IN MEMORIAM

THE LATE

Dr. M. L. Bangara,

M.B., Ch.B., (Edin.) D.P.H.

"The Poor Man's Friend."

He is not dead whose noble life
Leads thine on high.
To live in hearts we leave behind
Is not to die.

In Memoriam



The Late Dr. M. L. BANGARA, M.B., Ch.B. (Edin.), D.P.H.,

Eldest son of the late Dewan Bahadur M. M. Bangara, District and Sessions Judge.

Born at Mangalore, April 5, 1881. *Died at Cinderford, April 18, 1927.*

"HE LIVED FOR MANKIND."

The late Dr. M. L. BANGARA

Born at Mangalore on 5th April 1881. Eldest son of the late Dewan Bahadur M. M. Bangara, District and Sessions Judge. Passed Matriculation Examination from the Board High School, Coondapoor (whose Head Master writes that his 'modest, amiable and attractive figure had made a lasting impression' and that 'his subsequent career fulfilled the promise of his school days') and First in Arts Examination from Government College, Mangalore. Underwent education at the Madras Christian and Medical Colleges also.

Went to Edinburgh in 1906 and qualified himself for M. B., Ch. B., and D. P. H. degrees of its University. Also specialised in Eye and Midwifery. While at that University, won golden opinions of the several Professors who testified to his 'good manners, excellent moral character, intelligence, power of organisation, zeal and fidelity' and further described him as 'well-trained, not afraid of work, of good address and an agreeable colleague'. While at Edinburgh, he took an active interest in the semi-Jubilee Celebration of the University and was responsible for the presentation of the Hindu and Buddhist ages in the Masque of Learning. There was a presentation to him and also "an expression of the highest appreciation of his disinterested strenousness and the invaluable services that he rendered in organising and promoting the success of these sections in the Masque." He was President of the Edinburgh Indian Association and also Honorary General Treasurer of the Indian Guild of Science and Technology. On his resignation owing to departure to India, the Executive Committee of the Guild passed a resolution unanimously expressing great regret and thanking him for the valuable services that he had so gladly and out of self-sacrifice rendered to the Guild ever since its inauguration.

Visited home in 1914. Returned to England at the end of that year, settled at Cinderford, Gloucestershire and commanded vast practice and influence. Lost his mother on 29th June 1924. Returned home in January 1925. "It was somewhat uncertain when he left whether he would remain in India or return to the Forest. His departure from England was marked in the first week in December 1924 by a number of tangible expressions of gratitude and good-will. One evening there was a well-attended gathering at the Wesley Hall which had been arranged by the Cinderford Agricultural and Horticultural Society. The President (Lt. Col. Russel J. Kerr) kindly attended to make a presentation on behalf of the members of the Society who

had liberally subscribed towards the purchase of a handsome gold watch. The assemblage included residents of Cinderford, Drybrook, Mitcheldean, etc. Mr. R. E. Westaway who presided, in opening the proceedings, said the occasion was one that was both pleasant and sad, pleasant because it was to show the appreciation of the District generally, and of the Society in particular, to Dr. Bangara and sad because he was going away—for how long they did not know, but they hoped that his absence would be of short duration. In his work for that Society, they only saw one side of Dr. Bangara's activities. The President in his speech remarked that the Doctor would see more of the sun in his own country but he would realise that the English people had both warm and kindly hearts always ready to welcome the stranger in the gate and to appreciate his services to the community. They all that evening would wish him God-speed and hope for his return at some future time. In his remarks of acknowledgement, Dr. Bangara said he found it difficult to express his feelings, but he could assure them that he fully realised the significance of that meeting and he did appreciate the great honour they had done him. The work of the Society had been one of the things which had helped him to bear any disappointments and cares in his daily life and it had been a pleasure to have the privilege of being Chairman of the Committee which was composed mainly of working men. There were very tangible presentations too from the townspeople and from organisations with which the Doctor had been associated." The representatives of Forest of Dean and Cinderford Districts presented him with an illuminated address expressing their 'keen appreciation of the very numerous acts of kindness, self-sacrifice and courtesy which have been so strong a feature of your life amongst us. In the practice of your profession, you have always shown yourself to be a true friend to the poor as evidenced by your unselfish devotion to the Dilke Memorial Hospital and a very real comfort to those under your care. Your devotion to the sick, your love of children and your cheery presence will long be remembered by those of us who have been privileged to know you'. In a letter addressed to his father, Rev. George Anderson, J. P. wrote—'Your son has left us for home. We are sorry to part with him. He has endeared himself to very many friends. It would have warmed your heart to have seen the expression of feeling among the people where he lived and worked. He stood very high in his profession and as a gentleman and brother, I have known no one loved more than he. His name is a household word and his image is fixed on the very hearts of the people. You would have rejoiced in the high esteem and affection in which your son lived had you been here. What is more, you would have realised from his work and sacrifice that *he was worth it*. He is the one man who in my whole life has sunk deepest into my own heart. We all know you wanted your son. He has therefore left us for the household of

his father. Our prayers go with him and for you. Some day, if God wills, we hope to see him again. May God bless you, Sir, is the prayer of those who know your son for giving us for some years your eldest son with his brilliant gifts, great heart and lovely character. He has done you honour and you have honoured us in letting us keep him so long'. Dilke Memorial Hospital "put on record our appreciation of the great work which Dr. Bangara had done for the Hospital. His sympathetic kindness to all the patients who have come under his care has earned for him the gratitude of all. Especially do we recognise his work with the X-rays".

Returned to Cinderford in May 1925 by the unanimous request of the District, he loved so well—"a fact which afforded every one an extreme amount of pleasure." Lost his father on 9th February 1927. Dr. Bangara had been in indifferent health for some time past, but it did not prevent him from carrying on his usual work, until about a month before his demise, when he was kept exceedingly busy with the increased number of patients he had to attend to, he had a severe attack of influenza. Since then, he has been far from well and in the early days of the month, he went for a short change and rest to the home of his much attached and very intimate friend, Rev. George Anderson, J. P. formerly residing at Yorkley as Supdt. Minister of the Primitive Methodist Church. On returning to Cinderford his health did not show satisfactory improvement, complications following from the Influenza. The last few days were critical, but even up to Sunday evening his Medical advisers Dr. Finlay of Gloucester and Dr. H. H. Sumption of Drybrook entertained some hope. 'Two women asked permission to see him. Upon learning that they were his last two patients I consented..... They broke down. This is the story in brief. The one was his last case of confinement..... The other was a poor woman who asked for his 'bill'. He gave her an envelope and when she got home she found inside a ten shilling note. That was his 'bill'. Case after case like that. I could tell you of countless others! (Extract from a letter). He was not so well in the early part of the night but during the early hours of the morning he was much better. The end, however, came with some suddenness at 8 o'clock on Monday morning (18th April). He was attended in his last hours by Sister Steele formerly of the Dilke Memorial Hospital and now engaged in Birmingham. Mrs. McLaughlin—his housekeeper for several years—had also been unremitting in her devotion and attention. Sister Steele writes: "He was the noblest and sweetest soul I have ever met. It will comfort his brothers and sisters to know that his end—as regards physical dissolution—was painless. His mind was wonderfully clear and free from care. His passing—no less than his life—will be an inspiration all my life. He died as he had lived, nobly, patiently and utterly selfless. His last hours were full of thoughts for others—his dear family and the friends he loved so well". He was a bachelor and Brahmo Samajist.

The following are extracts from English papers which publish photos of the funeral, now reprinted, pay glowing tributes and report of the 'striking testimony to the popularity of the deceased who by his generous and practical sympathies and many acts of benevolence and kindly consideration had earned for him the title of the Poor Man's Friend'.

"A phrase very familiar no doubt to most of our readers speaks of the 'milk of human kindness'. It expresses in a succinct and trite way a great quality of soul and a practical exhibition of an outstanding virtue. To say that Dr. Bangara, who after a brief illness, passed away at his residence in Cinderford on Easter Monday morning, had learnt the phrase well and better still desired to show that kindness in his own attitude towards the life of his fellow men, is but to pay a tribute in which every one must share. During his 13 years' residence in Cinderford his life has, in the very best sense, been of just doing good. It is doubtful if he always realised that he was doing good. Except for his high regard for truth, he always had tried, in his modest way, to deny it. His soul and his great-hearted nature were so big that, hide his light under the bushel as much as he would, he found the task too serious a problem. In one of the greatest of all precepts we are told that we should keep from the knowledge of our left hand the acts of our right. This the doctor tried his utmost to do, but attempt as he would, the truth would out. His universal smile, his ever genial 'Good day' to every one, were known to all. His attempt to brighten life around him and to help on all good social causes were features which stood out with a prominence which could not be hidden from the public gaze. They were so pronounced and so definite. His name among poor patients, many of whom he never charged for the best advice or made his fee very small, will live with fragrance for many a year to come. His great interest in literature and his special regard for the works and the social teachings of Charles Dickens were well known by his intimate friends and by many other folk also. A special regard for the welfare of his adopted town was plainly demonstrated in his Chairmanship and active work for a child of his—The Cinderford Agricultural and Horticultural Society. That he was moved deeply by the sorrows of the Great War and the patriotism of the boys and their friends was shown by the fund which he arranged to bring cheer and presents to the lads when they came home on leave or to the friends of those who never returned. When the question of a War Memorial was mooted, he became an especially active and useful member of the Committee and it was through his own effort that the figure of a soldier was actually ordered, and more, he obtained from the firm supplying the bronze figure a momento for the Committee members showing in relief a portrait of Lord Ypres who unveiled the memorial. He was the moving spirit in inaugurating the X-ray apparatus for the Dilke Memorial Hospital and what

he did in many acts of kindness and good thought for the patients and for the staff at the institution during his many many visits are best appreciated by the many grateful recipients. He was a good friend, a generous friend. One who knew him best has, in all sincerity, spoken of him as the most unselfish of men, one who, enjoying himself the amenities of bright, social life—for he was no sour recluse—was never happy unless he could share them with others. Though sympathetic in every practical way with the less fortunate in life and with the small wage-earner, he possessed a catholicity of spirit which made every one of every sect and every party his friend and no one his enemy. He will be missed, sadly missed, for the people have been all the better for his buoyant spirit, his kindly generosity and his real and innate love for his fellows. In his further desire to help on all useful courses in the life of the people, he was also President of the Cinderford Male Voice Choir and the Cinderford Excelsior Band. He was also a member of the Royal Forest of Dean Lodge of Free Masons".

"Impressive scenes were witnessed at Cinderford on Friday morning when the funeral took place. The presence of a large number of people at the service and of reverent crowds who watched the cortege pass, testified to the great esteem in which the deceased was held by all sections of the community and drawn blinds and black draping in the streets provided further evidence of the great loss the town has sustained in his death.

The first portion of the service was held at the Baptist Church which was crowded with many of those with whom Dr. Bangara had been associated in his many activities. The procession to the Baptist Church started from the residence in Flaxley Street shortly before 10-30 a.m. and consisted of a motor hearse with the coffin covered with beautiful wreaths, motor cars with the mourners, a large number of representative citizens, boys of the East Dean Secondary School, etc., Inspector Gardner, with Sergt. Bull and a number of constables at the head. Meantime the gallery of the Church was filled, mainly by ladies, the ground floor being kept for the mourners and those taking part in the procession. Mrs. Embling, the organist, while the congregation was assembling, played "O Rest in the Lord" (Mendelssohn). About half-past ten the coffin was met at the entrance by the Vicar of Flaxley (the Rev. A. E. T. McNamara), the Rector of Mitcheldean (the Rev. T. M. Williams), the Revs. F. C. M. Buck (pastor), Albert Sadler (formerly pastor here and now pastor at Foleshill, Coventry), and Gordon Lang (Chepstow). As the coffin was borne into the Church Mr. McNamara recited the opening words of the burial service—"I am the Resurrection and the Life". The mourners and others then took their places in their Chapel, the coffin resting on a bier in the aisle, near the rostrum. The Free Masons wore sprigs of acacia in their button-holes. There were representatives of the various organisations and of the District

generally. The principal mourners were Mrs. McLaughlin and Miss Eileen McLaughlin, Rev. George and Mrs. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. J. Morrison, Sister Steele, Mrs. Gass, Miss Jaycock, Miss Connie Cope, Mr. Frank Dykins and Mr. A. B. Clifford. The Vicar of Flaxley and the Pastor read alternate verses of the 90th Psalm and the latter also read verses from the Book of the Revelation, commencing "I beheld a great number which no man could number". Prayer was offered by Mr. Sadler and Mr. Buck. The lesson was read by Mr. Lang. The hymns sung were "For all the Saints" and "O God, our help". Mrs. Embling played also the Dead March in "Saul" and other appropriate Music. In the course of a brief address the Rev. T. M. Williams (Rector of Mitcheldean) said he was quite sure they all realised that that was a very great and solemn day in Cinderford because they had parted from one who had been a real Saint. When he thought of him he was reminded of another Saint—St. Stephen—of whom it was said that he was a good man and full of the Holy Spirit. Nothing greater than that could be said of any man. They had met to pay their last tribute of respect to a man who was loved by all present. Of all the men whom he (the speaker) was proud to have met and whose memories he respected—and he had met many during his life—of none could he say with profounder conviction than of their beloved friend Bangara that he was a good man and full of the Holy Spirit. There was no mistaking him and there was no veneer about him; it was simply the revelation of the inner man. When they came face to face with a noble and beautiful character like his, they should always remember that there was something behind such a life, some principal and inspiring force to account for it. That was God. Those of them who knew their departed friend and were privileged to have some serious talks with him realised from the beginning that the whole of his life was grounded on the two greatest Truths that could enter into the mind of man—the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of man. It was those truths that made Bangara the noble man he was. His was a life of generous spirit, noble soul and unselfish heart because it was grounded in God. Goodness was the greatest thing in the universe. They were there to thank God for a life like that of Dr. Bangara and also to thank God that he was not dead but living in a greater, better world. They were representing different creeds. Thank God no mere sect could claim Dr. Bangara. Dr. Bangara was not a Methodist, or a Baptist or an Anglican and he (the speaker) hoped that there was no man there so small as to wish to claim him. Dr. Bangara was greater than all that. He was one of God's good men. He (the speaker) believed in no place and wished for no salvation that was not big enough to hold the noble soul of Dr. Bangara. Those in Cinderford would thank God that they had had him amongst them. The speaker asked the prayers of the congregation for the family and for those with whom Dr. Bangara had been

closely associated and concluded with the words: 'Sleep my brother, sleep, until we meet never to part again. May thy soul rest in peace'".

At the funeral, The British Medical Association, Royal Forest of Dean Lodge of Free Masons (of which he was a 'valued, popular and highly respected member'), Zetland Lodge, National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, Cinderford and District Horticultural and Agricultural Society (of which he was Chairman) Midland Bank, Urban District Council, Cinderford Co-operative Society, Eastern United Colliery, District Nursing Association, Church Army, Dickens Fellowship (of which he was Secretary and sometime President), St. John Ambulance Association (of which he was Surgeon Instructor), East Dean Grammar School, Dilke Memorial Hospital, Excelsior Band (of which he was President), Y. M. C. A., Village Medical Association, Cinderford Sailors and Soldiers Club, Cinderford Labour Party, Crump Meadow Ambulance Class, Cinderford Primitive Methodist Christian Endeavour Society, Cinderford Sisterhood and Brotherhood, were among the institutions represented. Of the numerous beautiful floral tributes, the wreaths with the exception of those from Mrs. and Miss Eileen McLaughlin, Rev. George, Mrs. and Miss Dorothy Anderson and Mr. and Mrs. J. Morrison were placed on the Cinderford War Memorial and cut flowers were sent to Dilke Memorial Hospital. To the floral tribute at the funeral from Gloucester Dicken's Fellowship, which took the form of a Chaplet of Laurel and scarlet geranium the latter being the favourite flower of Dickens, there was appended an inscription card headed "Lord, keep my memory green" and a quotation from "A Christmas Carol" which was regarded by all who knew him as being entirely appropriate: "Mankind was my business. The Common welfare was my business. Charity, Mercy, Forbearance and Benevolence were all my business".

The bearers were: Messrs. Percy Dykins and Frank Harris (friends of the deceased), H. Lane (representing Crump Meadow Colliery Ambulance Class), P. Sargent (Cinderford and District Horticultural and Agricultural Society), H. Dobbs (Cinderford Male Voice Choir) and A. B. Clifford (Forest of Dean Centre St. John Ambulance Association).

After the service, the coffin was removed to Parry Barr Crematorium, Birmingham, and the Committal service was conducted by Rev. George Anderson, an intimate friend of the deceased.

By expressed wish the 'ashes' were sent to Mangalore for interment in the Family Cemetery. "With his ashes will go out to his own people in India a wider sympathy with and appreciation of the high qualities of a noble Eastern race because of the life of service and great kindliness which for 13 years he lived amongst the poorest and most needy in a typical English mining district". The 'ashes' in an urn enclosed in a neat oaken casket

arrived per S. S. Clan 'Ogilvy' and was delivered immediately to the family by courtesy of the shipping agents Messrs. Gordon Woodroffe and Co. (Madras), Ltd. It had a silver plate bearing the following inscription:

DR. M. L. BANGARA, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.
DIED APRIL 18TH 1927.
"HE LIVED FOR MANKIND".

The casket was interred in the Family Cemetery on 18th September 1927. The following is a reprint from "Swarajya" Madras, dated 23rd September:

The "ashes" of the late Dr. M. L. Bangara received here after cremation at Birmingham, were publicly interred in the family burial ground, Nandigudde, Mangalore, at 5-30 p. m. on Sunday the 18th September 1927. The "ashes" that lay encased in a neat casket, with a silver plate bearing the name of the deceased and the inscription "He lived for mankind" were conveyed to their last resting place in an open motor hearse richly covered with wreaths and flowers. The motor hearse started in procession from the house of the late Dewan Bahadur M. M. Bangara and was followed by an unusually large and distinguished gathering consisting of gentlemen representing all communities resident in the town. Brahmins, non-Brahmins, Mahomedans and Christians, official and non-official, began to arrive at the house, long before the time fixed for the procession and were eager to have a last look of the receptacle that held all that was mortal of that great and good man who had deservedly earned the title "Poor Man's Friend".

THE PROCESSION

Rev. E. Subbukrishnayya, Minister, Brahmo Church, who came down from Coimbatore specially for the occasion, officiated. After the singing of a special hymn and a short prayer, the procession started. It was one of the largest of the kind consisting of all different communities, gathered for a common purpose, ever witnessed in recent times in Mangalore. The long stream of men with the motor hearse carrying the casket in the middle walked in two rows in reverential silence and the procession as it solemnly and silently wended its way through the crowded streets of the town gathered in strength. Every available space on buildings lining the streets had been occupied by men and women anxious to get a last glimpse of the casket containing the "Ashes" of this noble son of the land. On arrival at the burial ground, Mr. M. N. Bangara, brother of deceased, carried the casket from the motor hearse to the chapel.

Mr. Karnad Sadashiva Rao, B.A., LL.B., one of the prominent citizens of the town and a classmate of the deceased, was the first to pay an eloquent tribute to the memory of his departed friend in a few well chosen words. This great son of a greater father or (the speaker put it) the greater son of a great

father—either way one may take it the speaker said—had contributed much more than many others to bind the East and West in bonds of mutual love, goodwill and regard. Mr. K. S. Rao was followed by Mr. J. A. Saldanha, B.A., LL.B., M.L.C., who had specially come from Madras. Mr. Saldanha spoke very feelingly and said that when in February last they had met on the identical spot to mourn the loss of one of the greatest and the most respected citizens of Mangalore, the father of the deceased, they little thought they would have the ill-luck to meet again so soon under the shadow of a calamity of the kind that had gathered them together on the present occasion. He referred to the work of the deceased among the poor far away from his native soil and spoke of the wonderful feelings the unselfish labour of love had evoked in the citizens of Cinderford when they heard of their great benefactor laid low by the cruel hand of death at an unexpected moment.

"A SAINT"

Mr. M. Madhava Rao, B.A., B.L., a leading member of the local bar, and a class-mate of the deceased Doctor, speaking next, referred to the great qualities of head and heart possessed by the Doctor which had made his name a household word thousands of miles away in a foreign land, and among a foreign nation. The speaker mentioned that a clergyman who had the privilege to know the deceased and his work intimately called him a "Saint" and, the speaker added no greater tribute could be paid to any man than that exalted term. He also spoke of the heroic part played by his deceased friend in putting the best side of Indian character and Indian feeling before the English public in practising the healing art which the speaker said will contribute largely to the healing of the vexed questions based on colour bar.

This was followed by a touching discourse from Hazarat Talib Ali Sahib Bahadur, retired Educationist, who said in referring to the Doctor that he had known him ever since his scholastic days and very early in life the deceased exhibited signs of future eminence. Mr. Talib Ali Saheb said that long after he had parted from the deceased, he had the happiness of hearing of the good work done by the late Dr. Bangara in Cinderford from the lips of one of his official superiors. Continuing he added, Mr. Yates — Inspector of Schools — who happened to be a Gloucestershire man had spoken to him of Dr. Bangara in very appreciative terms. He said he felt it a privilege to be present that evening to add his own tribute of love and respect and mingle his tears with those of others in the heavy loss the country had sustained in the death of Dr. Bangara.

"HE LIVED FOR MANKIND"

Rev. A. Sumitra, Chief Pastor, Evangelical Mission, followed next and spoke in vernacular for the benefit of the vast majority of the gathering. He said two expressions struck him most as he perused the recorded history of the late Dr. Bangara's life and work. One was the title conferred upon the deceased as the "Poor man's friend" the other, the inscription that read "He lived for mankind". The Pastor said these two little sentences were most significant expressions and meant a lot more than was probably understood at first reading. He said these expressions covered many sublime and rare qualities possessed by the deceased in a remarkably rare degree and pointed to a life deeply spiritual in outlook. He referred to Christ and said that two thousand years ago, his Master lived a life of service, became the friend of the poor, lived for mankind and gave up his life for humanity. In our own days the Pastor added, Mahatma Gandhi was thriving with conspicuous success in unselfishly serving his country at considerable self-sacrifice. Turning to the life of Dr. Bangara, whose loss they had met to mourn, the Pastor continuing said, was a life which illustrated in a most practical manner the lofty aim of translating in one's own life the high ideals of Christ. The Pastor exhorted his audience to follow the example of the deceased and paid a glowing tribute to the very meritorious services rendered by Dr. Bangara to the poor, the needy and the sick in a foreign land with such unselfish devotion as to win the unqualified applause at his labour of love from all quarters and evoke universal regret at his untimely death. The Pastor concluded with the prayer that the soul of the deceased Doctor may find a blessed abode in heaven.

Rev. J. B. Soans, Rev. P. Soans, Rev. L. Soans, Rev. Im. Soans were among the other clergymen present.

THE INTERMENT

Rev. Subbukrishnayya in closing the service summed up that the life of the deceased had run its wordly course and hastened to the glory that awaited it. The Brahmo Minister conducted the last part of the funeral service under the Brahmo rites. The large gathering that had walked to the burial ground joined in interring the "Ashes" of the deceased by the side of his revered father. There under the sod lay a great father and by his side a noble son worthy of such a father. Both sleep the sleep that knows no awakening so far as we are concerned, loved in life and mourned in death by a nation. Not far from the spot is the tomb of Dr. Bangara's much loved mother. One could notice in the vast sorrow-stricken crowd faces of some of the poorest whom Dr. Bangara had befriended during his two short trips to Mangalore. The gathering was unique in its magnitude, cosmopolitan in its composition. Rich

and poor, young and old, men and women, vied with each other to do honour to the memory of the deceased Doctor and the testimony borne in Cinderford to his work and worth was truly and effectively endorsed by the huge gathering that stood downcast at the graveyard as the casket was lowered into the tomb. There were a large number of floral tributes from relatives and friends and among many others there was one from the deceased's intimate friend, Rev. George Anderson, J.P. now of Blackburn, and another from Mrs. Karunabai Harris of Madras, now settled down in Colombo, Ceylon.

A NOBLE INDIAN

It is said great men are born and not made, and the late Dr. Bangara was a noble specimen of God's creation. In the struggle of Mother India to attain her legitimate place of honour among the galaxy of nations, the lives of her noble sons, such as that of the deceased surely form guiding stars and beacon lights in the dark and weary path in her onward march.

As one of the speakers rightly remarked how fortunate we would surely be if we could claim half a dozen Indians of the type of Dr. Bangara in Europe and a like number of similarly high souled Europeans in India. His body lies reduced to ashes and covered by mud, but his soul soars high and his memory will last as long as history will remain, and above all, his many acts of charity and service to humanity will go down to posterity as a noble example of all that was best in a worthy son of this ancient land. In life he served Europe and in death he links Europe and India in ties of love and kinship. Miss Mayo (author of 'Mother India') may well blush at the life of one like the late Dr. Bangara and hang down her head in shame and sorrow for her uncharitable thoughts of a great country, hoary with ancient culture and traditions that has given birth to such noble sons as are prepared to lay down their lives in serving European nations. The late Doctor's life was gentle and the elements were so mixed in him that Nature might stand up and say to all the world "This was a man".

He is

"Not gone from memory nor from love
But gone to our father's home above".

MEMORIAL SERVICE

AT THE

Baptist Chapel, Cinderford.

A service in memory of the late Dr. M. L. Bangara was held at the Cinderford Baptist Church on Sunday evening and was attended by a very large congregation. The hymns included "For all Thy Saints," "Jesu, Lover of My Soul," and "Lead, Kindly Light" and the choir rendered the anthem "Abide with Me." Preaching from the words "I lay down My Life," the Pastor said "The Doctor of whom we are thinking to-night gave himself for others. He was a skilful Doctor but we shall remember him not so much for his skill as for his noble life of self-giving. Without a doubt his heart was mightier than his strength, far larger than his purse. He gave himself with unwearing devotion, he gave his sympathy to those who were sorrowful, he gave his money to those in need. I shall never forget as long as I live that during the long strike he would often walk into my study and just place a note on the desk and then say 'Remember, nobody knows' and I had to put on my list simply 'A Friend'. That was characteristic of him. He never thought of his own needs, he never considered himself, he was always thinking of the other man. His neighbours occupied a great place in his affections. We hear the whisper 'Why didn't he take care of himself? Why didn't he conserve his strength? Why didn't he give less away?' Because that man was dominated by love for humanity. He saw where there was most need and there he gave his blessing... We have no doubt our friend found great joy in his ministry. He got his reward in the privilege of service. Such a man has his reward in the consciousness that he has done his duty.....On the Cross, Christ uttered the words, 'It is finished. Father, into Thy hands I commend my spirit'. At the end of His earthly Life, He was able to look back conscious that He had done the work entrusted to Him. It is magnificent reward to feel that one has done the work in this world entrusted to one. Life is a gift from God. Our talents bestowed upon us He wants us to use in His service.... There is no doubt if you could have asked the Doctor if he was satisfied he would have said 'I have done my best for my fellow-men'. That one consciousness was his reward. Our Doctor won our love. We loved him and as long as life lasts we shall cherish his memory. Why? Because he lived for us. That is his reward. Love is worth more than gold in the world. Our friend's Monument is to be seen in lives made purer by his presence, in lives from which the burden of care has been lifted, in hearts softened by his

charity. His monument is to be found in lives of men and women blessed by his magnetic personality..... Let us honour our friend's memory, let us honour the Cross of Christ by giving our lives for others, let us honour his memory by uplifting and enriching the spiritual life of the town in which we live".

Proposed Public Memorial at Cinderford.

A meeting was held at the Town Hall, Cinderford, on Monday evening to consider the question of a public memorial to the late Dr. M. L. Bangara. Mr. J. Morrison was voted to the chair.

The Chairman first read a letter of apology from Mr. F. E. Plummer for his inability to attend and afterwards one from the Cinderford Co-operative Society in which the Secretary-Manager stated that the application for the use of the Town Hall had been considered and the Committee of Management had decided to let the hall at the usual charge of 25 sh., which however, would be given back as a donation. The announcement of that meeting was only advertised on Friday evening and before 6 o'clock, a gentleman who did not want his name mentioned said that he would give £3 to start the fund and more later, if wanted. The idea of a memorial struck him (the speaker) just after the doctor had passed away, a tangible memorial to his sterling worth in the District. He thought that whatever was done, it must be 'Bangara'. They did not want any sectionalism of any kind—the memorial must be absolutely typical of the doctor. One of the wreaths bore the inscription: "Mankind was my business. The common welfare was my business; Charity, Mercy, Forbearance and Benevolence were all my business". They all knew that that was perfectly true of the doctor. He was above all sects and a great and good man—and no more could be said of any one. The extent of his benevolence was not known, but he (the speaker) did know that he gave away hundreds of pounds every year.

He would suggest that in order to form a committee, each association that he was specially connected with be asked to nominate a member, also that the men of each colliery be asked to nominate a representative and that the Committee be empowered to add to their number. He was sure that they would like to ask the Local Press and the Banks to open subscription lists at their respective establishments which would be in addition to money coming in from the ordinary channels and that they get money in before they decided in any way upon the form the memorial should take. He suggested that for a special reason. Dr. Bangara had three brothers and two sisters in India and he (the speaker) would like to consult them as to their wishes with regard to this memorial. He thought that that would be only fitting and proper. The fund could remain open until a reply has been received from India.

It was first decided on the motion of Mr. K. E. Westaway, seconded by Mr. F. Dykins that a fund be formed to proceed with some form of memorial. Mr. Morrison was appointed unanimously to act as Hon. Secretary to the fund, Mr. Westaway as chairman of Committee and Mr. F. E. Plummer as Hon. Treasurer.....The Chairman (Mr. Westaway) expressed the hope that they would all endeavour to make the fund a success. Those, he remarked, who attended the funeral service at the Baptist Chapel would never forget the eloquent words of the Rev. A Saddler and the Rev. T. M. Williams and that they would think of the great word "Charity" used in its widest sense, as applicable to the doctor—a common love for his followmen.

Unveiling ceremony at the Dilke Hospital.

The unveiling ceremony in connection with the local memorial to the late Dr. M. L. Bangara, took place in the Board Room at the Dilke Memorial Hospital, Cinderford, on the afternoon, of Wednesday (24th October, 1928). The proceedings were presided over by Mr. R. E. Westaway, O. B. E., J. P. Mr. Meredith having introduced Mr. Westaway, who has been chairman of the Memorial Committee, the Hon. Secretary announced apologies for non-attendance from the Revs. Gordon Lang, A. Saddler (Coventry), and T. M. Williams (Mitcheldean), and Dr. J. N. Beadles (London, late of Cinderford). Mr. Gordon Lang wrote "It is fitting that we should so honour the memory of one more of that number, who from St. Luke onwards have earned the splendid title of "beloved physician". But we must do more than honour his memory. We must perpetuate his gracious spirit, and, so doing, we must really honour him and most truly thank God for the sunshine of his stay amongst us. His was a tender, yet purposeful life, and childlike withal, and it is a cause of thankfulness amidst our sorrow and loss to know that, "of such is the Kingdom of Heaven". The chairman said he was sure that every subscriber must feel a debt of gratitude to Mr. Morrison for the great interest and zeal he had shown in the matter. They were confident that when he undertook the responsibility, he was actuated by sense of love towards his friend Dr. Bangara, whose friendship he enjoyed. After much consideration, the Memorial Committee came to the conclusion that they could not do better than have something to help to carry on the work at the Hospital, with which he was so closely associated, and in that way they would be able to fittingly commemorate his memory. He thought that if they analysed their thoughts about Dr. Bangara, they would first of all admire him for his simple manner. He was so quiet and reserved in his manner, not wishful to express a definite opinion unless asked for it. Then, he had a deep interest in the poor man, and was always willing to help the bottom dog—he tried his best for the poorest of the poor. The Hon. Secretary reported that after Dr. Bangara's death the idea occurred to several people and

the "Dean Forest Mercury" that it was desirable that a meeting of townspeople should be called to consider the question of a permanent memorial to make the appreciation by the people of the beloved doctor's self-sacrifice and devotion. This was done and the unanimous decision was that it was desirable to proceed with the scheme for the memorial. The committee chosen was representative of the following societies with which Dr. Bangara had been actively associated:—The Cinderford Horticultural Society, the Dilke Hospital, Freemansons' Lodge, St. John Ambulance Association Centre, Excelsior Band, Cinderford Labour party, Crump Meadow Ambulance Class, Primitive Methodist Christian Endeavour, Cinderford Y. M. C. A., Cinderford Brotherhood, Cinderford Male Voice Choir, the Cinderford Dickens Fellowship, Dilke Hospital Medical Board, and representative of the workmen at each colliery. The "Dean Forest Mercury" opened a subscription list through their paper, and had all along been of very great help in the work. The District was divided into areas, and the following collected in their respective areas: Messrs. Meredith, H. Hale, A. Wilkes, Evan Parsons, D. Walkley, F. Dykins, W. Ellis and F. J. Preece, while the Secretary sent out over a hundred letters to ladies and gentlemen in the district.

There had been many different opinions with regard to the form of the memorial, and the committee decided to refer the question to Dr. Bangara's relatives in India, and they favoured something connected with Dilke Hospital, either a bed or cot, or a fund for the maintenance of the X-ray and ultra-violet ray department. The Committee then decided upon a fund for the maintenance of the X-ray and ultra-violet ray department, together with a framed photograph of the doctor, and a brass plate, to be attached to the door of the X-ray room denoting the objects of the memorial fund. The brass plate on the X-ray room door bears the inscription "The Dr. Bangara Memorial Fund is dedicated to the up-keep of the X-ray and ultra-violet ray apparatus in grateful memory of the late Dr. M. L. Bangara. M. B., CH. B., D. P. H., who by his unselfish devotion and service inaugurated this department of the Hospital." "He lived for mankind."

In the course of a touching and eloquent address the Rev. George Anderson said that he felt very deeply being there on that occasion, having been in the closest association with their late friend. They had a charming photograph, but no photograph could ever trap the personality that lay behind it. The Apostle had said that "the things that were seen were temporal, but the things not seen were eternal". It was quite true that the beauty of form would decay in time, but the beauty of spirit was immortal. He had often wondered why the universe was ever produced. He dared to say that all of them had more or less thought that, but when one looked round and sought to read the design and the purposes of God, one felt that the highest production

was ourselves, in other words, our personality. Face to face with death, one wondered perhaps whether life had been worth while. The doctor was brought face to face with a great deal of suffering, with a darker side of life. He and the doctor had often talked into the early hours of morning. They had discussed the question of what they might do if they had the ordering of the world! Yes, perhaps they had thought things might be different if they ordered them! But if there were no suffering and no trouble, would they ever have such men as Dr. Bangara? The simple truth behind all their imagining was that we were not created perfect beings, but we were created with the capacity to become men and women after God's own heart. Dr. Bangara faced life. He did not shrink from the pain and suffering of the world. They as ministers wondered how best to interpret to their fellow men and women the idea of God. Science could talk to them of energy and many things, but it could not interpret for them the heart of eternal. He must interpret God by the best that he knew, and when he looked into the lives of some men and women and saw the goodness they expressed he was bound to postulate that there must be goodness in the heart of God too. When he looked into the face of his Lord and Saviour he found the words true— "He that hath seen Me hath seen the Father." The God who made the heart of Dr. Bangara must have a big heart Himself. Men, clever men, said clever things, but when he looked at the doctor he was reminded of One whose ideal was expressed when He said "Come unto Me all ye that are weary of heavy laden and I will give your rest." If ever a man fulfilled his mission in life in the spirit it was their late friend and brother. He knew that God was the Father of all, that we were His children, and that God loved each one equally well. As a doctor, from what he knew, his power of diagnosis was brilliant— he (the speaker) owed to him the life of his own child. His touch was gentle, as a citizen he lifted the tone of the district, and gave an ideal of the citizenship in his work expressed in St. Paul's words "Bear ye one another's burdens and so fulfil the law of Christ." He never knew any one appeal to the doctor in vain. His character was above reproach. Just before he died he looked into the doctor's eyes and he into his. There was no shadow. He would not exchange that moment for all the wealth the world could ever offer him. It was Love that would always "laugh at death". "I know", said Mr. Anderson in conclusion, "we shall meet again. Dr. Bangara was born in the East, his sun setting in the West. May the after-glow of a radiant atmosphere penetrate not only our memories, but lead us to a great dedication, inspired by the clean life and the big heart of our noble friend."

The unveiling of the splendid, large photograph of Dr Bangara hanging on the wall of the Board Room, was performed by Mr. Morrison and at his request all present stood for a space silent before it. Speaking afterwards

Mr. Morrison said—"I first of all desire to thank my committee for the honour they have done me by asking me to unveil this memorial to-day. As one who was proud to be known as one of the doctor's personal friends, I can honestly say perhaps I knew much of his innermost thoughts and kindly actions. We keenly appreciated the very numerous acts of kindness and self-sacrifice which were so strong a feature of his everday life. In the practice of his profession he showed himself a true friend to the poor, as was evidenced by his devotion to this Hospital. He was a very real comfort to those under his care, and his cheery smile will always be remembered. To know him was to love him. Of him it could truly be said "Mankind was my business. The common welfare was my business; charity, mercy, forbearance and benevolence were all my business." Now that he has passed on, we rest content with the knowledge of the fact that we have something to show to future generations that at one time a great and noble-hearted man lived in our midst, and in return he was loved, respected and appreciated by those amongst whom he ministered."

Mr. McNamara offered dedicatory prayer, and subsequently Mr. Joynes, to whom was handed the trust deed, thanked the committee for the great honour they had conferred upon the Hospital Committee in asking them to take charge of the memorial. They accepted the memorial because Dr. Bangara was interested in the Hospital from its inception and they knew that in that respect he faithfully did his duty; also because of the part he took in regard to the provision of the X-ray apparatus, and, as well, because of the great interest he took in mankind in general. He truly "went about doing good". If there should be any slacking on the part of those who were working for the Hospital, he hoped that photograph would help them and cause them to emulate his life. Mr. Rowlison proposed and Mr. Meredith seconded votes of thanks. Mr. C. E. Tringham, his recollection awakened by a reference in Mr. Anderson's address, related two unforgettable incidents of kindness, shown to him by Dr. Bangara when he was a patient at the Hospital in the closing months of 1926. The reply by the chairman to the vote of thanks closed the proceedings.

TRIBUTES

Rev. George Anderson, J.P.

It is over a decade ago since I first met M. L. B. (the designation used by his close friends). We rapidly cemented a friendship that even now "Smiles at Death". Spirit with spirit *can* meet. Love draws with irresistable force and Death is revealed—powerless. In the early days M. L. B. quickly impressed one with his utter unselfishness. You felt the unescapable impact of that life (often creating a feeling of shame within your own) dedicated

unreservedly to the alleviation of human suffering and need. His rare professional skill was ever at the disposal of the poorest. Therein lies a story that I must perforce leave in the hands of the Recording Angel. I feel sure that he would have it so. M. L. B. was no stranger to Gethsemane and some of the most Sacred hours of my life were those in which we walked the shadows together. Those around saw the sunshine, but in the inner temple he often said "Your joys share with others, your troubles bear alone". He was not without a rich vein of humour. He was never happier than when he was planning some innocent joke. The Hospital Staff would testify to that. Even now the memory of some of them makes one smile through my tears.

He lived many years in England, but India and his people lay deep in his heart. Often far into the night, with eyes aglow, he has made his home and people live before me. His father was to him a noble-hearted gentleman and his mother a sweet gracious lady. His family were to him the embodiment of rare loyalty and affection. The unfortunate decease of his beloved mother and later that of his honoured father left many golden rays ashen pale. This loss was seldom out of his thoughts to the end. That end came with startling swiftness. He did not shrink for a single second. He simply said "My life's work is finished, my task is ended". The poignancy of the situation was deepened when one recognised the similarity of those words with those uttered by Him whose spirit shine through the life of M. L. B.—"I have finished the work Thou gavest me to do." Just a few hours before he answered the Great Call, I lay on the bed with him gently fanning—he turned his face and we looked into each other's eyes. Thank God neither could find a single thing to regret. Neither had ever let the other stand alone. What we said to each other I cannot mention here. Sufficient to say, in that moment I would not have exchanged the wealth of the world for the treasure that lived in my heart. We knew our friendship had passed the test, and Lo! it was ETERNAL. I have met many men in the course of my ministry and if I were asked to name the man who in my judgment had most resembled the Christ I would without hesitation say "M. L. B." God's great experiment of Creation would be justified if it produced nothing else apart from the Christ-like personality of my big-souled friend. I have felt the Divine nearness many times but never so richly as in that little room where the Great Father received unto Himself the spirit of dear M. L. B. Others, have spoken of the high esteem in which he was held by the people. I will be content with giving two references made by his Medical friends to myself: "You know what I mean. You cannot point to a single thing in his life that you would be ashamed to have in your own"; "I wish I could have saved him. I loved him."

M. L. B. revealed the capacity, beauty and rich personality of a race that so very many in Western lands don't understand. He swept down before him

national barriers and disclosed to the gaze of those who knew him the royal pathway to a brotherhood which shall be the realisation of the Kingdom of God. We in England are the richer for the sojourn of his brave soul in our midst. Light once again came from the East. We salute his people and with hearts tender, yet fearless, we turn to him and say—"Not Farewell, but *Au revoir.*"

Rev. F. C. M. Buck.

Dr. Bangraa is dead. This news was whispered from ear to ear last Monday morning and the message was given by every messenger with trembling lips. All are conscious that Cinderford has lost a great man. He was respected for his efficiency as a Doctor. His profession was to him a great mission and he sought to do his work with the utmost efficiency. He was essentially a man who lived to help and bless others. Without stint he served others. His kindness to the poor was proverbial. His heart was even bigger than his purse. He did not accumulate wealth but he has won the affection of the people. His name is enshrined in their memory. Cinderford has been enriched by his ministry. We have lost one of our greatest citizens. We thank God for his life and his work. We shall miss the gracious touch of his genial personality, but the example of his self-giving will be an inspiration to us as we travel along the road of life. We have lost a friend, but the memory of his friendship will be as a glowing light to cheer us in the battle against self. Dr. Bangara deserves a place of honour amongst the great men who have given life to help others.

We bring no ghastly holocaust,
We pile no graven stone;
He serves Thee best who loveth most
His brothers and Thy own.
Thy litanies, sweet offices
Of love and gratitude,
Thy sacramental liturgies
The joy of doing good. *(Whittier.)*

Rev. F. G. Price.

Everybody respected, yea more, loved him. Not often do the tidings which bring to our unwilling years the extinction of a great life leave behind them such deep regret and pity. To lose the Doctor in the prime of life is a sad blow to the town and all his friends, because in him has just passed away one of the most beloved and generous of men. We loved him because he acted out

his nature and whatever he did was done easily, because naturally he had a vast heart with broad benevolence flowing over all people with whom he came into contact. He loved men, women and children. It was simply necessary to look into his genial face to see how full of sympathy and kindness was his heart, and should any question arise, his account books would show scores of pounds spent upon the needy. The last time I saw and chatted with Dr. Bangara was in my study, only a few months ago. He gave to me on that occasion a donation towards defraying the cost of installing the electric light in our place of worship. I did not think then that he was so near the land of "Eternal light, eternal light." Dr. Bangara was a great kindly character and, as such, will always be remembered. His personal magnetism made him interesting always. He was at his best when he threw himself into the joys and sorrows of others. Doubtless he has become a martyr for the welfare of the people. He was ever ready as the whole town can testify, to devote his energies to the service of others. His was the altruistic life. Kind, thoughtful, sympathetic and generous to all people and uplifting causes, he has endeared himself to one and all. His work was on the life around him and its results cannot ever be known until the books of heaven are balanced. He was one of the bravest of men, he proved the truth of the adage that the bravest are the tenderest. His idealistic life entitles him to the grateful remembrance of the town and of all who knew this princely man. No words of mine are needed to say that our town owes him a deeper debt of gratitude than it has paid or can ever pay for his noble services to the sick and to every section of the community. His monument is erected in the hearts of the people and it is more endurable than marble, stone or brass. It will be long before the last word will be said of Dr. Bangara. His life and his labour for his fellows will always be cherished in our memories and if in the Judgment Hall, Osiris weighs all the deeds of men, he will find heavy balance of good to the credit of Dr. Bangara. Let the living do honour to his name by emulating his noble and sacrificial life.

"He being dead, yet speaketh."

Dr. J. N. Beadles, M. B., B. S. (London).

Dr. Bangara's life was full of various activities, but I think it is only right that some one should mention his medical interests also. In this field he was alive and alert as in other things; he was ever on the look out for new discoveries and would come bursting in on me sometimes with the question, "Have you tried this or that in such a case?" I remember once in his consulting room his interest in following out various tests for scarlet fever in a suspicious case he had and he often told me how he would have liked to have taken post-gradu-

ate courses if he could have spared the time. Like every 'Varsity man, he was proud of his *Alma Mater* and to Bangara there was no place like Edinburgh. His skill with X-ray work became widely known, but the striking thing about Bangara was not so much the skill as the interest he took in things: nobody would have given the vast amount of time and trouble that he did at the Dilke Hospital unless absorbed in his work. The interest in life kept him young to the last and there was ever in him a strain of the irresponsible undergrad. Brave heart, farewell!

Dilke Hospital.

The Committee of the above Hospital desires me to convey to you and through you to each brother and sister and relatives of the late Dr. Bangara their very deep sympathy in his death. Dr. Bangara's connection with the Hospital dates from its inception and he always took the deepest and most profound interest in it. He had sole charge of the X-rays apparatus which he operated with success and skill thus assisting the work of the surgeons in their delicate undertakings. To the patients he was their life and soul, always bringing good cheer with his smiling happy face. Kindness, sympathy, unselfishness and gentleness were marked traits in his beautiful character. He was loved and respected by all at the Hospital and his genial presence is very much missed.

Dickens Fellowship.

This meeting of the Cinderford Branch of the Dickens Fellowship desires to record a vote of heartfelt sympathy with the relatives of our late lamented Hon. Secretary Dr. M. L. Bangara. He was instrumental in forming the local Fellowship in 1918 and became its Second President. For several years he carried out the duties of Hon. Secretary—an office which he held at the time of his death. Some of his favourite quotations and which undoubtedly influenced his life were:

"You are rich only as you enrich the lives of others."

"He preaches well who lives well."

"Flowers bloom whether anyone looks at them or not. Have you less sense than a flower?"

"It is one of the beautiful compensations of life that no man can sincerely try to help another without helping himself."

"There is no mischief where there is music."

"It is well to pray, but, hammer away."

He will long live in our memories for the very many acts of kindness and self-sacrifice which were so strong a feature of his life. He always showed himself a friend to the poor, in proof of which we need only instance his self-sacrifice and unselfish devotion to the patients in the Dilke Hospital. His devotion to the sick, his love of children and his cheery countenance will long be remembered by all those who were privileged to know him. He enjoyed the highest esteem and affectionate regard of all our members. We will never forget how at our last meeting at Hillside, ill as he was, he attended. To know him was to love him. He was a TRUE Dickensian.

Cinderford and District Agricultural and Horticultural Society.

In his opening remarks at the 8th Annual Show, the Chairman said he believed their society was a strong and lusty 'youngster' which would develop and ultimately attain its majority. Proceeding the speaker said he felt called upon to strike one sad note and that was in reference to the death of Dr. M. L. Bangara who for the last seven years had been the life and soul of the society. That gentleman practically ran the show from its inception and as it was his last wish that the show should be continued, he thought the best way they could commemorate and remember him would be to do their best to keep the show alive. He hoped that would be the endeavour of all associated with it in the future.

Before declaring the Show open, the Mayor of Gloucester (Dr. Finlay) said his desire to be present at the show was accentuated by the fact that Dr. Bangara expressed the wish to him that he should attend the function. He could not let that moment pass without remarking on the deep sense of sympathy and kindness for others that was possessed by Dr. Bangara. The medical men in Gloucester loved him and admired his work.....

Lieut. Col. Kerr proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Mayor..... He associated himself with what had been said regarding Dr. Bangara and commended the Chairman's suggestion in regard to the way his life should be commemorated.

There were two presentations in memory of the late Chairman Dr. Bangara (i) The Dr. Bangara Cup by Mr. W. J. Balton, Cinderford, for the best collection of roses and (ii) The Bangara Perpetual Memorial Trophy presented by his Medical Colleagues in Cinderford and Dry-brook for bunches of garden flowers.

The Madras Christian College Magazine, July 1927.

We deeply regret to record the death from influenza of Dr. M. L. Bangara, M. B., CH. B. (Edin.) D. P. H., of Mangalore which took place at Cinderford, Gloucestershire, on April 18, 1927. After passing the F. A. examination from the Government College, Mangalore, he was for a time a student of this institution before he proceeded to Edinburgh to qualify himself for a medical degree. As a student Mr. Bangara was known for his excellent character and diligence and his subsequent career fully confirmed the expectations formed of him during his school days. At Edinburgh he won the golden opinion of his professors and after graduating in medicine he settled down at Cinderford in 1915 as a practising physician. He soon built up a large practice for himself and with it his circle of influence also widened. He became associated with the management of several institutions, but he will be remembered chiefly as a poor man's friend in Cinderford. His charities did not recognize racial barriers and every good cause found in him a sympathizer. In the death of Dr. Bangara, Cinderford has lost a genial friend who will be long remembered not merely as a skilful doctor, but as a selfless man. Born in 1881 Dr. Bangara was only 46 years of age, and his death is mourned by the people of Cinderford as keenly as by his relations and friends in India. Impressive scenes were witnessed at the funeral of Dr. Bangara, and a service in his memory was held at the Baptist Chapel at Cinderford. We wish to convey our sincere condolences to the members of the bereaved family.

Suvasini, October 1927.

ದಿವಂಗತ ದೀನಬಂಧು

ಡಾ. ಯಮ್. ಲಕ್ಷ್ಮಣ ಬಂಗೇರರು

ಯಮ್. ಬಿ., ಸಿಯಚ್. ಬಿ. (ಎಡಿನಬೊರೊ) ಡಿ. ಪಿ. ಯಚ್.

ರತ್ನವು ಗಸಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ದೂಳು ಮುಸುಕಿದ್ದಾಗ ಅದರ ಬೆಲೆ ಗೊತ್ತಾಗಲಾರದು. ಅದನ್ನು ಸರಿಯಾದ ಕುಂದಣದಲ್ಲಿರಿಸಿದಾಗ ಅದರ ಕಳೆಯೇರುತ್ತದೆ. ಅದೇ ರೀತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ತನ್ನ ದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ತನ್ನ ನೆಂಟರಿಷ್ಟರ ಗೆಳೆಯರ ಒಡನಾಟದಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವನೊಬ್ಬನ ಗುಣವಿಶೇಷಗಳಾದರೂ ನ್ಯಾಯವಾದ ಗೌರವವನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಲಾರವು. ಅವನ್ನು ಪಕ್ಷಪಾತದ ಲೇಪನವು ಮುಸುಕು ಹಾಕಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಅನ್ಯದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಪರಿಚಿತರೊಡನೆ ಕಲೆತು ಇರುವಾಗ ಮಾತ್ರವೇ ಅವು ಸ್ಫೂರ್ತಿಗೆ ಬರುತ್ತವೆ. ಮೇಲೆ ಹೆಸರೆತ್ತಿದವರ ಸ್ಥಿತಿಯಾದರೂ ಹೀಗೆಯೇ ಇತ್ತು. ಈ ತುಳುನಾಡಿಗೆ ಅವರು ರತ್ನಪ್ರಾಯರಾಗಿದ್ದರೂ, ಅವರ ಗೆಳೆಯರೂ, ಅವರ ಪರಿಚಿತರೂ, ಅವರ ಸ್ವಾಭಾವಿಕ ಸೌಜನ್ಯವನ್ನು ಮನಗಂಡಿದ್ದರೂ ಅದರ ನೆಲೆಯನ್ನು ಚೆನ್ನಾಗಿ ಅರಿತಿರಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಈ ಕಾರ್ಯವನ್ನು ಇಂಗ್ಲೆಂಡಿನ ಗ್ಲೊಸ್ಟರಶಯರಿನ ಸಿಂಡರ್‌ಫೋರ್ಡ ಊರಿನವರು ಪೂರೈಸಿದರು.

ದಿವಂಗತರು ಈ ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಯ ವಾಚಕರಲ್ಲನೇಕರಿಗೆ ಪರಿಚಿತರಾಗಿರಬಹುದಾದ್ದರಿಂದ ಅವರ ಜೀವನಚರಿತ್ರೆಯನ್ನು ವಿಸ್ತಾರವಾಗಿ ಬರೆಯಬೇಕಾಗಿಲ್ಲ. ಸ್ವರ್ಗವಾಸಿಯಾದ ಡಿಸ್ಟ್ರಿಕ್ಟ್ ಜಡ್ಜರಾದ ದಿವಾನ ಬಹದ್ದೂರ ಮುಂಡಪ್ಪ ಬಂಗೇರರ ಜ್ಯೇಷ್ಠ ಪುತ್ರರಾದ ಇವರು ೧೮೮೧ನೇ ಏಪ್ರಿಲ್ ೫ನೇ ತಾರೀಕಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಜನ್ಮವೆತ್ತಿದರು. ಕುಂದಾಪುರ ಬೋರ್ಡು ಹೈಸ್ಕೂಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಇವರು ಮೆಟ್ರಿಕ್ಯುಲೇಶನ್ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಉತ್ತೀರ್ಣರಾಗಿ, ಮಂಗಳೂರಿನ ಗವರ್ನಮೆಂಟ್ ಕೊಲೆಜಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಯಫ್. ಎ. ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಯನ್ನು ಮುಗಿಸಿ, ಮದ್ರಾಸಿನ ಕ್ರಿಶ್ಚನ್ ಕೊಲೆಜಿನಲ್ಲಿಯೂ, ಅನಂತರ ಮೆಡಿಕಲ್ ಕೊಲೆಜಿನಲ್ಲಿಯೂ ಕಲಿತು, ೧೯೦೬ನೇ ಇಸವಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ವೈದ್ಯವಿದ್ಯಾಭ್ಯಾಸಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಎಡಿನಬೊರೊ ಪಟ್ಟಣಕ್ಕೆ ತೆರಳಿದರು. ಅಲ್ಲಿಯ ಯೂನಿವರ್ಸಿಟಿ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಯಶಸ್ವಿಯಾಗಿ ಕಣ್ಣಿನ ಮತ್ತು ಗರ್ಭಕೋಶದ ವ್ಯಾಧಿಗಳ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆಯನ್ನು ಕಲಿತರು. ಆಗ ಆ ಯೂನಿವರ್ಸಿಟಿಯ ಪ್ರೊಫೆಸರರು ಅವರ ಅತ್ಯುತ್ತಮವಾದ ವರ್ತನ, ಚುರುಕುತನ, ಸತ್ಕಾರ್ಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಉತ್ಸಾಹ, ಪ್ರಾಮಾಣಿಕತೆ ಮುಂತಾದವುಗಳ ಗುಣಕಥನ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು. ಅವರು ಎಡಿನಬೊರೊ ಪಟ್ಟಣದ ಇಂಡಿಯನ್ ಎಸೋಸಿಯೇಶನ್ನಿನ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರಾಗಿಯೂ ಇದ್ದರು.

೧೯೧೪ನೇ ಇಸವಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅವರು ತಮ್ಮ ಮಾತೃಭೂಮಿಗೆ ಬಂದಿದ್ದು, ಅದೇ ವರ್ಷದ ಕೊನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮೇಲೆ ಹೆಸರೆತ್ತಿದ ಸಿಂಡರ್‌ಫೋರ್ಡ್ ಎಂಬಲ್ಲಿ ಖಾಸಗಿ ವೈದ್ಯರಾಗಿ ಜನಪ್ರೀತರಾಗಿ ಇದ್ದರು. ೧೯೨೫ನೇ ಇಸವಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅವರು ಸ್ವದೇಶಕ್ಕೆ ತನ್ನ ನೆಂಟರಿಷ್ಟರನ್ನು ನೋಡುವ ಆಸೆಯಿಂದ ತೆರಳುವಾಗ ಅವರ ನಿಃಸ್ವಾರ್ಥತೆ, ಮತ್ತು ಭೂತದಯೆಯ ಪಾಶದಿಂದ ಬದ್ಧರಾದ ಅಲ್ಲಿಯ ಜನರು ತಮ್ಮ ಕೃತಜ್ಞತೆಯನ್ನು ತೋರ್ಪಡಿಸಿ ಮಾನಪತ್ರವನ್ನು ಸಮರ್ಪಿಸಿದ್ದರು. ಅದರಲ್ಲಿ ಅವರು ಹೀಗಂದಿದ್ದಾರೆ:—'ನಿಮ್ಮ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸಾಕ್ರಮದಲ್ಲಿ ನೀವು ಸರ್ವದಾ ಬಡಜನರ, ದೀನರ ಬಂಧುವಾಗಿದ್ದು ನಿಮ್ಮ ನಿಃಸ್ವಾರ್ಥತೆಯು ಡಿಲ್ಕ್ ಮೆಮೊರಿಯಲ್ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನಿಮ್ಮ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದಿಂದ ವ್ಯಕ್ತವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ರೋಗಿಗಳ ಆರೈಕೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೀವು ತೋರಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದ ಅನನ್ಯ ಭಾವವೂ, ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಮೇಲೆ ನಿಮಗಿದ್ದ ಪ್ರೀತಿಯೂ, ಮುಗುಳುನಗೆಯನ್ನು ಬೀರುವ ನಿಮ್ಮ ಹಸನ್ಮುಖದ ಬಿಂಬವೂ, ನಿಮ್ಮ ಪರಿಚಯಸ್ಥರಾದ ನಮ್ಮ ಹೃದಯಗಳಿಂದ ಚಿರಕಾಲದ ವರೆಗೆ ಅಳಿಸಿಹೋಗಲಾರದು'. ಅದೇ ಕಾಲದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಲ್ಲಿಯ ರೆವೆರೆಂಡ್ ಜೋರ್ಜ್ ಎಂಡರ್ಸನ್, ಜೆ. ಪಿ., ಎಂಬ ಪಾದ್ರಿಗಳು ದಿವಾನ ಬಹದ್ದೂರ ಮುಂಡಪ್ಪ ಬಂಗೇರರಿಗೆ ಈ ರೀತಿಯಾಗಿ ಲೇಖನವನ್ನು ಬರೆದರು:—'ನಿಮ್ಮ ಮಗನು ಸ್ವದೇಶಕ್ಕೆ ಪ್ರಯಾಣ ಬೆಳಿಸಿರುವರು. ಅವರನ್ನು ಅಗಲಲು ನಮಗೆ ತುಂಬಾ ವಿಷಾದವಿದೆ. ಅವರಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರೇಮವಾತ್ಸಲ್ಯಪೂರಿತರಾದ ಅನೇಕ ಮಿತ್ರರು ಈ ದುಃಖದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಹಭಾಗಿಯಾಗಿರುವರು. ಅವರ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸಾ ಅನುಭವವೂ ಉಚ್ಚತರದ್ದಿತ್ತು, ಮಾತ್ರವಲ್ಲ, ಎಲ್ಲರೂ ಅವರ ಶಿಷ್ಟಾಚರಣೆಗೋಸ್ಕರ ಅವರನ್ನು ಬಂಧುತ್ವದಿಂದ ಕಾಣುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು. ಅವರ ಮಾತೆತ್ತದವರು ಇಲ್ಲ. ಅವರ ಬಿಂಬವು ಎಲ್ಲರ ಹೃದಯದಲ್ಲಿಯೂ ಕೆತ್ತಿದಂತಿದೆ. ನನ್ನ ಇಡೀ ಜೀವಕಾಲದಲ್ಲಿ ಅವರಷ್ಟು ಬಂಧುಭಾವದಿಂದ ನಾನು ಕಂಡವರು ಮತ್ತೆ ಬೇರೆ ಇಲ್ಲ. ಅವರು ಚಿರಾಯುವಾಗಲೆಂದು ನಾವು ಭಗವಂತನನ್ನು ಪ್ರಾರ್ಥಿಸುತ್ತೇವೆ. ದೈವೇಚ್ಛೆ ಇದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಅವರನ್ನು ಇನ್ನೊಂದು ತಡವೆ ಕಾಣುವ ಸಂದರ್ಭ ಬರಬಹುದು. ನಿಮ್ಮ ಮಗನ ಪರಿಚಿತರೆಲ್ಲರೂ ಇಂಥ ಗುಣರತ್ನವಾಗಿದ್ದ ನಿಮ್ಮ ಜ್ಯೇಷ್ಠ ಪುತ್ರನನ್ನು ಕೆಲವು ವರ್ಷಗಳ ವರೆಗಾದರೂ ನಮ್ಮೊಂದಿಗೆ ಕಾಲಕಳೆಯಲು ನೀವು ಬಿಟ್ಟದ್ದಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ದೇವರು ನಿಮಗೆ ಒಳ್ಳೇದನ್ನು ಮಾಡಲಿ ಎಂದು ಪ್ರಾರ್ಥಿಸುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಅವರಿಂದ ನಿಮ್ಮ ಕುಲವು ಧನ್ಯವಾಯಿತು, ನೀವು ಇಷ್ಟು ಕಾಲ ಅವರನ್ನು ನಮ್ಮೊಡನೆ ಇರಗೊಡಿಸುವುದರಿಂದ ನಾವು ಎಷ್ಟೋ ಧನ್ಯರಾದೆವು.' ದಿವಾನ ಬಹದ್ದೂರರ ವೃದ್ಧಾಪ್ಯಕಾಲವು ಈ ಹೃತ್ಪೂರ್ವಕವಾದ ಅಭಿನಂದನೆಯ ಮಾತುಗಳಿಂದ ಎಷ್ಟೋ ಸುಖವನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿರಬೇಕು. ಆದರೆ ಈ ಅಮೃತದಲ್ಲಿ ಹುಳಿರಸ ಬೀಳಬಾರದೆಂಬುದರಿಂದಲೇ ದಯಾಮಯನಾದ ದೇವರು ಈ ರತ್ನವು ಕಳಚಿ ನೆಲಕ್ಕೆ ಬೀಳುವ ಮೊದಲೇ ದಿವಾನ ಬಹದ್ದೂರರ ಆಯುಷ್ಕಾಲವನ್ನು ಕೊನೆಗಾಣಿಸಿದನು.

ಶ್ರೀಯುತ ಲಕ್ಷ್ಮಣ ಬಂಗೇರರು ತನ್ನ ವೃದ್ಧ ತಂದೆಯೊಡನೆಯೂ, ಸೆಂಟರಿಪ್ಪರೊಡನೆಯೂ ಇಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಲ ಕಾಲ ಕಳೆದು, ೧೯೨೫ನೇ ಮೇ ತಿಂಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸಿಂಡರಫೋರ್ಡಿಗೆ ಅಲ್ಲಿಯ ಜನರ ಆಗ್ರಹಕ್ಕೊಳಗಾಗಿ ಹೊರಟು ಹೋದರು. ದಿವಾನ ಬಹದ್ದೂರರು ೧೯೨೬ನೇ ಫೆಬ್ರುವರಿ ೯ನೇ ತಾರೀಕಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಕೈಲಾಸವಾಸಿಯಾಗುವಾಗಲೇ ಡಾ. ಬಂಗೇರರ ಆರೋಗ್ಯವು ಸ್ವಲ್ಪ ಹೀನಸ್ಥಿತಿಗೆ ಬಂದಿತ್ತು. ಆದರೂ ತನ್ನ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸಾವೃತ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸ್ವಲ್ಪವೂ ಅಶ್ರದ್ಧೆ ತೋರಿಸದೆ ಅವರು ಧಾವತಿಪಟ್ಟು ಕೆಲಸಮಾಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದುದರಿಂದ ಫಕ್ಕನೆ ಇನ್‌ಫ್ಲುಯೆಂಜಾ ಜ್ವರಕ್ಕೆ ತುತ್ತಾದರು. ಸ್ವಲ್ಪ ವಿಶ್ರಾಂತಿಗಾಗಿ ಅವರು ಕೆಲವು ದಿನಗಳ ವರೆಗೆ ರೆ. ಜೋರ್ಜ ಎಂಡರ್ಸರವರುವ ಬ್ಲೆಕ ಬರ್ನ್ ಪಟ್ಟಣಕ್ಕೆ ಹೋದರು. ಅಲ್ಲಿಂದ ಹಿಂತಿರುಗಿ ಬಂದಾಗ ಅವರ ಆರೋಗ್ಯವು ನೆಟ್ಟಗಾಗದೆ ಕೆಲವು ದಿನಗಳಲ್ಲಿಯೇ ಅವರು ಈ ಲೋಕವನ್ನು ತ್ಯಜಿಸಿದರು. ಅವರ ಪ್ರಾಣೋತ್‌ಕ್ರಮಣಕಾಲದಲ್ಲಿ ಆರೈಕೆ ನೋಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದ ಸಿಸ್ಟರ್ ಸ್ಟೀಲ್ ಎಂಬವಳು ಹೀಗೆ ಬರೆದಿದ್ದಾಳೆ:—'ಈ ವರೆಗೆ ನಾನು ಇವರಷ್ಟು ಪರಿಶುದ್ಧಾಂತಃಕರಣರನ್ನು ಕಂಡಿಲ್ಲ. ಅವರ ಕೊನೆಯ ಕಾಲವು ಮನಶ್ಶಾಂತಿಯಿಂದಲೇ ಸಮಾಪ್ತಿಯಾಯಿತೆಂದು ಕೇಳಿ ಅವರ ಸಹೋದರ ಸಹೋದರಿಯರಿಗೆ ತುಂಬಾ ಸಮಾಧಾನವಾಗಬಹುದು. ಕೊನೆಯ ತನಕ ಅವರ ಪ್ರಜ್ಞಾಶಕ್ತಿಯು ಶುಭ್ರವಾಗಿಯೇ ಇತ್ತು. ಅವರ ಜೀವನಕಾಲವು ನನಗೆ ಆದರ್ಶದಂತಿರುವುದು. ಅದು ಸರ್ವದಾ ಅಸಾಧಾರಣವಾದ ಘನತೆ, ತಾಳ್ಮೆ ಮತ್ತು ನಿಃಸ್ವಾರ್ಥತೆಯದಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಅವರ ಅಂತ್ಯಕಾಲದಲ್ಲಿ ಅವರ ಚಿಂತನೆಯು ಅವರ ಕುಟುಂಬದ ಮತ್ತು ಅವರ ಪ್ರೀತಿಗೆ ಪಾತ್ರರಾದ ಗೆಳೆಯರ ಮೇಲೆಯೇ ವ್ಯಾಪಿಸಿತ್ತು.'

ಅವರ ಮರಣದಿಂದ ಉಂಟಾದ ವಿಷಾದವನ್ನು ಹಲವು ಇಂಗ್ಲಿಷ ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ತೋರ್ಪಡಿಸಿದ ಉದ್ಗಾರಗಳಿವೆ. ಅವರ ಶ್ಮಶಾನಯಾತ್ರೆಯ ಕಾಲದಲ್ಲಿ ಊರ ಪರಊರ ಗೃಹಸ್ಥರು ತಂಡತಂಡವಾಗಿ ನೆರೆದು ಯಥೋಚಿತರೀತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅವರ ದೇಹಕ್ಕೆ ಸನ್ಮಾನಮಾಡಿ ಅವರ ಆತ್ಮಕ್ಕೆ ಶಾಂತಿಯನ್ನೂ, ಸದ್ಗತಿಯನ್ನೂ ಕೊಡುವಂತೆ ಕ್ರೈಸ್ತ ದೇವಾಲಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಾರ್ಥನೆ ಮಾಡಿದರು.

ಅವರ ದೇಹವನ್ನು ವಿಧಿಯುಕ್ತವಾಗಿ ಅಗ್ನಿಗೆ ಅರ್ಪಿಸಿದ ಮೇಲೆ ಅಸ್ಥಿಗಳನ್ನು ಜೆಲುವಾದ ಕೆತ್ತನೆಕೆಲಸದಿಂದ ಕೂಡಿದ ಪೆಟ್ಟಿಗೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಂಗಳೂರಿಗೆ ಸಿಂಡರಫೋರ್ಡ ಊರಿನವರು ಕಳುಹಿಸಿದರು. ಆ ಪೆಟ್ಟಿಗೆಯ ಹೊರಗೆ ಬೆಳ್ಳಿಯ ತಗಡಿನ ಮೇಲೆ ಈ ರೀತಿಯಾಗಿ ಇಂಗ್ಲಿಷಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಬರೆದಿತ್ತು. 'ಡಾ. ಬಂಗೇರರು ೧೯೨೬ನೇ ಎಪ್ರಿಲ್ ತಿಂಗಳ ೧೭ನೇ ತಾರೀಕಿಗೆ ಕೈಲಾಸವಾಸಿಯಾದರು. ಅವರು ಜನಸೇವೆಯಲ್ಲಿಯೇ ತಮ್ಮ ಜೀವವನ್ನು ಅರ್ಪಿಸಿದರು.' ಇಂಥ ಮಕ್ಕಳಿದ್ದರೆ ನಿಜವಾಗಿಯೂ ತಂದೆತಾಯಿಗಳು ಧನ್ಯ! ಅಂಥ ದೇಶವೂ ಧನ್ಯ!

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FUNERAL OF THE LATE Dr. BANGARA.
CINDERFORD, ENGLAND.



1. Cortege leaving residence. 2. Rev. Geo. Anderson and other citizens following. 3. Boys of the Secondary School. 4. Rev. F. C. M. Buck (left), Pastor of the Baptist Church where the first part of the Service was held and Rev. A. E. T. McNamara, Rector of Blairdoo, with Flaxley. 5. Capt. Scott who represented the Church Army. 6. Section of the funeral procession. 7. Inspector Gardner and members of the Forest Police. 8. Dr. R. N. Naudy of Drybrook. 9. Lady mourners. 10. Officials of the Cinderford and District Horticultural and Agricultural Society (of which Dr. Bangara was Chairman) carrying a floral chair, one of the Society's tributes. 11. Section of the funeral procession.

After the Service the coffin was removed to Parry Barr] Crematorium, Birmingham. By expressed wish, the 'ashes' are sent home for interment in the Family Cemetery.

[These pictures are reproduced through the kindness and courtesy of Gloucester Journal, England.]

IN MEMORIAM

Dr. M. L. BANGARA

Quiet he lies now, for he is asleep,
Gone from the pains and the doubtings of Earth,
He would not have us mournfully to weep.
But through the years, we his memory shall keep –
We knew his great love, his worth.
Far mid his home hills his ashes will lie,
But e'er he dreams 'neath the hot skies again,
Severn and Cotswold and broad Dean shall sigh
Bathed in Spring sunlight, "Oh brother! goodbye!
You were a man among men!"
We shall remember him, we left behind,
How always his hands were stretched out for to bless
The friendless and downtrodden souls of mankind
And at the end, we in Heaven, shall find
Him walking in God's righteousness.

—Leonard Clark.

(in Dean Forest Guardian)