

many of these poor creatures were taken prisoners, and thus remained, subjected to much harsh treatment, until their release was effected in 1847. Some of the children for whom there were no claimants found a home in our orphan schools. Miriam was among the youngest of those received. She had lost one of her feet by frost; but although thus crippled, she was able to walk and run with much activity. The girls in India are generally dull, and not fond of study, but Miriam was an exception. In a school of twenty-five, she was perhaps the second in intelligence and aptitude for learning; and the hope was entertained that she might, in after life, become useful in imparting to her countrywomen the knowledge which she was treasuring up. But our heavenly Father had other plans for her, and we know he doeth all things well.

A few months since she began to droop; and then came the racking cough and wasting fever. Miriam had not given decided evidence of being a child of God, although there had been a pleasing degree of attention to Divine things, and often, when addressed on the subject of personal religion, her serious look, and the falling tear, would shew that the appeal was not unheeded.

As her health became materially impaired, an increased solicitude was felt for her soul's eternal welfare, and many prayers were offered up in her behalf. In this feeling she herself partook; and although her natural reserve prevented her from saying much, yet she acknowledged that she feared she was not prepared to die. She felt her deep sinfulness, and dreaded to appear before the judgment-seat of Christ. Again and again was she directed to "the Lamb of God, who taketh away the sin of the world," and gradually the darkness fled away, and she was enabled to lay her sins on Jesus. Her Bible, an hymn-book, the Pilgrim's Progress, and the story of the Young Cottager, were always near; and when too weak to read herself, she would ask those around to read to her. On being asked why she loved Jesus, she answered, "Because He bore my sins." Instead of evincing, as formerly, a reluctance to die, she had a strong "desire to depart." The question being put, "If it were the will of God that you should recover, would you not be willing to remain a little longer?" she answered, "Yes, but Jesus is there," meaning that the Saviour's presence constituted the charm which was drawing her towards that better country. Often, when lying in a half-conscious state, she appeared to