

matted hair and sacred beads and ash-besmeared face, returns with us, apparently anxious to learn, but her last pathetic word is: "Our fathers taught us to worship Nelama, Asserama and Bolama and all the others. They did this way; how can we change and accept a new faith?" O God, our hope is in Thee. Let Thy light shine and save the people!

Look at the map—24 villages within four miles of this bungalow. Those the other side of the river we have not yet visited. Two of my strongest Bible-women say: "Come to-day, Missama; the river is low and we can carry you across!" I try to get them to make a chair with their hands like they do in Canada, but no—they want their own way. "You see," says one, "I will take hold of Mary's hand then you are to put your right knee in our palms." "What about my other foot?" "Oh you are to hold that up." Very well. So we start but for laughter my bearers make little headway and stop midstream. A little boy seeing my foot and skirt dragging in the water tried to hold them up. Not being balanced my head extends far in front and a funny picture we make. On my hasty return to the bungalow I find a number of men who have come from a village over the hill. They sit on the mat and listen for hours.

It is a zig-zag, stony, thorny path along and around the mountain. There is the village! Each house is surrounded by a high wall! How strange! In one yard we counted eighteen bejeweled faces. We go around the wall and enter. Lo! every face has disappeared and the door is shut. See, there they are the other side of the wall; but if we start to go they flee. And what exclamations do we hear? "What's that big white thing on her head? I don't like her white skin do you? She ought to rub some saffron on it and beautify her eyelids with lamp-black, and dye her finger nails a pretty red with henna. She don't know how to make herself look pretty. No, she has not a jewel! Oh! yes, there is a piece of gold near her neck. What an ugly dress, and see those black things on her feet! I think our bare feet with these silver toe rings and anklets are much prettier don't you?" It is all in vain. The strains of our concertina have no effect on these deer-like women and we pass on. In another street we have a good hearing. One says: "Yes, I have no doubt this is the true way, but you

see I'm an old man; if I confess Jesus, my folk will cast me off, then how will I live?"

On we go to another village across the muddy land and along the rough narrow ridges of the stubby rice fields. See the crowd awaiting our coming! I wonder if they will run away, no; they stay and stay. Fifty or more gather around—all women. They ask questions. The three Bible-women explain the pictures and we sing and talk for hours. These people have no nice jewels or pretty clothes. Their faces are careworn and their appearance unkempt: but was it not said in Jesus time: "The common people heard Him gladly." We return by another way. It is a long walk and the sun is full of power. See the two white temples artistically built half way up the mountain side and near at hand is the great pillared pandal for parading the gods: The women of the priest's family call us; we sit in the comfortable shade and seek to improve the opportunity of witnessing to the Truth.

"Oh how my soul warms! How it burns! How it even, as it were, dissolves in love to the poor perishing souls."

W.B.M.U. Financial Statement for Quarter Ending April 30th, 1903.

		Cr.			
Received from:—		F. M.	H. M.	Total	
W. M. A. S., Nova Scotia	\$937 83	\$317 03		\$1254	86
" New Brunswick	386 87	183 66		570	53
" P. E. Island	61 74	54 02		115	76
Donations	5 00	1 00		6	00
Tidings				12	73
Reports				6	16
Leaflets				6	08
M. B. Treas.	349 10	95 87		444	97
				\$2418	09
		Dr.			
Paid Treas. :—					
F. M. Board				\$2043	75
H. M. Nova Scotia and P. E. Island				235	00
" New Brunswick				116	00
N. W. Missions				109	00
" " Indian work				84	00
G. L. Missions				166	00
Expenses, booklets from India				19	08
Mission Band Supt., N. S.				4	26
Prov. Sec., New Brunswick				4	00
Printing Tidings				8	50
" Leaflets				3	30
Drafts, discounts, postage				6	11
				\$2889	00

MARY SMITH,
Treas. W. B. M. U.

Amherst, May 2nd, 1903.