

Our Work Abroad.

COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE, AKIDU.

On Tuesday, Jan. 7th, at the afternoon session of Conference, the usual devotional exercises took the form of a service commemorative of our departed sister, Miss Simpson. The meeting was opened by singing, "Jerusalem the Golden," and "Shall we Gather at the River?" followed by prayer by Rev. J. R. Stillwell. Miss Hatch, the leader of the meeting, spoke very feelingly and tenderly of Miss Simpson, her faithful, loving service, speaking of the seed sown by her in a thousand homes and suggesting that we frequently remember in prayer our sister's work, that the Lord will cause this seed to bear fruit abundantly.

Then followed the reading (by Miss McLaurin) of a letter to Miss Folsom from Mr. Craig, from which we learned the particulars of her illness and the experiences of the last days. Very appropriate had been the texts for the day, read by him, from "Daily Light," to Miss Simpson as he and Mrs. Craig visited her in the hospital on the morning of the 20th of November. Soothing and strengthening to the one so soon to enter the "valley of the shadow," must have been the beautiful words:

"When thou passeth through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee. For I am the Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour."

"Yes, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff comfort me."

"What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee. In God I will praise His word, in God I have put my trust."

After the reading of the letter, "The Homeland" was sung by Mrs. H. E. Stillwell, and then Miss Pratt and Dr. Smith spoke of Miss Simpson's life and work, her work among the caste women and children in Cocanada, her home life, her nearness to the Christian community, and her medical work. This was followed by a few words from most of those present, each telling of some characteristic of the deceased which had been a help and an inspir-

ation in their lives. Miss Simpson's systematic methods of work and her extreme unostentation had impressed itself upon all, while other traits mentioned were her untiring thoughtfulness, her tenderness in times of sickness, her "motherliness," and her strict sense of justice. As one expressed it, she illustrated, in her daily life, the "law of kindness."

After singing "Forever with the Lord," the meeting was brought to a close with prayer by Rev. H. E. Stillwell.

JANET F. ROBINSON.

FROM A PRIVATE LETTER FROM MISS PRATT.

The cablegram reached us while we were at breakfast on Saturday, the 23rd, (Nov.), and for days I could not think of anything but Miss Simpson. Every turn we make here reminds us of her, and, of course, everything in the work is inseparably connected with her. It took me some time to readjust my mind to the thought that she would not be back, because everything I did seemed to be with the thought of her—not that I did it for her, but when we got new houses or found any of the women making special progress, I always thought how pleased Miss Simpson would be. Then I always thought if I had made any mistakes she would know how to put it all right.

The news brought sorrow to hundreds here in Cocanada. Before dark that night nearly all the school girls (in her Caste Girls' School) knew it and many of them could not eat their meal. How she loved these little girls! and they truly loved her.

You may have heard about the memorial service we held in the Telugu School. Miss Bakerville spoke about her as a friend and companion, also told a little about her life before she came to India. Miss Gibson spoke of her Zenana work, Rangayya (a servant who had been with her for many years) of her kindness to the Christians, servants and all. P. Sarah (the teacher) spoke of the Caste Girls' School, and I spoke of Sunday School work. Then time was given for any who wished to speak; and a great number gave testimony to her beautiful and helpful life.