

"Every day he comes for his medicine, which consists of two egg-nogs. His other medicine he takes at home, but, according to his religion, a Hindu should not eat flesh or anything containing life, and so eggs are forbidden, but the father consented gladly to the egg-nogs when we said we would give him them daily as medicine if the boy would come regularly, and I think he has missed only one day. Yesterday he brought his little brother and some extra milk and wanted the little fellow to have some medicine too because it tasted so good. He comes on Sunday as well as week-days and so is present at Sunday School and church services which otherwise he would never attend."

But the sadness and desolation of these people in the presence of death is most vividly shown in the following incident from Dr. Allyn's experience.

"You at home can form almost no conception of what death means to these Hindu people. We have had two experiences since hot season. One was a little Brahmin lad who was in an unconscious state when we were called. He had been given one-quarter ounce of calomel (60 times the usual dose) and various other strong drugs in heroic doses, and when we saw him he was quite beyond human aid. As I sit here now trying to tell you about it that scene flashes before me again most vividly. Miss North was with me and when we saw he was going we said to a man standing near, who understood English, "He is dying. He turned and repeated it in Telugu to the father, and, as if by magic, doors on all sides of us flew open and the room in which already there were about 20 men was crowded full of men and women bowing, beating themselves, each trying to scream louder than all the others. Four men grabbed the mattress on which the boy lay and hauled it very roughly into the court yard, for he must not die on the cot lest it be defiled, and he must not die inside for a similar reason. The mother, a handsome young woman, simply grovelled on the ground and beat herself. The old father, bent almost double with some deformity, alone seemed calm. We had a chance to say a little word of comfort to him, but what was there to say? I remember that, "The Lord hath given, the Lord hath taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord," flashed into my mind, and I quoted it to him, but I

could not comfort him much for I do not suppose the boy had ever heard of Jesus."

Do we as Christian women appreciate the knowledge of Him who is the resurrection and the life, and can we not do more to send hope and light to those darkened souls?

Dr. Allyn has been assisted by Miss North, a European nurse, while her other helpers are two compounders, two nurses and one ward ayah. There are prayers every morning in the largest ward of the hospital, which Dr. Allyn describes as one of the happiest hours of the day. As to their present and future needs she writes:

"We have been very comfortable in the fine hospital buildings that Dr. Smith has built. Our supply of instruments and hospital furniture is very insufficient and when Dr. Smith returns we shall need our Woman's Hospital for, in this country, it is impossible to run a hospital for both sexes in one building. A nurses' residence is the great necessity. At present our nurses are living in the quarters built for compounders and they are built close to the street and are on the hospital property, where I cannot watch or protect them. The land for the ladies' bungalow has been secured and is adjoining both the Mission Compound and the Hospital Compound.

We have a bright future ahead of us in this town and pray that we may have all the wisdom needed and health to improve the many opportunities presented."

And so the account of another year's service has been rendered, and we know that He in whose name it has been done is looking on with His approval and that He will give the reward. Let us not forget our part in the work, but let us remember that "by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving" we can make request to our Father for these our sisters in India.

The length of some of the reports prevents their appearing in full, but they will be placed in the Bureau of Literature, in charge of Mrs. Thos. Moor, 517 Markham St., Toronto, from whom they may be obtained by those desiring interesting information for their women's missionary meetings.

Respectfully submitted.

M. L. ANGUS.

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