

much pleasure. Lizzie's birthday was on December 10th, and they used the dishes to have a tea party on their kindergarten table their father made them several years ago. We hope some day to get a photo taken of a similar tea party, and then we will send you one. The bags and pincushions will be nearly all used up this week in Christmas gifts for the station lads, also some of the Scripture and Xmas cards. Those small Scripture cards Mr. Read means to go over carefully and print with a pen the titles in Umbindu, so that the boys can read and see what the picture is about. They like those cards to use as book-marks. The paper dolls have already given and will continue from time to time to give pleasure to the missionaries' children, our own and others. Some we keep for occasional treats in kindergarten. The scrap books, colored paper and card, patch work, sample buttons, wool, cambric sheets for cards will all be very useful indeed in the various schools. I want to give special thanks for that bag of buttons. The beads are a delight to the girls, but those buttons have repeatedly amused baby Arthur when I have been busy. So if you ever send a parcel to a missionary family where there are very little folks, be sure such a bag would be most welcome. One of the pretty mugs is to be given this week to our station baby, a year old daughter of a young married man who came with his wife some eight months ago to live here and learn the words. The other mug will be saved for some future time. We keep Xmas for our little ones on Monday, but for the station young people on Wednesday. Please accept our loving greetings from your far-away members, Lizzie, Emma, Esther and Arthur, as well as from their father and mother.

From Miss Helen J. Melville.

AFRICAN SUPERSTITIONS.

For chest troubles in children.—Several peanuts or squash seeds on a string around the neck; when the string breaks of itself the child is considered well.

For itch.—A copper ring on child's right wrist and left ankle *vice versa*.

To keep a baby from crying.—Two branches of a certain kind of tree that have been tahaed over placed on either side of the door posts.

For throat diseases.—Chicken bones worn on the neck.

To prevent an entrance of evil spirits.—Little pieces of wood, bone, horn, etc., prepared by a fetish doctor, worn on the neck.

A preventive of various evils.—A pot of water sunk in the ground of house or yard, with an aloes plant by the side of it, in which the individual washes himself or his implement as gun or hoe.