

they themselves are objects of veneration and worship ; and to come down from their high estate to the level of the lowest outcast—as they must do if they become Christians, for there is no respect of persons with God—is neither natural nor easy.

The doors of their homes do not open very readily to these who bring Glad Tidings. After fifteen years or so of work among the women in Cocanada, the Brahman houses on the visiting list number only about half-a-dozen ; so when a new Brahman house is opened to the messengers of Christ, it brings great joy to their hearts.

Much has been said and written from time to time, I understand, as to the advisability or unadvisability of using the magic lantern in missionary work. Some have said, "Give up magic lantern exhibitions and preach the Gospel!" In this place the lantern has preached the Gospel, and very effectively too. Some four months ago Mr. Lafamme organized a regular magic lantern campaign, and night after night, at different preaching centres in the town, the lantern drew and held the crowds—chiefly caste men—that otherwise would not have listened to the Gospel.

Not long after, an unheard-of thing happened. A young Hindu lawyer, a Brahman, living in Jagganai-kapur, invited Mr. Lafamme to give an exhibition for women in his home. That he should invite a missionary—and a gentleman at that—when he knew that the Gospel of Christ would be preached, was remarkable ; doubly so, because his parents are living and gave their consent. It would be difficult to find many instances in which those of a former generation would be willing to fall in with the advanced ideas of their more liberal-minded sons.

But to permit Mr. Lafamme to talk to the women would be too radical a violation of their long-established prejudices, so Miss Murray and I were asked to explain the pictures.

The evening of Tuesday, November 1st, was fixed upon, and in the afternoon Mr. Lafamme sent up the slides in order that we might make a selection. After prayer for guidance we chose about thirty, ten of which were illustrative of the life of Christ—as follows :—the shepherd, the presentation in the temple, the visit of the wise men, the massacre of the children in Bethlehem, the cleansing of the temple, Jesus blessing little children, stilling the tempest, walking on the sea, the crucifixion and the ascension. The others were interesting views of people and places, on land and sea, in India and elsewhere ; but our interest centred in the ten, and we gave more time to explaining them, because some of those women might never hear again, and we needed to improve the precious opportunity.

The interest was well sustained throughout—about an

hour and a-half, I think—though at times it was manifested in remarks to one another that interrupted some what the addresses ; yet the order was wonderfully good, considering the fact that there was a goodly representation of the "small boy" element in the foreground. But these little fellows made us feel at home—one always feels at home among the children—and were a help, not a hindrance.

Some of our Christian hymns, suited to subjects illustrated, were introduced with good effect, and were much enjoyed as we afterwards learned.

The sheet for showing the views was stretched between two pillars in the square court or hall, enclosed by the living rooms on all sides. On one side of it, the table that held the lantern stood in front of a door—and behind that door—one of the young men of the house informed us, in a significant whisper—was the room where the women kept their gods ! There Mr. Lafamme stood, and from before the closed door of that dark room, the light—[Here we must stop, as the rest of the letter could not be found]—Ed.

[An accident befell this letter of Miss Baskerville's, for which we are very sorry, and we know our readers will be also, as it deprives them of some parts of a most interesting letter.

On our way to the post office the other day with a bundle of things to mail, we lost the envelope with copy for the printer. On returning to look for it, we found that the envelope had been opened, and the contents mutilated and scattered.

We have been able to piece up the largest part of Miss Baskerville's letter, and will have to leave you to imagine the rest. Miss Baskerville must write us another letter soon to compensate for our loss. What we have of this gives us a wonderful story. Just imagine those Brahmins inviting the missionary to give this entertainment to the women. In the latter part of the letter (which is lost) we remember Miss Baskerville said there were about a hundred present ; that one widow, who was ceremonially unclean and could not therefore come in with the other women, was allowed to sit on the veranda and see through the window.

Surely this means great progress in Cocanada!—Ed.

COCANADA, INDIA.

Mr. Lafamme writes in a private letter : "Misses Simpson and Morrow arrived on Monday, the 19th. They looked very well indeed and the plague inspection officer who examines every arrival from Bombay soon got through with two such healthy looking subjects, though the rule is that they must appear before a medical officer each day for ten days at least for inspection. So you see there is a real danger of infection from even