

The caste women are asking to be taught and some of them seemed to feel a real repentance for their sins. The work is very promising in Vuyyuru.

Early in the year Miss Selman made a tour with Miss Morrow in her boat, "The Glad Tidings," and was in this way enabled to reach a number of villages along the canals, which otherwise she could not have seen. In several villages women have bought Gospel portions saying, "We can get some school-boy to read to us."

Miss Selman writes: "I am sure you would be very happy could you hear the caste women sing our Christian hymns and repeat the Lord's Prayer. Two women say that they do not lie down at night without repeating this prayer." The work among the Christian women has been a joy and disappointment. Some have learned the assigned Scripture lessons, and one new Helpmeet Society has been organized, but many of the Christian women have not a very great desire to hear and know the Word.

Vuyyuru Caste Girls' School.—We had hoped to report the opening of the new school, which five of our sisters volunteered to support as an extra at our last Convention, but owing to the depleted condition of the missionary force in India, Miss Selman was obliged to spend the hot season at Akidu, the time that she had hoped to devote to the school, so that the opening has been deferred until some future period.

Vuyyuru Girls' Boarding School.—Mrs. Stillwell reports of the Vuyyuru Girls' Boarding School, that twenty boarders were in attendance before Christmas and twenty-three after. Some of the children whose intellects seemed to be asleep when they entered the school wakened up, and we believe have studied faithfully and done good work. One of the girls passed the Primary Examination last December and is now taking more advanced work under Miss Baskerville, in Cocanada.

During the year daily classes in Bible have been taught and the International Lessons followed in the Sabbath School by all except the Infant and First Standards who have taken a study of the Life of Christ.

Ever since the opening of the school the girls have been accustomed to put by a portion of their daily rice for the Lord's work. This they bring to me every Saturday, and its equivalent in money is put aside. From this fund they have contributed during the past year Rs. 2. for the Book and Tract Society of Madras, Rs. 4 to the Orphanage at Ongole, Rs. 5 for the lepers in Ramachandrapuram, and Rs. 18 toward the support of the Vuyyuru Church pastor, making a total of \$10. This giving is all voluntary on their part and gives us much satisfaction.

Another cause for rejoicing is the baptism of six of the girls, and bright happy Christians they are. This year of school-work has been the most encouraging in every way we have yet

had, and we believe the Lord's presence has been with us.

Zenana Workers in Cocanada.—Miss Gibson and Miss Beggs continue their good work of visiting and teaching in the zenanas. On the one hand, they meet with disappointment from indifference and sin, and on the other the interest and desire to hear more of the Gospel story encourages them to persevere.

Miss Gibson reports 93 houses visited in her last half-yearly record, nine of these are new ones and consequently many fresh women have been reached who never heard the Gospel before. There is less prejudice than formerly and the Brahmins are opening their houses. In several instances the women who have been taught and know that it is useless and wrong, have kept away from the great bathing festival, where the people all flock, in order, they think, to wash away their sins.

One old woman, tired of life, was met with and appeared glad to see Miss Gibson, "Tell me the way to God," she exclaimed, "I have not been able to find it all these years in all my idol worship. I have served them all my life but they bring me no peace now." Gladly she heard of Him who is the "way," often she repeated the precious name of Jesus, in order to learn it. "To Him alone will I pray, henceforth" she said, and "trust Him to save in such cases" writes Miss Gibson "makes us feel that our work is not in vain."

Three of the women, who have long heard the gospel and appreciate the need of passing it on, have become voluntary subscribers to the Women's Aid Society for sending the gospel to the regions beyond. This is wonderful when we remember that they are not only poor women, but as a rule avaricious. Miss Gibson makes an urgent plea for the poor childless widows, who, as a rule are the best listeners, and asks for a greater interest in our prayers for their salvation, and that a home may be provided where they will be cared for and brought under Christian influence.

Miss Beggs reports 83 houses visited regularly by herself and assistants, several have been dropped from the list and fresh ones taken in their places.

Although there are no results to be seen in the way of conversions among the women, yet from the wonderful change that has taken place in their homes and in themselves, one cannot doubt that many are secretly believing in prayer, and in several instances have asked Miss Beggs to pray for them and their sick ones. One of the women whose son was very ill asked that we would kneel and pray that his life might be spared; he recovered, and some weeks after, as we were leaving, she said, "God heard the prayer and answered, my son is well again, ought we not to thank Him?" I need hardly say it was with much joy that we returned thanks to our Heavenly Father.

Another woman actually pleaded with us to