

names will be marked in the list as taken, but many of them are simply taken by me until some one applies for them. I must say, the boys are delighted to hear from any of the Circles who write to them, and it is no burden to them—but a great pleasure—to write letters in return. So with the Bible women.

"Miss Stovel is staying with me here (Samulcott), for which I am glad. They are much better company than one. By your permission she will, I presume, soon be going to Akidu, where I hope she may very soon have a medical lady associated with her. She is able to keep at her books so constantly, that she is making great strides in Telugu. The weather is keeping wonderfully cool for August, and we are consequently in the best of health."

Mrs. DeBeau adds:—"Nursamah's dying words have been told to many. I find that her sisters also have told it, so that many persons ask me about it, and think she must have been sure of heaven to speak so assuredly when dying. I am therefore hoping that good may come of her dying witness, and God may be glorified in this way."

Miss Hatch writes:—"I believe there is many another like her (Nursamah) a believer in Christ, or why, as one of them said to me the other day, 'Why should we leave all our work and sit down here and listen to you whenever you come, if we were not believing?' And they do indeed seem so full of interest, that our hearts are greatly encouraged at times; although they do not as we would have them do, that is, profess His name in baptism."

Observations.

One is astonished to find, after a few months' residence in India, that all the novel sights and sounds, peculiarities of habit and custom, the strange tropical scenery, in fact everything that make an Eastern country what it is, has become so familiar and commonplace. To a Canadian these oriental lands are not inviting. In romantic tales of the East, one reads of the wealth and splendor, little or nothing is said of the poverty and wretchedness. We, who come in our Master's name to help and uplift these people, get an insight into their lives that no ordinary foreign resident can possibly have, and even though our first business is to acquire a knowledge of the language, we have now and then opportunities of studying the people as well. A little talk with one of the native Christians of an evening, is time well spent in more ways than one, both parties are benefited; the people are so eager to help us learn to talk, so pleased when we are able to speak to them in their own tongue, so delighted to be of service, and the missionary is cheered and encouraged when he realizes the difference between those who are followers of Christ and those whose lives are one continual testimony to the power of Satan.

On Sunday afternoons, or at any time when an hour is free, there are English-speaking Brahmans eager to "get a fair knowledge of the Christian religion," which is a laudable desire, but it quite frequently proves that it is fair knowledge of the *English language* these young men are seeking. Government is helping us in a way which would perhaps scarcely be recognized; to obtain a position under government a knowledge of the English language is indispensably necessary, consequently any aspiring Hindu youth must study English. Certain prescribed examinations must be passed, and the English literature laid down in the curriculum is of such a nature that a knowledge of the Bible is a very material help to the student. So we find the young men studying the Bible in English. A young man who has been doing munshi

work for us recently had no knowledge whatever of the Bible until he began munshi work here a few months ago. An old Mahomedan, who called on me one morning, while I was reading with him, said, "Study the Bible, it is the foundation of all English literature, you can never be proficient in English without a knowledge of the Bible."

On every hand this desire for a knowledge of the English language is spreading, and if as a natural consequence the study of God's Word is encouraged by it, may we not hope for great things? He has said, "My word shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and shall prosper in the thing where to I sent it."

Several young Brahmans have visited me; some revealed in a very short time their true motive for coming—practice in English conversation, but as I usually inflict my Telugu on them they soon become discouraged. Others show that they are really seeking after truth, that they are dissatisfied with the hollowness of their own religion and are seeking something better; some of them have very shrewd ways of reasoning; in talking with one of my visitors I said, that Jesus Christ, God's Son, our Saviour, had commanded us to "go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature"; that in obedience to that command we had come, and that His messengers are going forth to all nations to deliver His message. The Hindus, though claiming their religion to be the true one, are doing nothing to proclaim it. The very ones who cling to it so blindly know little or nothing of it, the priests do not think it worth while to step across the street to reveal the mysteries of it, the religious books are in Sanscrit, which very few of the people can read. Everything tends to make the religion of the Hindu a sealed book to him. But, said the young man, "you are paid for this work. If any one will pay me a salary I will go and preach our religion in your land." The laws of caste forbid a Brahman leaving his country, so it is quite doubtful that the words so freely spoken could be made good.

This was just another proof that the religion of Jesus Christ is the only true religion. It is universal, it embraces all mankind, no one need perish who has heard the gospel. The followers of Jesus, in their desire to do His will do not hesitate because of expenditure. They feel highly honored and privileged in using the means given by a loving Father to carry out the command of the Son. All cannot leave their homes to go to the heathen, but in the persons of substitutes all may obey, so they say to those who can go that they will send them, provide for them, and pray for them. I asked the young man if money could buy fathers, mothers, sisters, brothers, friends, congenial society with the blessed privilege of living in the light of the gospel we love in our own native land. Would money induce us to brave a climate that may mean death to our bodies, where to those accustomed to the Canadian climate, existence for eight months of the year is barely tolerable, where reptiles and insects aggravate the heat, and where deadly pestilence lurks in air and water?

The money given to missionaries is no inducement whatever to brave the inconveniences of an Indian life. I cannot conceive of any European or American living in India from choice. An English official whose salary for one month equals or exceeds that of a missionary for a year, does not stay one hour longer than he finds it necessary to make it possible for him to retire.

"The kingdom cometh not with observation." Here in India a foundation is being laid on which a glorious