

ing. I wish I could really show you the school. The dog that announced the arrival of the white face by yelping furiously, the children rushing from all directions—none too clean, but with smiles and salaams, the wide spreading tamarind tree with its thick foliage, the large flat stone on which I sit while the children squat on the ground in front of me, the adults standing behind them, the potters on either side busy fashioning earthen vessels upon their wheels, the bevy of children that escort me to the road and salaam again and again as I go on my way to the next school—all combine to make the scene both unique and interesting.

The next village is not more than a quarter of a mile beyond the last. Here there are two schools. The first is in the weaver street. Yesterday there was some counter-attraction, for very few of the children came, although there are thirty names registered. One must be prepared for such days and not become discouraged by them. There are many children in this village, and at first they came in such large numbers, there were more than I could well manage unaided; but when, in reply to their oft-repeated question, they had been assured again and again that neither next Sunday, nor the next, nor any Sunday, would I bring money or new clothes for them, the attraction for many was gone. A large wooden mortar is turned upside down for me to sit upon, and much the same thing takes place as in the last school.

I next went to the mala part of the same town and found the children, usually so well behaved, overflowing with mischief, so that they taxed to the utmost my ability to control them for even half an hour. In this place there is a promising lad about seventeen years of age who helps me. He is the son of Mrs. Corey's cook. He showed so much interest in Christianity that he was sent away from Kimidi, away from Christian influence. However, our boy is a relative, so the lad soon found his way to the Mission House, began attending the school, and seemed in no wise disposed to conceal the fact of his being convinced of the truth of the Christian religion. He has been a real help to me in this school.

Since beginning this letter he has come to me with the request that I try to get him work at some mission station. He says his people are threatening to send him to Rangoon or some distant place, for they are so afraid that so soon as he is of age, he will be baptised. His hope is

that if he can get some work to do he will be independent of his relatives and free to follow the dictates of his own conscience. In speaking of some in this village who seem interested in spiritual things, he said. "If some one would but have the courage to make the start, I feel sure there would be a number to follow."

On my way home, I visited two small villages on the opposite side of the road. One is a very small hamlet where there are few children, but a number of women came too, so I have quite a class. Oh, how dull they are; it did seem almost hopeless to try to teach them anything, but weeks at the one lesson have proven that they do learn something in time, and we hope they will, at length, grasp the truth that shall make them wise unto salvation. Yesterday it was quite difficult for me to get them to come together, for a peddler of brass earrings, etc., was displaying his wares to the women and children who were quite infatuated with them. I talked with some men who listened very well indeed, until the hawker had done up his wares and the others were ready to come, and we had our lesson.

A cactus hedge separates this hamlet from a dhobie village. I went around the hedge and came into the village from the back. Some of the children saw me coming and met me with the suggestion that we have the class on the beautiful green mound where we were then standing. I consented and they scampered away to bring the rest of the little ones. In this village all the children at all able to do so, are made to help in the washing and ironing, which work goes on on Sunday as on any other day. In consequence of this, the children in my class are very small and it requires much patience to teach them, but they are learning a little, which is encouraging. The grassy mound certainly was a great improvement on the centre of the village, where we are constantly liable to visits from dogs, cats, chickens and swine.

When I reached home, a case of sickness was reported to me, and I went to see what could be done. Then one call followed another until it was eight thirty before I could go to dinner. It was not at all late when I forgot the physical weariness in restful sleep.

Bimlipatam, Sept. 7th, 1903.

The programmes furnished "Tidings" from month to month are much appreciated. We hope all the Aid Societies will follow the suggestion for January in taking a forecast of "New Work for the New Year," as well as arranging for a paper on "The Savaras."