

Indore. It is bound, however, to come in time. With Barwai nearly forty miles away you can understand it is not easy to conduct these negotiations in the middle of the hot weather.

Another struggle, and one in which the ladies will be much interested, has just been terminated successfully. I refer to the obtaining of land in Neemuch Cantonment for the Chamar Girls' school. The Building Committee and its operations are a phase of our work you don't hear much about, for building work is so much more of a means than an end in missions that it does not seem to count. Over a year ago, March, when the two schools were decided on for Neemuch, we began at once on the building in Old Neemuch. Dr. Buchanan and I got the ground laid out and the foundation dug and the building was erected last summer largely under the personal supervision of Mr. Drew who went up from Mhow for the purpose. At the same time we entered into negotiations with the Cantonment authorities to give us leave to build in a corner of the Camp near to the Chamar Mohulla. It is strange we should often receive hindrances from English people; yet so it is. Prejudices against mission work are not more strongly rooted in the mind of the natives than with some Englishmen, though I am glad to say we always have our warm advocates also. I need not go into a history of the difficulties we have had in obtaining that land. First the plans were objected to. Although plans both of the proposed building and of the site and its surroundings had been carefully prepared on the prescribed forms, after we had measured the whole ground and had it staked off they were returned to have them all re-drawn on a different scale. This being complied with, and another month or so having elapsed in waiting for the matter to be again considered, the next check was a demand for Rs3,000 for the land. As the whole estimate for building and land together was not Rs1,000 this could not be complied with. Negotiations were then tried both with the committee in Neemuch and the higher authorities in Mhow; and thus the time wore on and patience began to wear out. Two weeks ago Dr. Woods and I spent a day in interviewing different members of the committee in Neemuch and we were pleased to find a much friendlier spirit manifest. Their meeting was held this week and I have just received word from Dr. Woods that the land has been granted. I believe this success is due to the one or two friends we have always had on the committee, together with the courteousness of the commanding officer.

It is now late in the hot season, but I am hopeful of our being able to begin at once and build. As it must all be done, however, in the next few weeks before the rains, during which it will be impossible to build, we will be much pushed for time, as materials must be gathered, a con-