

is not heavy with idolatry, superstition, sin and Christless living. Yes, friends I need your prayers as never before. I know that this kind goes not out but by prayer and fasting and that we never can get the victory among the 300,000 people living in the 400 villages of the Chicacole field unless *you strongly hold the ropes* and pour out your souls before God that the windows of heaven may be opened and that the blessing from on high may descend, touching the weak, wavering souls, making all things new. Hallelujah! He is willing to use the weakest instrument for His own glory. Pray that we may yield ourselves to Him and that there may be nothing in us to offend. Pray that we may say: "Yes, if my right hand offend I will *cut it off*, rather than be a hindrance into the Kingdom of the precious souls for whom Jesus died."

I wish I could have visited you all and tried to introduce the New Mission Band Book, "Glimpses and Gleams." Will you not appoint some one in your vicinity to see how many will give 25 cents for this book of 230 pages, fifty new pictures, map, questionnaire, and an artistic cover with a smiling baby and Telugu Script and two missionary hymns. You will specially enjoy the lessons on Bolivia by Mrs. Mitchell. Yes, find out how many will take the book and send your order to 66 Bloor St. West, Toronto. It is now or never as the supply will soon be exhausted. Who will volunteer to sell the book and who will volunteer to lead the Mission Band? Where is there a more educative, evangelizing agency than the Mission Band? Does it not train our youth in giving, in leading meetings, and when they learn about the little idolaters far away will they not yield their own hearts to Jesus?

The Wolvertons, McLaurins, Miss Jones and I sail from Montreal November 10th, (D.V.) Remember us specially, please, as we sail along.

Lovingly yours in the glorious hope of His appearing in power and great glory.

Mabel E. Archibald.

## PRESENT CONDITIONS WITH REGARD TO WOMEN

Mrs. J. L. Taylor.

A few years ago, when on furlough, I talked of the *possibilities* of India's women. To-day, I come to tell of *actual* things that have happened. In the January "Harvest Field" an Indian writer says, "Caste, disabilities of widows, child marriage, dowry system, marriage customs, position of women, untouchability and many other things which need immediate reform in India, are being discussed all over the country and many progressive reforms have been suggested and attempted in different parts." After speaking of caste he says, "There have been similar movements to permit widows to re-marry, and raise the age of marriage for girls, and remove all unnecessary and expensive ceremonies during marriage, birth, death, etc. *The position of woman is steadily improving.* There have been movements to give them the same liberty as men. In some parts of India they are given the full privileges of citizenship which even the West has only now given. The movements in this direction have been very rapid during the last few years."

Before I speak further of these changes may I utter a word of warning to those who have the responsibility of sending young missionaries to India, and to those under appointment to the field.

All the women of India are not touched by these movements. Only a mere fraction, some few thousands of India's 155,000,000 women know anything about them. The rest, in villages and wards of the city, live the same life as has been lived for centuries. In Canada, people in villages read and keep in touch with their fellow countrymen. India's village women cannot read. It follows, therefore, that the work of *most* of us will be what mission work has always been—the working for and winning these village women. India's women need leaders, but not folk who think themselves leaders. They want comrades.

I would like to remind you, too, that modern women's movements in India are