

This is my third year in the mission, during which time I have had charge of the bazaar school. My sister Kate helped me the first year, but since she left for Mussoorie to attend school, I have been alone.

The daily attendance of children at school during the last month was from thirty to forty; we would have many more if the mothers would send their girls regularly. The ignorant ones are very difficult to deal with; they tell you quite decidedly that they do not wish their daughters to be taught; they were never taught to read and write themselves, and they see no reason why their girls should be wiser than their parents.

The educated, however, who are very few, are quite different. They send their girls willingly, and feel glad they have the privilege of doing so.

The great hindrance to our work is the early marriage system. Constantly bright girls, in whom we begin to take a special interest, suddenly leave school to be married, which ends their life of freedom; for they are then bound to keep within the walls of their own homes, and if we ask to see them the mothers-in-law object, particularly if they know that we have an influence over them, and these mothers-in-law are often very cruel to them.

I have at present a very bright little girl about nine years of age, and she told me the other day that she was to be married soon, after which she would not be able to come to school any more. Poor little thing, so young too.

Our work is sometimes quite discouraging on this account; yet, on the other hand, it is very encouraging to teach the young, for when they grow up and leave their mother-in-law's home for their husband's, they do not object to missionaries visiting them.

I used to visit a Bengali Baboo's wife, who attended a mission school in Calcutta when she was a little girl. She was always pleased when I went to see her, and she told me she partly believed in our Bible, but she could not become a Christian on account of her family. She also said she and her husband often talked about these things.

Since the Rev. Mr. Builder has obtained a larger school-room, the attendance has been increasing. I have children