

the Word for the first time, and her aim has been to reach as many of these as possible, and to carry the gospel to the very many who have never heard of the love of God. Many in the Zenanas are well versed in the truth, they know the story of the Cross as well as any one. Some of these have evidently made up their minds not to give up their caste at any cost, but others are the best of listeners and although doers of the Word are held back by the power of caste from entering the church.

A number of the girls who have left school are glad to be visited and taught the Bible in their own homes, they are much more intelligent listeners than their ignorant and untidy elders. With their New Testaments they must exert a good influence. None of them are willing idol worshippers, and yet one family where both girls and the mother professed to believe, Miss Gibson was greatly discouraged on finding they had all gone on a pilgrimage some hundreds of miles away to pay vows which were made and premeditated long before. For a long time Miss Gibson kept away from them, but on hearing one was ill she went to see her. The girl threw her arms about her neck and wept bitterly, confessed her wrong-doing, said "we forsook the Lord and went after other gods to our hurt." She prayed and asked Miss Gibson to pray with her for forgiveness and cleansing, and promised to have nothing more to do with idol worship.

There are now a few houses where idolatry is not tolerated in any form, where it is a pleasure to read the Word of God, which is treasured up in the heart of the women who listen.

Miss Gibson says:—"The difficulty of teaching the women in their own homes has to be experienced to be understood. Each mother has the care of her own child who is anything but well trained. Many of the mothers are but children themselves. Often a neighbour will step in and want to talk, or perhaps pick up a quarrel about some trifle, so that it seems impossible to pray with them even where prayer is desired. The old deaf woman mentioned in last year's report continues to give wonderful testimony at times. She has been a widow since before she can remember, is so poor that she eats but one meal a day for want of a second one, is homeless and has not a single relative left, yet she will try to express her joy and fail for want of words. When asked how she can be so happy under the circumstances will exclaim, 'God loves me—old Looboo!' Wherever she goes she is constantly witnessing against idols, and for Christ."

Miss Beggs like Miss Gibson meets with disappointments as well as encouragements in her visiting. Her old pupils are a joy to her, and many of the women in the homes are eager to hear the truth, have given up idol worship, love to hear of Jesus and His love and say they never forget what she tells them, and yet one woman had a shrine in an inner room of her house and on it eight idols. Another told Miss

Beggs that she had given up doing puja but at certain times of the year got another woman to do it for her, as she feared the people would be down on her. Some women are really anxious about their eternal welfare. As a mother listens every night to her little girl, who attends Sunday School, repeat the hymns and verses learned there, the seed is wafted to soil on which it was not sown and the Word of God reaches the homes of those who perhaps are not visited. Cunumma longs to confess her Saviour more openly and is praying that the Lord may open the way for her. We are glad in the confident hope that He will do it in His own good time.

TIMPANY MEMORIAL SCHOOL.

After sixteen years of constant devotion with scarcely any rest on the hills, Miss Folsom has come home on her second furlough. Mrs. Woodburne very thoughtfully and unselfishly volunteered to take the work, but was not in it three months before the health of Dr. Woodburne compelled them to leave for Conoor. A few weeks after their return in July, Mrs. Woodburne was prostrated with enteric fever from which she has not yet recovered. The missionaries were fortunate in securing the assistance of a Miss Miller, but her services can not be retained after the close of this year. The missionaries plead with us very earnestly to send a teacher out at once. Such a one is ready to go, the money to send her is on hand, but the income of the Society has fallen so badly behind on this our silver anniversary instead of increasing, that the prospect of supporting another missionary seems, humanly speaking, hopeless. And yet the promise of blessing is conditional on our "bringing all the tithes into My storehouse that there may be meat in My barns."

TUNI.

Miss Priest writes:—"The year was a more trying one than any before experienced on account of famine. Every day we were face to face with the fact that God was dealing in judgment with these people. There is reason to believe that many are coming to realize, to some extent at least, that their idols are powerless to help them.

"The year has witnessed better hearing both in Tunj itself and out through the district. While on tour in November we visited a large village where many call us and amongst them an old woman and her daughter who had somewhere heard a little of the true way. At the first visit we made they listened so carefully and told us they did not know very much yet, but were worshipping the true God the best they knew how. This time the old woman told me that after we went away last year, she thought so much of what we had read from our Book and when she laid down to sleep she prayed to Jesus to give her some sign, to appear to her in some way, as she knew so