

EXTRACTS FROM MISS GIBSON'S ZENANA REPORT.

It is encouraging to us to meet again with those who having heard the gospel but a few times perhaps, and removed to a distance, remember what they have been told. I had more than one such case lately. A woman who was always the most interested of her family removed to a village near Addu. Miss Stovel met her in some of her visits and was quite surprised at her answers to questions on the birth, life, death and resurrection of the Saviour. She told the story to some thirty heathen women who were present, and appeared quite proud of her ability to do so. She also said that since Christ had done so much for us we ought to love and serve Him.

Another case was a woman to whom I had told the gospel story but a few times, but who always listened well. She had left town for several months but being back on a visit and meeting me on the street was anxious to hear again those good words she said, and followed me into the next house I visited. There she listened with far more interest than the women of the house, as I told again of the Saviour's love and power to save, and after I had done followed me into the street and asked, "am I to pray to Jesus Christ?"

Death has entered many of our homes during this last six months and I have realized again and again how hopeless the heathen are, how comfortless their grief. A mother who had lost her only son expressed the true condition of their grief when she said "it is like a sea without a shore."

One mother whose two sons, both promising young men, died within a few months, said "God has put out both my lights and left me in the dark, I would fain destroy myself." Grief has had a good effect in her case while I have tried to bring words of comfort, for now she listens to the Gospel as never before, and finds consolation there, which nothing else can give. Her eldest son was educated at Rangoon in the A.B. Mission school, and was a believer, though he had not openly professed.

The new houses I have lately entered are most interesting, the women always appear glad to have me come, and some seem anxious to hear the way of life, regretting that I cannot visit them oftener than once a week.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS.

W. B. M. U.

A CARD from Miss Gray dated May 6th, says she has been very busy during the last six months. She does not think she ever worked harder, but the Dormitory would be ready for the boarding girls about May 15th. Will our M. Bands remember these boarding girls in their prayers.

THE following extracts are from a letter received from Mrs. Churchill last week. It is glad news that

her health is improving:—"The work is progressing in some districts, but the converts coming for baptism are few. I wish they were more numerous, to rejoice both the hearts of the home workers and the missionaries. One was baptised in March, and there are many more in the villages near, who are converted, we believe, but caste and the fear of their friends deter them. Nothing short of the power of the Almighty can bring them out fully on the Lord's side. Pray for that power to come upon them so that they cannot resist.

You remember I wrote you what a good time I had last May with my Bible women, who were relieved from school duties that month, going to the surrounding villages in an ox-cart every afternoon, and preaching the Gospel to the villagers. Well I am away this May, and so did not speak to them about going into the villages in my absence but Neila came to me the night before I came away and reminding me of that happy month's work, said she and Siamma wanted to go this May, and would I give them a little for bandy hire to go to the farther villages. I was so pleased and encouraged, and gave them a few rupees, and now from this hill-top I am asking the Lord to make them very faithful, and to open many hearts to receive His blessed word that they will preach to them. I am finding the rest to my brain doing me good, while I tramp up and down these hills for exercise. It is a grand thing that such a cool place can be found in this hot India, where we can come apart for a season for rest and renewal.

The teachers and pupils of Acadia Seminary have given me a very pleasant surprise, in sending me a donation towards the bell for our "School house Chapel" in Bobbili, when it is completed. I believe in a bell to call the people in to be taught, and to hear the Gospel, so mentioned the matter to Mrs. Laflamme. She wrote home about it, and, when Miss Graves heard of it she spoke to her young ladies, and with willing hearts they denied themselves of luxuries, perhaps necessities, and sent the money to Bobbili instead. So I have the *earnest*, as it were, for the bell in my hands, and have no doubt but the remainder to purchase one will come too. I am very grateful to the young ladies at Acadia for responding so nobly, and I have no doubt the Lord looked down and saw what sacrifices they made in giving it, and will honor their gifts by causing some souls to be led by the sound of that bell, to come into our chapel, and hear, and believe and be saved eternally.

BOBBILI.

The good man is again away. The older Missionary must not see his younger brethren houseless, so he hies him away to Kimeddy, to put a roof on the new mission house there.

The work at the station; day school, boarding, Sunday school, preaching and prayer meetings, &c., goes on under the superintendence of the Dorasany. The preachers, teachers, and Bible women are kept at work. The preacher on tour reports attentive listening to the Gospel, and one ready for baptism.

One caste young man in the town professes conversion. The annual prize giving to our school was held, February 22nd. 66 pupils, 3 of whom, 1 Hindu and 2 Christians, took the first prize for attendance.