

the house, they appeared like mother and daughter. But evil days have come, and now the old lady abuses the young rival in quite strong enough language. Thakurani reads well and understands everything she reads, and she had been trying to teach wife number two to read intelligently, but she told me the other day, "It's no use trying to teach her, she's just a jungly animal; she says the words, but she understands nothing." And while I was hearing the girl read, Thakurani kept interrupting by saying to her, "You stupid." I told her that the girl was young, and that she ought to have patience with her. She said that she had had a great deal of patience, but there was no use in trying to do anything with such a stupid creature.

Poor old lady ! She is a clever woman herself, and I daresay is irritated by the slowness of her pupil, but the heart and not the head is at the bottom of the trouble. She had spoken bitterly to the Bible-woman of the girl who has "stolen" her "husband's affection."

We very seldom argue with the women on the merits of our different religions, but Thakurani seemed to feel from something that had been said one day that I thought her an idolater, and she gave me rapidly an epitome of her faith. "Do you think that I worship wood and stone? I sit on stone; I walk over it; shall I take a piece of that same stone and bow down and worship it? My bed is made of wood; this door frame is a piece of wood; we make chairs of wood. Shall I take a piece of wood and bow down and worship it?" I do not know whether she had thought this out for herself, or whether she had learned it from Mrs. Campbell and the Bible-woman, but the manner of speech and gesticulation were her own.

Then she told me that she quite understood about Christ, for Ram Chander was born in the same miraculous manner, and did for them what Christ did for us.

Something was said about the second coming of Christ, and