

the field with a greater or less degree of success. Three of the native Christian women have given more or less of their time during the past twelve months to this department of labor.

**Statistics.**—Baptized during the year, 14; received by experience and letter, 4; restored, 1; excluded, 1; died, 2. Present membership, 27.

#### AKIDU FIELD.

Brother Craig has labored on this promising field, during the year under review, with his accustomed energy and success. Your missionary states that his "Report is not a record of brilliant exploits or startling events, but only a review of what has been done, in a quiet way, for the Master's glory, during the past twelve months."

**Building.**—In this department of labor, Brother Craig reports the completion of the Mission House, the total cost being \$2,900; also the erection of a chapel at a cost of about \$300, not including the value of material used from the old home, part of which was taken down, the remaining part being fitted up into four native houses for mission helpers. Building has been found expensive in Akidu, as brick, lime, and sand had to be carried a distance of forty miles, involving an outlay of \$500 to boatmen alone.

After the chapel was completed, interesting opening services were held on the 4th of June, when Brother McLaurin preached a dedication sermon.

**Station Work.**—Since moving into the new Mission House, many natives have called to see Brother Craig, some to see the building, and others to get medicine. He seldom allows any one to leave without telling of Jesus, the Saviour of the lost. A number of times, he says, "I gathered all the work people together, and had service with the n. Among them were Mohammedans, Shudras and Malas." There are two Mala hamlets in Akidu, in which the Gospel has often been preached. From the larger one of them a man has been baptized, and from the other a woman has united with the Church. Many more, it is hoped, will very soon follow. To other classes also the Gospel has been preached, sometimes meeting with opposition, but more frequently with what is about as bad, *indifference*. Still, the people do not seem satisfied with their own religion.

On Sabbath morning, the Sabbath School service is immediately followed by preaching, and another service is held in the afternoon, so as to give time in the evening for preaching in the village. On Thursday evening the regular weekly prayer meeting is held. A monthly meeting of the Church is held for observing the Lord's Supper, and the transaction of business. New converts are often received on these occasions. Of course, these meetings are only held when Brother Craig is home at the station.

**Touring.**—This part of the report we will give in the language of the missionary himself:—"As soon as my building work was done, I went to Cocanada for a change, and, after a brief stay there, I returned to Akidu on the mission boat, remained at home a few days, and then set out for Colair Lake. The water was so low that I was compelled to leave the boat, and go on to Gunnanapudy by palankeen. On Sunday, the 30th of October, we had a good meeting there. During the following week I visited Peyyairu, a few miles south of Gunnanapudy. Fifty-five were baptized there, all but two being residents of the place. Afterwards I visited Dondapadu, a large village a few miles to the west of Peyyairu. There some trouble occurred over a school-house site. I then visited ten villages where we have Christians, and six where there are none. Being detained on the south-west

side of my field, I was not able to visit the northern side, as Brother Timpany was waiting for the boat. Soon after our Conference in January, I started out for the south-west side of my field again, but this time with a tent. I visited, in all, twenty-eight villages, but had my tent pitched in only eight of them. In three others I put up in the village school house, and in another I stayed at the public bungalow. Seven of the twenty-eight villages I had not seen before. I left Akidu the last day of January and returned the 1st day of March, so that I spent the whole of February on this tour.

In March, I went to Cocanada on Mission business. In April, I made a short tour on the northern half of my field. I visited a number of Christian villages that I was very anxious to see, as they had not been visited for a long time. In some of them, I pitched my tent, and remained three or four days. The weather was very hot, otherwise I might have made a more extended tour."

**Preachers.**—Of these eight have been employed, some for the whole, and others for part of the year. They have, as a rule, done good, faithful work, but are all sadly in need of further instruction and training. "Hence, it is a matter of great joy that the Seminary at Samulcotta will soon be open for the reception of students."

**Bible Work.**—Quite a number of Scripture portions and copies of the New Testament have been sold; and fifty-six copies have been given as rewards for reciting from memory the Sermon on the Mount. Regarding Bible supplies, Brother Craig says:—"Although we are not fully supplied with Scripture portions, we have reason to thank God that at last we have obtained a Telugu New Testament, which we can circulate without hurting our consciences. This boon has come to us through the generosity of the 'American and Foreign Bible Society.'"

**Village Schools.**—Of these fourteen have been in operation during the year, with an average attendance, in all, of 120 boys, and 55 girls. Lately, three new schools have been started, with an average attendance of 30 boys, and 9 girls. Brother Craig says:—"The good done by these little schools does not all appear at once, but yet it is something to go to a village, and find among those who were once ignorant Malas a number of boys and girls who can read and write. God's Word lies open to them, without the help of a preacher. Moreover, the older people are taught some good hymns by the school-teacher, who also instructs them in God's Word, and conducts worship on Sunday. These schools are all partly supported by the people of the different villages."

On this field, as on the Cocanada field, the duty of self-support is pressed upon the Christian people, and, on the whole, real progress has been made in this direction, some of the Churches raising as much as Rs. 80 during the past year.

**New Mission Boat.**—Much inconvenience has been felt at times by having only one Mission Boat for the Cocanada and Akidu fields. Your Board is glad to be able to say that this is now a matter of the past. Brother Craig says:—"I have the pleasure of telling you that a boat for Akidu has been built at Cocanada. The new boat is just about the same size as the *Canadian*, and will look very much like it." Its cost is about \$750. It will be known as the *T. S. Shenston*, being named after our worthy President. It is hereby presented to our Foreign Mission Society for work on the Akidu field.

We should thank God for every building we succeed in erecting, every tent we buy, and every boat we build, because without these material appliances we cannot make the most of our time, and, in fact, some of them are