

**TWO YEARS IN INDIA, OR,
SOME MISSIONARY
LESSONS, AND HOW THEY
WERE LEARNED**

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Two years in India, or, some missionary lessons, and how they were learned by George W. Isham

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GEORGE W. ISHAM

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TWO YEARS IN INDIA;

OR,

SOME MISSIONARY LESSONS, AND
HOW THEY WERE LEARNED.

BY

REV. GEO. W. ISHAM,

OF THE NEBRASKA CONFERENCE.

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GOD'S MESSAGE TO THE CHURCH.

"Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations: spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes; for thou shalt break forth on the right hand and on the left; and thy seed shall inherit the Gentiles, and make the desolate cities to be inhabited."

—ISA. LIV, 2, 3.

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1893.

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PREFACE.

THE greatest need of the Church, aside from its constant spiritual awakening from on high, is information from the fields beyond. If it were possible to let the disciples of Jesus in Christian lands see the need of their brethren in heathenism, and to know the power of the gospel to deliver them from the strongholds of evil, in whose bonds they are helpless, missionary going and giving would be increased many fold.

The information needed is many-sided, requiring fullness of detail; and it seems that missionaries and their home authorities have been so absorbed in the work at the front, that they have been unable to so inform the great body of Church members as to keep them sympathetically enlisted with them. It has often seemed to the writer that if the people at home were better acquainted with the missionaries they are supporting, and knew more of their

experiences and toils, they would more vividly realize that the present missionary movement is not an enterprise undertaken by a mere handful of enthusiasts, which they are called to help, more for charity's sake than for any other reason; but would see that it is a forward movement of the whole Church, widening the circumference of evangelism; and that the missionaries are our sent agents, who can win us victories only as we furnish them the sinews of war. It is the purpose of this little book to take the reader through two years of missionary experience, and let him learn some of the lessons those two years taught, in the hope that practical missionary devotion, expressed in earnest prayer and sacrifice to give, may be, to some extent, increased.

G. W. I.

FAIRBURY, NEBRASKA, January, 25, 1893.

CONTENTS.

PART I.—EXPERIENCE.

	PAGE.
CHAPTER I.	
THE CALL AND PREPARATION,	7
CHAPTER II.	
THE TRIP,	13
CHAPTER III.	
FIRST IMPRESSIONS,	40
CHAPTER IV.	
AT WORK,	58
CHAPTER V.	
A LETTER FROM THE FIELD,	65
CHAPTER VI.	
AN IMPORTANT EVENT,	75
CHAPTER VII.	
MOVING FORWARD,	84
CHAPTER VIII.	
THE SECOND YEAR,	90
CHAPTER IX.	
THE ENGLISH WORK,	101
CHAPTER X.	
DIVERSIONS,	108

CONTENTS.

CHAPTER XI.		PAGE.
CONQUERED BY BROKEN HEALTH,		118

CHAPTER XII.		
HOMeward TRAVELS,		133

 PART II.—MISSIONARY LESSONS.

CHAPTER I.		
THE WORK AND ITS MAGNITUDE,		148

CHAPTER II.		
PERVERSIONS OF PAGANISM,		156

CHAPTER III.		
PERVERSION OF RELIGIOUS IDEAS,		167

CHAPTER IV.		
WOMEN IN PAGANISM,		173

CHAPTER V.		
THE CONSERVATISM OF PAGANISM,		179

CHAPTER VI.		
BENEFITS OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE,		185

CHAPTER VII.		
HINDRANCES FROM CHRISTIAN LANDS,		191

CHAPTER VIII.		
THE GOSPEL THE ONLY HOPE,		200

CHAPTER IX.		
RESPONSIBILITY OF STEWARDSHIP,		210

TWO YEARS IN INDIA.

PART I.—EXPERIENCE.

Chapter I.

THE CALL AND PREPARATION TO GO.

AT the session of the Nebraska Annual Conference held in St. Paul's Church, Lincoln, in the fall of 1887, Bishop J. M. Thoburn—then Dr. Thoburn—was present on Sunday, and spoke at night on India and his eventful experience as a missionary there. I suppose I was not differently nor more deeply affected by what he said than were others. No one can hear Bishop Thoburn speak without being impressed with the simple grace and directness of his style, his entire freedom from conceits and affectation of every sort; and his masterly grasp and marshaling of the leading facts of the missionary situation must furnish any true Christian who hears him the basis of a permanent missionary inspiration. But we were so situated at the time that we could go at once. And when the