

## Our Work Abroad.

### ZENANA WORK REPORT, JANUARY TO THE END OF JUNE, 1908.

"Behold I am the Lord the God of all flesh.  
Is there anything too hard for me."



THE work of the past half year has been in many respects of the deepest interest to those of us who are laboring amongst the Hindu women of Jagannaipore. It is true that we cannot point to this or that one who has openly confessed Christ to gladden the hearts of our dear readers, but we can see in many cases a real interest in the Word of God underlying an outward apparent carelessness; we do believe that the Spirit of the Lord is moving upon the face of the waters. I think it is an evident sign that the hand of our God is upon us for good when we consider that over ninety families who are so bigoted and who at one time suspected us, and had their doors closed against us, should invite us to their houses every week and listen to the reading of the Gospel. Although it is a well known fact that we will not visit where we are not allowed to read the Bible, still we are continually being asked to go to fresh houses. I know that for our dear readers especially, details of the work are far more interesting than generalities, so I will endeavor in a few words to mention a few individual cases.

Subamma, a widow about fifty years of age, belongs to a family formerly very wealthy, but now in very reduced circumstances. I had been visiting her regularly every week for over four years, and during that time we became very much attached to one another. It was quite a refreshment to me when the day came round for me to see her. Almost as soon as I entered and exchanged salutations with her she would say, "Now read me a story from your book (meaning the Bible), and a more attentive listener it would be impossible to find. For about an hour we would sit reading and arguing, and sometimes I was cheered and sometimes saddened, as she agreed or disagreed with what I said. One day she said to me, "I am trusting in the Saviour, and I am praying to Him to take me to Himself, and I have not forgotten the prayer you have taught me." "God be merciful to me a sinner."

Another dear woman who had never heard the gospel before I went to her seemed to drink in every word of the Good Tidings and received it as simply and faithfully as a little child. How often has she asked me anxiously, "O, Missamma, do you think I shall get on, and be able to read soon, so that I may be able to read the Bible for myself." I promised her a New Testament as soon as she finished the 2nd Telugu book which she had just began.

Another dear woman said, "I feel so very happy when I see you the burden and worries of my heart fly away. and when I hear those precious truths from your Book, I feel so comforted that I quite forget my troubles, and then I wish to leave this world and fly away to heaven and stay there. I have no desire to remain on earth now." I said to her, "If you believe in Jesus Christ, you will certainly be received into heaven after your present life is ended." Then she said, "I believe in Him, He is my Saviour."

After this two women came and said, "We have come to hear the words you speak and to hear you sing." One of them was a widow and one a married woman. The latter said to me: "For a long time I have wished you to visit me and have tried very much to get permission, but my people will not agree to it for which I am very sorry. I see that the Christian religion is very excellent; our religion deceives us. To-day I had the opportunity of coming to see you, and listen to God's words from your mouth."

We felt very glad on hearing all this and related to them the glad tidings of salvation. After listening to these things twice repeated they seemed very pleased and asked us to come again soon, as they were very desirous of hearing more. We then sang a couple of hymns, and I was very glad to see that these people tried to sing and even those who could not sing tried to bring out a little sound. God be thanked that Hindu women should praise and glorify Him. I called to mind Christ's blessed words that "if these (the people of the Jews) should hold their peace the very stones would cry out."

The number of houses stands the same as last year, 92. Happy to record that my pupils are progressing nicely in their studies.