

AKIDU.

Akidu, July, 1893.

With June 30th, 1893, closed the brightest and best year of work for and among women and children on the Akidu field. A larger number of women has been reached than in former years, and the work done among them has been of the most abiding nature, in that we were enabled to spend several days, sometimes two or three weeks, in a village, and had opportunity of meeting the women again and again, until we felt that we really had gotten acquainted with our dusky-skinned sisters as not before. A series of letters to the LINK, written from different villages while touring, leaves nothing to be said of the work during those months. In Akidu we have done more personal heart to heart pressing home of the truth than in other years, and the houses have increased in number. We call attention to the *children's meetings*. They have steadily grown in number and attendance. Into them gather boys and girls of every caste, and we consider this a very prominent feature of our work. The *women's meetings* also deserve special mention. Hitherto these have been for and attended by Christian women, but this year heathen women called for meetings, in two instances selecting their own subjects, "The Divinity of Christ" and "Your Jesus," and again a class of seven met an afternoon weekly for study of "Life of Christ."

The Bible women have worked well. Only one of them is free to devote both morning and afternoon to the work. The others, owing to household duties and domestic cares, give but half the day. In my touring, one or two of them accompanied me. They made in all 1,490 visits. I made 1,174 house visits, conducted 130 children's meetings, 49 women's meetings, 64 Bible classes, toured 179 days.

FANNY M. STOVEL.

TUNI.

Another year of missionary life has closed, and as I look back I can say that goodness and mercy have followed me all the way. Trials there have been, but when I look on the blessing side the trials are not worth mentioning. The year has been spent on the Tuni field, with the exception of ten days taken up with conferences in January, and another ten days spent in work on the Yellamanchili field.

Since January I have had Sundramma, a girl from the Cocanada boarding school, and this trained worker has been a great help in the work and such a comfort to me. I expect that she will be married at the end of the year and go to another field, which I sincerely regret. The widows stay with us, but unfortunately very few are able to read and write.

I have toured enough to give me a general idea of the field and the extent of the work that has been entrusted to me; it is certainly a large parish.

Among the children the work has prospered. Many of these heathen children can repeat the Lord's prayer, the Ten Commandments and a number of texts and catechism questions, and often as I go through the streets I hear, them singing the hymns we have taught them.

The number of women who hear in the town have increased. These women are bright enough but so ignorant, and some say "these things are for the men how

can women understand?" but many do understand and we thank the Lord for some that we trust are true believers.

One of the happiest hours in the week is the hour I spend with my Christian women in Bible study and prayer; this meeting has been kept up weekly.

The work of the new year has commenced and we look ahead with the hope of reaching women in distant parts of the field who have never heard the gospel, for our message is for all.

Pray for these Hindu women and children and for the laborers who are toiling among them.

Yours in the Master's service,

MARTHA ROGERS.

SAMULCOTTA.

Samulcotta, August 14, 1893.

My report runs from July '92. On the first day of that month Seminary opened after the long vacation. Missionaries, teachers and students came together again, and straightway work began. We had returned from breathing the invigorating atmosphere of the mountains in Southern India. The teachers, not so fortunate, still had their holiday and were ready for another year's work. The old students were delighted to get back into school life again and to resume their studies. They had much to tell about their vacation experience, most of them having been employed in the work, some at teaching and others at preaching. The new students came in salaaming awkwardly, staring curiously at everything, and stumbling with abashed demeanor into the places shown them.

The first few days ran swiftly on. But soon things fell into the yearly groove and glided on with little break and variation. As the village schools are still in a very primitive and elementary stage, and as there are no boarding schools at the various stations for boys, secular branches are a prime necessity at the Seminary. This secular work is the same as that in any home school—reading, writing, composition, arithmetic, grammar, geography, history, hygiene, algebra, geometry, &c., with English in the place of moderns or classics.

There were four teachers in this department throughout the year, not the same, however, for we have not yet arrived at the end of changes. These all did good and faithful work, which was shown at the annual examinations, in which the pupils acquitted themselves unusually well.

There were also the usual Theological and Bible classes. Of the Theological and, which graduated at the close of the school year in March, an account has already been given in the LINK. This class was taught by the Principal and was carried through Hebrews, the Pastoral Epistles, Theology, Homiletics, and Bible geography.

Miss Hatch had been detained for a time in Bangalore on account of illness and so did not join us at the beginning. Returning health, however, permitted her return, when she resumed her old classes and work. She continued at her post throughout the year and quitted us for a home visit in April last. Miss Hatch has been connected with the Seminary for rather more than four years—years which she has filled with service of all kinds—teaching, Sunday-school work, village work, correspondence with Circles and Bands, besides making her influence felt in many other ways.