

MISS ROSS' WORK IN MHOW.

WHEN I returned to Indore I went into the dirty, dusty city, and was warmly welcomed by many an old friend.

I opened a school, and although the number on the roll soon reached fifty-five it was difficult to induce half that number to attend regularly. As the heat increased we found the small place we used as a school-room very uncomfortable. But we feared that on leaving it the owner, because of the loss of the rent, would tell the children not to come to our school again. They have much power over each other in that way. Fortunately for me I got so ill one day with the heat that I had to close school and go home. The people then said, no, I could not teach there, and cheerfully allowed me to go to better quarters which I had just secured.

We began work here on the first of December. I am very glad to be associated with Miss Dr. Fraser, whose zeal and energy is an inspiration.

The Misses Stockbridge have done nobly, and the fruit of their labors is seen in many ways. They have opened three hundred houses in Mhow and the surrounding villages.

I have charge of three schools. In the one in Mhow there is a daily attendance of one hundred and forty. In Pensionpura thirty-five, and Kisanpura seventeen. In the large school English, Gujarati, Marathi and Hindi are taught. This is necessary as the children wish to learn to read in their mother tongue. Dr. Fraser has in addition to her medical work taken charge of the senior English division, which is a great relief to me, as the vernacular classes require so much attention.

I have paid over seventy visits since we came here, and we have gone together in the evenings to several villages with medicine for the sick and news of eternal salvation through Jesus Christ. But alas! many are slow to hear and slow to think of the priceless value of eternal life.

We were delighted to welcome Miss McWilliams and Dr. O'Hara.

UJJAIN, BY REV. DR. BUCHANAN.

WHEN in March, 1891, the weather became too hot for us to live longer in tents, Mrs. Buchanan took our little boy and went to Mhow. I rented a native house in the city until the close of school, only running down to Mhow from time to time. Going back and forward between Mhow and Ujjain on a pass given by the R. R., I distributed a great number of Hindi and Urdu tracts. After the rains we got started to build the long wished for and much needed bungalow, and when the cold weather again returned we once more took up our abode here in tents. The bungalow work has gone on satisfactorily. The first storey is of stone and is very substantial. Though stone here, as elsewhere, is much more expensive than brick, still I have pleasure to report that owing to two or three good opportunities I expect to put up the building for less than the cost of a brick one. We are having it larger than would be otherwise necessary, in order that Mrs. Buchanan may have a nice large room for a dispensary in the bungalow.

Services have been held in the vernacular on Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays in the mission school, and during the cold weather we had an English service in our tents each Sunday.

Preaching in the mohallas and in the villages has been carried on more or less regularly without any difficulties or interference by any persons. With five stations already opened up and only five men here to fill them we have been

compelled to give up the idea of going to the Bheels.

Sunday School.—Practically all the pupils of the whole school, Anglo-Vernacular, Middle and High School, come regularly to the Sunday School. The course of study has been the international lessons. Through the kindness of Mr. Fotheringham, Convenor of the Committee on Higher Religious Instruction, our students were allowed to appear for examination. Three appeared in English and three others in their vernaculars. Three of the Christian teachers also took the examination. When once, though late, the idea got hold of them that they were really going to write on papers set for boys in Canada we had a splendid stimulus for work. The pupils of our school get up the daily Bible lessons as a regular task, but the Sunday School lessons have always been much less carefully studied. The committee therefore have our sincerest thanks for giving us what is proving to be an effectual lever in the accomplishment of these weekly lessons. Our head master has been interesting the school in a little fellow in Ceylon, whose expenses at school are partly paid by our school. The boys bring their cowries and some of them their pice, and though the whole giving in this direction is a trifle, still it is one way of practically teaching Hindoos and Mahomedans that divine love which is broader than castes or tribes and nations.

The ordinary school work has gone on much the same as last year. The school now includes all the grades from lowest form vernaculars and English to the entrance examination.

A number of our boys and men theoretically know the way of salvation, seem fully persuaded of the truth of Christianity, and, at times, almost persuaded to be Christians. The irresolute, affectionate Hindoo finds it especially difficult to take a step that will cut him off from his relatives and friends. Hence Satan fills their minds with, to them, very valid excuses, for *not now* becoming out-and-out followers of Jesus. One of them yesterday, after a somewhat extensive tour over India with an aged relative visiting Hindoo sacred shrines, told me that he found that "only ignorant persons visit these shrines."

In August, 1890, Mr. McKelvie sent an orphan boy to us to be trained in our school, and also sent from friends of Mrs. Builder, money for his clothing, books, food, &c. The work then begun has almost unwittingly grown, and this year we have had as many as seven boys at a time. Their support, except for teachers, which they enjoy in common with other boys, has not been charged to the mission. All of them are either orphans or are so poor as not to be able to get any help whatever from their homes. One of them was supported last year by the Kilgour Brothers, of Toronto, and four of them to the end of December, 1891, were supported by Mr. McKelvie and the Misses Stockbridge. Two poor boys, the children of Hindoo parents, were taken in on the understanding that they could be taken out at any time the parents wished. The elder of the two, Gangadhur, a lad of about ten years, paid very noticeable attention to religious instruction, and declared himself to be a Christian. He was not baptized, but shortly after, during the cholera epidemic, he took the disease. As with cholera patients generally his mind remained clear and active to the end. When his little body was racked by pain and cramps one of the native Christians told him not to be afraid. His sweet, trustful reply was, "No, I will not be afraid, Jesus is my friend." After a few hours illness, reconciled as we fully believe to God, he passed away to be forever with his new and tried Friend.