

EXTRACTS FROM A PRIVATE LETTER TO MRS. EWART FROM  
MISS BEATTY, M.D.

“I was quite determined, when I landed in India, to do nothing but study Hindi till I had mastered it, but somehow I soon got into some work, and the little grew to much, so that I went every day to some sick ones in the city, besides having a good deal of measles and chicken-pox in the camp. I probably ventured a little too much, for I had a touch of fever for three days, not bad at all, only new to me and rather uncomfortable.” Miss Beatty then goes on to give details with regard to several serious cases she had attended, and in which she had to contend with much that was trying, but in which she was, so far, very successful. In one very serious case Miss B. says: “The family had given up all hope, but when I assured them there was still a possibility of saving the woman, they were willing to do anything and everything; that is about four weeks ago, and the woman is up and around the house. For several days the husband came in an ox gharrie and brought a horse gharrie for Mrs. Jacobi and myself, and his brother, who is married to a sister of my patient, brought his wife to see me and assure me of their gratitude ‘for saving their dear sister’s life.’ It is very unusual for natives to pay visits. They brought me a tray of lovely pine apples, bananas and mangoes. . . . A very important part of my work will be training a class of native women to help me and help each other. That cannot be done without a hospital, and that is one of the forbidden things, though the A.G.G. has, after some remonstrance, given permission to open a dispensary for women; I hope the way may be cleared for it. Indeed, it would be almost a waste of time to stay in Indore if I cannot do something worth while in training native women. . . . One of my nicest families is leaving Indore; Mr. Puttuck was Holkar’s Minister of Agriculture. I am very sorry, for there are four nice little girls, lovely children all of them. I’ve doctored half of them through measles, and all of them through fever; so I feel a sort of proprietary interest in them. They all attend Miss Rodger’s school, and are going where there is no school, so I am secretly hoping they may leave the two elder girls with Miss Rodger. There is scarcely room for them, as they have been accustomed to better quarters, and it will be some time