

Petchabore Mass Sept 12 '87
Rev. W. H. Belden,

Dear Friend,

Yours of Aug 1st in relation to the adv. Simultaneous Meeting was received a few hours ago & I hasten to reply, that if possible, these words may reach you in time. You ask my aid & sympathy. The letter you have had from the first-notice I saw of such proposed meetings. Indeed when I read of the Simultaneous meetings in Great Britain I began to pray that the idea might cross the Atlantic & be taken up by all the awakening churches in my our dear land, and as soon as I read your article in the Ch. at Home & Abroad, I felt like writing you a letter of encouragement. I trust Mr. J. will find many sisters & states to join her in this good work. I know she will not be alone for we intend to hold a adv. meeting in Petchabore this year (as we did last) we try to keep pace with the home churches. Our last year's offering was nearly \$5000 Our Thanksgiving offering about \$2500. We kept Children's Day the 12th of June, & we have a regular monthly concert for Missions. May God's Spirit be with us all forever!

And especially as we try to bring home
to other hearts the responsibility, the joy,
and privilege of obeying our Saviour's
last command.

I do not now recall very many in-
stances where the heathen themselves
have entreated that the Gospel be sent to
them. But I can testify that lately, every
where we go we are invited to come again
and all the villages visited desire schools.

Last March I spent four days down
the Gey coast among the fisher folk.
The women, old and young, sat on benches
on the beach listening to stories of Christ
and hearing His Word read, and they ask-
ed me over & over when I would come
again. Many of the old women said
with deep feeling, "when we were young
no one came to tell us of Jesus" When I
came away I had so gained their confi-
dence that they gave me six of their girls
to bring home to our boarding school.
It is true, these girls only stayed a few
months with us, but they heard much
in even that short time they may never
forget, & we hope when the ^{rice} harvest is over
they will come back again.

In April while making a mission tour
to Ratturee, I met an old nobleman from
Kamburee a large city fifty or sixty miles
further up the river, who begged me to

visit his city, for he said he had never⁽³⁾
before heard of a living God, and of for-
giveness of sin. The whole kingdom
of Lian stands with open doors,
and if we had men & women to occupy
them, scores of new stations might
be opened & established with the willing
consent of the people. I have you have
written to Mr. Dwyer for some of his
experiences. He could tell you of Govern-
ors of provinces on the West coast who
offered him houses & lands if he would
consent to live among them & teach.
And in Rattam there is a standing offer of
three large comfortable brick houses
for the missionaries as soon as our
Board will send them out, & this offer has
been made & repeated again & again by the
Prime Minister of Riam, next in an-
tiquity to the king, & the king himself
said during his late visit to Palohatna
(in Feb '87) "the Christian religion is a good
one to teach the children" that was
do you want! — My letter must go this
evening & I have no time for "striking pic-
tures or anything that will be useful in tract-
or article," but I give you permission to use
anything you can find suitable in any
new book "Riam the Heart of Farther India," Q. &
F. Randolph & Co. I cannot I am bound to
be asked to take part in your Nov. Meetings

and do not fail to write again, if
you think I can help you in any
way. When in America in '84 I made
a flying visit to Bridgeton to see the pa-
rents of Dr. E. A. Sturge who spent several
years at this station. There was no time
to hold a missionary meeting, but I
am glad to hear of the interest in
your town, & I trust Dr. K. & his wife
shared their mission experience
with you.

May God bless you & the other
members of the committee in this
noble work, and indeed all who are
busy in the Master's service.

Yours with warm
sympathy & prayer. May L. Lent.