

Canadian Missionary Link

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LETTER FROM MRS. GORDON.

We spent a very delightful holiday in Kodaikanal, Pulney Hills, during the hot season. It was a treat to feel the cool breezes after two years in the heat of the plain, and the rest and change gave us new vitality for another year's work. There is a lake in Kodai, on which we were privileged to row, after paying a small fee, and we spent many a happy hour there, you may be sure.

My baby girl, who was born last September, has been very delicate ever since her birth, we think, due to the extra care and strain during Mr. Gordon's illness, as he was taken ill two months before baby's birth. You may be sure my hands were more than full with sick husband, opening of school, letter writing, looking after over 40 workers, and many other varied duties. However, we give God the thanks in sparing our little one to us, and we trust that she may grow strong. She will soon be a year old, but only weighs 16 lbs. Elsie, our big girlie, has always been well and happy; she had a delightful time at kindergarten while in Kodai.

Since our return from the hills we have had terrific heat. The rain has been very late this season, so much so that many acres of land have not been sown with rice, which is the staple food for India, and, as a result, the price of food is very high. So many of the poorer classes are starving; it is pitiful to see them in their distress, and we try to help them as far as we can.

School is in full swing again; it opened July 4th. I have 46 boys and 33 girls under my care, and now that First Form, or Standard VI., has started, I find the work quite heavy. I fear one more capable must take charge when FORM II. is organized; not that I want to give up, for I enjoy the work immensely amongst the children; but the work calls for one who can give all her time to it. I have two classes daily. I teach the girls how to crochet and to sew. I am thinking of teaching them to make baskets and mats, which they use to carry their paddy and rice, and the mats to sleep upon. The boys are taught carpentry and other manual work. The girls and boys have been most enthusiastic over their garden work. In front of the church we have two plots for the girls, in which they have sown vegetables and some flower seeds. The boys have their plots in front of the dormitories, and I wish you could see how nicely each boy has arranged his plot.

One girl took 90 per cent. in Bible examination on Ezra, Nehemiah, 4 chapters of Isaiah, James, and 3 chapters of Revelation, also 25 memory verses. All the children did exceedingly well and averaged much better than the workers for whom the Bible Course is intended. All the girls did splendidly in the memory verses.

R. GORDON.