

*promise* anything, said they would, and sure enough when we were taking our breakfast next morning a number of them came on to the veranda, smiling, and looking in at us. I told them to sit down on the benches outside, and I would come soon. There were about a dozen women, and as it was not time for our morning worship, I sat quite near to them and thought I would talk a little, while the servants and workmen who live on the place were assembling. To about half of them it was their first religious meeting, and they must laugh awhile at the newness of everything; but soon got interested in what I was trying to tell them. They know nothing about a spiritual God or His religion—have no reverence in their make up, so of course listened to, and talked over, what I was saying to them as if I were talking about anything else. I tried to give them some idea about there being one God and He everywhere, seeing at the same time my friends in America, and us here in India; that He is holy and we are sinful; that there are two places where our spirits may go after our bodies die, and that we can make a choice; that our hearts are all sinful, but God can take these away and give us new hearts, and that we must ask Him to do this for us. I then said I would ask God, so as to show them how and to give them an idea of prayer. I closed my eyes and began to pray in Telugu, but before I had uttered two sentences one began to laugh, and then another, and another, so that I thought it best to cease. As soon as I opened my eyes every face straightened out, but as I looked sadly at them each one began to blame her neighbour, till finally, all pounced on one large woman and said she was very wicked—it was all her fault, and no one would sit beside her. Of course she retaliated with hard words, evil looks and gestures, and this too in a religious meeting with my heart yearning over them for their salvation. In a very short time I got them quiet and then went over the points I had made before, and tried to get them to take them in, so that they might remember them. They repeated the words after me, and said they would not forget them, and would come again next Sunday to learn more.

The next day I was standing near where they were *pounding chunam*, and I heard one and another saying, "*Yasu Christu*" over, as if trying not to forget it. I asked who that was, and they said, "The Son of God." These were women of ordinary intelligence belonging to one of the respectable lower castes.

M. F. CHURCHILL.

## THE WORK AT HOME.

### Ontario and Quebec.

THE PRESIDENT of the Women's Society of Ontario, is desirous of bringing to the remembrance of the sisters, the request for prayer made by Mrs. Timpany in the letter published last month; and would affectionately suggest that the Girls' School at Cocanada be made the object of special prayer, both at the Circle meetings and in private, during the ensuing month or six weeks. Let all unite in earnest supplication that Mrs. Timpany may be granted wisdom, strength and grace rightly to discharge her responsible duties; that those girls who have believed and been baptized may be kept faithful; that many may be led to enter the school; that all may

become children of God, and from its ranks a band of earnest Christian women may be sent forth to make known among their country-women the knowledge of the glorious Gospel of the blessed God.

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD of the Foreign Missionary Society of Ontario and Quebec have sent the following circular to the churches:—

DEAR BRETHREN,—For the last few years we have obtained the services of several ministerial brethren to canvass different churches, in behalf of the funds of our Foreign Missionary Society.

While brethren so employed have rendered very efficient aid, we have found it increasingly difficult to secure their services. In view of this fact the Executive have for this year engaged brother John R. Coutts for five months to collect funds for the Society. He begins his work on the 1st of April, and will, as far as possible, visit all outlying districts. Brother McLaurin and the Secretary will visit centres.

We bespeak for him a hearty and liberal response from the churches.

Signed in behalf of the Executive of the Foreign Missionary Society.

T. S. SHENSTON, *President*.  
JAMES COUTTS, *Secretary*.

Toronto, March 15, 1881. T. DIXON CRAIG, *Treasurer*.

TORONTO.—On Friday evening, the 11th of March, the mission circles of Toronto and Yorkville held a very pleasant and profitable meeting in the Parliament Street Church. Mrs. Ebbles presided. Mrs. H. H. Humphrey made an earnest and stirring address on individual responsibility and consecration to the work. Several papers were read; earnest prayer for the mission was offered, and all departed feeling that their zeal had been quickened, and that it was good thus to meet together.

PETROLIA, ONT.—A Missionary Circle was organized in this place on Wednesday afternoon, the 16th of March. Fourteen members enrolled themselves.

The officers are as follows:—Mrs. Chesney, *President*; Mrs. Perkins, *Vice-President*; Miss Pratt, *Treasurer*; Miss McLure, *Secretary*.

The usual Committee were appointed to carry on the work, which will no doubt be very efficiently done under their management.—Miss McLure, *Secretary*.

### Maritime Provinces.

OUR THANKS are due to Rev. J. E. Hopper, of the "Visitor Book Room," St. John, N.B., for kindly sending us the *Baptist Year Book* of the Maritime Provinces for 1880. It contains a large amount of valuable information.

CLARENCE, ANNAPOLIS CO., N. S.—It is eight years since the organization of our Society, and it is very satisfactory to be able to report that our meetings have generally been well attended, our membership kept up and the interest in the cause of missions very well sustained; whilst through the various papers and essays read, and the prayers offered, we have enjoyed, by the blessing of our Heavenly Father, many very profitable seasons.