

religious instruction. Mr. Wilson would not, however, agree to this, so they have given in, and not only send their boys to the school, but have promised to pay at the rate of a rupee a month for each boy, provided a Gujarati teacher is engaged, as Gujarati is the tongue of the Parsees. And not only do these boys attend "day" school, but many come to Sabbath school also, and show great interest in their Bible studies. The "closing" of the school before the Christmas holidays was quite a big affair. We had our largest room, which is also our church, covered with bright cotton carpets (called durries), and the walls hung with maps and pictures, while on a scarlet covered table were arranged the prizes. The boys all came out in their cleanest and brightest garments, the Parsees looking particularly gorgeous in their purple, blue, scarlet, pink, and green silks and satins, some of them covered with gold embroidery. Colonel Carpendale, commanding the station at present, presided and distributed the prizes. The Soubah of Old Neemuch, who has always been very friendly, came in state with a retinue of sepahis, and many of the principal native gentlemen, Hindu, Mohamedan and Parsee, were present. We opened by singing a hymn, after which the boys gave recitations and dialogues in Hindi and English, and acquitted themselves very well. Our visitors seemed to be quite surprised at the progress made by them in so short a time, and many of the people are more than ever anxious for the amalgamation of the cantonment school with ours.

The second school, a much smaller one, is attended chiefly by Chumans, one of the very lowest castes, and only one teacher is employed. These boys, though, are bright and intelligent, and are making very good progress in their studies. They are also taught for an hour every Sabbath.

I do not remember whether I told you anything in my last letter about the girls' school, so you will pardon me if I repeat myself. The attendance has fluctuated very much in this school, and just now we have exactly the same number of heathen children on the roll that we had about a month after the school was opened, viz., thirteen. Five of these girls have been attending from the first and are now quite advanced, according to Indian ideas. The other eight have come in at different times, no two of them being able to read together, so that our teacher finds it rather difficult to give sufficient attention to each. We hope, however, to have another teacher in a short time. Besides the heathen children we have two native Christian girls, and our daily attendance is fifteen, the number on the roll. A few weeks ago we had two more, a Brahmin and a Buniya girl, but after