

# **FORTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY**

Madame President and ladies:—

We have grown so accustomed to hearing the phrase "The East moves slowly" that unconsciously, we look for little or no change in the conditions of our work from year to year; and yet there are many of us who can remember when perhaps, only twenty years ago, the general tenor of our reports was vastly different from what it is today.

We remember when the burden of our prayer was that the door would be opened for the Gospel—that the caste women would be allowed to receive our missionaries into their homes, to teach them—that the parents could be prevailed upon to send their little girls as well as the boys, to school—that the village people would not be afraid to come openly and freely to the meetings and, generally, for the breaking down of the caste system which was the great barrier to the entrance of the Word.

We do not need to pray after that manner today.

The caste women are everywhere eager to learn and welcome the missionary, and even the low-caste Biblewomen, to their homes.

The children are flocking to the school in larger numbers than we can accommodate—there is now no lack of an audience when the missionary tours the villages. We hear of crowds everywhere, crowds at the open-air meetings, pleading for regular systematic teaching.

Yes, the East is moving. "The old order changeth, yielding place to new; and God fulfills Himself in many ways."

Now the cry everywhere is for trained workers, and more trained workers, for, as education is spreading into the villages, the teachers of all grades must be relatively better educated to cope with the growing need.

The wives of our teachers must be train-

ed Christian workers, so there must be a girl's training school, where these girls may take a course, after they pass through Boarding School.

The Biblewomen must be able to teach, speak and sing, so there must be a Biblewomen's Training School.

There must be Industrial Schools where boys can be trained to earn a livelihood for at present India offers little to those who have the courage to break away from the traditions of the past.

And it is another significant fact that the subject of Devolution is receiving the careful attention of our missionaries and a "method, sensible and systematic is shaping itself for the transferring of a larger share of the responsibility to the Indian church."

Such are some of the changed conditions of our work today, and we will hear more about them as we follow the reports from our missionaries.

## **Akidi**

### **Boarding School—Miss S. A. Hinman**

"Most of our readers know that we single lady missionaries have homes of our own out here. Just why we should need them and how we use them may not be so clearly understood. Miss Selman and I rejoice in the McArthur Bungalow, and as I spend more time in it, I have special reason to be grateful for it. As a basis for this report I propose to propound the riddle: "When is a home not a home?"

1. When it is a prayer hall. Each Tuesday at 2 p.m. the Christian women of the neighborhood may be seen seated on mats in our little drawing-room where they sing, learn a Bible lesson, and then pray. Did I tell you when at home of the woman who from sheer self-consciousness burst out laughing when trying to pray? You should hear her now.

Each morning at 7.30 the two Biblewomen and our helpers at the bungalow gather in my room for family worship. We have a hymn, study the S. S. lesson and take turns in leading in prayer.