

portion learned, I set a new lesson to be memorized before I came back in December.

To understand what this memorizing means you must remember that in this village there is no resident teacher or preacher, and only one man who can read! and he with difficulty spells out the words. To him these women go and get him to teach them a verse at a time till they know the whole portion, and oh! the time and patience required on the part of both teacher and scholar, when said scholar is a woman who never really set out to learn anything before. The tiniest tot in our own primary S. S. classes at home learns much more readily.

After the women's meeting a children's meeting, at the close of which I am called to see a sick woman in our home, an ailing child in another, and a new baby in a third, and it is 5.30 by the time I reach the boat. This is a fair sample of the days spent in this kind of work.

Last month I re-employed Lizzie as Bible-woman, and this week spent two days in the village where she and her husband are stationed. One morning was spent in the school. The schools are not my charge, but sometimes both teachers and scholars seem to expect me to examine and note progress. I examine the boys and girls in reading, writing and arithmetic, then in the Ten Commandments, after which I give a Bible lesson. That afternoon Lizzie and I visited together in the caste part of the village, and next morning went into a near fisher's village at an early hour when the men would be away with their nets. All the noon hour, and most of the afternoon was spent with the Christian women. I had assigned lessons for Lizzie to teach them, and I wish you could have heard them recite the Catechism, Ten Commandments, the Lord's Prayer, and answer questions on the first five lessons in a book of Old Testament stories. Four heathen girls had learned with the Christian women and recited with them. The great point is to get the Christian women taught in the Word.

FROM MISS BARKERVILLE.

Cocanada, Oct. 28th.—Your card of Sept. 17th brought good news. Even though all the money is not ready we can begin. As the buildings are in separate parts we can put up as much as the money will pay for, by that time, perhaps, the rest will be forthcoming.

At present there are 68 or 69 boarders. It may be considered that the need is not so great when I can accommodate them, but I would never have received so many had I not considered that the crowding would be temporary. Every foot of space is occupied for sleeping room; the children sleep on mats and carpets on the floor, and at nights the ~~beds~~ ^{beds} of all the dormitories are ~~con-~~ ^{rolled} ~~rolled~~ ^{rolled} up. The raised part of the floor that was always used for sleeping, while the rest was unoccupied,

is as full as it can hold, and the rest of the floor is fitted up too. The kitchen belonging to this room accommodates eleven at present, but as it is not within the girl's enclosure at all, it would not do for a permanent sleeping room. The utmost limit of the regular dormitories is sixty; if any more come I shall put them to sleep in my pantry; the kitchen and pantry are not used because I take meals at the other house. I did not like to refuse to take in those who were applied for by their missionaries while there was an unoccupied corner to stow them away. It is not healthy for the children, however, to be so much crowded, and it makes my work harder. We have had several cases of measles, and the only spot I could find to isolate the children was in a part of the room where the grain is stored. I hope to have a little separate room for a sickroom when the new buildings are put up.

Nov. 2nd.—All day yesterday was spent in a village where, for months, many have been asking for baptism. Mr. Craig had asked me to examine the women candidates; so the morning was spent with them in their several homes. There were nineteen of them, five of whom I was obliged to advise to wait a bit. The fourteen who were received, and who will be baptized on Sunday, are exceptionally well taught. They each gave an outline of the life of Christ, touching on the main points, and especially on His death and the atonement. When questioned as to how they learned all this, they pointed to a young woman who had come to Akidu for a few days' cooly work. Then, some one in the compound had taught her and she returned home and taught all these women.

Then, when they offered to write the Lord's Prayer and the Ten Commandments, I asked them who taught them, and they called two little boys of about ten years old, who had learned them, and in return had taught the women. After examination of candidates we had a woman's meeting, later, a children's meeting.

At another village on Thursday I was greatly encouraged. After the opening hymn at our meeting, I asked how many remembered my last lesson there, and a goodly number began to tell. Then one woman spoke up, "I can tell the lesson before that," and she did; then another proudly announced that she could remember the first lesson I ever gave in that village. It was very encouraging to find the lessons thus remembered.

An exchange says, a decrease in the number of subscribers to our official organ does not speak well for either our intelligence or loyalty. A secretary who frequently calls attention to some special feature of this excellent paper and occasionally reviews a copy at the monthly meeting and really believes in it and promptly solicits subscribers for it, is a veritable blessing to any Auxiliary