

Charles Fair Park was born Sept. 8, 1845, at  
North Andover, Mass. His parents moved to West-  
Borford when he was quite young, his father,  
Rev. Calvin E. Park, becoming pastor of the Cong. Ch.  
at that place. Charles studied with his father  
at home until he was fitted to enter Phillips  
Academy. His course at Phillips, under Dr. Amos  
Taylor, was one of delight to him, for he threw  
himself into school-life with all the ardor of  
his nature. His mind worked so readily that  
study was always a pleasure. At Phillips Acad-  
emy, he first began editorial work, being  
chosen one of the editors of The Philippien.  
Towards such work he ever after felt a special  
drawing.

In 1863 he entered Amherst College, and  
when he graduated in 1867, he shared the  
valedictory rank with two of his classmates. Of  
his college relations, one of his classmates writes:

2. "He was a favorite with many of the class — with the best men. He seemed so whole-hearted and cordial that he was always liked." At college he made a specialty of astronomy, and at one time thought of devoting his life to its study, but the stronger love for humanity prevailed, and he decided to become a missionary.

He studied theology first at Bangor Seminary, and then at Andover, graduating in 1870. He was married <sup>(June 6, 1870)</sup> during the same year, and sailed for India <sup>in August.</sup> The first year of his missionary life was spent at Ahmednagar where he studied the Marathi language. He preached his first Marathi sermon — a written one — in nine months after reaching the country. He was afterwards stationed at Solapur, with a large outlying territory for his field of labor, in which he toiled several months of the year,

and when he had the privilege of  
fasting a number of converts. His love for  
literary work began to show itself when he  
had been in India but a short time, and  
he started a quarterly missionary magazine,  
"The Indian Evangelical Review," designed for  
Indian missionaries, in which they could discuss  
methods of work as well as theological views,  
and give the results of their labors.  
This magazine he carried on eight years,  
when, in view of his approaching return to  
America, he made it over to other hands.  
He also edited for several years the  
English part of a weekly Anglo-Benarnese  
paper, "The Tryanodaya" (Day of Knowledge),  
which had a large circulation among the  
educated Hindus. In 1878 he was  
appointed secretary of the Bombay Tract Society,  
and in consequence removed to Bombay,  
where he lived until his return to this

4. country, in 1881. While in Bombay he came  
in frequent contact with the English speaking  
Brahmins, and prepared and delivered a  
number of English lectures for their benefit.  
These were largely attended, and were followed  
by discussions on the topics presented, which  
were generally those of a religious nature.  
His broad views and sympathetic attitude  
made him many warm friends among  
his hearers. He himself felt greatly drawn  
to these Brahmins, and often, after  
returning to his country, longed to go back  
to engage in that particular branch of  
the missionary work, but the way was  
opened for his return.

After five or six years after his return  
he resumed his connection with the Amer. Board as a <sup>missionary</sup>  
America, ~~and~~ ~~being~~ in last fall ~~he~~ ~~was~~  
press, & going about from there to give Sun-  
day lectures on his work in India; under  
~~the~~ ~~auspices~~ of the American Board, at  
the same time he seized the opportunity to

