

and sorrow, how often have they entreated me to intercede for them, and to speak to our Padre to try and do something for them, that their lives may not be so hard. I cannot help feeling much pity for these poor women, and I am sure if widows would be allowed to remarry by their own caste people, it would prove an immense blessing to the country and prevent a great deal of immorality.

I will now give an account of some of those in whom I have felt a special interest.

One dear old woman I always feel it a perfect joy to talk to, she seems to drink in our words and never wearies of listening. On one occasion when we had been talking for a long time I asked her if she was not tired; she answered "If they were hard words I might grow tired, but who can be tired of such sweet words?" and then assured me that as long as we would talk she would listen, and even give up her food.

Another woman said to me the other day, "I think of these words day and night; often I have great trouble, (as I have no husband or sons, God has taken them away), but I have great comfort when I think of Christ, and I pray to Him every day," I asked her if she would like to be with the Lord, she said "I have given up every false God and am trusting in Him alone, and I am going to be on His side."

Another dear old woman (who I am quite sure is trusting in the Lord, but has not yet publicly confessed her faith in Christ), said that she was leaning on the Lord and waiting on Him to make her way plain. I asked her to attend the meetings on Sundays; she said, "I have no time just now, but I am going to pray to my Saviour about it, and I am sure he will show me the time to meet with His people and worship Him." I trust the day is not far distant when she will then publicly confess her faith in the Lord.

Another young woman said that she cannot make up her mind to worship these Gods of wood and stone, after hearing about the true and living God. She listens very attentively to the Bible stories and remembers them well.

Another dear woman said while I was reading to her about Christ's death, "did He do so much for us?" I said, "yes, and then what must we do to show that we love Him, who has done so much for us?" She answered, "we must believe and have faith in Him, and do as he bids us." It did me good to hear her say so, for I

was feeling rather sad, but work on, toil on, is our motto, for the time is coming when we shall not have to say "know the Lord, for they shall all know me from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the Lord."

The Brahmin widow is still firmly trusting in the Lord, and takes great pains with her Bible lessons.

Another woman whom I mentioned in my last report is still firm, and I am positive is a Christian at heart. Although she had to pass through deep waters, her faith never wavered. Her only words were, "the Lord's will must be done, He knows what is best for us." May the Lord be with her, and bless her, and make her path plain, that she may confess Him openly.

I cannot close this without a heartfelt expression of thankfulness for the mercies the Lord has shown us in the past year, beyond what we expected and hoped for. Our prayer is, that He may be with us in this, blessing us even more, making us more faithful, more useful and more full of His love and peace.

P. H. N. BEGGS.

MISS GIBSON'S REPORT FOR THE HALF YEAR ENDING DECEMBER, 1904.

Owing to some interruptions I only visited some 83 houses out of the 105 on my visit, during this last half year. Of these, three only were new ones. In a few houses I have regular pupils who commit to memory texts, as well as the Catechism and read a portion from the New Testament. These are all young women who are willing to learn, but it is very difficult to get the older ones to commit anything to memory. To these we read a portion from the Word and sing a Gospel hymn and talk on the portion read, trying to get them to accept the truth. As some special message comes to us at times, we endeavor to give it to them and perhaps, teach it in every house; one of these was from Matt. 27—The people's choice between Christ and Barrabas. The time has come, we think, for those who have received the truth to make an intelligent choice and they can no longer plead ignorance. All, without an exception, on hearing the choice of the multitude in the days of Christ on earth, wondered and thought to have chosen the Christ would have been far wiser, but when the lesson was brought home to them and their Barrabas shown to them, which was their "Caste," they were convicted of their own