

UJJAIN

A Vision of Hope for Central India's Villages

Evangelistic.—Miss Grier.—While the city work is a bit discouraging, that in the villages is full of hope, and one looks forward to a day not very far distant, when there shall be Christians in nearly every village of Central India. Back from furlough and taking up Miss Drummond's labor of love, as she left for Canada, I am fortunate in having two Bible-women loaned me and one of my own again in harness, so that I have help sufficient. Hot weather means confining one's evangelistic efforts to the town, where we are often put off with excuses. If a woman shows any real desire to hear more of the Gospel message, the members of her family soon take alarm and one sees her no more. If we could only gather the women into groups and teach them, as seems to be done in China, there would be greater satisfaction, but the different caste rules prohibit such methods, and so it is a case of daily hunting up your audience. We now have three baptized women in two villages, and a number more who should be, but they hesitate, although quite willing for their husbands to go forward. But the shy, ignorant village women, having once taken ever so feeble a stand, by being baptized, give evidence of being different to the people from whom they have stepped out. For years the seed has been sown in the villages of Central India, and now is beginning the harvest. It is good to be here to see the change, and to take part in the ingathering.

School for Christian Children

Educational.—About eight years ago, a few little children formed the nucleus of this school for Christian pupils, and very interesting has been its growth. From kindergarten to entrance work is on the curriculum now. Fifty scholars are enrolled, and the arrival of big boys has meant a male principal, which has resulted favorably. On Christmas day, under the direction and training of the head-master, the scholars gave a fine program of songs in both English and Hindi, recitations in English, a little play in Hindi, and an exhibition of drill. While the boys drill for half an hour three days a week, the girls are being taught to sew.

The state has now schools in every part of the town, not only for caste children, but also for those of the depressed classes. Then, too, a great many small children work in the different mills.

And it is surely of such as these the Saviour said, "Suffer little children to come unto me."

