

"they have opportunity." As soon as I heard of Hannamah (the woman Mr. Currie speaks of in the *Link* for Dec. 1880,) I wrote inviting her to visit us, intending, should she prove capable, to give her Bible work among the women; knowing that the necessary funds would be supplied from some quarter. She seems to be a woman of an excellent spirit, quite willing to engage in the Lord's work, as indeed she does each day. She can read very nicely, but when she came could not write. Jane, one of our Christian women, is teaching her to write. She is also daily studying the Scriptures. My class consists of three, sometimes four, Christian women, and we are studying the life and words of our Lord Jesus. I wish to ask the prayers of my sisters of the Societies, that these women may continue this work and that it may be blessed in the conversion of many who listen to their teachings.

The three women were at Suruvaram yesterday where the heathen women listened well to their message; and they have just now started for a nearer village. Ask the sisters to pray for our workers—for all the Christians—that they may not only be kept from sin, but may grow in grace. Mr. Currie is out touring.

MARIA A. CURRIE.

February 12th, 1881.

Chicacole.

Under date of March 1st, Miss Hammond writes to the Secretary of the Board:—"We are still troubled with smallpox here and thus far there have been about a dozen cases. It is very unpleasant for me personally, and decidedly inconvenient for our work. I closed the school for a few days but it is moving on in a small way again; but we cannot fully organize it until all are well.

I have one Christian teacher, but thus far, he has had rather an unfavorable opportunity for displaying his capabilities. One of the large boys is assisting him and also pursuing his studies at the same time.

When well, all the young men and women on the compound are expected to attend school. The latter did not attend when we had a staff of heathen teachers. I will admit heathen boys and girls if they will come to Christian teachers, but as yet none have come in. The former head-teacher was here to-day, and in speaking with him on that point he said, "They will not come, they have no love in your religion." The Telugu language puts in frequently, where we use *for*.

Nevertheless I believe some of them will come. While the small-pox prevails I cannot visit the house of any East Indian or native. As soon as we are free from it, and I can get out, I shall make an effort to gather in pupils, especially girls. If they do not come to the teacher we provide, well and good.

When our pupils are all well, we can muster twenty-one, and what there is may properly be called a mission school, and I am much happier in it than I was in the large one, which I could not call a mission school. Indeed Mrs. Armstrong told me before she left, that it could not be called that, but she hoped I would make it one.

Bobbil.

The *Visitor* of April 20th, has the following item: We regret to hear through a correspondent in Nova Scotia, that Mrs. Churchill, of Bobbil, is seriously ill. We hope that our sister's health and life may be spared so that she may continue to labour on her very interesting and important field.

Akidu.

REPORT OF VILLAGE SCHOOL WORK.

DEAR MRS. HUMPHREY,—I now send to you as Secretary of the Women's Society in the West, an account of my Village Schools. I am much obliged to the Board of your Society for taking up some part of my work. Cocanada has long enjoyed such a large share of my favour that Tuni and Akidu do not seem to have much chance. However, I must not complain, because several of the girls in the school you support, are from the Akidu field. One of them is called Annamma, that is Ann with the female ending "amma" tacked on. She is a rather large girl, as she happens to be a widow with a son ten or eleven years old. She comes from Artamuru, a village lying four miles north-east of Akidu. We hope she will teach a school in her village when she gets through her own studying. One of the girls is from Chinnamilly, a village about six miles north-west of Akidu. Her name is Shantamma. I think this name means peaceful or calm. She is to be married to a young man who is in the school here at present. I can tell you about only one other girl. Her name is Bungaramina, "Bungaru" means golden. This girl is from Ganapavarassa, a village on the canal, twelve miles north of Akidu. She was converted and baptized here a few months ago. (When I say here, I mean in Cocanada, as I have deserted my own station for a week or two).

There are, I think, three other girls from my field in the school. One of them comes from Asaram, a village twelve miles south-west of Akidu; but most of our Christians live beyond that again. The part of the field represented in the girls' school contains about 150 Christians; the part from which no girls come contains about 320. Their parents think it is too far to send them. They want to see a school opened in Akidu. I doubt not we could have 50 girls for such a school there if we had the buildings and money to support the school. It is in the region south and south-west of Akidu that our village schools are situated. Gannanapudy is about 22 or 23 miles south-west of Akidu. The school there is taught by Rosamma, that is Rosa with the common ending added. Rosa is a niece of Karré Peter, the preacher lately ordained. Her husband's name is Jassgan Isaac. He is one of our young preachers. They were married about two years ago. The general attendance is about 14; of these five are girls. The school is taught in their chapel school house, built with mud walls and thatched roof.

Just half a mile south is Commalamudy, where Rosa's father lives. His name is Karré Samuel. He is chief man in his village. We might call him Mayor. But I forgot to say that Rosa teaches the women to sew—so I have been told. She is supposed to get help from the villagers to the extent of Rs. 3 a month. We give her no money, but have agreed to give some clothes or "cloths" twice a year. I say cloths because the women do not engage much in dress-making, and even if a jacket is needed I would supply the cloth and the girl could make it up herself. Well, to proceed to Commalamudy—unfortunately I do not know how many girls attend school there. The general attendance has been about 11; out of these I am quite sure a few are girls, say three or four. This school is taught by a young man named Reuben. There is no school-house, but the Christians are building one now.

A mile and a half west of Commalamudy is Golavipilly; there is a small school-house here. The last report showed an attendance of seven boys and four girls.