

voice and knows many of our hymns.

On Thursday mornings I visit some one of the near villages and, if there is a school, invariably spend an hour with the children.

No part of my work do I enjoy more than this among the children, and from no department of my work do I expect greater results.

You will not wonder that my heart yearns over these little ones, that I love them every one, and I tell you of them that you may join me in prayers for them.

I have been hoping that this year 1893 would be a year of more earnest prayers among the Bands and Circles. That is what we here and what the work here especially needs.

Your friend and fellow worker.

FANNY M. STOVEL.

SANTAL GIVING.

JUST before New Year's our native pastor, Pella, wrote a letter to all the Santal Christians and had it printed. In this letter he told them how good God had been to us during the past year, and urged them to remember him by bringing in their tithes and gifts to the church. I had heard that forty rupees had been given during the week of prayer last year. This year the rice crop had been a complete failure in some places, so I said to myself, "We will not get much this year."

All the members who were able to read had a copy of this letter. New Year's came on Sunday, as you all remember. On that day we had our regular services. Monday morning at eight o'clock we had a prayer-meeting. In the afternoon we met again. In the evening some fifty of us went to the house of one of our Christians for a meeting. We kept up these services for four days, all of which were well attended, but we did something besides praying. I think at every meeting held during the day-time some gifts were brought. Before the week of prayer one of our farmers brought a tithe of his rice crop which had just been harvested. He took it to the chapel and poured it on to the floor near the table we use as the pulpit. This was sold and the money put into the church treasury.

You would have laughed could you have seen what gifts were brought. The first morning a basket of *higons* (fruit of the egg plant) and other vegetables were placed on the table. At the close of the service the people gathered about and these were auctioned off by the native pastor. I said, "We shall have to bring a pair of scales and sell these at market prices." At once some one replied, "No, no, we will sell them to the highest bidder; no matter if we do give more than they are worth, it all goes to the Lord's work." So the bidding began and soon all were sold.

What do you suppose the nice people of America would think if when they went into one of their elegant churches they should find a chicken tied to the table leg, and hear it peeping while the people were praying! Then when the meeting would be over imagine your pastor lifting the poor chicken up over the table, telling all about what a fine chicken it was, and then calling for bids! We did just such unheard-of things this year in Bhimpoore.

Here came a basket of yams, another of native beans, here is a gift of red peppers, there are three or four hen's eggs which some one has brought. Another poor woman who wishes to have a share in the giving brings a small basket of rice. Tied to one of the veranda posts is a sheep, to a people tree close by is a heifer—both gifts. Others brought rice which had just been thrashed out. A young man who deals in cloth brought some as his gift to the Lord. In all, four head of cattle, three sheep, a number of fowl, were given, besides all the rice, vegetables, etc. At almost every meeting money was placed on the table by some one. After all the things were sold we found to our surprise that sixty-two rupees had been given! A heifer and a young bullock owned by some of our people living a long way off are yet to be sold. Don't you think we were very thankful and praised God for what he had done for us? Besides these special gifts we have a monthly contribution. Every church-member—yes, and every child belonging to the Christian families—is expected to bring something to church on communion Sunday. They put their money not into envelopes but into tiny calico bags on which their names are written, then when the treasurer calls their names they come and drop the bag into his box. I don't want to make you think that every one *does* give something every month, still a great many do, so that we are able to pay our pastor and help to pay others and still have more than two hundred rupees on hand. Don't you think God will keep this word and bless us if we give him our tithe and gifts as well? Of course he will. We expect each year that he will help our people to do more and more. We expect too that many more will want to love and serve him. It pays, children, to give to him. Try it.

J. P. BURKHOLDER, in *Missionary Helper*.

NEWS FROM BANDS.

PARK ST. BAPTIST MISSION BAND.—This Band was organised under the name of "Royal Messengers for the King" on the 30th of May, 1892, and published in the LINK under the name of South Ward Mission, Peterborough, but since that we have removed to our new Mission, Park St. We are a branch of Murray St. Church but a separate Band. This Band was organized with 36 members but now we have 50. Our band is very