. I then appealed to a large number of Karen Christians who sat around me, if these were not reasons sufficient, why we should love the Lord with *all* our hearts, and deny ourselves of all that is displeasing to him. The Christians then sung with uncommon animation, a hymn of praise to that Savior of whose love they not only heard but *felt*; and then my teacher prayed most fervently that we might be enabled to love the blessed Savior with all our hearts, and that the Karen stranger now with us, might feel the love of God in his heart this evening, and become from this time a humble and loving disciple. When our evening service was finished, the head man moved along up to where I was sitting, and began to tell the Christians that he felt something so new in his mind, that it seemed like coming out of darkness into light, and added, that from this time he would give up all for Christ's sake. He said he had been praying since the first conversation, and had resolved to give up his situation, as head man of his village, to another, as that situation exposed him to temptation. He also added "I can live by quietly cultivating my coon garden."

Saturday eve., 7. Had a restless night, on account of rather a serious fall through the old broken bamboo floor of the house. Have had some fever to-day, and was obliged to send my teacher to visit my sickest patients, while about 15 were able to come to me for their medicine. Felt ill able to go to the zayat this evening, but had strength given me. After worship, spent some time in conversing with another Karen from the village of the head man of yesterday. This is the fourth we have had from that village within a few days. O that they might carry home the "seed sown upon good ground."

Sunday eve., 8. Had about 170 to worship in the zayat this morning. My young inquirers were more than usually attentive, and the Christians seemed much alive in religion, so that we enjoyed truly a precious season. This distant desert does indeed begin to "bud and blossom as the rose." The inquirers of Friday and Saturday were present this morning; also another from a vil-

lage nearer. The head man sat near me and listened with fixed attention. May the plain and simple truths he heard be blessed to his soul! Returned to the house unwell and feverish, and spread my 'comfort' on the floor, (this being all the bed I have here,) feeling truly thankful for a good pillow, while my poor sick Karens have only a block of wood, and my blessed Master had "not where to lay his head." Felt better in the P. M., so as to attend the Sabbath school, the funeral of an infant, and worship as usual this evening.

Monday eve., 9. I had hoped that the fever was abating here, but I have several new cases to-day, and feel distressed to see the medicines, which have given relief to so many dear disciples and their children, almost expended; and what is still worse, I know that we have very little left at Tavoy. Lord, send relief to these thy dear suffering children!

Thursday eve., 12. We were all very much gratified this morning by the arrival of Mounng Pallah from Maulmein. He has come to assist Mr. Wade and Mr. Mason in preparing books, as the language of the Maulmein Karens differs a little from that spoken here. Although but one of the Christians here had seen him before, yet the news soon spread around the village, and men, women and children came to welcome him, many of them bringing little presents of eatables, &c. At evening I asked him to read and preach a little; and about 100 Karens seated around, listened with intense interest; and after worship was closed, they all staid a long time to hear him converse. It has been truly interesting to hear him tell how he has spent his time in preaching the blessed gospel from place to place, during our absence in America. It is said "He that winneth souls is wise,"—and I doubt not some of these Karen preachers will stand high, and wear a bright crown, in the kingdom above.

Friday eve., 13. Mounng Pallah has had a fever to-day, so that I have the prospect of nursing him for some time, instead of the help I had anticipated. Well, if I have to work still harder, I remember it is recorded of my blessed Master, that he had not time to eat bread. Several of my sick ones are now convalescent, and one old woman, who has been lying on the very borders of the grave, is fast recovering. She seems almost reluctant to return to earth when she had been so near heaven. Her mind during all her illness has been in a most

delightful state of sweet, peaceful resignation to the will of God. She says she has not the least fear of death, and longs to see the blessed Savior and all the glory of heaven. But another woman, who has a little family around her, is still *very ill*. Yesterday a Karen from another village came to me for medicine for his sick wife. I prepared it, and gave him a solemn warning, in the name of my Master, to prepare for his coming. O, that some word of truth might reach his heart. I have frequent opportunities of thus gaining access to those who would not, under other circumstances, come near us, or listen to one of the Christians.

Saturday eve., 14. Had above 100 to worship this evening, and enjoyed a delightful season. Found that one of the most influential Christians had spent the whole day in going from house to house, warning the impenitent, and stirring up his brethren and sisters to more diligence and zeal in their religious duties.

Sunday eve., 15. Mah Pray who was so ill on Friday, is now much better, and sent a note, as we were assembling, to request the church to pray that all her sins may be forgiven, and her sickness blest to her soul. We had to-day the largest assembly I have seen here. Strangers were present from three or four different villages, and the man to whom I gave a "solemn warning" on Friday, walked six miles to meet with us, and listened with serious attention. I felt, myself, the sweetness of those promises of the blessed Savior, which I explained to them, and could not refrain from tears, while I warned the impenitent to flee to the cross of Christ. O, we do enjoy delightful seasons of Christian communion, away here in these woods, and truly the presence of our blessed Savior is with us. I will envy no one all the luxuries the wide world can bestow, if I may be permitted to serve my blessed Lord and Master in these his poor suffering members.

"The calm retreat, the quiet shade,
With prayer and praise agree,
And seem by thy sweet bounty made,
For those who follow Thee."

Wednesday eve., 18. Monday night and all day yesterday, I was rather severely ill, and unable to attend the sick, &c. I shut my door and sat down alone, and could not help thinking of dear distant friends, and especially of my kind husband far away. The sun shone burning hot through the thin old

roof of the house upon my head. I felt as though I should fall from the chair, and looked around to see if I could not get some bambóo arms tied on to support me. I next looked towards my bed on the floor, but there seemed no rest there, and I should have been sad indeed, had it not been for the blessed Book which was lying before me. In it I read of Him who trod the thorny way before me. I found his blessed footsteps marked with sighs, and tears, and blood.

“Earth yielded *Him* no resting spot;
Her Maker, but she knew him not.”

And I felt ashamed of my want of faith and love. I looked out on the houses of my poor sick Karen brethren, and thought the expense of bringing my mattress would have been more than a dollar, and as much for my chair, &c.; and rejoiced that this was saved to do them good. Thus sweet peace descended into my soul, yes, a sweet peace which all the boasted enjoyments of this world can never yield.

Hunting Excursion—Consistency of Karen Christians.

Thursday eve., 19. Three of the Christians here having been out on a hunting excursion, returned this evening, and after worship was finished, gave us a relation of their wanderings. They first went to a Karen village where they (the inhabitants) worshipped Gaudama. Here they read the tracts they had taken with them, and defended the Savior's blessed cause in the midst of opposition and reproach. They had however, at last, the comfort of seeing some impression made on the minds of two or three, for which they thanked God and took courage. From this place three men joined their party, so that at every meal they were ridiculed for asking a blessing on their food, and for their united evening prayers. They said, however, they were not at all ashamed; and when Sunday came, they spent the day in reading, singing and prayer. Their companions then began to revile them, because they found no game, and told them it was on account of the books they carried with them. The Christians told them these books were pleasing to God, and if He did not choose to send them game they were content to go home without it. It was not long, however, after this conversation, before a rhinoceros appeared which they shot, and before night they killed another. This, with daily conversation, began to make an impression upon these

opposers, so that they parted in a very friendly manner, and promised to visit the Christians here. Ko Pallah is now beginning to feel in better health, and appears very happy in studying his Burman New Testament. Yesterday he begged me to read and explain to the Christians as usual every evening, and let him interpret for me, as these exercises would assist much in his future labors; and he always looks happy when he sees me at leisure, so that he can bring his Testament and read and ask me questions. I mention these things as a specimen of the humility and docility of a very interesting Karen preacher who has been blessed, we believe, in winning many souls to Christ. Moungh Shwa-boo my Karen interpreter, likewise possesses much of the same lovely spirit, and I really feel it an honor to serve them for Christ's sake. I have increasing evidence of the piety of some of the inquirers.

(To be concluded.)