

ing forward the Tunapuna building before the wet season, and the difficulty of carrying on our mission work, and overlooking the erection of buildings in different places at the same time.

(5) Present arrangements will suffice at the other two stations for a time. Later, a school house will be needed at Aronca, and Mr. Zurcher has kindly promised a lot of land near the Aronca railway station for that object.

(6) His Excellency Governor Freeling has sent us unsolicited a donation of \$25. We are glad to report that the good will of the planters has been shown in various ways. We hope to occupy our new premises by July 1st. This undertaking involves us in very considerable pecuniary responsibility; but it seems the simplest, quickest and cheapest way to provide for our own health and for the necessities of the work. JOHN MORTON.

India.

MISS MCGREGOR writes to Mrs. Harvie, Secretary of the Womens' Foreign Mission Society, as follows:—*Indore, 25th February, 1881:—*

I suppose it is now about 2 P.M., of your day in the West, and probably a stormy, blustering day too, one in which you like to sit by a blazing hearth, while we are beginning to wish for punkah, &c. It has just struck 9 P.M., so we are at least as many hours before you, and will be retiring to rest about the time you are eating your dinner.

Mr. Wilkie called here a short time ago; he is well I believe; but Mrs. W. has been ill for a matter of ten days past, but is convalescent now. Mr. and Mrs. Campbell have also been in Indore since yesterday, having returned from intinerating a short time ago. We have a native girl stopping with us since yesterday evening. She is very bright and has a wonderful memory, as I found in school this morning, but she goes to Poona to-morrow. She and her father were at a station about 18 miles from here. He died and left her alone, her mother being in Poona. The girl had no money to pay her railway fare, but what do you think she did? With unheard of daring she seated herself on the buffer of a dry goods train and came to Indore about 10 P.M. They put her in gaol to punish her for her boldness, kept her a day, then sent her to me. She is asleep now on the floor in Denois' room, and has been quite happy and merry all day. Even though she was very hungry when she came she could not eat our food. This and the last two months have been the time for celebrating Hindoo images, and daily in the city

we meet bridal processions, with such deafening noise of tom-toms. It is singular what a love of noise the average Hindoo has. He will sit by the hour beating a small drum, and evidently enjoying his own performance immensely, though no European could distinguish any music. We have a new political agent here now, Mr. Lepet Griffin, in the room of Sir Henry Daly, who has gone home to England. I have not seen the gentleman yet, we presume things will move on as usual, that is as far as we are concerned. My school continues to prosper, and I am glad to notice that the parents often visit us, and remain through the religious exercises at the close. I always encourage them to come. You would be pleased to see how reverently the little ones behave at the time of prayer, shutting their eyes and not even whispering. It is true one little maid told me another did not shut her eyes, forgetting that her own must have been open in order to see her neighbor's fault. Such is human nature. As soon as the days grow longer I will try my village schools again, but yet the sun does not rise until 6 A.M. How quickly it seems to travel upward though, and the scorching heat of the day begins. I have in my school a little girl of eight years. She is a new scholar, and is married to a *man of forty*. You remember perhaps about my telling you of a visit I made a long time ago to Apee Bolio Holbari's son-in-law. Well, this man has already four wives, and several concubines, yet to him the child I speak of, and also her sister, are sacrificed. Of course the parents received money for their children's happiness, but even they bitterly repent their folly now, as the father confessed one day he came to school with his daughters. When will these shameful child marriages cease? Pray God that it may be soon. Many of the more enlightened amongst the people are weary of these hateful, loveless marriages, but unless some general movement is made, each one fears to act according to his own convictions. It is amusing to notice how the women (native) do not fail to see that English gentlemen treat their wives so differently from the manner of Hindoo men, and they tell us about it. They say that they see it at their railway stations, &c. I mention these things to show you that the current of thought is setting in towards Christianity, slowly it may be, but surely.

When I went to Aneitum there was not a widow to be found on the island. There was not even a name in the language for widow, the reason being that the law doomed every woman, on the death of her husband, to be strangled, and her dead body to be thrown into the sea with his.—*Inglis.*