

Still, from time to time people came in to see what we were doing. I have often been amused at persons coming in apparently in great haste, and asking if I would not teach certain girls; but although I always said I would, in many cases they never appeared. Another would enter, look about him, and say: I see none of my caste here, until I do I cannot send my daughter. Each caste seemed to greatly fear remarks of censure from its members. The numbers continued to increase. Now there are eighty-one names on the roll, but the daily attendance only ranges from twenty-five to thirty-four. At times they go out so often to dine with their caste people that the attendance of the majority is very irregular, but they cannot be induced to give up the practice at once. When I first brought desks, one little girl thought that they were to be used as seats and that the seats were for footstools and acted accordingly. It was rather laughable to see her perched up on her high seat. The dolls which the ladies so kindly sent out have been a source of great interest and attraction. It was surprising to see how closely they inspected them. Since the dolls have been given the attendance has increased, and the hope is that it will go on improving. At first none would buy their books, but lately over a dozen have paid for theirs, the Christian Vernacular Series is used. The house I have now is very much better than the former one, the landlord has had a wall taken down and one room enlarged which is a great convenience.

Through the pupils admission is gained to the homes. I have received invitations which I have not yet responded to, I have not got a Bible Woman and so alone I cannot overtake all the visiting. I go to twenty houses and six Mohullas. Miss McKenzie, a young woman who lives in Indore, assists me at school, but as yet does not do any visiting. The little maidens here have not been accustomed to school, so that one person cannot satisfactorily teach as many as can be taught in a school at home. A number of the mothers do say that they get their requests granted by going to the temples and doing poojah; others confess that it is quite useless, but assert that they cannot give it up and stand alone among so many. With God all things are possible when His grace enters their hearts they will be enabled to walk in His ways. A few days ago when

a woman was expressing her belief in a very common saying "your religion is good for you, our religion is good for us," and speaking of how their books instructed them to love God and be kind to their fellow-men was shown that we could not separate ourselves, that Jesus Christ was the only true Saviour, that white people too before they knew God worshipped idols, and that those of them who did not believe on Him would not be saved, she appeared to think that what I said was more likely to be true. The superstition of ages has a great and strong influence over the minds of the people.

A number of widows have asked me to teach them to read, two were the wives of goldsmiths, their homes are very close. I asked one to come into the other house so that I could give them their lesson together and thus save time, she replied that she could not go out of the house she was in until her husband had been dead twelve months. Rangie, of whom I spoke in my last report, is very severely treated since her marriage. Her mother-in-law does not allow her to attend school as she promised, nor does she even permit her to come to see her mother. Her friends expressed their regret to me that they did not put her into the Boarding School instead of having her married. There is very great need of a building for that purpose.

REPORT OF MISS MINNIE STOCK-BRIDGE.

Nothing worthy of special notice took place from the time of my last report until April when my new school was opened by the Rev. Mr. Builder, assisted by the Rev. Mr. Murray. Among those present to witness the opening ceremonies were Major General Gillespie and Colonel Gibbs. Both seemed pleased with the building for although only temporary it is large and airy. We have been able to put it up and furnish it for less than 400 rupees, the whole of which has been raised in India through the liberality of friends.

The attendance during the year has not been so high as we had anticipated, but it has been more regular than last year. We cannot expect large numbers as the village is small. However, our average has been twenty girls and twelve boys, which is encouraging.

Several girls who attended last year