

RELIABLE INFORMATION HAS COME to hand that persecution and suffering is now the lot of many of the native Christians at our own missions in Honan. The name of Mrs. Chang will doubtless recall to the mind of many of our members the following paragraph in Mrs. Goforth's letter in the July-August Tidings.

"I have a Mrs. Chang with me whom I am trying to train as Bible Woman. Mrs. Chang is a woman who seems peculiarly fitted by her past life as well as natural ability and present circumstances to hold the position which I hope she will shortly hold, namely, that of an accepted Bible Woman. She is winning in her manner, patient and gentle, and very earnest. All our native Christians have the highest regard for her. Last Sunday afternoon my subject was "Persecution for Jesus' sake." I asked Mrs. Chang to tell us what persecution God had called her to pass through. She hesitated a moment and then said, "The Lord has not required me yet to bear any special persecution, but he has seen fit to bring me through much affliction." There were tears in her eyes and in ours too, for we remembered how her only son was one of our most consecrated and devoted Christians when God called him to a higher service, leaving behind him Mrs. Chang, his widowed mother; also a wife and two children. The elder of these, a bright lad to whom Mrs. Chang was much devoted, was only a few months in following his father."

The sad message now is that for poor Mrs. Chang the hour of persecution has come and many cruel means have been tried forcing her to give up her faith. She has even been suspended for some hours by the arms in the hope that she would recant, but God has given her strength and her faith in Him is unwavering. Remember her tenderly in prayer, and all our native Christians who are doubtless suffering even to the extreme. Our spirit yearns to help them—plead that the door may soon be opened.

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MISS GRIER who has already spent six months of her furlough time in England reached Toronto in the end of November. She reported herself at the Board Room on Tuesday December 4th and received a warm reception, so pleased were all the members to see her looking so fresh after her long unbroken term of six years spent in India. She spoke chiefly on the schools at Indore to which our workers there devote most of their time; although many opportunities arise for Zenana visiting, lack of helpers and trained Bible-women prevent this work being done as it should be.

Miss Grier was asked particularly about her own special work in the Mahratti school, the oldest school we have at Indore, and begun in early years by Miss McGregor. It is a highcaste Brahmin school, right in the city; all the children speak Mahratti, the court language. There are 135 in attendance ranging in ages from 4 to 12 years. They are attractive looking children to work among, always clean and neat, and they are quick to learn, not in parrot-like repetition of things but in reasoning things out for themselves. Miss

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