

out her having to treat cases of opium poisoning. It was almost universally used. Not a babe was born that does not get opium. In one sense opium was a blessing to the women of India. Without proper medical attendance, as they are, their sufferings would be insupportable, were it not for the relief of opium. It was no use to talk to the women of India about Christ while under the influence of opium. It would not be a kindness to them to take opium from them. What was needed was to send them the knowledge of Christ and they would not want opium. They would never do without opium as long as they were without Christ.

Mrs. Macdonald, of Calcutta, said the use of the drug was not so common in Bengal as in Central India, probably because it was not grown in the vicinity. Still it was used to a large extent. The use of it was almost unknown among the Christian girls of the Mission with which she was connected, although some of the older Christians were addicted to it. The Hindus are a drug-consuming people. One reason of their fondness for narcotics was that they enabled them to endure the pangs of hunger. The opium traffic was largely a question of finance in India.

Mrs. Wilson, of Neemuch, gave some interesting statistics in regard to the production and exportation of the drug. The Province of Malwah, where the work of the Canadian Mission is carried on, is one of the chief centres for the production of opium, this Province and in the valley of the Ganges being the only places where its growth is not restricted. Official figures showed that its consumption by the Hindu people was increasing every year, although the export trade was falling off.

The next question discussed was the baptism of converts living in polygamy. Mrs. Laws, Livingstonia, said this question was one which greatly vexed the missionaries. Speaking for the Livingstonia Mission, not one living in polygamy had received