

to do this. We have always considered the Vuyyuru work *our own*; let us not allow it to drop from our hands.

Work Abroad.—As this is by far the most important part of our undertakings, as the funds of the Society are raised to support the work in India, I will read the reports sent by our lady missionaries for this Convention.

You will no doubt be interested to hear that it has been suggested that Miss Murray take Miss Baskerville's place in the Girls' Boarding School at Cocanada, while the latter is on furlough. Miss Murray writes of this further change:—"I have but one desire, and that is to do God's will, wherever it may lead me." On hearing of the change of work anticipated, your Board felt moved to make the following resolution,—"That the Board hears with great satisfaction of Miss Murray's work, and having confidence in her judgment, would leave her free to make what changes she may feel led to for the general good in the details of the work."

These frequent changes are somewhat puzzling to us at home; but those who are actually on the foreign field should certainly have more practical views on matter pertaining to their work, than their supporters who live thousands of miles away.

Zenana Workers, Cocanada.—Miss Gibson and Miss Beggs have worked faithfully and uninterruptedly throughout the year, they ask for our prayers, "that they may be more fitted to carry the good tidings, and that the dear women who are studying and hearing the blessed truths may be led to the knowledge of Him who is willing to save all those who look unto Him for salvation.

Miss Gibson, during the half year from January to June, visited 63 houses, making 233 visits, reaching about 300 women; five of these were new houses, opened during this term. In addition to this, she made a short tour with Miss Murray among the villages, which was very interesting, and it is believed some work was accomplished which will tell for eternity. During this tour, seven different villages or hamlets were visited and good audiences in each place. The Gospel had scarcely, if ever, been preached in these places; so the missionaries felt they were doing a very necessary work. Hundreds heard the message and none opposed, hearing in some places with gladness.

Miss Beggs writes:—"It is with great thankfulness that I look back on the work of the past half year and with increased glad hope to the future, because the Lord is opening up work on all sides. Besides the work which we had last year, we have taken up another village and several houses, making a total of 64 houses and 2 villages. My assistants and I visit these houses, if possible, once in a month, and those who are studying, once in a week. My pupils still continue to take an interest in their studies, and I feel very happy when I see some of my women who cannot read, listening attentively, while the Bible is read and explained, and trying to love the Lord."

For Miss McLaurin's report see p. 41.—From Samulcotta Seminary, where we support students, very encouraging news comes. The past year has been full of blessing; God has been very gracious and His presence has been manifest in their midst. Six students graduated in 1897.

We, as a Society, have great cause for gratitude in

the exceptionally bright reports we have received from our missionaries. Let us live up to our privileges in helping to support this grand work.

Dear sisters, the night is far spent, it will not be long for us! Let us not remain inactive, "but redeeming the time, work with all our might."

Respectfully submitted,

ETHEL CLAXTON AYER.

GIRLS' BOARDING SCHOOL.

Mrs. Chute writes:—

In another week school will again be opened, and the work of last year has yet to be reported. The latter part of June the children went to their homes, and most of them have spent their holidays working in the fields. In many ways it would be much more pleasant to close the school during April and May, when it is so hot, but that is just the time when the villages are at their worst; the people have no work and spend their time in drinking and quarreling, to say nothing of the other evils, and if the children are here they are kept from seeing and hearing these things.

Last year thirty-three names were on the roll, but from time to time the attendance was interrupted, one little girl went home because of ill health, another had to go because her mother was sick, and towards the end of the term two or three of our big girls got married.

Of these thirty-three girls, three were sent to Cocanada to try the Government examination from Miss Baskerville's school. The Akidu school is not yet recognized, because it has been impossible to secure a properly qualified teacher. The Ottawa Memorial Band will be glad to hear that their pupil, Konati Mary, was successful in every subject, and that she has gone to the Teachers' training school at Genitur (we have no training school in our mission). We hope to use her in the Boarding school when she comes back, if she doesn't get married.

N. Lydia and T. Esther passed in all their compulsory subjects, but have had to return to Cocanada to write on their optionals. Besides these, two new girls have gone to write on the same examination, P. Deenamma and Karaturi Mary.

Their expenses are paid in full by us, as Miss Baskerville has so many girls of her own who belong to that school, and it would not be fair to send our girls there to crowd others out.

We appreciate Miss Baskerville's kindness in caring for our girls. Good progress has been made on the whole, but on account of sickness on the part of both teachers and scholars, it has not been all we could have wished. Early in the term we had rather an unpleasant experience. Small-pox broke out in the school, and quite a number of the children caught it; however, it proved to be very light and left no bad results. Shortly after