

sing hymns with each family we visit. Some of these women are taught to read and write, also plain knitting and fancy work. We have many more calls than we can respond to, not being able to obtain efficient and trustworthy women as helpers for this work.

My sister and I hold a meeting for prayer and bible study for women (only), on Wednesday afternoons. Quite a number of heathen women attend, and they appear to appreciate the bible stories and the hymns very much. In some of these hymns they join very heartily and seem to understand what is taught in them. Many of these women have improved much in their personal appearance. Some of them belong to the better class and are seldom allowed out. Occasionally a few of our native Christian women help in taking part in these meetings. The average attendance during the past year was over forty weekly. Besides this we have two widows and seven children who are being supported and educated by private contributions here, so that they may earn their own living.

My sister Minnie, besides her school and visiting, has a great number of patients, to whom she dispenses simple medicines, both here and in the villages. Some of the people come miles to be treated, bringing their children with them in carts drawn by bullocks, and sometimes riding on ponies, eastern fashion. These villagers have great faith in her treatment. She often carries medicines with her when visiting the different villages, and doubtless this is one of the reasons why she is welcomed so warmly by these poor people.

You must have heard ere this of my sister Katie's marriage, she was united to the Rev. George McKelvie, on the morning of December 10, 1889, at the Mission Bungalow. We miss her from among us very much. Though she is still engaged in the work.

Difficulties of the Work at File Hills.

FILE HILLS, ASSA., *March 14, 1890.*

MR. ALEX. SKENE.—Your kind letter of January 17th came to hand. In reply, I will endeavour to give you a short account