

STORIES FROM OUR OWN MISSION FIELDS.

TWO YOUNG WIVES IN HONAN.

This touching story comes from Honan, from one of our lady medical missionaries, Dr. Jeanie Dow. Dr. Dow and Miss McIntosh heard of a sick widow, in one of their Christian families, and went to see her. When they reached the village the woman was dead. But we must let Dr. Dow tell the rest of it.

'The family had just finished weeping, that is, the customary spoll of wailing. There are left four sons and two daughters.

The smallest boy is three years of age, a little prattling baby quite unconscious of its loss.

The daughters, to whom we were warmly attached, are both married into heathen homes, where they get no sympathy, but strong opposition in their purpose to worship God.

Before their marriage they had given us their names as those who wished to be Christians, and they seem to hold on to their faith; though in their homes they dare not pray openly.

When their husbands command them they bow down to the gods or to heaven and earth, but they say they know the idol is nothing.

With few of the Chinese have I felt the tie of kinship as with these two girls, followers of Christ, but under such unfavorable circumstances.

Truly they need our sympathy and our prayers. We would be glad of an opportunity to teach them, to encourage them, but it is impossible at present either to get access to their homes or to bring them here for instruction."

PRIZES AND TREATS IN A MISSION SCHOOL.

Mrs. Morton, of Trinidad, writes of a visit, with prizes and rewards, to a new mission school, and of the little people's joy.

"I started alone by rail one morning with a fine parcel of clothing, and some books and smaller gifts for the children.

"I reached the place, a strange name it has, Gunico, and at one o'clock, after the recess, visited the school.

"My first effort was to instruct the children about Temperance work,—for many of them, when children, learn to drink rum,—and get some of the larger boys to sign the pledge.

"It is necessary to impress upon our members the solemnity of the promise they are making 'by the help of God.'

"In doing so lately at Maraccas, I asked for the name of a king who was a very bad man and who yet was ashamed to break his promise. The answer came promptly 'Herod.'

"To satisfy myself that the children knew the story, I asked, among the questions, 'Why did Herodias want John Baptist's head?' 'She wanted to spit upon it and throw it to the dogs,' was the truly Oriental answer.

"Blue Ribbon work finished; I took the roll of last year's attendance and rewarded the children accordingly. Besides a good deal of clothing and small gifts and dolls, sent from home, we have given about twenty dollars worth of books. They were mostly given to children who did not need clothing.

"A book is the prize most eagerly sought after; and of all books the Bible or Testament. If they already possess that, a hymn book is the object of desire. Small children dearly love a picture-book.

"After distributing the gifts and a scramble for nuts, given me by a kindly merchant in Port of Spain, I started for home, with my valise lighter than before, and leaving the hearts of many of our little folks lighter as well."

A GLAD SCENE FROM UJJAIN, INDIA.

How can it be a glad scene when it consists of a school of eleven poor blind orphan children? Is it not a sad scene?

No, for Miss Jamieson, our missionary, writes, that "this is the only school for the blind in Central India. If they were left alone and not gathered in by our mission school, many of them would not only live the most wretched of lives as beggars, but would be sure to fall into very bad and sinful habits.

"We can save them from much suffering and wickedness, and open to them a new world in which they may have the pleasure of gaining knowledge, and many of them may become useful workers.

"Nearly all the children have made marked progress during the year. When first they came to us they were very helpless, and it required much patient labor before they could even dress themselves alone. Now, both boys and girls do their own grinding, cooking, and other work, indeed, the girls will soon be quite good house-keepers.

We are now using "chicks" in our doors, which our blind boys have made. The splitting