

PRAYER CARD LEAFLET.

SUBJECT FOR PRAYER.

AUGUST.

For India - the Ramabai effort to elevate the millions of child-widows; for all the suffering and benighted women of that land.
For the extension of God's Kingdom in Africa.

SCRIPTURE READING.—*Isa. lviii. 1-12; Matt. xxv, 34-45.*

Who is Ramabai? Pundita Ramabai, whom Prof. Max Muller has called "one of the most remarkable women of this century," is the daughter of a Marathi priest, who lived in the forest of Gungumala, in Hindostan, where he was driven into exile for holding and carrying into practice liberal views in regard to child-marriage and the education of women. Here Ramabai was born, April 23rd, 1858. She was educated by her father and mother in the literature of her high caste. She accompanied her father many thousands of miles on religious pilgrimages, employing her leisure hours in the study of Sanskrit. Before the age of sixteen she was left an orphan, and subsequently travelled several years with her brother, who sympathized with her in her determination to devote herself to the elevation of her country-women. At the age of twenty-two she married a Bengalese lawyer. Two years later, while she was preparing to go to England to study medicine, her husband died, leaving her the care of an infant eight months old. This noble woman, however, did not despair. She sold her little home, paid off the debts, and wrote a book which brought money enough for the journey; and in 1883, sixteen months after her husband's death, she left India for England. Here she was made Professor of Sanskrit, in Cheltenham College, where she remained till 1886, having in the meantime become a Christian. The following two years she spent in America, writing text-books, lecturing and endeavoring to awaken an interest in her projected work for the elevation of child-widows in India.

What are child-widows? In India the custom is to betroth girls in marriage while mere infants, in many cases to men old enough to be their fathers or grandfathers. In the high caste, a man