

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.

CENTRAL INDIA.

A Call From Jaora.

FROM DR. MARGARET M KELLAR.

Mission Hospital, Indore, C. India, Jan. 16, 1896.

On my way home, from a village, the Bible-woman and I stopped an hour with a pretty, black-eyed Jewess. Seven or eight years ago, before her marriage, she had been taught by a missionary lady in Poona, so that she reads her mother-tongue well, and sings beautifully translations of our English hymns. While we were there she sang "Jesus loves me, this I know," "In the sweet by-and-by" and "I am thine, O Lord." How I wish that she could truly say the last words from her heart, but she has not yet had her eyes opened to see that Jesus is indeed the promised Messiah and the fulfilment of all prophecy. She and her husband must be interested in Him, and are inquiring about Him, for on the table was a book called "The Oriental Christ."

One of the advantages of two of us being together in the medical work, is that we are able during this cold season to go out into the surrounding villages. There are villages where we are received gladly, and we come home feeling happy, because many have listened to the story of Jesus and His love. Again, we turn away sorrowfully and feel like shaking the dust from our feet, because we have not had a hearing, or the people are too indifferent, or are wholly wedded to their idols.

Last week we received word to come to see a *Thakur's* wife who lives about ninety miles from here. I had to go to Jaora, beyond Rutlam, on the railroad and from there ten miles out in a *gari*. Jaora is calling loudly for a medical woman to our mission, and says if we do not go in and occupy, that a Lady Dufferin agent will be asked to come. I hope that our mission will see its way clear to allow Dr. Turnbull to work the field from Neemuch, until some one could be sent for Jaora from home. But to go back to my visit. On arriving in the city I was driven to a beautiful garden, the like of which can be found only in an Eastern land, where a tent had been pitched and comfortably furnished for me. The *Thakur's* secretary told me that I was desired to stay for two or three days, but as this had not been mentioned in his letter, I had not gone prepared for such a stay. When I said I could not, and asked to see the patient at once, there was a delay of over an hour. People in this land do not think that it adds to their dignity to do things in a hurry, so the hot and restless activity of the Western has often, to all appearance, at any rate, to become subdued and slow. A young brother-in-law of the patient's was in the room all the time except when I asked him to go out, as I wished to speak to the patient alone. But as soon as I had finished the examinations, she of her own accord asked to have him come in. His presence was no doubt intended to prevent me from talking to her about Jesus. So the visit ended in being a purely professional one. A liberal fee was given me and all expenses paid. I was then conveyed to Jaora in the *Thakur's* carriage.

I wonder if any one has written you about our happy Christmas. Early in the morning, 6.30, some of us sent out our little gifts to our fellow missionaries just to remind them a wee bit of the home-land across the sea. At 8 a.m. I had my Sunday School class of Mang women in, and after a