

splendid Victrola gift of Mrs. Shenstone upon which we can play eight Telugu records. It is a great success and a wonderful help, too, singing our hymns for us when we are tired and helping to conserve our strength. Great was the wonder and delight at hearing their own lyrics sung so clearly out of a wooden box, but after the first amazement subsides the message itself become paramount in their minds. Some who had been indifferent before were lured to within reach by the new wonder of the "singing box."

And what unlimited opportunities confront us to ever increasing extent as this island opens up to the progressive forces that come in the wake of agricultural development. Eleven years ago I camped in an insignificant village, pitching our tents in a mango grove, near the water, but this year we see the small village grown into a thriving town, the mango grove on the edge of a harbor humming with all sorts of commercial noises.

Hundreds of tons of our rice, where we couldn't even buy any years ago, now speeding by river to distant parts of India. Going into town we feel lost at first, but succeed in unearthing a few old friends as we walk the streets. And the new ones are full of friendship and interest, following us to our tent, where at sunset, tired out, we find a group of pretty little be-jewelled girls from the Hindu caste school. "Aren't you coming to visit our school? and timid women, lingering by, plead, "We are so afraid you'll go without coming to our street."

Query—How much can one person do? Visit and teach caste women in this big town and every village within reach; visit the caste school to encourage female education; meet the Christian women here and in outlying villages, examine them in their Bible lessons and have personal talk; visit and examine Sunday Schools in the same villages, encourage teachers, suggest better methods, more enthusiasm or application; visit villages where there are enquirers, meet the wives and mothers who do not understand and are holding back, and then be prepared to meet callers at the tent and converse with them—and repeat this program at every touring stage on the field. Truly the harvest is great; too great for the few laborers.

Most important of all in the light of future India is the work among Christian women in the villages. In 1915 there were six women's Help-meet Societies contributing Rs. 15. This year the work has taken on new life and we have fifteen societies, meeting regularly for Bible study and prayer, and they have contributed Rs. 60 to spread the Gospel among their sisters. For years we have talked, plead, begged, with infinitesimal results, but now there is an awakening. The teachers' wives are awakened and are teaching, the women have wakened and are learning. In almost every village where there is a woman to teach the other women are learning, and it has meant so much to the women themselves. No more do I hear the dreadful words, "We are only women, what can we know." The caste women may say it still, but the Christian women, having their Bible lessons off by heart, feel that they do know something.

"The entrance of Thy Word giveth light," and with this knowledge they have gone out to their relatives and have succeeded, so now they know they can do something.

We look and pray for a great increase in this spirit of service, for this is what will save India.

And, now, what shall we do with those prayerfully written, carefully thought out reports?

Do we sufficiently appreciate them? These letters, rightly used, could become a very vital link between us and our work: they are the only channel through which we can know if our striving, praying and giving are bearing fruit.

We want to get closer to the heart of things; above the routine of business as to reports we want to feel the throb of that great power that is transforming evil and illiterate men and women into noble and intelligent witnesses for the Lord Jesus Christ.

Let us make use of every means possible to attain that end.

We will gladly forward copies of these letters to any Circle on request so that you may read for yourselves the details omitted in this report that you may learn the names of our missionaries and the different phases of their work; that you may follow the Bible women and teachers as they go out among the villages; and, above all, that you may bring daily to our Heavenly Father these special requests for prayer, not idly given, but earnestly entreated by those