

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S REPORT.

It is with a deep sense of gratitude to God that we report a year of uninterrupted work. All of the departmenta tell of progress, and many report an awakening interest in the gospel tidings, especially among the caste women. The people want to hear, and buy the gospel portions to read for themselves, and pass them on to their friends. There has been no famine in the land. A very virulent type of smallpox has hindered the work on all the fields, but the Christians have been preserved to such an extent that it has been recognized by the heathen as the result of the protection of the Christians' God.

The disturbed condition of Europe, which has thrown the greater part of the world into such turmoil, for a time threatened the peace of India. The missionaries came to the rescue, and by holding patriotic meetings and explaining the cause of the war have no doubt had a quieting effect, and aroused a feeling of loyalty that has been very gratifying. The women in all the fields have eagerly contributed, and worked for patriotic and relief funds led by the missionaries.

It is with great sadness that we record the death of our tried and efficient missionary, Miss Edna Corning. Equipped with rare gifts of heart and mind, she was an ideal missionary. She understood and entered into the lives of those around her with such genuine friendliness that she won their confidence and love. She has left a memory that is like a sweet fragrance. No one will exactly take her place, but Miss Robinson is on her way to take charge of the Boys' School in Samuleotta, of which Miss Corning was principal. We hope that Miss Robinson's journey, although begun with a catastrophe, will end pleasantly. Miss Marjory Cameron, M.D., our new missionary, is already in India; we are thankful that we were able to send one that is so well fitted to minister to the needs of India's women.

The Fields.

Cocanada (Miss Baskerville).—A most optimistic strain runs through this report, and many incidents are given of deep interest in the gospel story. One Mahometan gentleman, who reads the Bible himself, being anxious that the

women in his family should be instructed, earnestly requested that one of the workers should learn Hindustani in order to do more effective work among the Mahometan women. A friendly reception has been given to the missionary by the Brahmo Somaj; and several Brahmin families who had heard the gospel in other places have asked to be visited regularly. A Gay was spent in Madras, as a guest in the home of a young Brahmin gentleman, belonging to a rich, aristocratic family of Cocanada, who had studied in England for three years, and who was anxious that his young, pretty wife should share the liberty of thought which he enjoys.

Schools.—The Caste Girls' School work has gone on as usual. Visits in the homes of the school girls are always welcome. Some of the former pupils go on with their Bible study after they leave school, and give evidence of their faith in Christ, and tell of answered prayers, which have greatly comforted them. The inspector emphatically disapproved of our school quarters, but what can we do? Evangelistic school work has been carried on with varying success. These children will be the future men and women of India, and are learning texts and hymns, which they will never forget. The influence of these schools is felt among the grown-up members of the household, who thus indirectly learn much of the life of Christ.

Touring.—Touring is always gladly taken up, when possible. Nine days were spent and ten villages in the south field visited. Miss Hatch having lent her boat for the purpose. Large crowds of women and children gathered around them, while men stood listening in the background. Many scripture portions were sold and leaflets distributed.

Miss Phillipz's work has been taken by Miss Beggs, who now is devoting both morning and afternoon to visiting and teaching in the homes and in the small villages that surround the city. She has 122 houses on her list, and twenty regular pupils. Miss Gibson has 115 homes on her list, reaching over 300 women with the message of salvation. These workers are both doing a very important work, undermining the faith of the Hindu women in their idols, and