

power to remove all these difficulties. In the fourth school one young woman has asked for baptism and has been received by the church. During May and June while I was on the hills, Emily Joaquim and May D'Prazer, the only two members of the class who spent their vacation here, carried on the work faithfully.

The weekly services in the fish village have been kept up and lately we have been spending more time there teaching in different parts of the village. The people are very degraded and while they listen with interest it seems hard for them to grasp the truths we teach. We feel that we can report a little improvement though, because the children have begun to take a real interest in learning the catechism and hymns.

Our Zenana work on Saturday afternoons has been a real pleasure. We have taught regularly in five houses, three of these are homes of high caste Brahmins where large numbers gather each week to listen to the truth. There are five girls in these homes for whom we are praying especially. They are so eager for the lessons and learn so quickly. A few months ago we started a new work in Kovur, a large village about two miles from Cocanada. I was out there for a drive one evening and noticed the large number of children who gathered around our carriage. Another thing that interested me was that the women were gathered around the well for their water, seemingly at leisure. Except Saturday and Sunday I can only take our girls out in the evenings, and the women around here are generally busy with their cooking at that time. Enquiry showed that there was not even a school in Kovur and nothing was being done to give the people the gospel except an occasional visit by one of the native preachers. We went out once a week for a time and found the people eager to listen and the children quick to learn, I had a class of 150 children learning the catechism and hymns while Emily taught the men and women. We were enjoying the work very much but when the carriage bills came in we found that as Kovur was outside the town limits the charge was just double what had been expected and it seemed impossible to keep it up. An English gentleman of Cocanada told me a few days ago that he had taken his wife out that way for a drive and as they neared the village crowds of children came running and screaming to meet them. They could not understand the demonstration or the evident disappointment of the chil-

dren as they neared the carriage until they learned that they were expecting a Dorasani "with pictures, to sing and teach them from a book." Although interrupted we have felt that Kovur was yet to be our field of labor and I am now the proud possessor of a horse and cart which is going to make more zenana work in Cocanada and a weekly visit to that village possible.

#### AKIDU.

#### Work Among Women and Children.

##### Miss Selman.

In Jan., 1906, I came to Akidu to take up the work of Miss Morrow while she is in Canada. As this is a yearly report I turn back to pages in my report book marked *Peddappuram*. As I turn the pages I find myself asking where is the fruit what is the result of this tour, or of that service, this childrens' meeting, or that private conversation? There is some fruit, but I long to see more and am reminded of Paul's words "Be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord."

The "abounding" we know can be only as we are filled with the abounding life of Jesus and the Spirit of God Himself.

The work among caste women and children becomes more and more interesting and encouraging, all the time, some listen with such a hunger for the truth. Many would give up all heathen customs and feast days if the elders would allow them to do so.

The children we taught learned so quickly and well, and some improved so perceptibly in appearance and behaviour that the work among them was a great joy.

On coming to Akidu and meeting with the Christians in the district the first great attraction was the greater numbers. Instead of from five to fifteen in a service, here, it is from twenty-five to sixty.

The Christian women in their Help-meet Societies have done nobly. Last year their contributions for the support of a Bible-woman on the Narsapatnam field were Rs. 38-12-0 equal to \$12.50. This giving compares favorably with that of women of much better circumstances. The way the pastor's wives take hold of the work, and lead meetings is quite encouraging. There are many now who do not try to put the burden all upon the Bible-women and missionary, but take a joy in teaching scripture portions and hymns.