

FIFTY YEARS
OF
MISSION WORK IN SYRIA

J. M. BALPH

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F. W. Clarke

1932



MARIAM AND YUSEF

First Christian family organized among
the Nusairiyeh.

Married May 3, 1866, by Dr. Beattie.

See page 48.

Indeed (Ch. 4)
d. 1871.

Fifty Years of Mission Work
In Syria

A Brief Compend of the Mission
Work of the Reformed Presbyterian
Church in Northern Syria, Asia
Minor and Cyprus.

By *JAMES McKINNIS BALPH, M.D.*



Latakia, Syria, April 1, 1913

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To the Memory

OF THOSE, WHO HEARD AND OBEYED THE
MASTER'S CALL, WHO COUNTED NOT
THEIR OWN LIVES DEAR, JOYFUL THAT
CHRIST MIGHT WORK THROUGH THEM,
TO BRING FROM OUT THE DARKNESS OF
SIN, SOME SOULS TO HIM, AND PASSED
TRIUMPHANT TO THEIR REWARD,

Our Departed Missionaries

IS THIS LITTLE VOLUME INSCRIBED.

J. M. B.

FOREWORD



MUCH that is of great value to a community is concealed from view, till the enterprise of some one brings it into light.

In this little volume, is presented to its readers, by one who was willing to devote time and labor in searching for, and putting into available form, much valuable information respecting the Covenanter Missions in the Levant, hidden for years in old, dusty letters and periodicals.

A man who should discover a mine of precious metal, which, if properly worked, might yield large returns, and should expend a large amount of money in its development, seeking treasure, not for his own enrichment, but for the benefit of others, would be held in highest esteem, and his name honored, wherever known.

So the esteemed author of this book, for twenty-seven years a Medical Missionary in Northern Syria, in putting missionary material, gathered from hidden sources, into an attractive story within the reach of every one, has rendered signal service to the Covenanter Church, and is worthy of special honor.

His book is an interesting presentation of facts and incidents that the young have never read, and that have passed from the memory of men and women, who have lived from the inception of the enterprise of which he writes till today, and need to be

reminded of what has been accomplished during fifty years of history.

It tells of devotion to the cause of Christ in the midst of many disturbing influences, and, in narrating the conversion of some from the pagan Nusairiyeh, and their subsequent steadfastness in the face of threatened imprisonment and death, supplies impressive illustration of the power of the Gospel to draw out of dismal and debasing surroundings into light, life, and liberty.

The Board of Foreign Missions cordially commends this volume to the churches, expecting that it will be used in Mission Study Classes, and find a place in every home; that the children may have a clear conception of the significance of Evangelistic Work in Foreign Fields.

HENRY O'NEILL,

President

R. M. SOMMERVILLE,

Corresponding Secretary

PREFACE



It will be our aim, in the following pages, to present a brief statement of the principal facts in the history of the Syrian Mission of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America, in a form suitable for ready reference. In our attempt to accomplish this purpose, we have gleaned from the published letters of the earlier missionaries, and from other available sources, whatever information could thus be obtained. To this has been added much that has been learned from those who have been co-laborers with us, or that has come under our own observation. No special attempt has been made to discuss methods, preferring rather to present a simple statement of facts in as brief a form as possible, leaving the reader to draw his own conclusions.

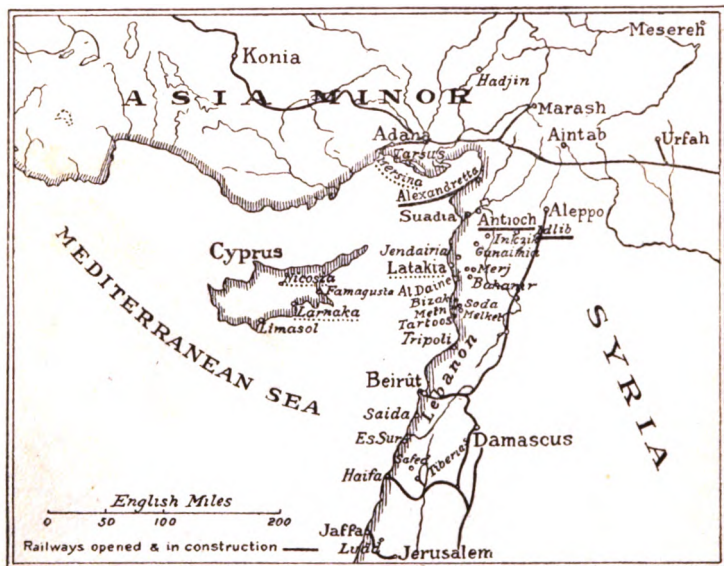
J. M. B.



MISSION BUILDINGS, LATAKIA, SYRIA
From **left** to right—Boys' School, Hospital, Girls' School

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MAP OF SYRIAN MISSION FIELD

Mission Centres of the American Covenant Church marked
 Those of the Irish and Scotch Church ———

The author's thanks are due to Rev. A. C. Gregg, B.A.,
 Loanhead, Midlothian, Scotland, one of the editors of
 the Reformed Presbyterian Witness, for the loan of the
 original drawing, and permission to use the above map.

CHAPTER I.

THE ORIGIN OF THE WORK



HE history of the Foreign Mission work of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America, properly begins with the first action taken by its Synod looking to that end. At its regular meeting in May, 1818, a committee was appointed to consider the expediency of undertaking a Foreign Mission.

No further action is recorded until 1841, when the Philadelphia congregation, then under the pastoral care of Rev. J. M. Willson, D.D., presented a memorial to Synod on this subject.

At the meeting of Synod in 1843 the matter was further discussed, and a committee was appointed to select a suitable field for missionary operation. **Board of Missions Appointed.**

In 1845 it was decided to begin work in the island of St. Thomas; but this decision was changed the following year in favor of Hayti. A Board of Missions was appointed to superintend the organization and the carrying out of the work. In the autumn of 1846, Rev. J. B. Johnston was

appointed to visit the Island, on a tour of observation.

This resulted in the choice of Porte au Prince as the center of operations. Synod in 1847 decided to begin missionary work there, and Rev. J. W. Morton and Mr. A. M. Milligan were appointed as missionaries. Mr. Milligan did not accept the appointment and Mr. R. J. Dodds, then a student of theology was chosen in his stead.

Work Begun.

Toward the end of that year, Mr. Morton and family sailed for Porte au Prince. After spending some time in the study of the French language, he opened a school, and began to engage in missionary work.

Failure.

During this time he formed the acquaintance of a missionary of the Seventh Day Baptist Church, and, through his influence, changed his views in regard to the Christian Sabbath; denying that there were scriptural grounds for keeping the first day of the week as such. He returned in 1849, and was suspended. Mr. Dodds was not sent out, and the work was abandoned.

Syria Chosen as Field.

No further action was taken until the meeting of Synod in 1856, when it was decided to establish a mission in some part of Syria. No special field of work was decided upon, as it was deemed best to send out missionaries, and allow them to choose a field of operation at their own discretion after their arrival in the country, and investigation of existing conditions.

The missionaries chosen at this time were Rev. R. J. Dodds, pastor of Rehobeth congregation, in Jefferson Co., Pa. (who had been appointed previously to the Hayti Mission, but owing to the abandonment of the work was not sent out), and the Rev. John Crawford. The latter declined, and the Rev. N. R. Johnson was next chosen; he also declined. Mr. Joseph Beattie, licentiate, was then chosen, and accepted the appointment, and was ordained *sine titulo* by the New York Presbytery, September 23, 1856, a short time before leaving for the field.

Choice of Missionaries.

Mr. Dodds, who had been married some years previously, and whose wife had died, leaving two small children, a boy and a girl, found himself at once face to face with the most severe trial that missionaries are called upon to meet, namely, that of separation from their children. He at once arranged to leave these children in the care of his father.

The newly-appointed missionaries were both married during the summer of 1856, and with their wives sailed from Philadelphia, October 16th of that year, on the "City of Manchester" for Liverpool, on their way to Syria.

Departure of Missionaries.

They had as traveling companion, the Rev. Mr. Lansing, of the Dutch Reformed Church, a missionary returning to his work in Syria. They arrived at Beyrout, De-

Arrival.

ember 4th. After spending a few days there they proceeded to Damascus, arriving there December 13th. They spent the winter of 1856-7 in that city, engaged in the study of the language. The summer of 1857 was spent in Bludan, a village in the Lebanon Mountains.

Zahleh.

In October of that year, Mr. Dodds succeeded, after much difficulty, in renting a house in Zahleh, a town of considerable importance on the east side of the Lebanon. This was a place in which missionary work had not yet been begun. It had at that time a population of about ten thousand; and that of the village of Muallaka, just adjoining it, was about two thousand. It is situated about twelve miles from the ruins of Baalbec. As it was impossible to procure more than part of one house at that time, Mr. Beattie returned to Damascus and spent the winter there. In April, 1858, Mr. Beattie and wife, in company with several other missionaries, started out on a trip through Palestine. While on this trip they had the misfortune to be assaulted and robbed by some wandering Arabs.

Opposition.

Before leaving Damascus, Mr. Beattie had forwarded his household goods to Zahleh, where they were stored in a house that had been rented for him, with the expectation that he and his wife would take up their residence there upon their return from their trip through Palestine; but op-

position, of such determined character as to effectually prevent the carrying out of this plan, soon manifested itself.

After Mr. Dodds had been settled for some time in Zahleh, the Metropolitan of the Greek Catholic Church in that place attempted to stir up the people against him by representing that the doctrines which he was teaching were false and destructive to the true faith.

When Mr. Beattie's goods arrived from Damascus, it still further excited the Metropolitan's fury, and he assembled the chief men of the town and reported to them that an "English priest" had been residing there for some time, and was now about to bring another; and if their presence was tolerated they would soon sow discord, and perhaps draw away many after them, to the detriment of the true Church.

He advised that an order be given at once for the expulsion of Mr. Dodds from the place. The chiefs refused to accede to his request, and told him that he would have to attend to that himself. He assembled them several times, and threatened that if they did not do as he had requested, he would cause the house in which Mr. Dodds lived to be assaulted by a mob.

His demand however, still remained unheeded. Later, a priest was sent to notify Mr. Dodds that he had been there quite long enough, and that it was their desire that he

Unsettled

**Visit of
Priest.**

should depart at once, lest trouble should occur. Mr. Dodds assured the priest that he could not for a moment entertain the idea of departing; and that he felt sure that if the Metropolitan would exert his influence, there would be no trouble.

This reply was far from satisfactory to the Metropolitan, and he next tried to influence the people, in whose house Mr. Dodds was living; but in this he also failed. The chief men, or sheiks of the place, were favorably disposed, but they were not strong enough to preserve order, and counteract the influence of the Metropolitan and the priests, who went about stirring up the people of the baser sort to oppose the work.

This was a period of great anxiety to Mr. and Mrs. Dodds, who knew not when they might be exposed to the violence of a mob, and be forced to leave the place, or their lives be endangered. In spite of these conditions, threatening as they were, Mr. Dodds, about this time, engaged to take a house for seven years at an annual rental of eighty dollars a year, and brought on a supply of books from Beyrout, in the hope that they would soon be able to start a school.

Excommunication.

On Sabbath, May 8, the Metropolitan warned the people in the cathedral not to have any intercourse with the missionaries, and not to take any books from them, and on the afternoon of the same day pro-

nounced an excommunication on any one who should violate these orders.

On May 10th, Mr. Dodds was visited by twelve priests, who informed him that the Metropolitan and the priests, with the chief men of the town, had held a meeting and decided that the presence of the missionaries in their midst could no longer be tolerated; and that they were sent to warn him to take his departure. They assured him that if he delayed he would be subjected to mob violence, and his property destroyed, and the life of himself and Mrs. Dodds be endangered. Mr. Dodds replied, "Let the mob come." The answer of the priests was that they would begin the work themselves, and they at once proceeded to throw his books into the street. After they had disposed of the greater part of his library in this way, he told them that he would leave on the morrow. With this promise the priests caused the books to be carried in, and set some muleteers at work packing up Mr. Dodds' goods for the journey.

Second Visit
of Priests.

Expelled
from Zahleh.

On the following morning the priests returned to see that he actually did start. Thus on the 11th of May, 1858, Rev. and Mrs. Dodds were thrust out of Zahleh by mob force. The name of the Metropolitan who instigated these infamous proceedings, and upon whom the odium of this nefarious work rests was Basillius.

**Removal to
Bahamdun.**

**Intervention
of U. S.
Consul.**

Mr. Dodds removed his family and goods to Bahamdun, a village of six or seven hundred inhabitants, a little off the Damascus road from Beyrout, and about five hours journey from the latter place. He proceeded shortly after this to Beyrout, and lodged a complaint with the American Consul against the offenders. The Consul succeeded in obtaining an order from the Syrian government to four of the chief men of the place to come and take Mr. Dodds back and reinstate him in the town; and also a letter from the Pasha to the Metropolitan, reprimanding him and ordering him to receive the missionaries, and to allow them to remain there in peace. The people of Zahleh refused to obey these orders, and they were never enforced. A firman was later obtained from the Sublime Porte, but the local government was either unwilling, or unable to carry out its provisions.

CHAPTER II.

A TIME OF WAITING.



ABOUT this time, Rev. and Mrs. Beattie returned from their Palestine trip, and also came to Bahamduh, where the Dodds and Beattie families spent the summer. Disappointed in their attempt to establish work in Zahleh, our missionaries were called to pass through a period of waiting and suspense, not knowing where their lot was to be cast. Thus it was that God was trying their faith, preparatory to giving them a work in a field both new and difficult.

A Trial of Faith.

While awaiting the result of the attempts that were being made to reinstate them in Zahleh, it was thought wise that Mr. Dodds should visit Latakia, a city on the Mediterranean coast, about one hundred and twenty miles north of Beyrout. This place having been suggested as a possible field for missionary work. Both families having removed to Beyrout, Mr. Dodds sailed from there October 3, on the French steamer La Clyde, to visit Latakia.

The steamer lay all the next day, which was Sabbath, at Tripoli, and early Monday morning arrived at Latakia. Mr. Dodds remained there until Wednesday afternoon,

Latakia Visited.

when, having secured animals for the journey, he set out for Kessab, where he arrived on Thursday afternoon. Spending the night there, he continued his journey the next day to Antioch, about forty miles further, in a northeasterly direction, arriving there that evening. During his stay there he was the guest of the Rev. Mr. Morgan, a missionary of the American Board, who was then residing in that city. Spending the Sabbath there, he set out early Monday morning for Alexandretta, to catch a steamer that was to sail from there for Beyrout that evening. He completed his journey as planned, and taking passage he arrived at Beyrout on Wednesday morning, October 14th. On October 3, a short time after Mr. Dodds had sailed from Beyrout, a daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Beattie. From letters written by Mr. Dodds about this time, and from other sources, we glean the following facts.

**Latakia,
Population.**

The population of Latakia was then estimated at 20,000. There was a resident English Consul, a young man, engaged in mercantile pursuits. The American and French governments had each a consular agent. This place has been at long intervals, subject to earthquakes. In 1170 it was almost entirely destroyed, and in 1822

Earthquakes.

it was visited by the last severe earthquake, which wrecked the old castle at the entrance to the harbor, the remains of which are still

standing. At this time about one-third of the city was destroyed with the loss of many lives; since then a number of slight tremors have been felt at various times, but the only shocks, of any severity that have occurred since were those of May, 1872, and October, 1911; neither of which resulted in any very serious damage.

Kessab,—which we will have occasion to **Kessab.** mention frequently in the following pages, and which was one of the places visited by Mr. Dodds,—is described as being at that time a town of about 1,500 inhabitants, forty miles north of Latakia, situated on the Southeast side of Mt. Cassius, at an elevation of nearly 3,000 feet. It is an Armenian village, and was visited in 1825 by Dr. King, who spent a few days there and distributed some copies of the Scriptures. In 1846 it was again visited by Mr. Van Lennep, and more Bibles were distributed.

Two years after this the Armenian priests gathered up all the books and buried them. A few months later Mr. Benton arrived there from Aleppo, and brought with him a new supply; the priests and some of the people, armed with sticks and stones, tried to prevent their distribution or sale, but they were prevented by the government from accomplishing their purpose.

The fire of the evangelical movement had been already kindled, and, although those who embraced the truth had to endure

much persecution, yet their number steadily increased. A leading spirit in this movement was one, Mukdasy Hanna (Sanctuary John.) He was in many ways a very remarkable man, and a great champion of the truth. When he first began to teach his daughter to read, it raised great opposition; and people said, "will you make a priest of her?" At the time of Mr. Dodds' visit there, there was a church with about four hundred attendants and schools for instruction in the rudimentary branches.

The winter of 1858-9 was spent by our missionaries and their families in Beyrout, where they continued the study of the language, preaching occasionally in Arabic as opportunity offered. Safed had been recommended to them as a desirable place in which to locate, and they were at that time considering the advisability of going there in the spring. They were also awaiting with a good deal of anxiety the result of their appeal to the Turkish government, in the matter of Zahleh. During the summer of 1859, finding this appeal fruitless, and also meeting with some discouragement in regard to their proposed removal to Safed, *they decided to remove to Latakia.*

**Awaiting
Develop-
ments.**

**Decide to
Remove to
Latakia.**

The hot months of the summer were spent at Abadiyeh, a village on the slope of the Lebanons, about four hours' journey

from Beyrout. We quote from a letter written from there July 22, 1859:

“We have had a long season of darkness, but we hope that the day is beginning to dawn on our mission. We have endured a year of painful suspense in regard to our plans for the occupation of Zahleh; during the whole of which time our way was so hedged in that it was impossible for us to go forward. We could do nothing but wait. At length God has been pleased to give us relief. His providence, as we understand it, has pointed out to us our course, and has opened before us the way.”

As we have already seen, they had about this time decided upon Latakia as their future field of work; believing, as they did, that the providences of God were leading them thither.

In August of that year occurred the first outbreak in that sanguinary conflict that swept over the Lebanon during many succeeding months, in which so many innocent persons were massacred, their houses plundered and burned, and those who escaped were forced to flee from hiding place to hiding place, during that reign of terror and bloodshed. The first outbreak was precipitated by a quarrel between two muleteers, one a Druze and the other Christian. The quarrel grew until the Druzes and Christians of Beit Miri, a village about

Massacres of
1859-60.

three hours from Abadiyeh, where our missionaries were staying, took up arms and fought a battle, in which the Christians lost nine, and the Druzes thirty-five killed and wounded.

This was the beginning of a general war that swept over the Lebanons during this and the following year. It consisted at first of a series of attacks made by one party against the other, with considerable destruction of life and property, but which, as time passed, assumed greater proportions, and took on a more vindictive cruelty, until finally Turkish troops were sent into the district to restore order; but instead of accomplishing this purpose, they united with the Druzes to disarm, and then massacre, the inhabitants of the Christian villages. This was indeed a "reign of terror," in which thousands of the inhabitants were slaughtered with as little mercy as if they had been wild animals.

**Causes
Leading to
Massacres.**

The most reliable history of that time unhesitatingly casts the blame, in the first place, upon the Maronites a Papal sect that had become very strong in Mt. Lebanon, and who, in their attempts to intimidate the Druzes, ordered them to close the British and American schools that they had permitted to be established in many of their villages. In this and many other ways, they dealt with them in such a haughty and arbitrary manner that, instead of cementing

the friendship that had existed between them in earlier years, they so completely alienated the Druze tribes, that they became their most bitter enemies; and the final result was this most disastrous conflict, and the terrible sufferings that it entailed, which were only brought to an end by the intervention of the Powers and the landing of a French army of occupation, which held the country for almost a year, until peace was restored and the territory of the Lebanons formed into an independent Pashalic with a Christian governor.

CHAPTER III.

OPENING OF WORK IN LATAKIA.



**Removal to
Latakia.**

IN September of 1859 Mr. Dodds visited Latakia for the purpose of renting houses, but was compelled to return without having been able to do so. This trip was made in a small sailing boat; as no steamers were plying along the coast at that time on account of quarantine. About November 1st, quarantine having been removed, Mr. Dodds and family took passage to Latakia, and Mr. Beattie and family followed a short time afterward. Both families lived with the English Consul for about a month, until they were able to rent houses.

**First Boys
School
Opened.**

Early in the following year (1860), after becoming settled in their own homes, a house was rented, and a school for boys was opened, in which two native Protestant teachers from Beyrout were employed. They were Yusef Shakkoór and Beshara Haddád.

Having followed the history of our pioneer missionaries up to the time of their settlement in Latakia, which is to be the future center of operations for the Syrian Mission, it will be next in order to describe more fully the town, as well as the sur-

rounding country embraced within the limits of this field.

Latakia is situated on a promontory, on the shore of the Mediterranean Sea, about 120 miles north of Beyrout, and about 40 miles south of Mt. Cassius. It was founded by Seleucus Nicator, one of the greatest builders of antiquity, about 300 B. C. He also built Antioch and Seleucia its seaport, near the present site of Suadea, a short distance from the mouth of the Orontes river.

Latakia has been subjected to many varying changes of fortune. It lay within the territory of "northern Phœnicia, which extended as far north as Mt. Cassius;" but there is no reliable record of it having attained to any importance during the Phœnician period.

History relates that under the name of Ramitha it was once famous for a temple of Minerva; but it had so fallen into decay before the time of Seleucus that the statement that we have already made in regard to it having been founded by him is practically correct, in so far as applied to the new city, to which he gave the name of Laodicea, in honor of his mother Laodice.

It may be necessary to note here that this is not the Laodicea which was the seat of one of the seven churches in Asia, but was known as "Latakia by the Sea." (This title was given it to distinguish it from other

cities of the same name of which there were seven in all, built by the same person. The Laodicea of the Bible, which is situated some distance inland, in Asia Minor, is now known by the Turkish name of *Eski Hissar*.

**Triumphal
Arch.**

In the days of the early Christian centuries, Latakia became the seat of a Bishop's See, and it was in the hands of the Christians when the Crusaders invaded Syria. There still stands, on the east side of the town, a triumphal arch, which is said to belong to the time of the Emperor Septimius Severus. There are many ancient granite columns built into the walls of some of the older buildings, and in some places the walls of the buildings have been constructed between these pillars where they were originally standing, and they may still be seen, forming part of the walls in many places.

There are yet standing some remains of a tower that once guarded the entrance to the harbor. This is largely built of these granite pillars, and is attributed by some to the Crusade period.

The small harbor is now so filled up with silt, that it only has sufficient depth of water to accommodate the smaller sailing vessels. There are many olive and fig orchards close to the town which give it a very pleasing and attractive appearance, especially, as one approaches it from the sea. It has sufficient elevation to give good natural drain-

age, but it has neither artificial drainage nor water system, the water supply being obtained from wells and cisterns. The present population numbers twenty-five thousand or over; about four-fifths of this number are Mohammedans; the remainder belonging to the various nominally Christian sects. A large proportion of the Christian population is Greek Orthodox. There are also a number of Roman Catholics, Maronites, Armenians, and Protestants.

**Population
and Religion.**

The territory lying within the Latakia field extends from Tartooos on the south to Suadea on the north, having a coast line of something more than one hundred miles. In breadth, it extends from the Mediterranean Sea on the west to the Orontes river on the east. The Orontes also partially marks its northern boundary. At Suadea, the mission buildings and the greater part of the territory pertaining to that center are on the north side of this river and within about two miles of its mouth.

Boundaries.

Along the coast we have an undulating plain that varies in width from one to ten miles; while east of this lies the low range of mountains, known as the Bargylus, or Nusairiyeh Mountains. In the north we find Mount Cassius, a detached fragment of the Amanus; it rises to a height of about 6,000 feet. The Nusairiyeh Mountains do not have, even in their highest parts, an elevation of more than about 4,000 feet. They

have many beautiful valleys, and a considerable portion of arable land. The ascent from the west is in general very gradual, the mountains rising tier above tier until they culminate in their greatest elevation, from which the descent to the Orontes river is in most places very sudden and precipitous. The chief products are tobacco, wheat, barley, kaffir corn, potatoes, olives, figs, oranges, lemons, apricots, etc. Grapes are also grown abundantly, and of good quality. Almost everything in the way of garden vegetables is, or can be, produced, and almost any of the fruits of temperate or sub-tropical regions might easily be grown in some part of the mountains or plain; but fruit raising has not received very much attention. The territory just described, has an average width of about sixty miles, and embraces an area of over 6,000 square miles.

Area.

CHAPTER IV.

THE NUSAIRIYEH.



HE mountain district of the Latakia field is chiefly inhabited by a unique and distinct class of people, who, although speaking the same language, differ very widely from both Mohammedans and Christians, whether considered ethnologically or in regard to their religious beliefs. They are indeed a strange and peculiar people, of whom it may be truly said, "Their hand is against every man, and every man's hand against them." Much has been written and many conjectures have been made concerning their origin, but it is still very obscure. Most authors agree that they have probably occupied these mountain regions since before the beginning of the Christian era. They consist of a number of semi-pagan tribes, differing from one another in some minor particulars, but holding in the main the same essential doctrines.

The Nusairiyeh.

Previous to the Roman era their history is unknown. About the first century, they formed one tetrarchy and had a certain amount of independence, and were grouped more closely in the mountain region than at present. Their fortunes varied from time

**Their
Hardships.**

to time, but their situation in the fastnesses of the mountains preserved them, to a certain extent, from the invasions of this part of Syria and permitted them to retain their identity, as well as their religion. They were subjected by Saladin in 1188, and by Ibrahim Pasha in 1832. The present government has experienced great difficulty in dealing with them and they have frequently risen up in defiance of all law, committing various outrages, and when closely pressed fleeing into the hiding places in the mountains, where they were practically free from pursuit. They have been subjected to great oppression and misrule, which has only served to foster and increase their natural propensity for lying and deceit until it has become a second nature to them, thus making "Their latter end worse than the first."

**The
Nusairiyeh
Religion.**

Their religion, whatever it may have been during their earlier history, has later been largely affected by Mohammedan influences. It is at present a confused medley, containing many things taken from the beliefs of the various sects with which they have from time to time come in contact. They venerate the Koran, and also the Bible to a certain extent; they worship the sun and moon, they hold the doctrine of metempsychosis, practice circumcision, and observe certain festivals of varied origin. We find among them a strong infiltration of Ismaelian doctrine, and while they are

classed as Shiites, they differ from other branches of that sect in many important particulars.

The Nusairiyeh are divided into four principal sects. They are the Haidaris, the Shamalis, the Kalazis, and the Ghaibis. Some of these sects are further divided into subdivisions. They all accept and follow the teachings of one religious book, The Kitáb al-Majmóua. *or-Kisil*.

They are often at war among themselves, and when any one is killed the price of blood is always demanded, and in this way feuds are often kept up among the different clans for years. Ali, ibn-Abi-Talib, is their chief object of reverence, and they believe that he has his seat in the sun; consequently the sun is one of their objects of reverence and adoration. In contradistinction to the unitarian doctrine of Mohammedanism, they have some vague idea of a trinity, which they say is composed of Ali, Mohammed, and Salman al-Farsi. They form from the initial letters of these names the combination, *Ain-Meem-Seen*. This they use in their initiatory oaths, and on other special occasions. It is called the secret (sirr) of *Ain-Meem-Seen*, and is carefully guarded by them, and is only used in the presence of the faithful.

Women, they say, are created from the sins of the devils, and their souls die like their bodies; therefore they do not teach

them the tenets of their religion. Women are considered but little better than animals, and are treated accordingly. They are bought and sold, and when from age or other infirmity they become valueless, they are neglected and abused. It is only here and there where the light of the Gospel has reached them that the condition of their women differs much from that of slaves.

The Nusairiyeh teach and practice the doctrines of their religion secretly. None are admitted to its secrets until they have arrived at the age of manhood; they are then sworn upon pain of death, and mutilation of the body, not to reveal what has been taught them; but, notwithstanding these precautions, they have been unable to keep these teachings hidden.

Within recent years many of their books have fallen into the hands of outsiders, and their contents have been made public. One of their number, Sulieman Effendi of Adana, who left them, wrote a book entitled "Al-Bakoorat as-Suliemaniyat," that gives a fairly thorough *exposé* of their religious beliefs.

The total number of these people is estimated at 130,000 in Syria; with fully 30,000 more in the neighborhood of Tarsus and Adana, in Asia Minor. Of this number there are not fewer than 75,000, in the district of Latakia. There are also several thousand in the region about Suadea.

**Sulleman
Effendi.**

**Number of
Nusairiyeh.**

Prior to the coming of our missionaries to Latakia, no mission work had been done within the bounds of that field, with the exception of the brief labors of the Rev. Samuel Lyde, Chaplain (pro tem) of the Anglican Church of Beyrout, who visited Latakia in 1852 and made a tour, embracing Suadea, Antioch, and the Nusairiyeh Mountains, with the purpose in view of becoming somewhat acquainted with the people, and discovering a suitable place for the opening of a school among the Nusairiyeh.

Mr. Lyde's report to the Anglican Bishop at Jerusalem was handed in during October of that year, and transmitted to England. Through the help of friends there, and a liberal use of his own personal funds, he was enabled to open a school in Bahamra, a village in the lower part of the mountains about 18 miles from Latakia in 1854. He purchased a tract of ground there, and erected buildings, and opened a school, and also carried on evangelistic work among the people in that district. This work was attended by many difficulties and trying experiences, incident to the backward condition of the country, and the ignorance and depravity of the people. Owing to the many hardships endured, his health became broken, and he was compelled to give up the work in 1859 and went to Alexandria, in Egypt, and died there April 1, 1860. His work was altogether confined to the Nusai-

Death of
Rev. Samuel
Lyde.

riyeh. He was the author of two books descriptive of his travels and work among this people.

At Mr. Lyde's death he left a memorandum requesting his friends in England to pay to our Mission, from the proceeds of his estate, the sum of £60 sterling yearly for the support of a school among the Nusairiyeh. He also bequeathed to the Mission his property in Bahamra, which had cost him more than 500 pounds sterling, but which was then in very bad repair. The way was thus providentially opened before our mission to begin work at once among the Nusairiyeh. During the first year of mission work in Latakia, nine Nusairiyeh boys were under instruction in the boarding school. There were also forty day pupils from the town. The instruction of these pupils, the regular preaching of the gospel and visits to the villages throughout the country, kept our missionaries busily employed during this year. The first sermon was preached in Latakia in December, 1859.

Early after their arrival in Latakia the missionaries visited a number of villages to the north and east. Among them were two Armenian villages—Aramo and Gunamia—situated about twenty-five miles north-east of Latakia. This was the first time that either of these places had been visited by a missionary. They received a welcome

**Villages
Visited.**

reception at the hands of the people of Gunamia, who seemed to be willing to listen to the truth, but those of Aramo showed no interest in any of these things.

CHAPTER V.

EXTENSION OF THE WORK.



N 1860 the Mission requested the Board to permit them to open a girls' school as soon as possible. This permission was granted. During 1861 preaching services were conducted regularly every Sabbath in Latakia, and school work was carried on with a slightly increased attendance. Much time was spent in visiting the country villages, in getting acquainted with the people, and in doing other preparatory work that is always necessary in the opening up of a new field.

**Transfer of
Bahamra
Property.**

The Mission came into the possession of the Bahamra property this year, which had been left to it by Mr. Lyde. Hamud, the first convert from among the Nusairiyeh, who had been a pupil in Mr. Lyde's school, and later a pupil in the Latakia school, was received and baptized by Mr. Dodds in December of this year. In their report of this year, the Mission sent home a request for reinforcements. They said: "Of course the first addition to our number should be a physician, as he would be of essential service among the Fellaheen. They would make almost any sacrifice to keep on good

**A Physician
Asked for.**

terms with him, and he, or a missionary in his company, could use a freedom of speech that would not be tolerated in another." Synod took action towards sending out a physician.

The year 1862 was marked by an increased attendance of pupils in the Latakia ^{1862.} school. The missionaries were able to visit many of the villages further back in the mountains, thus preparing the way for the opening of schools and the preaching of the Gospel among the Nusairiyeh.

Both families of the missionaries spent the summer months in Bahamra; and all suffered greatly from fevers and other forms of sickness; and Mr. and Mrs. Beattie were called for the third time to mourn the loss of an infant child. Notwithstanding all their sickness, there was but one Sabbath of the year upon which public preaching services were not held.

David Metheny, M.D., of Pittsburgh, Pa., was appointed this year by the Board as medical missionary to Latakia, but owing to a scarcity of funds, his departure was delayed. **Appointment First Medical Missionary.**

About this time, Sulieinan Effendi, son of a Nusairiyeh sheik of Adana, rose to some prominence; he was a great reader, and of a restless and enquiring disposition, and having become dissatisfied with the Nusairiyeh religion, first became a Moslem, and then a Jew, and later attached himself **Sulieinan.**

Al-Bakoorat.**Murder of
Suliman.**

to the Greek Orthodox Church ; but he was still unsatisfied, especially with the doctrine of transubstantiation and after reading a work by Dr. Mesháka of Damascus on this subject, he became inclined to Protestantism. Coming under the ban of his people on account of his infidelity to their religion, he was arrested and taken to Damascus, but through the aid of Dr. Mesháka he was finally released, and went to Beyrout, where he spent some months, writing a book, "Al-Bakóorat as-Suliemanéyat," in which he exposed the secrets of the Nusairiyeh religion. In 1863 he came to Latakia and spent a few months there, and during this time claimed to be a Protestant, but he never was in the communion of any Protestant Church. He was a great disputant, and very erratic in disposition, and although something of a scholar, entertained many superstitious ideas. He was not long in Latakia until he began to indulge in drink ; upon being reprovved, he seemed to reform, but later in the year, while in Beyrout superintending the publication of his book, he again fell into this vice. After the publication of his book was completed, an edition of three thousand having been printed, he returned again to Latakia, and requested work from the Mission. Upon being refused he attached himself to the Greeks, and for a time taught a school for them in Turkish, living in the meantime a very

irregular life. Some months after this he went to Adana, where he came to his death at the hands of his own people, in retaliation for his having revealed the secrets of their religion.

During the summer of 1863, Mr. Beattie ^{1863.} and family returned home on furlough, on account of the condition of Mrs. Beattie's health. This year was marked by the opening up of telegraphic communication between Beyrout, Latakia, and Aleppo. Boarding school work and regular preaching was carried on by Mr. Dodds. **Telegraph Introduced.**

In the spring of 1864, Bashara Haddad, one of the teachers in the Latakia school, was compelled to return to his home in the ^{1864.} Lebanon on account of the death of his father, and Hammud was employed to fill the vacancy, but his work was of short duration. During the summer he was attacked by consumption, from which he died in December of that year. He was a young man much loved by all. Mr. Dodds, in one of his letters, speaks of him as follows: "He was a remarkable man. He had a well **Hammud's Death.** balanced judgment, and great patience for mental effort; uncompromising in withstanding wrong, and ready to confess Christ in any company. I never knew one who more steadily aimed at perfection, and shunned every appearance of evil, even his enemies had no harmful thing to say of him. I am inclined to believe that the sav-

ing change in him was brought about by means of the truth stored up in his mind by Mr. Lyde's teaching in Bahamra." Mr. Beattie also adds: "He filled a large place in our hearts, and deservedly too; he was a rare young man, both as to talent and to piety."

CHAPTER VI.

MEDICAL WORK BEGUN.



R. METHENY, who had been appointed the year previous, arrived on the field with his wife and one child, in December, 1864. Rev. Beattie and family also returned from furlough at the same time.

In the autumn of this year, four schools were opened among the Nusairiyeh, in the villages of Bahamra, Boor, Kardaha, and Jendaria. These schools were all taught by young men who were converts from this sect. During the following winter there were eleven Nusairiyeh boys in the boarding school in Latakia.

Village
Schools
Opened.

During the summer of 1865 Mr. Dodds and family returned home on furlough, 1865. Mr. Beattie having charge of the schools and preaching services, Dr. Metheny being engaged in the practice of his profession, and in the study of the language. Another school was opened this year in the village of Musharrafe, and was taught by Selim Saleh, a convert from the Greek Orthodox Church. This made a total of five schools in country villages that were open this year, besides the boarding and day schools in Latakia.

1866. The first girls' school was opened in Latakia in 1866 with about forty pupils. Up to this time, no attention had been paid to the education of girls, and the project was not looked upon with much favor except by a few. This school was taught by a native lady teacher from Beyrout. During this year the schools were all kept open and the attendance was somewhat increased.

1867. Miss Rebecca Crawford, of Philadelphia, was appointed a missionary to Latakia in 1866, and arrived on the field January, 1867. Mr. Dodds and family also returned from their furlough at the same time.

Appointment of Miss Crawford. Early in this year, the ground upon which the girls' school now stands was purchased, and during the summer the construction of the girls' school building was begun. The estimated cost for a building of two stories, according to the original plan, was three thousand dollars, but as the work was proceeded with, it was thought to be expedient to erect a three story building, in order to accommodate one of the missionary families as well as the school. This, with other changes, increased the cost to about seven thousand dollars.

Erection of Girls' School.

Work in Apello The work of the Free Church of Scotland, that had been for some time carried on in Aleppo, was turned over to our Mission this year, and was placed under native care. During the year the Nusairiyeh of

the mountains were in rebellion against the government, and everything was in such a disturbed condition that it became necessary to close temporarily all the schools that had been opened in their villages. John Beattie was born at Latakia, October 10, 1867.

In the fall of 1868, Miss Crawford opened a girls' school in the house in which Mr. Beattie lived, as the girls' school building was not then completed. She had as her assistant Miriam, daughter of Iesa Haurani, who was at that time in charge of the Mission school in Idlib. During the summer Mr. Dodds, in accordance with the request of the Board, removed to Aleppo to take charge of the work there. There were at this time about 120 children under instruction in the two schools of Aleppo and Idlib. These were taught by native teachers.

During 1869 it was found possible to re-open the schools in the Nusairiyeh villages, that had been closed two years before.

The girls' boarding school was in session during the year with a fair attendance. The new building was then first occupied for that purpose. Medical work was prosecuted with vigor, and met with a good reception on the part of the people in every place. The regular preaching of the gospel was continued in Latakia and also in the villages as often as there were opportuni-

ties. As previously noted Mr. Dodds had removed to Aleppo the year before, to take charge of the work there, where he continued through this year to carry on a school and engage in the preaching of the Gospel and visiting among the people.

1870. In May 1870 Mr. Dodds was made the recipient of the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity, which was conferred upon him by Monmouth College. He continued to reside in Aleppo up to the time of his death, which occurred there December 12th, 1870, after a brief illness of ten days, from typhus fever. Immediately after his death, his family, consisting of his wife and five boys and two girls, returned to Latakia, and after a few months to America.

**Death of
Mr. Dodds.**

The work in Aleppo was given up on account of the Mission being unable with its limited force, to place any one in charge of the work there.

By the death of Rev. R. J. Dodds, D.D., which occurred as already mentioned, at Aleppo on the 12th of December 1870, the Mission was called for the first time to mourn the loss of one of its workers. His death left the Rev. Mr. Beattie as the only ministerial member of the Mission, with Dr. Metheny, and Miss Rebecca Crawford as his associates. The calling away of one of such ripe scholarship, devoted piety and high attainments, was a severe loss to the little band of missionaries, struggling to

uphold the truth, amidst such universal darkness. In the Church at home, where he was so well known and loved, his loss was also deeply mourned.

In the autumn of 1870 the boys boarding school was removed to Bahamra, and placed under the care of Teacher Yacob Jerridini. It was conducted there, under his care, until 1876 when it was again brought to Latakia. The average attendance during these years at Bahamra was about forty.

Boys' School
Removed to
Bahamra.

In Latakia the work was steadily growing. The increased number of those who came to hear the Gospel, as well as an increase of the number of the pupils in the schools, was an index to the slowly changing feelings of the people toward the missionaries, and the truths that they were teaching.

During the first years the Nusairiyeh could scarcely be induced to send their girls to school, but by degrees, through much effort, that difficulty was overcome, until in 1871 there were seventeen Nusairiyeh girls in the boarding school, under the care of Miss Crawford. Miriam, the wife of teacher Yusef Jedeed died this year.

She was the first *female* convert from among the pagan Nusairiyeh. There were so many things of interest, in her life and character, that we are sure that our readers will be interested in a short sketch of this

**Death of
Mariam,
Wife of
Yusef Jedeed.**

remarkable woman, in whom the power of Christ to save any who come unto Him was so powerfully manifested. Her father's name was Solomon Gazáli, of Jebel Daryous. He died there, leaving his wife with two daughters both quite young, Zahara (afterwards changed to Mariam) and her younger sister, Naiyouf. Her mother, with the two girls, removed to the Murj after the father's death. It was there that Hammud, the first male convert from the Nusairiyeh, saw Mariam and wished to take her as his wife. Arrangements were made by which she was to be placed under instruction for a time, and she was accordingly brought to Latakia in 1863 and lived in the family of Dr. Dodds until their return to America in 1865, when she went to live in Dr. Metheny's family. She soon learned to read, and in 1865 professed her faith in Christ and was baptized by Dr. Dodds. Hammud, to whom she was engaged, died December, 1864, and in 1866 she was married to Yusef Jedeed, also a young convert from the Nusairiyeh, who was teaching in one of the villages. After their marriage they went to Jendaria to live where Yusef taught a school. They spent three years there, and then removed to Cusmene, and a few months later to Bahlooliyeh. About the close of the year (1870) she became ill and spent about a month in Latakia under treatment. She re-

turned home, but in March following again took seriously ill, with what proved to be tuberculosis. Dr. Metheny and Mr. Beattie visited her once a week, for a few weeks, until Dr. Metheny left to accompany Mrs. Dodds and family as far as Alexandria on their return to America. During his absence, Mr. Beattie and others visited her twice a week; as she longed for their company and to have them read and pray with her. As she grew weaker she requested to be brought to Latakia, chiefly on account of the constant upbraidings of her Nusairiyeh neighbors, who have no sympathy with the sick or dying, and that she might have the consolation of Christian fellowship and care. She was carried to Latakia on a stretcher, making the wearisome journey in eight hours; and apparently without any ill effect; but she soon grew worse. A day before her death she seemed for a short time to be in great trouble, but it soon passed. One of the brethren who was present read the thirty-fourth Psalm, and at the close she chanted in a clear voice, the twenty-third Psalm. Later she called for her sister and bade her goodbye, and committed her mother and her two little children into the care of the missionaries. Her last audible words were, "The Lord be glorified. To Him be all the glory." Thus passed away the first woman, so far as is known, from among the pagan Nusai-

riyeh, who died in the hope of the Christian faith. Her consistent life, the earnest expression of her faith in Christ, and the calm peacefulness with which she met the last enemy, enable us to say of her that she "being dead, yet speaketh."

**New
Missionaries.**

**Rev. Gal-
breath.**

Miss Dodds.

**Rev. Dr.
Martin.**

Rev. Samuel R. Galbreath, who was licensed in 1869, and ordained and installed as pastor of Sterling congregation, New York, in 1870, was this year appointed to the Syrian Mission. Miss Mary Ellen Dodds, daughter of Dr. R. J. Dodds, deceased, was also appointed at this time. Mr. Galbreath and his wife, and Miss Dodds arrived on the field about the first of January, 1872. Rev. James Martin, M.D., of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Scotland and Ireland, who had been appointed by that Church to missionary work, arrived at Latakia about the same time, with the intention of spending some time there in the study of the language, preparatory to entering upon regular work in some field to be decided upon later.

1872.

Earthquakes.

In April, 1872, Latakia was visited by several severe earthquake shocks; many fled from the city, and the missionaries were compelled to seek safety in tents for a time. About two thirds of the city of Antioch was destroyed at this time.

In Latakia the damage was trifling. During April of this year, Mr. Galbreath, who had been unwell for some time, went to

Beyrout for treatment, accompanied by Dr. **Death of
Rev. S. R.
Galbreath.** Martin. A few days after his arrival there he was suddenly taken worse, and died at the Continental Hotel in that city, April 30th, 1872, and was buried in the Prussian cemetery on the outskirts of the city. Dr. Metheny and family and Miss Crawford returned home this year on furlough, and Mrs. Galbreath, with her baby daughter, who was born a short time after the death of her father, accompanied them. A few short months in a strange land had for her changed all, and brought to her the sorrow of a lifetime, and now she sadly turned her face toward the home land which she had left such a little time before in company of her husband, who was so soon to be promoted to the heavenly home. At the communion held in Latakia this year there were thirty-eight native communicants, and three that were absent. The ordinary attendance on public worship at this time in Latakia, exclusive of the pupils in the schools, was from thirty to forty.

During 1873 the government began to **1873.** manifest strong opposition to the work of the Mission. Their first act was to close the school taught by Iesa Haurani in Bahlooleyah. This was followed by attempts to hinder the work in other places, which were only partially successful.

**Rev. Henry
Easson
Appointed.**

Rev. Henry Easson, who received his appointment in 1872 as missionary to Latakia, arrived on the field, with his wife and child January 2nd, 1873.

**First
Bahamra
Communion.**

During the absence of Dr. Metheny in America, in 1872-3, Dr. Martin, who was at that time still engaged in the study of the language, carried on the medical work of the mission. The first communion held outside of Latakia, was observed at Bahamra, April 20th, 1873. The services were conducted by Mr. Beattie. Dr. Martin, Mr. Easson, and Miss Lizzie Beattie were also present. Thirty-two persons communed; two were added to the church at this time, and there were four infant baptisms. In August, the governor of Latakia imprisoned three of the Mission teachers, Yusef Jedeed, Daoud Mahloof, and Selim Khalafie. They were handcuffed and sent to Jebley, and from there to Tripoli and later to Beyrout, and then on to Damascus.

**Theological
Class.**

Mr. Beattie and Dr. Martin went to Beyrout to see what could be done for them, but failed to accomplish anything further than to secure some fair promises which were never realized. They obtained passage for them in the *diligence* from Beyrout to Damascus; thus saving them from having to walk that distance. Six persons were added to the church this year, making a total of fifty-two at this time. Mr. Beattie now began to give instruction

in theology to a class of young men who were in preparation for mission work.

Synod, at its meeting in May of this year, empowered the Pittsburgh Presbytery to take under its care Dr. David Metheny, who was then home on furlough, and if the way be found clear to ordain him to the ministry before his departure for Syria in the autumn. This action was carried out, and Dr. Metheny was licensed and ordained as a minister of the Gospel, and returned to Syria before the end of the year.

**Dr. Metheny
Licensed and
Ordained.**

CHAPTER VII.

SUADEA.



Dr. and Mrs.
Holt Yates.

SOME years previous to this time Dr. and Mrs. Holt Yates, of England, had purchased property at Suadea, near the mouth of the Orontes river, and had constructed buildings and lived for some time in the valley, and on their return to England left a man in charge of the property there and to do missionary work among the people around. This did not prove to be a satisfactory arrangement, as the person employed was not fitted for such work. During 1873, Dr. Yates died and his widow made over the property to our Mission, and also promised to give 300 pounds sterling yearly to assist in carrying on a boys' boarding school in that place. The transfer of the property was made early in 1874, and Selim Saleh was sent from Latakia to superintend the work.

1874.

The house that Dr. Yates had built, having been badly damaged by the earthquake of 1872, was rebuilt in 1874 under the supervision of Mr. Easson, who spent about a year there at that time, superintending the building operations, and in laying the foundation for the future work that was

to be carried on there. It was the stipulation of Mrs. Yates that a school and general missionary work should be carried on by our mission at Suadea. This was left in the hands of native workers after Mr. Easson's return to Latakia. This gift from Mrs. Yates not only placed the Mission in possession of a valuable property, but gave control of a very important point for missionary work, and one that up to that time had been very much neglected. There are perhaps 20,000 Nusairiyeh in this valley and in the surrounding mountains, besides many adherents of the Greek Orthodox Church, a large proportion of them being at that time in dense ignorance.

On October 15th, 1874, some Turkish soldiers made an attack by night on the mission house in Bahamra, where a boarding school was then being carried on, breaking down the door and effecting forcible entrance. Assad Canaan, Braheem Khalafie, and Khalil Rahjeh were arrested, along with Selim Khalafie, and Yusef Jedeed, who had been arrested and sent to Damascus the year before, and impressed into the Turkish army, but who had deserted and returned home. This had the effect to close the school there for a time. These persons, after being imprisoned for several months, succeeded in making their escape and again returned to their village. The Latakia schools had this year, about seventy board-

**Imprisonment
of
Teachers.**

ers, and also an increased number of day pupils in attendance.

Miss Mary E. Dodds had charge of the girls' department in the absence of Miss Crawford, who was then on furlough.

**Commission
of Synod.**

The Commission of Synod in Syria, as authorized by the Synod of 1874, was constituted and held its first meeting February 16th, 1875. Rev. Joseph Beattie was moderator. In 1874 Mr. Beattie made a trip to Constantinople to try to secure the release of Daoud, who had been impressed into the army, and sent there from Damascus. His efforts were unavailing, he was not even able to locate Daoud at that place.

1875.

In 1874-5 the dwelling house on the lot adjoining the girls' school was built, and was occupied by Dr. Metheny and Rev. Easson. It was paid for as follows: \$1,250, was furnished by the Board, the balance by rents paid in advance, by Dr. Metheny's medical fees, and by contributions from members of the Mission.

**International
Postage.**

The international postage agreement went into effect about the close of 1874. Up to this time twenty-eight cents was charged on all letters to America, mailed at Latakia; and twelve cents on all letters received, no matter what postage was placed on them at the start.

Rev. Dr. Martin spent the summer of 1874 in Ireland, and was married. He and his wife returned to Latakia in April, 1875.

The school in Bahlooliyeh, that had been closed by the government, was opened this year with thirty-eight pupils. It was under the care of the former teacher, Iesa Haurani. School work was also undertaken anew in the other villages in which the schools had been closed. Latakia was visited by the cholera during the summer, with a result, as nearly as could be ascertained, of about 350 deaths.

Miss Mattie R. Wylie, who had received an appointment to Latakia, arrived there in 1875 in the month of November. Mr. Beattie and family, with the exception of Miss Lizzie, his daughter, who had gone to America in 1874, returned home on furlough in April, 1876.

**Miss Wylie
Appointed.**

1876.

During this year Dr. Metheny visited Damascus, and also Zahleh, from which our missionaries were driven out in 1858. He found mission work successfully carried on there, and schools well attended. Upon being introduced at one of their meetings as an associate of Revs. Dodds and Beattie, an old and apparently very zealous member arose and said, "alas, alas! upon *us* rests the odium of having driven Mr. Dodds from our midst; and I was one of those who helped to throw stones at him." This man was then an earnest Christian. Truly God does answer prayer. It may not be in the way nor at the time that we expect, but none the less surely the answer will come.

Zahleh.

Daoud.

The two schools in Latakia had this year one hundred and twenty boarders, and one hundred and eighty day pupils. Daoud, who, was previously mentioned as having been taken to Constantinople, had not at this time been heard of for two years. The year of 1876 was one of many sad bereavements to the Mission. The following deaths occurred in the order named. Infant daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Martin, Mrs. Martin, wife of Dr. Martin; infant daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Easson, and on December 17th, Mrs. Emma Gregg Metheny, wife of Dr. Metheny.

CHAPTER VIII.

A TIME OF CHANGE.



THE chapel for the girls school was constructed during the year 1876. The funds for its erection were contributed by Mrs. Metheny, who passed away a short time before its completion. The first services were held in it March 11th, 1877. In 1875, the remains of Dr. Dodds, who died in Aleppo, were brought to Latakia, and interred in the little cemetery near this chapel.

**Erection of
Chapel.**

Mr. Beattie, who was then on furlough, was chosen Moderator of the Synod of 1877. During this year, nearly all of the village schools were closed, on account of the Nusairiyeh being again in rebellion against the government. The number of pupils in the boarding schools remained about the same. The war between Turkey and Russia was going on at this time, and nearly all the able-bodied men were called to military service; and the whole country was in a very disturbed and unsettled condition. The war spirit was aroused, and many threats were made against the missionaries, and some threatening manifestations, calling for the presence, at one time, of one of the vessels of the American fleet,

**Mr. Beattie
Chosen Mod-
erator Synod.**

which was then in the Mediterranean, but no outbreak occurred.

**Death of
Mrs. Beattie.**

Dr. Metheny, and Miss Mary E, Dodds were married in December, 1877. Mr. Beattie returned to Latakia in April, 1878, leaving Mrs. Beattie at home to superintend the education of their children. He had only been at the Mission for a short time, when he received the sad news of the death of Mrs. Beattie, that occurred at Philadelphia, June 1st, of that year. This necessitated his return to the home land a few weeks later, to look after the affairs of his family. Dr. Metheny also returned home about the first of June. This left Mr. Eason as the only minister on the field.

**Dr. Martin
Goes to
Antioch.**

Rev. James Martin, M.D., who, as before stated, had been sent out by the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Scotland and Ireland, to be associated with the Mission at Latakia, temporarily, until he should attain to proficiency in the language, removed to Antioch in the fall of 1876, some time after the death of his wife, this place having been decided upon as a suitable center for a separate and independent field of work. He was married in February, 1879, to Miss Rebecca Crawford, of the Latakia mission, who had been for a number of years in charge of the girls' school, in connection with Miss Mary E. Dodds, at that place.

Dr. Martin has labored in Antioch with encouraging success from that time to the present, over thirty-seven years.

Lizzie, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Easson, died at Latakia in April, 1878.

The village schools still remained closed during this year. Circumstances were not favorable for much work among the Nusai-riyeh, but the Latakia boarding schools were well filled with pupils, and the usual preaching and other work was carried on in the city as before.

During this year the mountain schools, that had been closed, were again operated, and six new ones were also opened. Mr. Francis Fattal, who was teacher of French in the girls' school, and who served as pharmacist and Mission agent until the time of his death in August, 1895, united with the church, and was baptized in March, 1879.

Rev. and Mrs. Easson, who had spent their summer vacation in Kessab, went from there to Suadea, in October of this year, to open a boarding school there until such a time as it might be possible to have a separate school for the boys in Latakia; as up to that time, the boys' and girls' schools had both been held in the same building. This arrangement was found to be very inconvenient, and it was decided to take all the boys who were boarders in Latakia to

**Boarding
School in
Suadea.**

Suadea, until arrangements could be made to procure a separate building.

Rev. W. J. Sproull and Miss Carson Arrive.

Dr. Metheny and family returned to the field in December, and with them the Rev. Wm. J. Sproull and wife, and Miss Carson, of Philadelphia, who had been appointed missionaries to the field.

Chapel Bell.

The bell for the chapel was sent out this year. It was the gift of Mrs. Gregg, of Allegheny, the mother of Mrs. Emma Metheny, deceased.

1880.

During 1880 there were fourteen day schools in operation and two boarding schools. There were also eleven Sabbath schools. There was an addition of seventeen members to the church this year. Circumstances were favorable, both for the conducting of schools and the preaching of the Gospel in the country villages. In the autumn of this year, Miss Carson was compelled to return home on account of ill health. Miss Wylie accompanied her on the return trip.

Daoud Returns.

Daoud of the Murj, who, it will be remembered, was forcibly taken into the Turkish army in 1873, returned to his home in July, 1880, having served seven years, suffered much persecution and passed through many trying circumstances. He settled in his native village, where he taught a small school for a time.

Dr. Archibald J. Dodds and Miss Evadna Sterrett were both appointed to this field and arrived in November, 1881.

Rev. Joseph Beattie, who it will be remembered returned home in 1878, after the death of Mrs. Beattie, was honored during that year with the degree of Doctor of Divinity by Union College. Dr. Beattie returned to the mission in 1881, and resumed his work of training a theological class, in addition to his regular ministerial duties.

**Appointment
Dr. Dodds
and Miss
Sterrett.**

Miss Wylie, who had accompanied Miss Carson home, the previous autumn, returned in the spring, and again took up her work as principal of the girl's school.

Mr. Easson, who had been in charge of the work in Suadea, remained there until the close of the school year in June. At that time the boarding school was divided, and the larger pupils were brought to Latakia, and those in the primary department were kept in Suadea.

**Boys' Board-
ing School.**

CHAPTER IX.

WORK BEGUN IN ASIA MINOR.

1882.



HE year 1882 was marked by conditions very favorable to the work, and all the departments were in a prosperous condition. There were twenty-two mountain schools in operation, fifteen boys in the boarding school, and sixty girls. The operation of the Spirit was manifest, in a greater willingness on the part of many to hear the truth, and in the addition of twenty-two persons to the membership of the church.

**Mr. Jerridini
Licensed.**

Teacher Yacob Jerridini, who had been in the employ of the Mission since 1870, was licensed to preach the Gospel in February of this year, and was sent to Suadea to take charge of the work there. Mr. Eason and family returned home on vacation in the spring.

This year was marked by an extension of the work into Asia Minor. Dr. Archibald Dodds and Miss Mizpah Metheny were married, in Kessab, in August of this year. Dr. Metheny made a short business trip to America in the fall, returning in December. His family remained in Kessab, where they had spent the summer. On his return

he removed from there, via Antioch and Alexandretta, to Mersine, for the purpose of opening up work there, or at Tarsus, as circumstances might indicate. **Work Opened in Mersine.**

This arrangement had been previously agreed to by the Mission, and had received the sanction of the Board. Miss Sterrett also accompanied Dr. Metheny and family to the new field. They stopped for a few days at Mersine, and then removed to Adana, and a few months later to Tarsus. They were at first undecided as to which of the three cities should be chosen as the base of operations.

Their chief aim was to reach the Nusai-riyeh, many of whom were found in and around these three cities. In Adana alone there were at that time about 4,500 of them.

Miss Sterrett began work in Mersine, and in 1883 opened a day school with about eighty pupils. This stirred up much opposition on the part of the priests, whose anathemas were launched against those who dared to patronize the new school. This had the effect of temporarily reducing the attendance, but did not produce any permanent result. Miss Sterrett continued to labor there alone for two years with very good success. Dr. Metheny in the meantime resided in Tarsus. In 1885 he removed to Mersine, and during that and the following year erected from his personal funds the building in which he afterwards

resided, and a part of which has up to this time been used for school purposes.

**Boarding
School
Opened.**

The Mersine school up to 1885 received only day pupils, but in that year they began to receive boarders, many of whom they kept for the whole time, taking them to Guzneh, four hours back in the mountains during the hot months of the summer; keeping the school open there. This work, which involved a great deal of extra expense, and trouble, was kept up until 1895, when it was discontinued. From that time on pupils were dismissed during the summer vacation.

**Book Room
Latakia
Opened.**

To return to Latakia, we would record that in 1882; a book store was opened for the sale of Bibles and religious literature, and Ishoc Shamaa, a native of Hums, who had previously been engaged for some years in evangelistic work in Mt. Lebanon was placed in charge. The American Bible Society instituted this work, and paid two-thirds of the wages of the person employed.

1883-4.

**Death of
Dr. Beattie.**

Rev. Joseph Beattie, D.D., senior member of the Mission, died in Latakia, October 8th, 1883, of gastric fever. He was a man of many sterling qualities, loving and gentle in disposition, and was held in high esteem, both by his missionary associates and the native people, as well as by the home Church. His death was keenly felt by all. After his death his children returned to America. Mr. Sproull was at that

time the only minister in this part of the field, Mr. Easson being then at home on furlough.

In the autumn of this year, Miss Meta Cunningham, who had been appointed by the Foreign Mission Board of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Ireland and Scotland to missionary work in the Antioch field, where the Rev. Dr. Martin was then laboring, came to Latakia, with the purpose of spending some time there in the study of the language, before entering upon work in her own field.

Miss Cunningham.

Dr. Dodds carried on a large amount of medical work in Latakia, and also spent much time touring throughout the field and ministering to the many sick in the villages visited from time to time.

Mr. Easson returned from his furlough and he and Mr. Sproull were actively engaged in preaching both in Latakia and in the villages in which schools were then open. Mr. Sproull also superintended the boys' school in Latakia.

In 1883 an agreement was entered into, between the United Presbyterian Mission of Egypt and our Mission to edit jointly, a new metrical version of the Psalms for use in both missions.

This work was undertaken by Mr. Elias Saleh, an educated young man of the Greek Orthodox church of Latakia. He was assisted by Dr. Lansing, of the Egyptian Mis-

**Metrical
Version
Psalms.**

sion, who came on to Latakia for that purpose. The work was satisfactorily completed, and an edition of 4,000 copies was printed at the Beyrout Press, Latakia taking 1,000 of them, and the Egyptian Mission 3,000.

The version hitherto used was one prepared some years before by the United Presbyterian Mission, and, in addition to the use of inferior type, was not in other respects satisfactory.) In 1884 there were twenty mountain schools in operation, and the way was open for all the touring and preaching work that the missionaries were able to do. The boys' school in Latakia had twenty-three boarders, and one hundred in the day school. And in Suadea there were twenty-two boarders.

Dr. Dodds reported a very successful year in the medical work 3,076 patients were treated, and about \$610.00 were received as fees.

1885.

**Death of
Mrs. Mizpah
Dodds.**

In the spring of 1885, Mrs. Mizpah Metheny Dodds, wife of Dr. Dodds, died at Latakia; and a short time afterward, Dr. Dodds returned home to America, bringing with him his one little child. The remaining workers in the field were the same as the year before, and the work was carried on with about the same number of pupils and schools.

Dr. Dodds, after spending a few months in America, left his little child with his

mother, and started back with the purpose of again taking up his work, but was lost in the wreck of the Steamer Sidon, off the coast of Spain, October 27th, 1885. Very little that was satisfactory, was ever known in regard to his death. It was at least a very strange and peculiar circumstance that he was the only one of the passengers that was lost. The following copy of a letter, written by Mr. Daniel Peoples, of Liverpool, to Mr. Walter T. Miller, treasurer of the Board, embodies all the particulars that are known, of the circumstances of his death:

Death of
Archibald J.
Dodds.

WALTER T. MILLER, ESQ.

Dear Sir:—I am sure you will be waiting with much anxiety, after reading my last two letters, to receive further intelligence of Dr. Dodds. He sailed hence in the Cunard steamer Sidon, October 24, noon, for Smyrna. I am sorry to have to write now that the Sidon was wrecked on the 27th of October, and the doctor was lost. I have received the following report from the gentleman who occupied the same state room with the Doctor. He says:

“Steamer Sidon struck a rock on the coast of Spain near Amalpina, about seven o'clock in the evening. Six or seven passengers were lost, owing to bad conduct of captain, officers and crew. All others saved by getting on bow of steamer, which was

lying on rocks. Dr. Dodds and myself were left on stern of steamer, and after having stayed until our lives were exposed by terrible waves that would come and take away the steamer piece by piece. When we saw the danger we decided to throw ourselves into the water and try to save our lives. Dr. Dodds did not know how to swim, so I tied him to me by a rope, and we threw ourselves into the water. We had swum for more than four hours together and were touching land with our feet, when a terrible wave came and broke the rope and carried him away. It took me away too, but with a good deal of effort, I succeeded in recovering myself. I got on shore and screamed a long time, but no answer to my cries. I did all I could to save him as he was a good-hearted fellow, and we had the same state room together. I had a good chance to take him, but God did not want, and tore him away from a sincere friend, who did all he could, and exposed his own life in trying to save his companion.'

“FRANCAIS MAINETTY.’

“I had an interview with this gentleman; he is a young man of twenty years of age, and a robust, good-looking young man. He and the Doctor seemed to be quite intimate. He said that before leaping into the water the Doctor told him that if he should get to shore, to send word to his friends. The Doctor, he says, had his red pocketbook and other valuables on

his person. He told this man that he had valuable articles and papers in his white handbag. He says the Doctor found a life preserver, but seeing a lady in danger, gave it to her. He then found another, but gave it to another lady.

“Yours sincerely,
“DANIEL PEOPLES.”

Dr. Dodds was a young man in the prime of life, amiable and lovely in his character, a man of sincere and earnest piety and eminently fitted for the work in which he was engaged. His death was a severe loss 1886. to the Mission work and was deeply mourned by all who knew him.

CHAPTER X.

LATAKIA BOARDING SCHOOL.

**Latakia
Boarding
School for
Boys.**



THE following is a brief summary of the facts in connection with the Latakia boarding school for boys. It had its origin and first home in Bahamra, under Mr. Lyde. Soon after his death it came under the care of Drs. Dodds and Beattie, and was opened anew in Latakia, with teachers, Bashara Haddad, and Yusef Shakkoor as instructors. This school was carried on in Latakia until 1870, when it was removed to Bahamra, and placed under the supervision of Yacob Jerridini, who continued in charge of it there until 1876, when it was brought to Latakia, and had its home in part of the girls' school building until 1879, when it was thought to be inexpedient to carry on the two schools in the same building; and the boys' school was removed to Suadea. Mr. Easson had charge of it there until 1882, when it was divided, and the more advanced pupils brought to Latakia, and those in the primary department retained in Suadea. From this time on, boarding schools were carried on in both places, until within a very recent period. From 1882 to 1886 the boys' school in Latakia, was con-

**Division of
Boarding
School.**

ducted in the lower part of the mission dwelling house, adjoining the girls' school. Mr. Sproull lived in the second story of this house, and superintended the school. In 1886 it was removed to the "Boool House" in town, a building formerly rented and occupied by Dr. Dodds as a dwelling house. In 1888 it was removed to the "Marcus House" in which it remained until December, 1893, when it was removed to the building erected as a permanent home for that institution. In 1886 the Suadea school had an attendance of twenty-two day scholars, and twenty boarders. This school was under the care of Ibrahim Jukie from 1886 to 1893, at which time Rev. J. Boggs Dodds arrived and took responsible charge of the work.

The Latakia girls' school had an enrollment of fifty boarders, and eighty day pupils under the superintendence of Miss Wylie. The boys' school had twenty-eight boarders, and sixty day pupils, and was under the care of licentiate Yacob Jerridini, who was transferred here from Suadea, to take charge of the work.

Miss Maggie B. Edgar was appointed to this field, and arrived at Latakia, November 4th, 1886. Nearly all of the outside schools were closed this year on account of the hostility of the government. The teachers were employed in traveling about, and

**Miss Maggie
B. Edgar
Appointed.**

reading the Gospel wherever they could find an opportunity.

Rev. W. J. Sproull Resigns.

Rev. W. J. Sproull, who had come to the Mission in 1879, resigned in the spring of 1886, and returned to America. Mr. Sproull was a very scholarly man, and made high attainments in the language in the short time that he spent in the Mission work, and his departure from the mission was deeply regretted by his coworkers, as well as the native people. The retirement of Mr. Sproull left Mr. Easson as the only ministerial member of the Mission in the Latakia field.

1887.

Appointment Miss Lillian B. Joseph.

Miss Lillian B. Joseph was appointed in the fall of 1886 to labor in the Mersine field and in April, 1887, sailed for that field, accompanied by Miss Willia A. Dodds, who, on the invitation of Dr. Metheny, went to Mersine to aid in the work there.

Appointment Dr. Balph.

Dr. J. M. Balph was appointed medical missionary to Latakia March, 1887, and arrived on the field, with his wife and three children, October 15th of that year.

Death of Paul C. Martin.

Paul C. Martin, only child of Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Martin of Antioch died of diphtheria, April 24th, 1887.

Hanna Deeb, Mission steward, died at Latakia, July 2nd.

Death of Hanna Deeb.

A house 22 x 22 ft. was built in Jendaria during this year, for school and chapel purposes. The work was done by the native

members. The Mission furnished the timber used, at a cost of about fifty dollars.

A school was opened this year in Larnaca, Cyprus, and Mr. Andrea Vitali was placed in charge. During the year the mountain schools were closed, and the teachers continued to do itinerating work as they had done the year before. In November Miss Willia A. Dodds, who had come to Mersine the year before, was appointed by the Board as a missionary worker at Latakia, and removed there from Mersine, and was associated with Miss Wylie and Miss Edgar in the girls' school. Miss Edgar, in addition to the study of the language, gave part of her time to the work in the boys' school.

**First School
in Cypress.**

**Appointment
Miss Willia
A. Dodds.**

CHAPTER XI.

CHURCHES ORGANIZED.

**Visit of
Synods.
Delegation.**



N the spring of 1888, a delegation appointed by Synod visited the Mission. This delegation consisted of Rev. David McAllister, D.D., of Pittsburgh, Pa., and Mr. Henry O'Neill, of New York. They arrived at Latakia, April 28, and spent one week in visiting the following places: Bahamra, Murj, Eldaney, Jendaria, Gunamia, and Suadea; going from there to Antioch and Alexandretta, on their way to Mersine.

**Appointment
of Rev. James
S. Stewart.**

Rev. James S. Stewart was appointed missionary to Latakia in March, 1888, and arrived on the field, with his wife and two children, in the autumn. At this time the ministerial work of the Mission devolved upon Mr. Easson, with occasional help from Mr. Jerridini, licentiate, who had charge of the boys' school.

Dr. Balph, who arrived the previous fall, went to Constantinople about the close of the year to take the medical examination required of foreigners wishing to practice medicine in Turkey, and after his return began in January to do regular medical work. In December a circular was sent out by the Mission at Latakia to the home

churches, soliciting funds for the erection of a boys' school. The amount asked for was six thousand dollars.

The school work in Mersine was in operation and the schools were well attended, Miss Sterrett and Miss Joseph being in charge. Dr. Metheny, although in feeble health, continued doing considerable medical practice, besides preaching and attending to the countless other matters, that demanded his attention.

The boys' school was removed this year from the "Boolus House" to the "Marcus House," and was under the superintendence of Mr. Stewart, with Yacob Jerridini as head teacher. 1889.

Miss Cunningham, who had gone to England for a short vacation, returned to Latakia and proceeded to Suadea where she opened a girls' school, which was under the oversight of our Mission, although she continued to be supported by the Church in Ireland and Scotland. Prof. D. B. Willson, M.D., D.D., of the Theological Seminary, accompanied by his sister Miss Emily Willson, of Philadelphia, visited the Mission in the spring of 1889, spending a few days there.

Jean, eldest daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Stewart, died of diphtheria November 8th, 1889. Teachers of village schools continued to do itinerating work as formerly, as it was still impossible to open schools.

**Election of
Church
Officers.**

Elders and deacons were elected in Latakia, December 9th, 1889. Elders, Yacob Jerridini, Selim Haddad, and Assad Dagher. Deacons, Francis Fattal, Mechiel Luttoof, and Georgus Aintabley.

In Jendaria, the following persons were also elected: Elders, Selim Saleh, Deban Debey, Deacons, Selim Debey and Selim Yasine.

**Eldaney
Ordination
of Officers.**

At Eldaney, February 6th, 1890, the following persons were also elected: Elders, Iesa Haurani and Yacob Hamdan; Deacons, Hanna Simaan, and Ibrahim Haurani. The last named did not accept, and the others were ordained at the same time. Iesa

**Licensure
Mr. Haurani.**

Haurani was licensed to preach the Gospel. The officers elected in Latakia were ordained May 10, 1890, by the committee appointed by the Commission of Synod, which consisted of the ordained missionaries resident in Latakia. The Rev. J. W. Sproull, D.D., of Allegheny, who was at this time on a visit to the Mission, was present and assisted in the ordination. Mr. Selim Haddad, a candidate for licensure, was also examined and licensed on May 12th.

**Latakia
Ordination.****Licensure
Mr. Haddad.****Jendaria
Ordination
Licensure of
Mr. Saleh.**

On May 13th the Committee met at Jendaria, and licensed Mr. Selim Saleh to preach, and ordained the persons previously elected as elders and deacons.

Rev. Dr. Sproull landed at Latakia, May 8th, 1890, and made a tour of the field, including Suadea; proceeding from there to Antioch, Alexandretta, and Mersine.

**Dr. Sproull
Visits the
Mission.**

The boys' school was not opened in Suadea in the fall of 1889, owing to a lack of funds, but was opened a month later by order of the Board. The attendance this year was thirty-five. The Suadea girls' school, under Miss Cunningham, reported an attendance of thirty-six. The Mersine schools were under the care of Miss Joseph and Miss Willia Dodds; the latter having been transferred from Latakia to Mersine to assist Miss Joseph. Dr. Metheny and family and Miss Sterrett were home this year on vacation.

Rev. R. J. Dodds, who had been appointed to the Mersine field, sailed in October, 1890, and arrived at the Mission about a month later.

**Rev. R. J.
Dodds
Appointed.**

Miss Sterrett also arrived at the same time. Dr. Metheny, who was detained by an attack of fever, arrived about two months later.

Miss Wylie who had been home on furlough also arrived at Latakia in November, accompanied by Mrs. Mary McCarroll, who had received her appointment to this field in July. During Miss Wylie's absence from the field the girls' school was under the care of Miss Edgar; and Mr. Stewart superintended the boys' school. The boys'

**Mrs. Mary
McCarroll
Appointed.**

school that had been opened in Cyprus in 1887 was closed in December 1889.

1891.

In 1891 the Greek Bishop in Latakia exerted all his influence to close the schools in all villages where there were any of this sect. He succeeded in closing those in Inkzeke and Urdi, in the northern part of the field.

Regular preaching services were conducted in Eldaney, Murj, and Bahamra by licentiate Iesa Haurani, and by licentiate Selim Saleh at Jendaria. Mr. Stewart had charge of the boys' school, licentiate Jeridini continuing as head teacher, and preaching as opportunity offered. Mr. Eason had charge of the preaching and touring work in the different parts of the field. A coffee house and reading room was kept open during this year by personal contributions, for the purpose of furnishing good reading, and a place in which young men might profitably spend their evenings.

The Mission house in Jendaria, which was used for school and preaching services, was seized by Zea Bey, the governor of Latakia, on October 13th of this year, without any show of legal formality, and turned over to the original owners of the ground.

**Arrest of
Teachers.**

Four persons, Deban Debey, Selim Debey, Sultan Debey and Hanna Iskander, former teachers in this district, all of whom resided in Jendaria, were arrested at this time, and brought before the governor and

examined in regard to their religion and their work, and a strong effort was made to have them deny their faith, but without avail. They were then ordered not to teach for the Americans, and dismissed.

In the southern part of the field, schools were kept open this year, in the villages of Mettin, Soda and Tartoos. //In the Nusai-riyeh mountains, ten schools were open part of the time// The schools in Latakia, both day and boarding, were well attended. In Suadea, the schools also had their usual attendance of pupils.

Rev. J. R. W. Stevenson, first missionary to Cyprus, was appointed in 1891, and arrived on the island in November of that year. The winter was spent in the study of the language and preparation for the work, under circumstances, apparently most favorable, up to March, 1892, when he was suddenly taken violently ill, the result, as was supposed, of having taken a dose of medicine, compounded by a pharmacist of the Island.

**Appointment
of Rev. J. R.
W. Stevenson.**

Telegrams were sent to Latakia and Mersine, but neither Dr. Metheny nor Dr. Balph was able to get a steamer for Cyprus at once. Dr. Metheny arrived five days after, and Dr. Balph a day later. Mr. Stevenson remained in a very critical condition for a few days after their arrival, but gradually improved to that extent that he was able, after several weeks, to go to Mer-

**Rev. Steven-
son's Resig-
nation.**

sine, and later to Guzneh, in the mountains, where he spent a brief period, and finding that his health did not improve, he returned to America and resigned.

**Resignation
Mrs. McCarroll.**

In the spring of 1892, Mrs. Mary McCarroll, who had come to the field in 1890, sent in her resignation, and was married to the Rev. J. Stewart Crawford, of Damascus, in July. The boys' school building, in Latakia, was erected, in 1891-2 and part of the second story was finished for a dwelling for Rev. Stewart and family, and was occupied by them in November, 1892. Owing to the fact that the building was not entirely completed, and also for other reasons, it was not occupied for school purposes until December, 1893.

**Resignation
Miss Joseph.**

Miss Joseph, of Mersine, returned home this year and resigned on account of continued ill health.

**Rev. Henry
Easson
Resigns.**

Rev. Henry Easson, who had labored in the Latakia field for about twenty years, resigned on account of failing health, and returned to America in the spring of this year. His removal from the work at this time was deeply regretted by all, as his knowledge and experience made him not only an able worker, but a wise counsellor in matters pertaining to the work.

CHAPTER XII.

INCREASED OPPOSITION.



OPPOSITION to the work and persecution of native Christians during this year reached a degree never before experienced in the history of the Mission. The years of 1892 and 1893 were dark days, in which all the forces of evil seemed to be let loose against the Lord's work in this field.

Zea Bey, the governor of Latakia, who has been already mentioned, as having seized the property of the Mission in Jendaria, and who imprisoned the teachers residing there, now began to wax bolder, and use every means at his command to completely break up the work among the Nusairiyeh, both on the plains and in the mountains.

He erected Mohammedan places of worship and school houses in many of the villages, and sent them teachers, who, however, were not so zealous as their master, and contented themselves with drawing their pay, and doing as little as possible, and the result was that very few of the people sent their children to these schools, and they were not continued more than a year or two. Nusairiyeh chiefs were called be-

fore the governor, and forced to say that they accepted the Mohammedan religion; and that they would not permit foreign schools to be opened in their villages. Those who had been teachers among this people were arrested and imprisoned for a time, and tempted by offers of positions as teachers in the new schools, if they would give up their religion; only two or three of the whole number proved false to their profession. The remainder were afterward liberated and ordered not to teach for the Americans. Several attempts were also made to remove all Nusairiyeh children from the Latakia boarding schools. These attempts were partially successful for a time, but as soon as the immediate danger had passed the children were again returned to the schools.

None of the mission teachers were permitted to reside anywhere in the mountains, except those whose homes were there, in order that they might not have the opportunity of reading the scriptures to the people or of talking with them.

Licentiate Iesa Haurani and his son Ibrahim, who were living in the mission house in Eldaney, were ordered to come down to Latakia, as they did not hold property, or have any business in Eldaney except teaching.

After they were forced to leave the village the fellaheen encouraged by the action

of the governor and the knowledge that they would not be punished, set at work to tear down the mission building and steal everything that was worth carrying away. Complaint was made to the government, **Destruction of Mission Property.** but they not only failed to protect our property but they refused to allow us to leave any one in charge to do so. It is well known that they secretly aided and encouraged the fellaheen in destroying it.

An attempt was made later to secure some redress, and compensation for the property destroyed, but our Consul was unable to do anything in the matter. Our teacher in Inkzeke, in the northern part of the field, was also thrown into prison during this summer, where he remained for two months.

Mrs. Elzina I. Dodds Balph, wife of Dr. J. M. Balph, died at Latakia, December 19th, 1892, in the thirty-ninth year of her age. Her death occurred three weeks after the birth of a daughter, born November 27th. **Death of Mrs. Elzina I. Balph.**

Miss Willia A. Dodds, Mrs. Balph's sister, who had been summoned from Mersine during her illness, remained in Latakia until April, when she took the Doctor's children to America, returning in the fall to Mersine.

The "Iron Church," in Larnaca, Cyprus, **Larnaca Church Erected.** was built in 1892, being completed in July. The lot cost, including the foundation of

the building, 86 pounds sterling; and the building 259 pounds sterling; making the total cost 345 pounds, or about \$1,700. This was the gift of Mrs. Eda S. McKee, of Pittsburgh, Pa. At the close of this year, Mr. Stewart was the only minister in the Latakia field; Miss Wylie and Miss Edgar had charge of the girls' school, and Dr. Balph of the medical work.

**D. Saadi
Licensed.**

Daoud Saadi, a former teacher and evangelist, in the Mersine field, and now employed in Cyprus, was licensed by a Commission appointed for that purpose, consisting of Revs. Dr. Metheny, and R. J. Dodds, and Elder J. M. Balph. This licensure took place, at the house of Rev. J. R. W. Stevenson in Larnaca. Mr. Stevenson was unable to be present on account of illness.

1893.

**Rev. J. Boggs
Dodds
Appointed.**

**Iesa Haurani
Deported.**

The work in Mersine and Tarsus was in the hands of Dr. Metheny and Mr. Dodds, and the boarding schools in Mersine were conducted by the Misses Sterrett and Dodds. // In January 1893 the wife of licentiate Iesa Haurani died at Latakia. Rev. J. Boggs Dodds and wife, who had been appointed to Suadea, arrived at Latakia in February, and remained there until April; they then went on to their future home in Suadea. Soon after this time, licentiate Haurani was sent under an escort of Turkish soldiers to Beyrout, and from there to his native place in the Hauran, the

only reason for his banishment being that the government feared his influence upon the Nusairiyeh. In April Daoud Mahloof, Ibrahim Simey, and Yacob Hamdan were arrested and imprisoned for some time, and when released, were ordered not to teach for the Mission, and not to receive money from them for any purpose.

At this time there was scarcely a possibility of doing any work among the Nusairiyeh. They were closely watched and if it became known that any of their villages had been visited by the missionaries, or if they were suspected of having a school open, it was the signal for the arrest and punishment of the chiefs of the village.

During this time of so much persecution and interruption of the work in the Latakia field, the brethren in Mersine also met with much opposition, especially in their work among the Nusairiyeh in Tarsus and the country villages, but notwithstanding a strong and continued opposition, their schools were not closed.

In Suadea, school work was carried on by Miss Cunningham, with the usual attendance. Mr. Dodds was engaged in the study of the language, and such other work as it was possible for him to do.

One of the buildings in Suadea, known as "The Lower House" having become un-^{Suadea}safe, was torn down and rebuilt during ^{House} ^{Rebuilt.} August and September of this year.

Zea Bey, the governor of Latakia, who did so much to hinder the work in that field, died in December.

**Arrival of
Dr. W. M.
Moore.**

Dr. Wm. M. Moore, of Olathe, Kansas, who had been appointed missionary to Suadea, arrived at Latakia in November with his family.

**Miss Lizzie
McNaughton.**

Miss Lizzie McNaughton, a sister of Mrs. Moore, who had received an appointment to Latakia, arrived at the same time.

**Miss Jennie
Dodds
Arrived at
Mersine.**

Miss Jennie Dodds, who had been appointed to Mersine, and Miss Willia A. Dodds, who was returning to the field, arrived at Mersine at the same time.

**Appointment
Dr. Foster.**

Dr. Arthur Foster, who had been appointed medical missionary to Cyprus, with his family, were also in the same company. Owing to the unsettled condition of affairs, no communions were held outside of Latakia, except at Suadea, during this year. The Mission was visited during the summer by Rev. Dr. Matthews, of London, accompanied by his daughter; and also by Rev. Mr. Nelson and Dr. Ira Harris, of Tripoli, and Miss Sarah Lynd, of Damascus.

The Plymouth heresy had been introduced among the brethren in Gunamia, and to a certain extent in Latakia, a short time previous to this, and gave the Mission no little anxiety and trouble. The number of communicants reported in the Latakia field at this time was 198.

100

During 1894 there was very little change^{1894.} in the condition of affairs in the Latakia field. The Nusairiyeh continued to be afraid to have the missionaries visit their villages often and no schools were opened in the mountains. The number of pupils in the boarding schools continued the same; about the usual proportion of them being from among the Nusairiyeh.

In Mersine the usual amount of work was done, although the government kept up a very close surveillance over the work, and there was very little freedom to do much in the outside Nusairiyeh villages.

Dr. Foster, who had arrived in Cyprus the previous November, tendered his resignation, which was accepted, and he returned to America in April, 1894. **Dr. Foster Resigns.**

Mr. Šaadi, continued to carry on evangelistic work in Larnaca during this year.

Miss Willia Dodds was transferred from Mersine to Latakia in October of this year. Dr. Moore, after having gone to Constantinople to pass the required medical examination, began at once to practice his profession, and also at the same time taking up the study of the language. Rev. J. Boggs Dodds, Dr. Moore, and Miss Cunningham were at this time the workers in the Suadea center. Miss Maggie B. Edgar returned home on furlough in June.

1895. In 1895 conditions began to improve slightly in the Latakia field, and some evangelistic work was done among the Nusairiyeh villages, but no schools were opened. One new school was opened in Bizzak, a Greek village, some thirty miles south of Latakia. Dr. Balph and Miss Willia Dodds returned home on furlough in May, and Miss Edgar came back to the field in September.

**Death of
Mr. F. Fattal.** Mr. Francais Fattal, who had been in connection with the Mission since 1879, first as teacher of French, then as pharmacist, and Mission agent, died in August of this year after a brief illness in the village of Ishtúbgo, where he had gone to spend the vacation.

During this summer, Rev. R. J. Dodds spent several months in Cyprus, preaching, and looking after the general interests of the work there. Daoud Šaadi also continued his labors in this field.

In the Mersine field regular preaching services were held as usual, but all the schools were closed except those in Mersine, which were under the care of Miss Sterrett and Miss Jennie B. Dodds. In February of this year, Miss Meta Cunningham was transferred, at her request, from under the care of the Irish and Scotch Board to the care of the American Board. This arrangement was made by mutual

agreement between the two Boards. She still continued her work, as before, under our Board in Suadea. Mr. Dodds had charge of the boys' school, and Dr. Moore continued to carry on medical work as formerly in that center.

CHAPTER XIII.

HOSPITAL WORK BEGUN.



1896.

R. BALPH, while home on furlough, completed arrangements to open a hospital of ten beds in Latakia, the running expenses for board and native help employed to be about sixty dollars a year for each bed. This amount was fully subscribed by individuals and societies. Dr. Balph was married, before his departure to the field, to Miss Penelope L. Allen, and returned with his wife in December.

Miss Willia A. Dodds who had been appointed matron of the hospital, also accompanied them. Owing to some necessary repairs that had to be made on the building, hospital work was not begun until February 1897.

Visit of
Dr. and Mrs.
Sommerville.

In the spring of 1896 the Mission was cheered by a visit from the venerable Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions, Rev. R. M. Sommerville, D.D. He was accompanied by Mrs. Sommerville, and spent some time examining the work in the different parts of the field.

Rev. R. J. Dodds, of Mersine, returned home this spring, and on account of continued ill health resigned.

Dr. S. A. S. Metheny was appointed medical missionary to Mersine, and arrived there in August, 1896, and having the advantage of being familiar with the language, he at once entered actively upon the practice of his profession. Licentiate Yacob Jerri-dini was transferred from Latakia to Tar-toos, to take charge of the school there. His experience in such work for many years eminently fitting him for taking charge of this work. Besides conducting the school, he also preached every Sabbath in that place.

**Dr. S. A. S.
Metheny
Appointed.**

Mrs. Rebecca Martin, wife of the Rev. James Martin, M.D., of Antioch, died at that place, in December.

**Death of
Mrs. Martin.**

During this year, Rev. Henry Easson, whose health had somewhat improved by a residence of four years in the home land, offered himself for work in Cyprus, and was appointed, and reached Larnaca, September 27th. Dr. Moore, of Suadea, was also transferred to Cyprus, to be associated with Mr. Easson in the work there. The work in all parts of the field was carried on with a little more freedom this year, as the vigilance of the government was somewhat relaxed.

**Appointment
Rev. Easson
to Cyprus.**

In the spring of 1897 Miss Cunningham returned home on vacation and Miss Edgar was appointed to take charge of the girl's school in Suadea until her return.

1897.

Rev. David Metheny, M.D., died in Mersine, June 4th, of this year. He had been

**Death
of Dr. D.
Metheny.**

actively engaged in missionary work for nearly thirty-three years, eighteen of which were spent in the Latakia field, and the remainder in Mersine. He was a man of great energy and ability, both in the medical profession and in the ministry. He spared neither himself nor his means in the interests of the work. He was held in high esteem, both by his missionary associates and the native people. For several years his failing health prevented him from engaging as actively as before in the work, but he continued to preach until near the last.

**Resignation
Miss Jennie
B. Dodds.**

Miss Jennie B. Dodds tendered her resignation this year and was married to Rev. Samuel H. Kennedy, Ph.D., of Antioch, missionary of the Irish and Scotch Reformed Presbyterian church in that place.

The schools in all the centers reported the full number of pupils for this year. A number of village schools were also kept open. Rev. R. J. Dodds, who had resigned the year before was reappointed, and returned to Mersine in the fall. Miss Lizzie McNaughton was transferred to Mersine this year to take the place of Miss Jennie Dodds.

**Latakia
Hospital
Opened.**

The Latakia hospital was opened in February, 1897. The rooms used for this purpose were those of the ground floor of the mission house occupied as a dwelling by Dr. Balph. Not being originally intend-

ed for this purpose, a great many changes had to be made. Work was begun with a men's ward, 16 x 40 feet, and a women's ward, 15 x 22 feet. During the following summer a wing was built one story high, containing two rooms 12 x 14 feet each, and a basement to be used as a bath room. One of these rooms is used as operating room, and the other as a private room for patients. Miss Dodds, as matron, and two native women as nurses were employed in this work. It afforded an opportunity of doing much work that could not be done successfully outside. It also furnished a better and more extended opportunity of imparting religious instruction, and has since proven to be a great help in our work.

Medical work was conducted by Dr. Moore in Cyprus. Clinics were held three times a week and were well attended, in addition to which a large practice was carried on outside.

Dr. Metheny also had a large and successful practice in Mersine and Adana, which proved very helpful to the mission interests, as well as a great blessing to those among whom he labored.

Rev. J. S. Stewart and family returned home on furlough in 1898, and Miss Edgar ^{1898.} took charge of the boys' school and remained in charge until March, 1900, when she was placed in charge of the girls' school, as Miss Wylie returned home on

vacation at that time. No schools were openly taught among the Nusairiyeh during this year, in the Latakia district; but several teachers were employed, who taught when possible, and went from house to house reading the Scriptures and doing what work they could. Schools were open in Tartoos, Soda, and Melkey, in the southern part of the field. The absence of Mr. Stewart who was at home on furlough, left this field without any ordained minister.

Rev. J. Boggs Dodds held a communion at Gunamia, assisted by Rev. S. H. Kennedy of Antioch. Rev. H. Easson also held a communion at Latakia, where he had the assistance of Revs. R. J. Dodds and J. Boggs Dodds.

Rev. R. J. Dodds, in company with Dr. Balph, visited the southern part of the field, and held a communion at Tartoos. Miss Wylie continued to have charge of the girls' school, and Miss Dodds of the hospital work.

**The Lord's
Supper First
Administered
in Cyprus.**

The Lord's Supper was administered for the first time, in connection with the Mission in Cyprus, in June, 1898. There was a large accession to the church, chiefly from among the Armenian refugees in the island.

Rev. J. Boggs Dodds and family returned home in the autumn on account of the ill health of his wife.

Rev. C. A. Dodds and wife, who had been appointed to Latakia, arrived there in December.

**Appointment
of Rev. C. A.
Dodds.**

Licentiate Iesa Haurani, of whom mention has been made as having been banished from Latakia in 1893, died in Marjagin, in the Sidon district, September 23, 1898, aged 85 years. He was a convert from the Maronite sect; a man of more than ordinary ability and tact; he was first employed as teacher, then as traveling evangelist, overseer of schools, and preacher; and was a very successful Mission worker. He was connected with the Latakia Mission for more than twenty-five years. He was licensed to preach the Gospel in 1890. During this year Mr. R. J. Dodds had charge of the ministerial work in Mersine, and Dr. Metheny continued his medical work as usual. The boarding schools were well attended, and the work encouraging. Miss Sterrett and Miss McNaughton had charge of this work.

The year 1899 was characterized by a number of discouraging features, in connection with the work in the Latakia field. Notably, the withdrawal from the church of the two native elders; Mr. Selim Hadad and Mr. Assad Dagher, owing to certain differences of opinion that existed between them and the Mission.

The number of communicants reported from Latakia this year was 196; and in

Suadea 30. The number of accessions was 13. Licentiate Selim Saleh visited the out-stations, and preached as often as possible in Jendaria.

**Death
of Daoud
Makhloof.**

Teacher Daoud Makhloof, of the Murj, whose name is so well known among the churches, died at his home in the mountain this spring. He was in many ways a most remarkable man; the story of his life abounds in suffering for the Master's sake. His family belonged to a warlike tribe of the Nusairiyeh, famous for their deeds of robbery and violence. Daoud, in his boyhood, attended the school conducted by the Rev. Mr. Lyde, in Bahamra; and there imbibed those principles that afterward became the ruling power in his life. On account of his preference for these principles, while yet a boy, he was subjected to severe punishment by his people, but he held on in spite of this opposition, and later attended our mission school in Latakia, and made a public profession of his faith in Christ in 1867, and about that time began to teach a village school. He met with much opposition from his family, and finally, while attending a prayer meeting, at a village near Bahamra, they succeeded in having him arrested by a squad of soldiers who were then in the neighborhood. He was imprisoned for a few days, and sent on to Damascus, where he was impressed into the Turkish army. After arriving

there he was examined in regard to his religion, and told that he must return to his original belief. He replied that he had early been taught the Christian religion, and had never accepted any other, and could not give up his belief. He was beaten and imprisoned, but he remained invincible. From there he was sent to Constantinople, where the same means were resorted to as before to cause him to recant, but without avail. On one occasion, he was beaten so severely that he had to remain in the hospital for many days. Shortly after this he was sent to the front where the Turkish army was engaged in suppressing rebellions that had broken out in the Balkan states. He served here, and later, in the war with Russia in 1877-8. Even while in active service, he was by no means free from persecution. On one occasion a number of soldiers attempted to smother him, but a cry being raised that the Russians were coming, they were forced to desist. He was a brave soldier and saw much hard service. He was honorably discharged at Constantinople after seven years' service, and immediately sailed for Latakia, where he was received as one who had come back from the dead, for during the years spent at the front he had no opportunity of corresponding with his friends, and had not been heard from for several years. After his return he taught a school in his native

village for a time, and in spite of the opposition of his family to his religion, he was held in high esteem by all, and his influence for peace and right living was felt wherever he was known.

It would take many pages to tell of this wonderful and eventful life. Born a pagan, saved by the blood of Christ, kept faithful through suffering, his life furnishes encouragement to greater faithfulness in service.

Rev. Stewart and family returned from furlough in June.

Rev. C. A. Dodds was engaged during the year in the study of the language and also taught several English classes in the boys' school.

In Gunamia, where we had at this time about 65 communicants, we were unable to have a worker during the year, but licentiate Saleh visited the place as often as possible, and Mr. Stewart was also able to visit it several times after his return. In Suadea, the two schools were kept open with about the usual number of pupils. The preaching services there were conducted by licentiate Ibrahim Jukkie. In addition to her regular school work, Miss Cunningham also did considerable work among the people, as she had, when home on furlough, taken a partial course in medicine that enabled her to be very helpful in the absence of a physician.

The work in the Mersine field was zealously prosecuted, and met with fair success during the year, although the lack of sufficient workers was a serious handicap. In the absence of Miss Sterrett on furlough, both of the boarding schools were under the care of Miss McNaughton. Dr. Metheny, of Mersine, and Dr. Moore, of Cyprus, were both ordained to the eldership this year.

It becomes necessary to note here that the Presbytery of Syria, that was organized in Mersine, November 14th, 1895, and which adjourned to meet in Latakia, November, 1896, became disorganized through failure to meet according to adjournment. At the time of meeting, Dr. Metheny was not able to meet there, owing to ill health, and Revs. Stewart and Easson refused to attend because the sphere and powers of this Presbytery had not been clearly stated by Synod. J. Boggs Dodds was the only presbyter present, and the result was that the Presbytery became dissolved.

**Syrian
Presbytery
Disorganized.**

The Board then asked Synod to replace the names of the members of the Syrian Presbytery on the roll of their respective Presbyteries, and appoint a committee to consider the question of a Mission Presbytery, and report at the next meeting. This Committee recommended: That the names of the ministers in the field be placed on the rolls of their home presbyteries; and that

these ministers and the elders in the field be made a commission of Synod to meet at Latakia prior to April 1st, 1899, at the call of the Rev. Henry Easson, and by him be constituted a Commission of Synod. This Commission shall choose its own officers, and meet at least once a year, and report its proceedings to Synod. The traveling expenses of members of this Commission shall be paid from mission funds. Synod agreed to this recommendation, and the Commission was constituted by Rev. H. Easson at Latakia, September 27th, 1898.

During 1899 the work was carried on in the different fields with the same workers and without any unusual opposition. The schools were all well attended, and the usual amount of work was accomplished.

CHAPTER XIV.

GREEK SCHOOLS RUSSIANIZED.



URING 1900 the Greek Orthodox schools in Latakia, which had never heretofore been well supported, came under Russian control. A large amount of property in Russia had been bequeathed from time to time for the support or benefit of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem, and on account of the misappropriation of the fund accruing from this property the Russian government took charge of it, and formed a society for the purpose of opening and conducting schools throughout Palestine and Syria. Naturally these schools were intended to be used as a medium for the introduction of the Russian language, the extension of Russian influence, and the strengthening of the Orthodox faith. This society pays the salaries of teachers and furnishes books, only demanding that the Russian language be made one of the studies of the schools, and that the people furnish the necessary school buildings.

This had the effect to foster a spirit of independence and hostility to our work. Two of the ablest teachers in our employ were tempted, by the offer of higher wages,

to take positions in their schools. The majority of the teachers employed by them were those who had received their education in our schools.

Miss Wylie returned home on furlough in March, and Miss Edgar took charge of the girls' school in her absence.

Four communions were held in the Latakia field this year, and eight persons were received into membership, and twelve children were baptized. Gunamia had the services of an evangelist, for half of this year only. Meetings were held in Jendaria nearly every Sabbath. In Bahamra, an evangelist was employed, and meetings were held there on Sabbath, and other places visited as often as possible.

**Bahamra
House
Wrecked by
Police.**

The Mission house in Bahamra, erected by Mr. Lyde, was partially wrecked by mounted police sent out from Jebley for that purpose by the local authorities. Consul Ravndal came from Beyrout to Latakia to look up the matter, and secured the dismissal of the chief of police, and we were permitted to repair the house; but the Consul was not able to secure any damages to cover the loss sustained.

In Tartoos the schools and Sabbath services were well attended. Schools were carried on in Melkey, Soda and Bizzak. In Latakia, the boarding and day schools, the stated preaching of the Gospel, the hospital and medical work were all continued

throughout the year without any interruption.

Rev. J. Boggs Dodds, who had returned from his furlough at the end of last year, reported the work in Suadea as encouraging; the schools and preaching services being well attended. In Mersine the ministerial work devolved entirely upon Rev. R. J. Dodds, who was at that time the only ordained minister in that part of the field. The schools, which were under the care of the Misses Sterrett and McNaughton, were well attended, and the work accomplished was quite satisfactory.

This center sustained a heavy loss this year in the departure of Dr. S. A. S. Metheny, who was compelled to leave the field on account of the continued ill health of his son, who suffered for a long time from malaria, in a most severe and persistent form. The Doctor and his family visited Scotland, and spent some months there, where he secured the best medical advice obtainable. The consensus of opinion was, that to return to Mersine with the child would seriously endanger his life. Acting upon this advice the Doctor gave up his work permanently, much to the disappointment of his associates and those familiar with his skill as a physician, and his special fitness for missionary work.

**Resignation
of Dr.
Metheny.**

In Cyprus Rev. Henry Easson and Dr. Moore continued their work with a good

degree of success. Regular preaching and school work were conducted, as also a very large and successful medical practice, combined with which Dr. Moore lost no opportunity of presenting the Gospel to those to whom he called to minister. Work was also extended to several of the other cities on the island.

CHAPTER XV.

SUCSESSES AND REVERSES..



URING 1901, the work was more encouraging in the Latakia field than it had been for a number of 1901. years previous to that time. The influence of the new Russian schools, which had been opened the year before, began to wane, and the attendance upon our day schools was much increased, and there were more applicants for admission to the boarding schools than could be admitted. The vigilance of the government having somewhat relaxed, the Nusairiyeh became more accessible, and although no school work was possible among them, the missionaries and their helpers were able to visit their villages frequently, and a native worker continued to reside in Bahamra and carry on the work from that point.

The schools in the Christian villages in the southern part of the field were kept open during the year. The Lord's Supper was administered at Inkzeke, Gunamia, Latakia and Tartoos, with an accession of twelve persons to the membership of the church.

The preaching of the Word was regularly kept up at Latakia and the outsta-

tions, and at Tartos Mr. Jerridini conducted services every Sabbath. The hospital work was very encouraging; 107 patients were treated during the year.

In Suadea, Mr. Dodds and Miss Cunningham, continued the schools and other work as before, and the people were very accessible. The attendance upon the various services was markedly increased.

In Mersine, preaching and evangelistic work was carried on by Mr. R. J. Dodds and his assistants, and in both Mersine and Tarsus, the attendance upon the services was good:

The work in Cyprus, was fairly successful, although it was seriously crippled by the enforced retirement of Rev. Henry Eason, whose failing health, as well as that of his wife, compelled him to return home and permanently give up the work. This left Dr. Moore as the only missionary in charge of the work there. The results of the medical work in the island, as reported for the year, were very encouraging.

The Iron chapel at Larnaca was burned April 6th of this year. It was supposed to have been the work of certain Greeks who bitterly opposed the work there, although the real culprit was never discovered.

A house was constructed in Latakia this year on the lot on which the boys' school building stands, and was intended for the lady in charge of the school. The funds

**Rev. H.
Eason
Resigned.**

**Iron Church,
Larnaca,
Burned.**

**"Alexander
House,"
Latakia.**

for its construction were the gift of that generous friend of missions, Mr. Andrew Alexander, of New York.

Miss Wylie, who returned from her furlough this year, again took up her work in the girls' school, and Miss Edgar returned to the boys' school.

A stone church, to take the place of the ¹⁹⁰² one burned the year before, was this year (1902) built in Larnaca. The expense was borne by Mrs. Andrew Alexander, from her interest in the estate of her brother, elder David Torrens, deceased, and is known as "The David Torrens Memorial." **The "David Torrens Memorial."**

During this year the entire work in the Island was under the care of Dr. W. M. Moore, who also carried on his medical practice, which under his management was rapidly increasing. In Latakia, very little opposition to the work was manifested, and the schools formerly open were all in session this year, and had an increased attendance. A large amount of itinerating work was done, and preaching services were well attended. In the Mersine field an unusual readiness to hear the Gospel was manifested, and the brethren were much encouraged in their work, in Mersine, and in Tarsus, and Adana.

The work in Suadea was prosecuted by the workers there with their usual vigor, and noticeably good results were obtained, and much interest was manifested.

1903.

**Resignation
Rev. J. B.
Dodds.**

In January, 1903, it became necessary for Rev. J. Boggs Dodds to return home with his family, owing to the continued ill health of his wife and little boy. This again left Suadea without an ordained missionary. Much to their sorrow and regret, and the disappointment of their fellow workers, Mr. and Mrs. Dodds were forced to give up this work which lay so near to their heart; Rev. C. A. Dodds who was stationed at Latakia was appointed to take this place, and removed to Suadea in the following May.

**Resignation
Dr. W. M.
Moore.**

In April of this year, Dr. Moore of Cyprus, after a term of ten years in the field, returned home with his family. Miss Lizzie McNaughton, of Mersine, who had been in the field for the same length of time also accompanied them. Shortly after Dr. Moore's return home he offered his resignation, and remained at home much to the disappointment of those who had the pleasure of knowing him as a missionary associate, and also of the people among whom he labored. A short time afterward, Miss McNaughton, who rendered very efficient services in the school work both in Mersine, and Latakia, found it necessary to give up the work, leaving her position in that field vacant. Before the departure of Dr. Moore from Cyprus, in April, Rev. C. A. Dodds visited Larnaca, and administered the Lord's Supper in that place.

**Resignation
Miss Lizzie
McNaughton.**

There was an accession of two at that time, increasing the number of communicants to 19.

At a meeting of the Syrian Commission, held at Mersine in March, Mr. Demetrius Demetriades, of Cyprus, was licensed to preach the Gospel. Mr. Demetriades had been for several years under the care of the Commission as a student of theology, during which time he had been employed in mission work in Cyprus.

Licensure
Mr. Demetriades.

Elders had been elected in Mersine and Adana some time previously, but it was not thought advisable to proceed with their ordination at this time. During this year a new edition of the Psalms in metre were issued by the Beyrout Press for our Mission, at a cost of about two and one half piasters per copy for printing, not including the binding. Two thousand copies were printed. This edition differed from the one previously used, in that it only contained one version of each Psalm, and was printed without music.

New Edition
of Psalms
Printed.

Acc
A. 67

A. 67

In Mersine the usual work was done, which met with a good degree of success, alike in that place, and in Tarsus and Adana. Owing to the resignation of Miss McNaughton, Miss Sterrett had charge of both boarding schools for this and the following year.

Rev. Walter McCarroll, who had labored for several years in Geelong, Australia, re-

Appointment
Rev. Walter
McCarroll.

ceived an appointment to Cyprus this year and arrived there with his family in November.

In Latakia, the work was somewhat hindered by the existence of cholera in the surrounding districts. The schools and hospital were, however, begun and carried on as usual. Quarantine was established early in the summer, and Mr. Stewart and family were not able to return from Kesab, where they were spending the summer, until near the end of the following January. The same cause hindered the visiting of the outside stations during the summer and fall, Jendaria being the only place that was within the quarantine limits. It was visited frequently by licentiate Saleh, and Ishoc Shamaa, the city evangelist, preached in Latakia during Mr. Stewart's absence. The work in Tartos was carried on as usual, except for a short time during the prevalence of the cholera there.

In Suadea also the cholera prevailed for a time and hindered much outside work, but the schools were in session the greater part of the time.

1904.

In January, 1904, the cholera broke out in Latakia, and prevailed moderately for a short time. There were about fifty cases in all, with about thirty deaths. A number of villages also suffered from it. In San Juan, a village about three miles from the city, it was said that there were over thirty deaths.

Later in the year, an epidemic of small-pox occurred in Latakia and seriously affected the attendance upon the day schools.

Selim Khalafie, a converted Nusairiyeh, and for many years a teacher in the mountains, died early in the spring at his home in Bahamra.

Miss Willia A. Dodds, matron of the hospital, was stricken with paralysis February 2nd, and remained in a critical condition for over four months, until she was able to be taken home. Her cousin, Miss Sterrett, came from Mersine to assist in taking care of her, and she along with Dr. and Mrs. Balph, accompanied Miss Dodds on the journey home in May. Miss Sterrett returned to Mersine to take up her work there in September.

**Retirement
of Miss
Willia Dodds.**

Mr. R. J. Dodds was the only missionary in Mersine for about eight months, during the absence of Miss Sterrett. The school work during the remainder of the term, after Miss Sterrett left, was carried on by the native teachers.

Mrs. Mariam Haddad, who had rendered faithful and efficient service as Bible reader and helper in the hospital for seven years, died in April of this year. Miss Edgar and Miss Cunningham started home on furlough in June, first spending some time in Ireland before going on to America. A

meeting of the Syrian Commission was held in Latakia, June 13th.

Rev. J. S. Stewart and Miss Wylie were the only missionaries there during the latter half of the year. Mr. C. A. Dodds was during this time in charge of the work in Suadea.

**Dr.
McCarroll
Appointed.**

Dr. Calvin McCarroll, who had been appointed medical missionary to Cyprus, arrived there in November, and after a short time began his work in Nicosea. Mr. Jeridini remained in charge of the work at Tartoos, conducting the school and preaching services as usual. Two communions were held this year in Latakia, and one in Inkzeke. Evangelist Ishoc Shamaa preached in Latakia when Mr. Stewart was absent in other parts of the field.

The wife of licentiate Selim Saleh, who had been in failing health for some time, was taken to Beyrout, and underwent a surgical operation, after which they went to America, but were not admitted, on account of his wife's eyes being diseased. They then returned to Egypt, where she died in 1907.

During this year no one was stationed at Gunamia, and services were only held there when it was possible for some one from Latakia to visit the place. An evangelist was employed at Bahamra, but owing to the opposition of the government very little work was done among the Nusairiyeh. In

Mersine it was only possible to carry on the ordinary work, without undertaking anything new, on account of Mr. Dodds being alone the greater part of the year.

Owing to unchristian conduct on the part of licentiate Yusef Jedeed, of Tarsus, and slanderous reports circulated by him, he was discharged from the service of the Mission by Mr. Dodds and his license was revoked by the Commission, at a meeting held in Mersine the following spring.

The work in Syria and Asia Minor during 1905 was continued without any unusual opposition on the part of the government, and the boarding and day schools were all in session with a full number of pupils, but it was not possible to extend the work among the Nusariyeh. 1905.

Licentiate Ibrahim Jukkie, of Suadea, died at his home there on February 7th, of this year. He had been for many years a teacher in connection with the work in Suadea. He was a man of eminent piety and gentle disposition, and endeared himself to all who knew him. He was licensed to preach May 2nd, 1892. Rev. C. A. Dodds, who had been for two years in Suadea, was, by order of the Board, transferred to Mersine, in October to assist his brother in the work there.

Death of
Licentiate
Ibrahim
Jukkie.

Transfer of
C. A. Dodds
to Mersine.

Miss Cunningham, who had visited Ireland and also came on to America during her furlough the past year, returned to La-

**Death of
Miss Meta
Cunningham.**

takia in the fall, and although physically unfit to do so, proceeded to Suadea with the purpose of again taking up her work there; but a malady from which she had been suffering for some time prevented her from again engaging to any extent in the work, and after a brief but severe recurrence of her illness, she died in Suadea, March 9th, 1906. By her removal Suadea was left without any resident missionary, and the school and other work that she had labored so faithfully to establish there was left without any one to carry it on.

The work in Tartoos continued under the care of Mr. Jerridini; there were over 100 pupils in the school, and the preaching services were well attended.

The report of the work in the Mersine field was very encouraging this year. In the two boarding schools there was an attendance of over eighty, and in the day schools, of more than one hundred pupils. Both schools were under the care of Miss Sterrett, who was the only lady missionary in this field during the year.

In Tarsus there was a school of fifty pupils; many of the villages were visited and regular preaching services were held in Mersine and Tarsus.

Dr. McCarroll reported a very successful year in Nicosea. Clinics were held twice a week with an average attendance of 45 patients. Reading of the Scriptures, and the

distribution of tracts were used as the means of bringing the Gospel message before men. In Larnaca, Rev. Walter McCarroll and his assistants carried on the work of preaching the Gospel and also conducted a school for boys that was well attended.

Miss Edgar returned from her furlough, and resumed her work in the boys' school. Dr. Balph arrived in October, and began hospital and medical work at once. The preaching and itinerating work was done by Mr. Stewart.

CHAPTER XVI.

FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF
MISSION.

1906.



HIS year marked the fiftieth anniversary of the sending out of our first missionaries, although it was over three years later that work was begun in Latakia. During this year the work was continued in the Latakia field without any marked changes. The same persons were on the field and carried on the same work as before. Political conditions, which affect our work to such a large extent, remained about the same. No new work was opened up, but all the old schools were kept open. The time of one of our teachers was given to the conducting of services alternately in Gunamia and Inkzeke, during the latter half of the year. During the three summer months, services were held in Jendaria, by one of the Latakia teachers. The boarding schools had their usual attendance. The forces in the field were strengthened by the arrival of Rev. A. J. McFarland and family, and Miss Zaida Patton, who had received their appointments to this field, and arrived in November.

**Appointment
of Rev. Mc-
Farland and
Miss Zaida
Patton.**

Rev. Samuel Edgar was also appointed but did not come out until the following year.

**Appointment
Rev. Edgar.**

Rev. J. Boggs Dodds, who volunteered to come to Suadea for two years, arrived there in September, his family remaining in Sterling, Kansas. He immediately took charge of the work in Suadea, which remained continuously under his care for about eighteen months. He succeeded during this time in securing government recognition of a Protestant Sect in Suadea, and his untiring efforts were rewarded by seeing a number of persons brought into the church. His labors there placed the work on a more satisfactory basis than before.

**Arrival of
Rev. J. B.
Dodds at
Suadea.**

**Protestant
Sect Recognized.**

Miss Willia A. Dodds, formerly matron of the Latakia hospital, died at the home of her father, in Beaver Falls, Pa., on the twelfth day of July of this year. Her recovery from the disease that compelled her return home in 1904 was but partial, and she remained an invalid up to the time of her death. Owing to her sickness and death, the hospital was without a matron for about three years. During this time the nursing and other work was done entirely by native help.

**Death of
Miss Willia A.
Dodds.**

A chapel was erected in Nicosea this year; the funds for its erection were donated for that purpose by Mr. Peponiades of that city.

**Nicosea
Chapel
Erected.**

"The Shaw Memorial

A dwelling house for the resident missionary, known as "The Shaw Memorial," was also erected. This was the gift of the Rev. D. J. Shaw, and this building was to be a memorial to his wife. In many respects the work on the Island was encouraging, although it met with much opposition at some points.

Mob in Famagusta.

On February 8th, the native brethren at Famagusta were assaulted by a mob of two thousand Greeks, and considerable property was destroyed. A settlement was effected, by which the Greeks agreed to pay five hundred dollars damages, and the ring-leaders were placed under bonds to keep the peace.

In Mersine, the two schools had seventy-five boarders, and two hundred day pupils. The Tarsus school was well attended, and the preaching services were regularly conducted in the several centers.

1907.

The school work in Latakia started out very favorably this year. The enrollment in the boarding schools was above the average, with also an increased number of day pupils. Miss Edgar continued in charge of the boys, and Miss Wylie of the girls' school. Miss Patton, who had arrived the previous fall as Miss Wylie's associate, was busily engaged in the study of the language, and rendered such assistance as was within her power. Mr. McFarland also gave himself fully to this work, and taught some

classes in English in the boys' school. A communion was held at Latakia, at which nine persons were added to the church. Mr. Stewart was assisted on this occasion by Rev. R. J. Dodds, who had stopped off here on his way to Beyrout.

On February 14th, 1897, Rev. Henry Easson, who was for many years missionary in Latakia, and who afterwards served in Cyprus as long as his health permitted, passed into rest, at his home in Beaver Falls, Pa., in the sixty-sixth year of his age. To those who knew him as a friend and associate in the work the memory of him must ever remain a precious heritage. He was humble in disposition, an indefatigable worker, a sincere and unselfish friend, a man loved by all.

**Death of
Rev. Henry
Easson.**

Rev. Samuel Edgar, who had been appointed in 1906, arrived with his wife in Latakia, in October of this year, and at once entered upon the necessary preparation for his work.

**Arrival of
Rev. S. Edgar.**

Rev. J. Boggs Dodds continued in charge of the work in Suadea during this year. The schools were well attended and a number were received into the church.

Dr. John Peoples, of Philadelphia, was appointed medical missionary to Mersine, in the spring, and arrived there in September. Miss Elma French, of Winchester, Kansas, who had also received an appointment to the same field, arrived in October.

**Appointment
Dr. Peoples.**

**Appointment
Miss French.**

Dr. Peoples, finding that he would be compelled to take his medical examination in Constantinople, either in French or Turkish, selected to study French for that purpose, and spent the following year in the study of that language, doing also some medical work in the schools and among the missionaries.

Resignation
Rev. R. J.
Dodds.

In April Rev. R. J. Dodds resigned on account of ill health, and returned with his family to America. Mr. Dodds' removal was a great loss to the Mission, as his natural abilities, and his fluency in the language, specially fitted him for the work. The Mersine schools continued as before under the care of Miss Sterrett. She had seventy boarders, and a hundred and seventy eight day pupils in the two schools. Rev. C. A. Dodds, who was the only minister in that field after the return of his brother, carried on the preaching and other necessary work in Mersine and the other centers.

In Cyprus, Rev. Walter McCarroll carried on a school in addition to his other duties. This school was very successful and was looked upon as a very efficient means of doing missionary work under the conditions existing in that place.

Dr. McCarroll conducted a large and increasing medical work in Nicosea. Both the chapel and dwelling house were completed and occupied in the spring. Mr. Demetriades, licentiate, was stationed there,

conducting regular services, and assisting Dr. McCarroll in his clinics.

This year the statistics for Latakia and out-stations gives the number of communicants as 228 an increase of nine, and a decrease of twenty. This was due, chiefly, to removal to other places; notably, to emigration to North, and South America. Seven communions were held in different parts of the field, four outside schools were carried on, besides those in Tartoos and Suadea. The one at Tartoos was, up to the close of the school year, under the care of licentiate Jerridini.

Near the end of June, he left Tartoos with his family to go to his native village in the Lebanon Mountains, to spend the summer there. He died suddenly, while yet at the railway station at Beyrout on the twenty-eighth day of June, 1908. He was an exceptional man, upright in all the relations of life, a faithful and earnest worker, and respected by all. He spent about forty years in the Master's service, the greater part of which was in the Latakia field. He labored at Latakia, Suadea, Bahamra, and Tartoos. The greater part of the time he had charge of a school, besides the work of preaching. He was licensed in 1882, and ordained to the eldership in Latakia in 1890. He spent the last twelve years of his life in Tartoos, where he had charge of the school and preached every Sabbath.

Death of
Licentiate
Jacob
Jerridini.

The Latakia schools had this year an attendance of 104 boarders and 111 day pupils. Miss Edgar continued in charge of the boys' school, and Miss Wylie and Miss Patton were together in the girls' school. Rev. J. S. Stewart was engaged in preaching and touring work, assisted by Rev. A. J. McFarland, who preached occasionally this year, and also taught some in the boys' school, in addition to continuing the study of the language. Rev. S. Edgar was also engaged in the study of the language and did some teaching. Evangelist Ishoc Shammaa was engaged in house to house visitation, and also preached occasionally. Mrs. Jerridini whose husband was lately deceased, returned to Tartos in November, and assisted in the school work during the year. The Sabbath services there were conducted by the teacher Khalil Akari.

Appointment
Rev. Robert
E. Willson.

In Mersine the two boarding schools were continued as usual. In this work Miss Sterrett had the assistance of Miss E. French, who had arrived on the field the previous autumn. Miss Sterrett, who had continuous charge of both schools since the retirement of Miss McNaughton five years before, was granted leave of absence to visit America, at the close of the school year in June. Rev. Robert E. Willson, of Morning Sun, Iowa, was appointed to the Mersine field during this year and arrived there, accompanied by his wife, near the

end of October. The Tarsus school was this year in a very flourishing condition, with an attendance of eighty pupils. Two evangelists were employed in Adana. The church membership in this field was this year reported as 64. The ministerial work was performed by Mr. C. A. Dodds, who was the only minister in the field up to the time of the arrival of the Rev. R. E. Willson in the autumn. In Tarsus and Adana the Sabbath services were chiefly conducted by native evangelists. Miss Sterrett started home on furlough, at the end of June, and Miss French took charge of the schools at the opening of the term in September. Day schools only were carried on this year. In Cyprus there were no changes, Mr. McCarroll superintended the school and preached in Larnaca, and other places. There were six communions held during the year, three at Larnaca, and three at Nicosea; two new members were added. The number of communicants reported this year was 33. Dr. McCarroll continued to carry on medical work in Nicosea holding clinics twice a week, in addition to visits to patients and other work. Mr. Demetriades continued to assist him in this work.

CHAPTER XVII.

CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT
IN TURKEY.

CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT was declared in Turkey, July 24th, 1908. This political change has become a matter of history, and will not be referred to, except as it affects missionary work. The most marked changes that were at once brought about were the removal of the censorship of the press that had formerly existed, and the unrestricted entrance of all foreign journals through the mail. This soon resulted in the establishment of newspapers in the most of the cities throughout the country, which were eagerly read by the people, and indirectly created a desire for other kinds of literature. This soon made it possible to put into circulation a much larger amount of religious literature than formerly. A meeting of the Syrian commission was held in Guzneh in July; Revs. Stewart, Dodds, McFarland, Edgar, and McCarroll, with elders McCarroll, Peoples, and Balph, were present.

Taking advantage of the political situation, Dr. Balph began the erection of a

Mission house in Gunamia, about the first of September. We had long been trying to get permission to build and as long had failed. The work was begun, and the building, one story high and 30 x 20 feet, was put under roof by the end of November.

Gunamia
Building.

Miss Florence May Elsey, who had been appointed head nurse of the Latakia hospital, arrived on the twenty-fifth of October, and at once took charge of the hospital work. Miss Elsey is a graduate of the School of Nurses in connection with the Presbyterian Hospital in Chicago. She is a daughter of the Rev. E. G. Elsey, of Hetherton, Michigan.

Miss Elsey
Appointed.

During this year the medical work in Latakia consisted of 6,000 office treatments, 1,100 visits, and 100 cases treated in the hospital.

The sacrament of the Lord's Supper was dispensed in Latakia in January, after a week of special services held immediately following the Week of Prayer. Four persons were received into the communion of the Church at that time.

Rev. J. S. Stewart and family started home on furlough on the fourteenth of April, after a term of ten years in the field. They visited Jerusalem and afterward spent some time in Switzerland, arriving in America a few months later.

In January of this year Hanna Saadi, a boy from the village of Bizzak, who had

Hanna Saadi.

graduated from the Latakia boys' school, and united with the church there, died in the Leper Hospital in Jerusalem. Shortly after his graduation, he became affected with this disease, and was sent to the hospital, where he had spent several years at the time of his death. He was an earnest Christian, and while in the hospital he was instrumental in the conversion of a Jewish boy of about his own age. The two boys became fast friends, and Hanna soon afterward lost his sight, but the Jewish boy was able to comfort him much in his blindness, by reading the Bible to him.

**Armenian
Massacres.**

The one event of this year, whose horrors have never been, and never can be fully described, was the Turkish uprising against the Armenians; which resulted in the almost wholesale massacre of men, women and children in many places. The city of Adana, and a number of villages some hours distant from it, suffered the most severely. This place is about 45 miles from Mersine. In that district the massacres were all begun on the same day, and later developments revealed the fact that this was according to a preconcerted plan, which originated in the fertile brain of that arch-fiend and chief of assassins, Sultan Aubd-il Hamid, and was, no doubt, part of a more extensive plot that failed of complete accomplishment. It has been estimated that in Adana alone about 10,000 Armenians

were massacred, with an additional 20,000 in the outlying district. In Adana the massacre began on the fourteenth day of April, and continued for a number of days. In Antioch, the blow was not struck until the nineteenth of April, five days after the attack in Adana. Nearly all of the men and boys in that place were murdered.

On the twenty-second of April the town of Kessab, situated on the south-east slope of Mt. Cassius, about forty miles from Latakia, was attacked by several thousand Kurds, Turks, and Nusairiyeh; some of whom were from parts two or three days distant. The people of the village offered what resistance they could, but were unable long to keep back this savage and overpowering horde, and were forced to flee to the mountains. Something more than a hundred persons were either killed or wounded. The remainder were scattered hither and thither, trying to make their way to Latakia, or some point on the sea coast.

The following day they began to arrive in Latakia, coming in companies of several hundred at first, and later in small numbers of stragglers that had become separated from the main company. On the second and third days others, who had made their way directly to the sea, were brought down by steamers that had been sent for that purpose; until finally the number that reached Latakia was about 8,000.

Relief Work.

The government made an effort to supply food, and housed part of them in the military barracks, and part in another building secured for that purpose, while a large number found an asylum in the Catholic convent, in the Armenian Church, and on the premises of the American Mission. Relief work was begun at once, and about six hundred were fed, and housed in our Mission buildings.

This was a time of great tension. Feeling ran high and many threats were made by those of the baser sort, but no actual outbreak occurred. The Governor of Latakia, Mehmed Ali Bey, was a man of energy and ability, and a friend of the missionaries, and did all in his power to avert trouble. His uprightness and efficiency, was, under God, the means of preserving order, and preventing a serious outbreak at a most critical period.

Return of Refugees.

After one week arrangements were made to begin to return the refugees to their homes, or rather to where their homes had been; for neither in Kessab nor in the surrounding villages were there left more than a small number of houses that had not been burned.

A few tents were furnished, and many erected temporary structures for their protection until their houses could be rebuilt or repaired. A guard of soldiers was furnished by the government for their protec-

tion, and supplies had to be sent to them.

As everything that they possessed had either been burned or carried off by the mob, the government made some effort to meet the emergency, but it was totally inadequate even to furnish enough food to keep them alive. Mission boards, societies and individuals began at once to furnish the means to purchase and forward supplies. Much of the time of our missionaries was taken up for months afterward in this work. Many of the refugees too, were afraid or unable to return to their homes, so that during the entire summer a large number had to be fed and cared for, besides much time spent in attempting to secure work for them, or in looking after their interests in various ways.

In Mersine the Mission was taxed to its fullest capacity to attend to the thousands of refugees that flocked in there from Tarsus and Adana. The Mission premises were filled to overflowing for several weeks; and for a long time afterward the missionaries were able to do very little besides attending to the distribution of food and clothing that was necessary to supply the wants of the refugees. There, as elsewhere, the missionaries were the ones upon whom devolved the work of receiving the funds given and making the necessary purchases, and seeing that a fair distribution was made. Our brethren of the Irish and

Scotch Church, of both Antioch and Alexandretta, had a heavy burden of work and care also in connection with this work, coming as they did in more direct touch with the misery and suffering that were caused by this massacre, and for quite a long period.

There is a remarkable incident, showing God's protecting care over his people in time of danger, and his power to raise up help in time of need, that is so intimately connected with our own people and work that we will introduce it here.

During those dark days to which we have referred, when Turkish fanaticism, with fire and sword, were carrying death and destruction everywhere among the hunted and persecuted Armenians; when men were being slaughtered like sheep in the shambles, and women and children carried into a captivity worse than death; when towns and villages were being burned, and people robbed of everything that they possessed. it was then that the incident to be related occurred.

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100

Gunamia is an Armenian village with a population of about three hundred souls, situated in the lower part of the mountain known as Jebel Akraad. It is about twenty-five miles north-east of Latakia, and sixty miles south of Antioch. It has been one of our Mission stations for about twenty-five years. At present, about half of the

village is Protestant. During those days rumors were rife of the terrible massacres that had occurred in Adana, and in many of the villages of Asia minor; and a few days later they heard of the wholesale massacre that had taken place in Antioch, and of the attack on Kessab not more than twenty-five miles away.

Naturally our brethren there feared that the same fate awaited them, and they had not long to wait. They had sent word to Latakia asking for help, but even then a remnant of the horde that had attacked Kessab were on their way to Gunamia. During the afternoon we visited the Governor of Latakia, and laid the matter before him, asking protection for them. He was willing to do what he could, but it was little that he was able to do, having no soldiers that he could spare.

He, however, telegraphed at once to the local authorities for that district, situated at Shyoun, to send out a few mounted police that were stationed there, and notify the chiefs of the Moslem villages in the vicinity of Gunamia, that he would hold them personally responsible for any trouble that might occur. This seemed to be all the human means that we could use for their relief. We could only commend them to God in prayer and ask that he would guard and defend His own, in whatever way, and by whatever means He in his wisdom might

choose. By the next morning the attacking party had begun to gather on the mountain overlooking the village, awaiting the coming up of the remainder of their party. Upon their approach the people of the villages fled to the mountain, trying to find refuge in the caves in the rocks and in other hiding places, where in their seclusion they lifted up their voices in prayer to God for their deliverance.

Upon receiving the notice sent them by the Governor, which reached them during the night, the chief Mohammedans of the nearby villages went out to meet the attacking party and tried to persuade them to give up their purpose to loot and burn the village, but for twenty-four hours the fate of the place and the people seemed to be hanging in the balance. It was not until the next day that they took their departure, without having entered the village, and the people returned, after two days spent in the mountain, to find their property and houses unmolested. To those who know something of the barbarity and cupidity of such a mob, such an occurrence is only explicable on the theory that God does answer prayer, and that he is able to restrain the wrath of the wicked at His will.

During this year there were fifty-eight boarders in the girls' school in Latakia, and forty-seven in the boys'. Miss Patton, who

was associated with Miss Wylie in the girls' school, went to Alexandretta soon after the massacre to assist Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy in the relief work that they were carrying on there, and did not return until after the vacation of the summer months. The preaching and touring work was carried on by Revs. McFarland and Edgar. Evangelist Ishoc Shammaa gave part of his time to preaching in Latakia. The hospital, clinics, and outside work of the medical department were carried on as usual. The presence of Miss Elsey in the hospital added greatly to the efficiency of the work. Ninety-eight cases were treated in the hospital, and 1,300 visits were made to patients at their homes.

Twelve persons were admitted to the membership of the church during the year. Shortly before leaving the field on fur-
lough, Rev. J. S. Stewart completed the translation of the Testimony, upon which he had been engaged for some time, and in which he had the assistance of Mr. Selim Haddad, the Arabic teacher of the missionaries.

**Translation
of Testimony
Completed.**

In Mersiné, the preaching of the word was carried on by Rev. C. A. Dodds and his native assistants, and the day schools were superintended by Miss Elma French. Owing to the absence of Miss Sterrett on

furlough, the boarding schools were closed during the year.

**Rev. J. D.
Edgar
Appointed
to Cyprus
School.**

In Cyprus the Larnaca school, under the care of Rev. Walter McCarroll, had an attendance of sixty pupils. Rev. J. D. Edgar, of Kansas, was appointed to this work, and arrived in October and at once entered upon the discharge of his duties.

CHAPTER XVIII.

EXTENSION OF SCHOOL WORK.



WINING to changed political conditions, it seemed advisable to attempt the opening of village schools in some places this year,^{1910.} although under the new regime no action had been taken that would place such schools on a legal basis. The local authorities, when requested, refused to grant permission for village schools, but did not seem to be inclined to use extreme measures to prevent them being opened. Accordingly seven new schools were opened in Nusai-riyeh villages, and were carried on during the year, with about 150 pupils in attendance. In Tartoos, Suadea, and Gunamia the schools were in session with the ordinary number of children attending. In Latakia the boys' school was under the control of Miss Edgar until the time of the summer vacation. Miss Wylie and Miss Patton were in charge of the girls' school until March, when Miss Wylie returned home on furlough. Miss Patton remained in charge until the close of the school in May.

At a meeting of the Foreign Mission Board early in the year, the following

**Changes in
the Work.**

changes were made: Rev. J. S. Stewart, who was then home on furlough, was appointed to take charge of the boys' school upon his return to the field, and also to teach a theological class. Miss Edgar was transferred to the girls' school, and Miss Anna Louise Crockett, of Syracuse, N. Y., was appointed as her associate. Miss Zaida Patton tendered her resignation, and went to Guzneh in May, and was married to Rev. J. D. Edgar, of Cyprus, on the twenty-eighth of June. Miss Wylie, who had been in connection with the girls' school for about thirty-five years, was appointed to take up the work of house to house visitation, after her return to the field. Miss Wylie upon her arrival in America was compelled by the state of her health to enter a hospital in Philadelphia, where she underwent an operation from which she made a good recovery, and spent the remainder of her vacation visiting friends, and exerting her efforts to arouse a deeper interest in the work.

**Appointment
of Miss Anna
Louise
Crockett****Dr. Stewart
Chosen
Moderator of
Synod.**

Rev. J. S. Stewart was elected Moderator of Synod, which met this year at Winona Lake, Indiana, May 25th. He was also the recipient of the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity from his Alma Mater, Geneva College, about this time.

Dr. Stewart and family, accompanied by Miss Louise Crockett, the newly appointed missionary to Latakia, and Mr. Charles

Stewart, who had been appointed teacher in the Cyprus school for a term of three years, arrived on the field in October.

**Appointment
Mr. Chas.
Stewart
Teacher in
Larnaca.**

In Latakia, the preaching and touring work was done by Mr. McFarland and Mr. Edgar during the first half of the year; during the summer Mr. McFarland was transferred to Mersine to take the place of Mr. Dodds, who had returned home on furlough. Mr. Ishoc Shamaa continued his work of visiting in the city, and assisted in preaching. The hospital and medical work was carried on as usual.

**Rev.
McFarland
Transferred
to Mersine.**

After the return of Dr. Stewart in the fall, he took charge of the boys' school, and Miss Edgar returned to the work in the girls' school. During the summer of this year a second story was added to the mission house in Gunamia, which had been built in 1908. The lower story was used as a place in which religious services were conducted. The upper story was divided into four small rooms for the accommodation of any one who might visit this station from time to time, or as a place in which one of the mission families might spend a part of the summer vacation.

**Second Story
Gunamia
House Built.**

In Mersine the work was conducted along the usual lines. The schools were well attended and the work in general was encouraging. Rev. C. A. Dodds and family returned home in the spring on furlough, and by September it became neces-

**Mr. Dodds
Resigns.**

sary for him to offer his resignation, on account of their daughter, whose eyes demanded that they remain where she could be under the care of a specialist for an indefinite period. Mr. Dodds had been in the field ten years, and his thorough knowledge of Arabic, his peculiar fitness for the work, and his ability as a preacher of the Gospel, combined to make his resignation to be deeply felt by the Mission.

Dr. Peoples, who had, in compliance with telegrams received from the Adana Missionaries and the American Consul at Mersine, returned from Constantinople, where he had gone to take his examination in order to obtain an imperial permit to practice medicine in the empire, took charge of an emergency hospital in Adana in April, 1909, where he treated the sick and wounded survivors of the massacre until January, 1910. At that time he began the regular practice of his profession in connection with the mission work in Mersine, holding clinics both in Mersine and Tarsus during the year.

**Medical
Work in
Mersine.**

He was married on September 27th, to Miss Evadna Sterrett, daughter of Dr. Sterrett, of Downieville, Pa., who came out to the Mission about that time with Dr. Stewart and party.

**Dr. Peoples
Married.**

In Cyprus all the regular work of the Mission was carried on until April. At that time Dr. McCarroll and family re-

turned home on furlough, and Rev. Walter McCarroll and family also returned a few weeks later, Mr. J. D. Edgar remaining in charge.

The Larnaca school was opened at the regular time, about the first of October. **Larnaca School.** Mr. Edgar had as his associate in the school work Mr. Charles Stewart, who arrived at the end of September.

Rev. Walter McCarroll returned in December, after an absence of eight months. Dr. McCarroll did not return, having offered his resignation, which was, however, withdrawn later

Mrs. Jerridini, who had continued in the school work at Tartoos after the death of her husband, resigned June, 1910.

Early in this year, the Mission in Latakia **1911.** was called to mourn the loss of its oldest native worker, Mr. Ishoc Shamaa, who died at his home there January 30th, 1911. He had served in the work of the mission **Death of Mr. Ishoc Shamaa** for about twenty-nine years as Bible reader and evangelist, preaching whenever called upon. He was a native of Hums, was converted in early life, and labored in various places in the Beyrout field. He came to Latakia in 1882 and was engaged there up to the time of his death. His wife was stricken with blindness during their early married life, and having no children this was an added burden to him; but he cared for her in her affliction with a tenderness

and devotion that could not have been surpassed. His irreproachable Christian character, his intimate knowledge of God's word, and his ability as a comforter of the sorrowing, made him a welcome visitor in many homes. Few men, indeed, have been more missed by all classes of people.

Dr. Stewart had charge of the Latakia boys' school during this year, and gave instruction to a student in theology and preached regularly in Latakia. Mr. Edgar was engaged the greater part of the time in visiting the out-stations, preaching and superintending the village schools. Miss Edgar was in charge of the girls' school; Miss Crockett entered upon the study of the language, and assisted as far as possible in the school work.

During this year there were 11 outside schools in operation in the Latakia district, eight of which were in Nusairiyeh villages, two in Gunamia, and one in Inkzeke.

1 - 1911
**Tartoos
 Schools
 Closed.**

The school in Tartoos was closed, chiefly because we had no efficient helpers to whom this work could be entrusted, and who could be spared to it, and also because the school did not show results proportionate to the expense of carrying it on.

Miss Wylie returned from her furlough in October and took up her work as city visitor, to which she had been appointed, and was in this way able to meet with a large number of women in their homes, and

had many opportunities of reading the Bible and talking on religious subjects.

In Mersine the Misses Sterrett and French continued to carry on both boarding and day schools, with good attendance, and much interest on the part of the pupils. A school and evangelistic work was kept up in Tarsus during the year. Mr. Mechiel Lattoof, the efficient and faithful worker in this city, reported open doors for evangelistic effort everywhere. Mr. Lattoof, as usual, conducted services every Sabbath unless one of the missionaries was present to preach.

In August Rev. A. J. McFarland and family returned to America for a brief vacation, coming back to the mission early the next spring. Dr. Peoples continued to prosecute his regular medical work during the year, both in Mersine and Tarsus, going to Tarsus as often as possible to hold clinics there and treating the sick in their homes.

During 1911 no regular medical work was done in Cyprus, owing to the absence of Dr. McCarroll during the former part of the year, and his employment in school work after his return to the island. The Doctor, who had resigned, was induced to withdraw his resignation, and returned in the fall. Up to the close of the term at the end of June the Larnaca school was under the care of the Rev. J. D. Edgar and

**Dr. McCarroll
Engages in
School Work.**

**Larnaca
School
Building.**

Charles Stewart. Some time after the close of the school it became necessary for Mr. Edgar to return home on account of the condition of his wife's health, and on this account he was compelled to give up the work and remain at home. As no one came out to fill the vacancy, Dr. McCarroll, upon his arrival, consented to engage in this work temporarily, and was associated with his brother and Mr. Charles Stewart in the work in the Larnaca school up to the end of the school year June, 1912, he in the meanwhile doing considerable medical work when not otherwise engaged. In the spring of this year seven boys from this school united with the church. At the opening of the school at the first of October, 1911, there was an enrollment of 85 students; 23 of these were boarders. The new school building was completed about the end of the year, and was formally opened January 6th, 1912. The total cost of this building was about \$10,500. Of this about \$7,000 was received from the estate of Mr. Peponiades, and the balance was made up from contributions, and tuition. \$825 was received for tuition this year.

1912.

During 1912 there were many requests for schools from Nusairiyeh villages in the Latakia field, but it was not possible to largely increase the number on account of not having qualified teachers to take charge of them. There were a total of eleven

schools in Nusairiyeh villages; also one in Inkzeke, and two in Gunamia. The boys' school in Gunamia was closed toward the end of the year, as the teacher was called for military service for which he was physically incapacitated, and consequently was forced to absent himself for a time, to escape being forcibly taken into the service.

Rev. S. Edgar continued his work of visiting the villages throughout the field, in which work was carried on up to about the first of May when, on one of these trips, he was kicked by a horse and sustained a fracture of the leg, which kept him in bed for several weeks. After he had sufficiently recovered to travel, he returned home with his family on furlough. After Mr. Edgar's departure, Dr. Stewart was the only minister in that part of the field. During the latter part of the year he had the assistance of Mr. Khalil Awad, who had completed his

course in theology, and was licensed by the Syrian Commission of Synod, at a meeting held in Latakia, September 30th, 1912. Dr. Stewart still continued to have charge of the boys' school and Miss Edgar the girls' school, and Miss Wylie was engaged as city visitor. In the spring of 1912, Miss Wylie reported, for the first five months of her work, 279 visits, and the Bible read to 423 persons, and for the year from April, 1912, to April, 1913, she reported 631 visits, and the number of persons met with as

Mr. Khalil
Awad
Licensed.

1,365. The medical work of the year in this field was larger than that of any previous year, especially in the attendance upon the clinics, over 100 persons often being present. The great amount of work involved in seeing this number of patients was materially lightened by the skillful service rendered by Miss Elsey, head nurse of the hospital, and also Mr. Fattal, our faithful and efficient pharmacist, who not only filled all our prescriptions, but gave invaluable assistance in many other ways.

In addition to the teachers employed in the Nusairiyeh villages, an evangelist has been at work in Bahamra for a number of years, who holds Sabbath services, and does such work as he is able to do. In addition to this the native Women's Missionary Society in Latakia, have had a native woman employed as Bible reader in the same place, who gives half of her time to visiting from house to house, and reading the Bible to the women. Their collections, and the proceeds of their work for 1912 amounted to \$27.50.

The force in Cyprus was increased this year by the appointment of Mr. R. E. Smith, of Winchester, Kansas, who arrived late in the fall to take the place in the school that had been temporarily filled by Dr. McCarroll for a year. This school opened in

**Appointment
Mr. Smith.**

**Larnaca
School.**

October with an attendance of 105 students, 28 of whom were boarders. Dr. McCarroll returned to Nicosea, July 1st, and resumed his medical work there with very gratifying results. For the nine months, from that time to April 1st, 1913, he reported 6,621 office treatments, 479 visits, and 39 visits to villages. The cash received was \$1,643.40. He has the assistance of Mr. Demetrius Demetriades, licentiate, in the work in Nicosea. In Larnaca, Rev. Walter McCarroll, in addition to his work in connection with the school, conducted the preaching services there, and also visited other places in the island as circumstances permitted. In Mersine and Tarsus, Revs. McFarland and Willson continued to preach the Gospel regularly and do such other work as came to their hand. The schools, under the care of Miss French and Miss Sterrett, were well attended, and in Tarsus and Adana, the school and evangelistic work were carried on without any unusual opposition.

Dr. Peoples employed his whole time in the medical work up to his departure home on furlough in February, 1913, and it was his expectation that while home on furlough, he would be able to secure the necessary funds to open a hospital in connection with his work, upon his return to the field.

Appointment
Miss M. F.
Mearns and
Mr. J. F.
Carithers.

Miss M. Florence Mearns, of Seattle, Washington, was appointed to Latakia, in 1912, and Mr. J. French Carithers to Mersine. They both arrived at their respective places of work about March 15, 1913, and at once entered upon the duties of their work in these places.

CHAPTER XIX.

THE FALLACY OF STATISTICS.



IN addition to what we have written concerning the work in the fields mentioned, and the circumstances attending it, there will be given a number of statistical tables that will help the reader to gain a clearer conception of the extent of that work, and its progress and development from year to year. And while these tables should, and no doubt will, to a certain extent, prove helpful, we would warn our readers against making such statistics the sole basis upon which their judgment of the work should rest.

A record of miles traveled, sermons preached, schools conducted, cases of sickness and suffering relieved, are helpful and instructive, and enable us to better understand the actual work done. Results, so far as they are apparent, may also be tabulated, and aid us in our estimation of the success of the work; but there is much that cannot thus be told, much that figures cannot express. The breaking down of ancient customs, the transformation of the social structure, the change in methods of thought, all these things are constantly going on. To some of us who have watched for more

than a quarter of a century, the advance of these silent changes, they are very evident; but they are not the work of a day or a year, but rather may their progress be measured by decades.

Of changes such as these, figures can give us little or no conception, although they are silently and continuously taking place. In these lands men are beginning to think, some even to doubt the things that they once held sacred; a more liberal spirit of investigation is manifesting itself.

The dark cloud of paganism that has so long enveloped the Nusairiyeh of the mountains, has, in many places, been pierced by the rays of the Sun of Righteousness. Even in hidden and secluded places, we find here and there, often times where least expected, those who have been influenced by the message of truth that they have heard, and which has touched and changed their lives. The attitude of the nominally Christian sects is undergoing a change; prejudice is on the wane, and many are beginning to mistrust the form, and are asking for the substance. Even Mohammedanism is undergoing a transition. A spirit of greater liberality is manifested in many quarters, and not a few, Nicodemus-like, are seekers after the truth.

Much of this would not be apparent to the casual observer, yet it has to be taken

into account when we form our opinion of the work, and what it has accomplished.

In closing our account of the principal events in the history of the work of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in its Syrian field, including the centers of Latakia, Mersine, and Cyprus, we wish to notice that in some instances the mention of the work has been very brief and fragmentary, owing chiefly to the dearth of satisfactory information concerning it.

We regret exceedingly that the tabulated report of the medical work of the Mission is so incomplete, especially that part of it belonging to the earlier years of the work.

In the missionary correspondence of those years, we find frequent reference to the extensive medical work so ably carried on in Latakia, and later in Mersine, by our first medical missionary, Dr. David Metheny; and there are many yet living to testify to the powerful and benign influence exerted through his work; and also through that of his successor, Dr. Archibald J. Dodds, who, in the few years that he was spared to this work, won for himself the love and gratitude of those among whom he labored. But of all this work there is practically nothing on record that gives us more than a general idea of its greatness and its far reaching results.

We have also been unable to report the work of those still living as fully as we

would wish, because the continuous demands of the work, as well as other duties often falling to the lot of the physician, prevented them from keeping such records as would give a full and satisfactory account of the work done.

We have made no attempt to enter the wider field of the discussion of methods, and the comparison of results. We have not even attempted to present the existing need, except inferentially. The years have been filled with alternating successes and disappointments. It has required, at times, a strong exercise of faith, to look beyond the present triumphs of the powers of darkness, and to believe that they were only temporary; and there may yet be days of reverses that will try the souls of those who wait the coming of the Kingdom; but it does not require a prophet's vision to see that *it is coming*.

For more than fifty years, the missionaries and their native associates and helpers have gone up and down among the people, preaching the Word, teaching the ignorant, healing the sick, comforting the sorrowing, and in many other ways seeking to influence those with whom they have come in contact. Much seed has been sown, oftentimes under conditions very discouraging; much of it, apparently, never gave evidence of germination and growth; often that which gave promise was destroyed, or

plucked up by the enemy; but some of it has grown, has put forth branches, and has borne fruit to the glory of The Name. Souls have been redeemed from the darkness of superstition and sin. The power of God to save has been manifested where humanly speaking, the difficulties have been greatest.

Some doors have been opened; many changes have been wrought; and it is not unwarrantable optimism to believe that the time is drawing near when there shall be an open door for the proclamation of the Gospel, without hindrance or restriction, throughout the Turkish Empire.

Are we doing what we can to hasten the coming of that day? Are we seeking to speed by earnest, intelligent, importunate prayer—the mightiest force at our command—that great transformation that shall come, when the faint and uncertain light of dawn shall burst forth into full-orbed day, when we shall see the glorious fulfillment of that vision that arose before the mind of the Inspired Poet, when he penned that wonderful description of the coming Kingdom.

“His large and great dominion shall
From sea to sea extend.
It from the river shall reach forth
To earth’s remotest end.”

GLOSSARY

KEY TO PRONUNCIATION

a = as in at	i = " " tin
ā = " " father	ī = " " pine
ā = " " fare	ī = " " machine
e = " " pen	o = " " glory
ê = " " they	u = " " under
ē = " " me	ū = " " rule

Abadiyek	A-ba-dée-ya
Abī Talib	A-bī Táu-lib
Adana	A'-da-na
Ain	Īne
Ali	Ah'-li
Aramo	A-rá-mo
Asad	A'-sad
Baalbec	Baál-bek
Bahamra	Ba-hám-ra
Bahlooliyeh	Bah-loo-li'-yeh
Bêit Miri	Bait Mí'-ri.
Beshara	Be-shá-ra
Bêyrout	Bêy-róut
Bahamdun	Ba-ham-doón
Bizzak	Biz-zák
Bludan	Blu-dán
Brāhim	Brä-héem
Dāghir	Da'-ghir
Daoud Makhloof	Da-oód Makh-loóf
Deban Debey	De-bán- Dé-bey
Demetriades	De-me-tre-á-des
El Bakoorat	El-Ba-kóo-rat
Eldaney	Eldá-ney
Elias	Il-e-ás
Eski Hissar	Eś-kī His-sár
Fattal	Fat-tál

Ghaibie	Ghi-by
Gunamia	Gun-a-mé-ya
Guzneh	Guz'-neh
Haddad	Had-dád
Hammud	Mam-múd
Hanna	Hań-na
Haidari	Hi'-da-ri
Hāuran	Hāu-rán
Ibrahīm	Ib-ra heém
Iesa	I-é-sa
Ink-zik	Ink-zeék
Iskander	Is-kań-der
Ishoc	Is-hók
Ismaeliyeh	Is-ma-ē-lé-ya
Jebley	Jëb-ley
Jendaria	Jen-da-ré-ya
Jerridini	Jer-ri-dé-ney
Jukkie	Júk-kie
Kalazis	Ka-lá-zes
Khalil Rahjeh	Kha-lil' Rah'-jeh
Khalafie	Kha-lá-fy
Kessab	Keś-sab
Kardaha	Kar-dá-ha
Kitab il-Majmoua	Ki-táb il-Maj-móó-ă
Larnaca	Lár-na-ca
Latakia	Lat-a-ké-ya
Meten	Mét-en
Melkey	Mél-key
Mersine	Mer-sińe
Müallaka	Mü-ăl'-la-ka
Mukdasy	Múk'-da-sy
Musharrafy	Mu-shár-ry-fy
Mürj	Mürj
Meshaka	Me-shá-ka
Nusariyeh	Nus-a-rĩ-yah
Nicosea	Ni-co-sé-a
Saadi	Săw-de
Saladin	Sal'-a-din
Saleh	Săw-leh

Selim	Sé-leem'
Seen	Seen
Shakkoor	Shak-koór
Shamaa	Sha-maá
Shamalis	Sha-má-lis
Salman il Farsi	Sal-mán il-Fársi
Sirr	Sirr
Shiites	Shi'-ites
Sulieman Effendi	Sulie-mań Ef-feń-di
Soda	Só-da
Sheikh	Shaikh
Suadea	Swā-dé-ya
Sultan	Sul-tauń
Simaan	Sim-aań
Septimius	Sep-tim'-i-us
Severus	Se-vé-rus
Tartoos	Tar-tooś
Urdi	Öor'-di
Yacob	Ya-cób
Yusef	Yú-sef
Zea	Zē'-a
Zahleh	Záh'-ley

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LATAKIA CENTER

STATISTICS OF NATIVE COMMUNICANTS

Hammud, a Nusairiyeh, first convert in 1861.

Year	In-crease	De-crease	Total	Year	In-crease	De-crease	Total
1865	..	..	7	1895	..	11	187
1870	..	..	11	1896	13	17	183
1871	26	1	36	1897	18	15	186
1875	33	6	63	1898	22	2	206
1880	51	27	87	1899	7	3	210
1881	17	..	104	1900	9	6	213
1882	10	..	114	1901	8	19	202
1883	22	6	130	1902	15	10	207
1884	14	10	134	1903	18	4	221
1885	8	6	136	1904	9	5	225
1886	13	8	141	1905	17	14	228
1887	7	3	145	1906	23	4	247
1888	31	6	170	1907	12	15	244
1889	35	20	185	1908	9	25	228
1890	13	8	190	1909	11	15	224
1891	12	5	197	1910	48	*	272
1892	28	8	217	1911	25	28	269
1893	20	35	202	1912	24	18	275
1894	2	6	198	1913	18	..	293

*36 communicants at Suadea added into this list this year, before recorded separately.

The large losses reported in recent years chiefly due to emigration to other countries.

NATIVE COMMUNICANTS, ASIA MINOR

	Total
1906 reported	65
1909 reported	69
1911 reported	87
1912 reported	91
1913 reported	99

NATIVE COMMUNICANTS, CYPRUS

	Total
1911 and 1912 reported	27
1913 reported	39

NATIVE COMMUNICANTS IN ENTIRE
FIELD, APRIL 1, 1913

Latakia	293
Asia Minor	99
Cyprus	39
	<hr/>
Total	431

STATISTICS OF MEDICAL DEPARTMENT
LATAKIA, SYRIA

	Year	Number of Clinics	Number of Patients	Number of Visitors	Cash Received	
Dr. David Metheny, first medical missionary, appointed and arrived at Latakia, December, 1864, The medical department was under his care until 1882. During this time there is no record of his extensive practice except that of cash received.	1865				\$ 75.00	
	1866				210.00	
	1867				914.00	
	1868				511.00	
	1869				634.00	
	1870				367.00	
	1871				476.00	
	1872				203.00	
	1873				4.00	
	1874				686.00	
	1875				.....
	1876				513.00	
	1877				171.00	
	1878				404.00	
	1879				4.00	
1880				.....	
1881				.....	
From 1882 to 1885, Dr. Archibald Dodds was in charge. Statistics incomplete.	1882				130.00	
	1883				607.00	
	1884			950	610.00	
	1885			965	365.00	
During 1886 and 1887 there was no physician on the field.	1886					
	1887					
Dr. Balph in charge from January, 1888, to April, 1, 1913.	1888	30	1500	100	58.50	
	1889	214	3076	950	205.00	
	1890	110	1700	753	282.00	
	1891	90	2000	800	349.00	
	1892	125	2500	900	472.00	
	1893	60	2200	403	162.00	
	1894	50	....	495	167.00
	1895	85	....	....	287.00
	1896	On Furlough		
	1897	40	1500	427	187.00	
	1898	....	2600	980	232.00
	1899	125	3500	1039	267.00	
	1900	120	3800	1200	407.00	
	1901	135	6000	1150	353.00	

MEDICAL STATISTICS—Continued

	1902	130	6500	1150	375.00
	1903	140	9000	1800	572.00
	1904	120	5600	1400	258.00
	1905	On Furlough		.....	.....
	1906	50	4000	366	130.00
	1907	125	7000	1800	377.66
	1908	125	7500	1100	163.50
	1909	120	6575	1150	180.75
	1910	115	4000	1300	172.20
	1911	120	5600	1200	246.00
	1912	115	7000	1800	285.00
	1913	125	9000	1800	373.00

The year given begins and ends with April 1st.
Where space is blank statistics are lacking.

STATISTICAL REPORT—LATAKIA HOSPITAL
February 1897 to April 1913

Year Ending June	Number of Patients	Cash Received From Patients	Year Ending June	Number of Patients	Cash Received From Patients
1897	45		1906	91	46.50
1898	80	\$48.05	1907	111	40.00
1899	85	70.05	1908	107	55.00
1900	72	39.50	1909	100	60.00
1901	82	28.75	1910	96	20.80
1902	101	104.21	1911	73	48.64
1903	117	47.40	1912	100	80.00
1904	71	19.00	1913	79	35.00
*1905	...	.....	

Report 1897 for four months only.
Hospital first opened with ten beds. Since 1900, 14 beds.
*On furlough in 1905.

MEDICAL WORK

SUADEA

Dr. William M. Moore, the first and only physician appointed to Suadea, arrived at that place in the fall of 1893. After a short time given to the study of the language, and a trip to Constantinople, for the purpose of passing the required medical examination, he began the practice of medicine there, holding clinics, visiting patients at their homes, and touring among the villages.

There are no sufficient records of this work to enable us to compile a satisfactory statistical table, but from a personal knowledge of the work we know that it was very successful, and that large numbers, not only from Suadea, but also from the surrounding villages, availed themselves of the Doctor's services, and that his work was a valuable factor in the general mission work in the Suadea valley. This work was carried on until 1896. In September of that year, the Doctor and his family, acting under the advice of the Board, removed to Larnaca, Cyprus.

We should also mention in this connection that previous to the coming of Dr. Moore to this field, much valuable aid was rendered to the sick by Miss Meta Cunningham, in connection with her school work there.

Miss Cunningham, by a previous short course of study, had gained considerable knowledge of medicine, which enabled her to do much to relieve the suffering around her, and although it added greatly to her other duties, she was always willing to do all that lay within her power.

MEDICAL REPORT—ASIA MINOR

The published statistics of medical work in the Mersine field are not full enough to enable us to give a tabulated report of each year. For this reason we have included the available information in the following general statement:

Dr. David Metheny, from his removal from Latakia to Mersine in December, 1882, labored unremittingly in the medical

work, in addition to the regular preaching of the Gospel, up to within a short time of his death in 1897. Although during later years his health was often feeble, he continued to do a great work for the relief of the sick and suffering.

In 1896 his son, Dr. S. A. Sterrett Metheny, came to the field, equipped with a thorough knowledge of the language, acquired in his youth, and a complete medical training adapted to the necessities of the work, that enabled him immediately to enter upon the active duties of his profession, in which he labored with much success up to 1900, when he removed to the home land, as has been recorded.

During these years regular clinics were held in both Mersine and Tarsus, with an average attendance of over fifty persons. Many visits were made to the homes of the sick in both of these cities.

In the absence of a full report we give the record as published of the year ending April 1, 1900:

Clinics, Mersine	66
Clinics, Tarsus	17
Visits	1,423
Office treatments	627
Surgical operations	60
Number of cases treated in Mersine	3,506
Number of cases treated in Tarsus	428

A private hospital of six beds was also maintained, in which a large number of patients received treatment.

Dr. John Peoples, of Philadelphia, who came to the field in 1907, took charge of a hospital in connection with Armenian relief work in the city of Adana, in April, 1909, and remained in connection with that work until January, 1910, when he began the regular practice of medicine in Mersine, making regular visits to Tarsus, also in connection with his work.

April 1, 1910, he reported for three months.

Treated at clinics	420
Visits	177
1911—	
Treated at clinics	923
Visits	281

1912—

Treated at clinics	541
Treated at office	308
Visits	255

A few patients were treated each year in the private hospital but no general hospital work was done.

In February, 1913, Dr. Peoples visited America for the purpose of raising funds to open a hospital in connection with his work upon his return to the field.

MEDICAL WORK

CYPRUS

Dr. Arthur Foster, of New Castle, Pa., was the first medical missionary appointed to the island of Cyprus. He landed at Larnaca in November, 1893, and began to enter upon the practice of his profession, but resigned and returned home in April, 1894.

He was followed by Dr. Wm. M. Moore, who removed to that place from Suadea in October, 1896, and immediately began medical work there. Clinics were held three times a week, which were attended by large numbers of people. A large practice was soon built up, and the Doctor's time was very fully occupied with the work of the clinics, visits to the sick, and tours to other parts of the island.

In addition to the regular medical work, the Doctor also printed and distributed several thousand pages of tracts upon religious subjects yearly at his clinics. In 1900 he reported 110 clinics, with an average attendance of over 50 persons; 386 visits, and 11 surgical operations, and 5,550 patients treated.

In 1901, 80 clinics, average attendance 40; with 21 surgical operations. Total number of cases treated 4,000. Cash received, \$513.25.

In 1902 clinics were held with the usual attendance and 148,698 pages of tracts were distributed.

In April, 1903, after a term of ten years in the field, Dr. Moore returned home and resigned.

Dr. Calvin McCarroll was appointed in 1904, and arrived on the island in November of that year. He began work in Nicosea. Clinics were held, visits made, and different places on the island were visited in connection with his work, as opportunity offered. Work was carried on up until April, 1910, when he was absent from the field, on furlough, until October, 1911.

After his return the Doctor taught in the Larnaca school until the end of June, 1912. At this time he returned to Nicosea and resumed his practice. His report for the nine months ending April 1, 1913, was as follows:

Office treatments	6,621
Visits	479
Visits to villages	39
Cash received	\$1,643.40

Jerridini

Monsieur Bazylyus INDEX

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THE BORROWER WILL BE CHARGED
AN OVERDUE FEE IF THIS BOOK IS
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