

tion of this is that he lost it fighting with another god to prevent his entering his entering his father's bedroom while he was sleeping. Other authorities say that he pulled it out himself to throw at an enemy.

Ganesh is said to have been so fond of sweets that on one occasion, being sent by his father to encounter an enemy who was coming to kill him, he became so absorbed in eating and gathering up some sweets thrown to him by that enemy that he allowed him to pass on. Brahma is said to have blessed him in these words, "Whoever from this day in the three worlds has a good work to do, if he first worships Ganesh his work will be successful"—therefore from that day, among the worshippers of Ganesh, if any one wants to write a book or to do any other work, he must first say this prayer:

"Oh, elephant-faced giver of the world's happiness,
Oh Ganesh author of our ills,
Accomplish my desire, thou lord of the universe."

The Hindu gods are constantly represented as engaged in war and violence of every kind. I will give you a passage from one of their sacred books which I translated a long time ago and noted down, in which several of these *sacred beings* were engaged. "The drums beat, officers declaimed to the hosts, bards related their fame: horsemen, elephants, chariots, footmen, are assembled crowd upon crowd; here and there brave warriors fight and wound; cowards, leaving the battle-field flee for their lives; heaps of wounded gather: headless trunks, sword in hand, stir on all sides, and corpse falls upon corpse; around them flows a river of blood in which, here and there, fallen elephants remind one of islands and their trunks of crocodiles. Mahates, (father of Ganesh) accompanied by demons of every rank, gathering the severed heads makes a necklace of skulls and puts it on; vultures, jackals and dogs, quarrelling among themselves drag away the corpses, but Balam (the elder brother of Frishna) by the help of the gods at last cut down the hosts as a reaper cuts a field of grain." Truth being no object the writer was untrammelled in his endeavors to pile horror upon horror, and it must be said that he succeeded.

Yours, with best wishes,

SARAH E. MORTON.

For the W. F. M. Societies.

Central India.

We have received the report of the Canadian Presbyterian Mission in Central India, containing the Report of the Mission Council, the reports of the Missionaries and of several of the lady teachers. We give below full extracts from the reports of the missionaries, as well as that of the Mission Council, and from it our readers can gather a pretty correct estimate of our work in India. Extracts of the ladies' reports will be given in the CHILDREN'S RECORD.

REPORT OF THE MISSION COUNCIL.

The good hand of our God has been upon us in the year that is past and though there has been matter enough for grief and humiliation there has yet been very much to make us thank God and take courage. Our number has been increased by the arrival of Mrs. Murray and Dr. Marion Oliver, and all along our line distinct advance has been made.

The increase in the attendance at the Bazaar Sunday-school and the Girls' schools at Mhow and the erection of a commodious temporary building for one of them from funds contributed in this country, the extension of Dr. Beatty's practise, the success of the High School, the organization of the congregation and election of elders at Indore, the general prosperity of the work at Neemuch are some of our causes for rejoicing and thanksgiving. The planting of our first station in a native city, Ratlam, is now an accomplished fact for which we may well be deeply thankful, both for its own sake and for its influence as a precedent.

Ujjain has next been undertaken and we hope that within this year Mr. Murray will be fully settled there. Our stations now are thus five in number, with population and date of planting as follows:

Indore, pop.	83,091,	planted Jan. 1877
Mhow, "	27,227,	" July 1877
Neemuch "	13,230,	" June 1885
Ratlam "	31,066,	" Feb. 1886
Ujjain "	32,932,	" Feb. 1887

In three other native towns, Jaora, Khachrand and Barnagar as sub stations, a beginning has been made with native helpers. So the work is progressing outwardly at least; and while we have as yet little to report of actual ingathering, it.