

Condensed Letter from Miss Kate Armstrong, Rangoon.

To Dr. H. E. Eaton, Toronto :—

IT is a long time since I have been able to write to any of my friends owing to the many extra duties placed upon our shoulders this year in order to make the schools under our charge more efficient.

Indeed, often when meeting at 10 or 11 o'clock at night to recount the day's doings, we have marvelled how we have managed to get through with all we have, till we have thought of the promise ; "as thy day is so shall thy strength be."

In looking over the names of those who should have been written to long before this, most of whom remembered me at Christmas time, I can truly say, my neglect has not been through forgetfulness, but want of time. Sitting up through the night to write, as I sometimes did last year, seems hardly right when there is so much work to do, needing so much strength to do it. So, with the hopeless task before me of answering all these letters, I have decided to sit down and just write a few things about our school work, and duplicate a number of copies for my several friends, as a substitute for personal letters.

Perhaps I can do no better than to take you through the scenes of the last few days, in connection with our school, and especially in the Kindergarten, which is my special work.

Well, let us start with Friday, and I would like to add Saturday and Sunday, as no two days are alike.

I rise at 4 a.m. to prepare for my bigger boys their promised Bible examination papers. My mother has given me all the bigger Tamil and Hindustani boys in the school for Bible study, from 9 to 10 a.m. this year. I am trying to take them through the Bible in the year, giving them a general knowledge of it, rather than to go more thoroughly into any one book, and they seem to be quite interested. We have just finished Genesis and the boys gave written answers to questions which were very satisfactory.

After preparing the questions, I started out on my rounds at 7 a.m. with the K. G. gharry (which we have long needed, but have only had for the last few months) to collect the children. I nearly always go myself, as it gives me a better chance to get acquainted with the parents and children and



Rev. and Mrs. W. F. Armstrong and family, per favor of "The American Baptist Missionary Magazine."

their circumstances. I wish you could accompany me some morning. I think you would be interested. I go up one street and down the next in the native quarter, and witness some scenes that are very amusing, while others would almost make one's blood run cold ; as, for instance, a man beating his wife, which I saw yesterday. I call at some 23 homes each morning, when we reach the school and empty our load, and the man and gharry go for more. At 9 a.m. I give my Bible lesson to the big boys. At 10 a.m. my Kindergarten work begins, lasting till 12 o'clock, when we have a half hour's recess. Mother and Fred generally breakfast with me at the school, as it saves them the hurry of going home for it. My children also eat a little lunch, resuming their studies at 12.30 and continuing till 2.30, which completes the four hours a day required by government.

Our first half-hour is taken up with Bible stories given consecutively, one year with the life of Christ chronologically, and the next with Old Testament stories to the crossing of the Jordan. The remainder of the Old Testament is left till they enter the First Standard. Intelligent answers are given to these Bible questions by children from three to six years of age. We have the children with us two years, so that by the time they leave they have been over both the Old and New Testaments to some extent.

But the Bible is not the only subject taught by any means. Among other things is English conversation, in which no other Kindergarten has yet been able to excel us. Last year the Government