

W. B. M. U.

Of The Maritime Provinces.

Communications for this Department should be addressed to Mrs. J. C. Redding, Yarmouth, N.S.

MOTTO FOR THE YEAR: "WORKERS TOGETHER WITH HIM."

PRAYER TOPIC FOR JANUARY.—*"Palomda and out stations. That Mr. Hardy may be sustained in his loneliness, and given great wisdom for all phases of his work. That God's blessing may be clearly manifested in the work of each home church during the coming New Year."*

NEW YEAR.

We wish all our fellow workers a happy New Year. Truest happiness is found in loyal service, and the consciousness of work well done. May God's richest blessing rest upon our W. B. M. U. during 1905.

"Another year of labor,
And labor not in vain;
For while the seed we've planted,
God gave the promised rain.
Toil on, O Christian workers,
To each and all we say,
Hold fast His hand, march onward,
Still trusting day by day."

LETTER FROM M. F. CHURCHILL.

BOBBILI, INDIA.

To the Readers of the Link:

MY DEAR SISTERS.—A request has come to me to write something about my Girls' School for the January Link.

I see in the letter I wrote for the LINK last October, that the Government Examinations in all the classes in my school were over for the year, except in the VII and IV Standards. This year we are under a different mode of supervision. Our Government grant is not dependent on the individual examination of the pupils as formerly, but we are under what is called the "Fixed Grant System." A certain sum is apportioned to the school, determined by the average of the grants earned in the last three years. The school has now been placed in the "Permanent Section," and so we have to receive our grant in this way; and all of our examinations will be held in December, except the IV Standard. Our school continues prosperous; but since the Maha Rajah of Bobbili started a Caste Girls' School here, most all the Brahmin pupils have gone to his school. One reason for this is, that most of the Brahmins in Bobbili are his depen-

dents. Some are supported by him for their attendance on the temple, which contains the great patron idol of Bobbili, "Gopala Swami." Others are his writers, clerks, teachers in his school and priests of his household. These all, as well as his Telegu Caste servants, must send their daughters to his school. Another reason is, that annually he gives costly prizes to some of the pupils, such as gold bracelets, armlets, ornaments for the hair, and a necklace to the most advanced scholar, as well as a suit of clothes to each of the pupils. So you will not wonder that it is harder now for us to keep Hindu pupils in our school, than formerly, when my Girls' School was the only one in town. We still have seven Brahmin pupils, and our roll always shows between 80 and 100 in attendance. Twenty-four are Christian children, and 18 of them are boarders, whom with four others attending another school, and one more are our boarding pupils, 23 in all, and many of them are supported by Mission Bands in the homeland. I often look at these children, in the Sabbath School and meetings, especially the 12 boys sitting together, and pray that the Lord will make them all truly His by faith in Christ, and use them for His glory, in the salvation of the heathen around them. This is the second year my daughter has been Head Mistress of the Girls' School, but we have now secured a qualified Head Master, a Brahmin. No others are available, and from January I expect he will be Head Master, and Bessie will be relieved for other work. She is a great help in all the work of the Mission, though not an appointed missionary. Every day the Bible is taught in the school by Christian teachers, all five of whom have been educated and trained in the school for work, and the pupils, with scarcely an exception, attended the Sabbath School. Often as we are singing the Christian hymns, and when every head is bowed in prayer, I cannot doubt but God is working in the hearts even of these small children, all of whom answer