

Ans. 3.—For a few years Mr. McLeod worked with zeal and courage among the people of the village around, and had the joy of welcoming a few into the church of Christ. Mrs. McLeod suffered so much from the climate that she became seriously ill, and in 1895 Mr. McLeod was obliged to leave India and bring her to America. The same year Miss Hatch was appointed to take charge of the Women's work. In the "Link" she has told us a good deal about the people she meets.

Extracts from "Link" for Aug. or Sept. or Oct., 1897.

Leader.—After Mr. McLeod left, Mr. Walker spent some time in Ramachandrapuram, and in the beginning of 1898, Mr. Davis took charge of the station. What does he tell us of the change he noticed?

Ans.—He says: "The Hindus of all castes are far more ready to listen now than they were ten years ago, and our young preachers are much better trained and more consecrated than their predecessors. The work done by the Samulcotta Seminary has altogether changed the character of the workers. The young men who have graduated from the Seminary have not only received an education, but they have learned to appreciate spiritual things. The Christians are beginning to realize that the Lord has commanded them to preach the Gospel.

Leader.—A Boys' Boarding School had been started before Mrs. McLeod left, and has been continued ever since. Who has charge of it now?

Ans.—Mrs. Davis takes charge of it, and the Sunday School in the compound. Ten of the boys joined the church last year. It is in these Boys' Boarding Schools that our future preachers and teachers are being prepared to enter the Seminary.

Leader.—Mr. Davis has the oversight of four churches, with a membership of 347. He has ten preachers to help him. In the Nalluru Church a band of young men go out every Sunday afternoon to preach and sing from house to house. For a time the Nalluru Church was self sustaining, but when the people living at Kaleru built a church for themselves, they could pay only the half of their pastor's salary. What does Miss Hatch write about the Kaleru church?

Ans.—She says: "I have just been out to Kaleru to the chapel opening. When I came to this field there were but one or two Christians of another Mission. Now we might almost say the Malapilly is Christian. They have had only 80 rupees' help from outside, and have built much of this chapel with their own hands; besides giving largely for more skilled workmen. It is of burnt brick, has only a thatch roof for the present, but they hope to put on tiles in time. The women have done the whitewashing after coming in from their day's work in the fields." A band of women from this church go out every Sunday to preach and sing in the town.

Leader.—Fortunate Malapilly, which I think means that part of the village where the malas live. The Brahmins and Sudras may look on them with scorn, but they have chosen the true riches, the true noble position, and are working to be kings and priests unto God. Mr. Davis, who is a man of tremendous energy, is finding much joy in his work. He spent 113 days touring last year, and baptized 36. What is Miss Hatch's work?

Ans.—She carries on a Sunday school in one part of the village and has charge of a school called the Cockshutt Girls' School, in which there are about

15 scholars. She has five Bible women under her and two teachers. She says of one of them: "G. Martha is a teacher and a Bible woman and keeps a house so clean and tidy, that when I go to put up there for a day I feel no special discomfort. She is associate teacher in a school with her husband, where she has promoted pupils into the 4th standard, and where pupils are from Christians, Malas, Mohanmedans and Sudras. The credit of this is all due to her; for her husband, though an intelligent man, was ignorant of his letters when she married him, and she taught him too. Besides this she does Bible work in six villages, where the Komma women especially, listen to her with great gladness." Miss Hatch also examines the children in the 12 village schools on the field. She spends a good deal of her time visiting the many villages and speaking to heathen women. She has a boat of her own called The Elizabeth, and spent 94 days last year on tour.

Leader.—I must tell you about a Telugu called Lakshmaya who lived on this field and it will close our Band Lesson. Lakshmaya was an outcast, a grass-cutter who was nearly always drunk. But when he heard the Gospel Message he received it and the love and power of Christ came into his soul and changed him. "He rose early, cut grass all morning and sold it at noon to the large land owners and high-caste men, then preached Christ in the afternoons and evenings." One day when he had laid down his bundle of grass on the spot pointed out by his high-caste customers, and picked up the coins thrown to him, it occurred to him he might tell them about Christ. At first they were amazed at his presumption, then they became so angry at him daring to instruct them that they rushed at him with sticks to beat him. Instead of running away he turned his naked shoulder to them. And when they were astonished at the change in the drunken man they knew of old, he answered them in the words of Stephen, Acts iii: 48-51. "Where did you learn such wisdom?" asked one of the Brahmans. "God from heaven put it into my heart," said Lakshmaya. "He has changed me, the poor drunkard, and given me a new heart. He can change you and fill you with humanity instead of pride; with truth instead of lies, and with love instead of hate." In a short time he won thirteen of his fellow countrymen to believe on Christ. Mr. Laflamme, who writes about him, says: "He is a regular Billy Bray, his mouth is full of songs and his soul of joy."

AMELIA MUIR.

Montreal, Dec., 1899.

JAPAN.

Leader—Where is the Empire of Japan?

Ans.—In the Eastern part of Asia.

Leader—Of what does it consist?

Ans.—Four large islands, and more than three thousand smaller ones.

Leader—How many people live there?

Ans.—Nearly forty millions.

Leader—By what other name is Japan called?

Ans.—The "Land of the Rising Sun."

Leader—What were the native religions?

Ans.—Shintoism, or the worship of many gods, is the most ancient; but Buddha has now more temples and followers.

Leader—Is Japan an old country?