

INDIA.

Growth of the Medical Work.

FROM DR. MARGARET MCKELLAR.

*Neemuch, April 13, 1893.*

The Leaflet calls for two letters annually from each of our Missionaries, so if I am to be counted among the faithful I must write this week.

At this moment, as I write, I have no doubt but that the "City of Edinburgh" is weighing anchor in the Bombay harbor and Dr. Oliver is one of the homeward-bound. You will soon have her with you, so that our temporary loss will be your gain.

The days of shut-up-doors, *pankhas*, *tatties* and loose flowing robes are upon us. From morning till evening the hot wind, *luh*, blows a perfect blast. It is said that the hot season is by far the healthiest among the natives and the lessened number on the register verify this statement. For comfort's sake it is well that this is so, for only the morning hours are fit to work in.

At present small-pox is raging here, but this does not increase the work, for the natives do not believe in taking medicine for it, but believe in making offerings and praying to the god who presides over it.

To-day I was made to feel very anxious over one of my patients. Her friends, by mistake, put the liniment instead of the lime-water which I had given, into the milk and gave it to her to drink. I feel like shaking them all for their stupidity.

Yesterday, a lad of about ten, brought a beautiful bunch of flowers to the dispensary. On being asked what he was going to do with them, answered, "Lay them before the god in the temple so that he will cause my eyes to be made better." Then followed a talk on the sinfulness of idol worship and the fact was pointed out to him that the true God had blessed the means used in the dispensary, and that in a day or two his eyes would be quite cured. He was thoughtful for a little while, as if weighing what he had heard, then he gave me the flowers. To-day he came again but had no offering for the god.