

THE CANADIAN MISSIONARY LINK.

perhaps the most promising on the field. Pray for the children and the teachers and for us.

Yesterday at the close of my boys' Sunday School I gave papers to sixty-seven boys, all reading English, and if you could have seen the bright eyes and pleased smiles with which they were received I am sure you, and others who are sending, would count the postage on them money well spent. Such papers cannot but wield great influence for good for them. Thanking you again, and with warm Christian love.

Yours sincerely,

FANNY S. McLEOD.

May 1901.

Dear LINK.—A new experience has come to me this year. Eight years ago at this season of the year, I was on my way to India. Every day brought reminders that the dear home-land was left behind and new sights and sounds took the place of the familiar ones. So many of them were such as to make our hearts sad, and during these years you have been the bearer of a message now and then from me telling of some of them. Right out of the midst of the darkness these have been written. But now I am once again in the home-land, surrounded by Gospel light and privilege, where the air we breathe and the sights and sounds about us remind us so constantly that we are in a *Christian* land.

Before leaving India, when thinking of all the happy experiences that were represented by the word *furlough*, one that I looked forward to, was the *Christian Sabbath*.

In Tuni, Sunday is the busiest, noisiest day of the week. We try as much as it is possible, to make it the holy day of rest it should be, but all the traffic for the weekly market goes right past the compound. The ox-carts with their noisy drivers; the men driving their cattle to market; the women with their baskets on their heads and in many cases a child astride their hip, all talking as though every one was deaf. These things are not very helpful to worship.

Sometimes, when discouraged over the slow progress made by the Christians in learning to remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy, I have wondered what sort of a day it would be to me had I been brought up surrounded by the same circumstances. And a sorry feeling has come into my heart for them as I remembered that they never saw a *Christian Sabbath* such as we enjoy here every week. And this little message comes asking you to pray for them that they may learn to keep holy day and be an example to the heathen about them.

E. PRIEST.

AKIDU GIRLS' BOARDING SCHOOL.

Mrs. Chute writes:—School opened as usual the first week in September. It was nice to have the children back again after their holiday. Akidu is

somewhat lonely even at the best times and lonelier when the children are away, so we are always glad to welcome them, and they on their part seem glad to come to school.

At the beginning of the term there were nineteen girls from the Akidu field but only five from Vuyyuru.

The promotion examination for the past year's work was held in October, and about two thirds of the girls passed with credit.

Progress through the term seemed to be better than usual, but we are waiting for the Government Inspector to come and conduct our promotion examinations. At Christmas time we had to part with the Vuyyuru girls. We were sorry to lose them, but as you see it has been a great benefit to Vuyyuru to have a girls' school of its own.

Tadipalli Esther, who used to be supported by the Osgoode Band, and Bendukuri Shantamma, now Mrs. Pulaveri Samuel, formerly supported by the Circle at Weedman, taught in Akidu. Both of them have passed the Government Primary, and Esther has had Normal training. Esther continues to teach in the school but will probably be married in January. Shantamma's home duties require her attention.

On two or three occasions God very specially manifested His loving care for the girls. One night a young cobra was found under one of the mats just as the girls were about to lie down, and not a week later another cobra was found in the dormitory.

Another effort has been made to repair the roof and we hope to make the present building serve until our return from furlough, (probably 1904).

During the cool season a series of Temperance talks, illustrated by charts, were conducted by the writer every Sunday evening at the bungalow; the children seemed to enjoy them greatly.

The Indian Sunday School Union conducts a Bible Examination every July, on the International lessons for the previous six months.

Six of our pupils wrote this year but the results are not yet published. Last year Bollarpur Rizma received a certificate for having passed this examination.

More of the scholars would probably write but unfortunately the examination is held when they have gone to their villages for the holidays.

The girls' Tuesday afternoon prayer meetings have been conducted as usual. During the term four girls from the Boarding and one from the Day School were baptized. Two or three others have asked for baptism.

Miss Morrow kindly took charge of the school during our absence in the hot season.

At the close of the school, early in June, the girls with but two exceptions paid a monthly fee of four annas, i.e. 8cts. The object of this fee is not so much for the financial help to the school as for the moral effect on the pupils and parents.

The holidays are past and school has opened early