

I had to write up! This year it is "Household Decoration." I had for my theme, "Front Hall Stairs." I had no idea so much time and talent had been spent in the construction of stairs. I shall remember my paper on the stairs, not only for the time and trouble I put into the writing of it, but because of the remark of that well-meaning but uncultured Mrs. Blunt. Our ladies sent her here to see if I could assist in making clothes for Sunday-school children. Fearing she would consider me indifferent to such good work, and that she might see for herself how absolutely impossible it was for me to help them, I told her what I was doing, and pointed to the pile of books I must look through for the needed information on the construction and styles of stairs, when she coolly replied: "I hope you will be able to tell those ladies how to build a pair of stairs long enough and strong enough, and of the proper style to carry you all to heaven!"

I must paint a little to keep my hand and eye in practice. I am sorry I have had to give my music up, for they often want some one at the organ in Circle meeting or in the choir on Sunday, and one pair of mortal hands can't do everything, and I am sure I don't see how I am to take an afternoon each month to visit the poor, as our pastor asked us to do. It seems as if to the busiest come extra calls. Mrs. Manse has actually urged me to take charge of her mission band. She knows I have a faculty with little children. I am sure I wish I could do many things for my Saviour; my heart aches to see His cause lag. If Mrs. Manse or any one else could look into my life as I am now doing, I know they would see no time for more of even my Master's work. Then the question is, all things considered, am I robbing God?

Remember fancy work is not wrong. Art Clubs and Shakespeare Clubs are not wrong, only as we give to them more time than we give to our Lord, at whose feet we voluntarily laid the service of our lives. Let us be honest with God: He will be reasonable with us.—*For. Miss. Journal.*

The First Native Lady L. R. C. P. E.

Last week we had the pleasure of quoting a few extracts from a leader in the *Hindu* speaking in high terms of the rapid progress made by the Native Christian community. In connection with this we remarked that "native Christian females are not availing themselves of a medical training to an extent we would desire." Now, however, it is most gratifying to learn from the following paragraph which is at present going the round of Madras and other Indian papers that the Edinburgh School of Medicine for Women has just produced the first native lady L. R. C. P. E. The paragraph which is from the *Edinburgh Scotsman* reads as follows:—

"The first student of the Edinburgh School of Medicine for Women has just passed successfully, and with special credit, the final examinations for the Scottish triple qualification, and is now entitled to place her name upon the medical register. It is of additional interest that the student, Miss Annie Jagannadham, is also the first Hindu lady who has ever completed her medical studies in this country, or who has ever registered as a medical practitioner in Great Britain. Miss Jagannadham studied for three years in Madras, and has subsequently spent two more years in the Surgeon Square school, where for the last year she acted as demonstrator of anatomy."

Miss Jagannadham is the second of the three daughters of the Rev. P. Jagannadham of Vizagapatam, the others

being Mrs. Lazarous of Waltair, and Mrs. Shrinivassa of Palamcottah, the latter of whom was the first native lady to pass the F. A. examination of the Madras University. Miss Jagannadham, L. R. C. P. E., was also the first native lady matriculate in this Presidency. She studied for sometime in the Local Medical College, but had to pass through severe domestic trial in consequence of the illness and death of a brother of hers. It was, however, at the call of duty and somewhat against her own inclination that the young lady, who, by the way, is not very robust-looking, made up her mind to go to the far west and continue her studies at Edinburgh. Her career there has been very successful in spite of another sad trial she had to pass through at the commencement of her new curriculum. It is really remarkable how this delicate young Indian lady, far away from home and friends, could have held her own against her more fortunate fellow pupils, and by dint of industry and intelligence carried off the highest prizes and scholarships of her class. It is only another evidence of the marvellous effects of Christianity on the minds of even Hindu girls. We offer our most hearty congratulations to Mr. Jagannadham and wish a highly successful and useful career to his talented daughter.—*The Christian Patriot, Madras.*

The Women.

Napoleon had his Imperial Guard, who were held in reserve till a critical moment, and then were sent into battle on a full charge to turn the tide. God has His imperial guard. They are women, spiritual amazons, a host with banners. Our great societies are now feeling the support of this mighty reserve. They are now coming to the help of the Lord at just the right time. It is not the amount of money they give, as the spiritual help of their faith, and prayer, and organized influence. The nerve of missions never will be cut by women. All the speculations in the world will not affect her faith in Jesus Christ. Her spiritual instincts carry her through all hindrances. If she ever assented with her head to any false doctrine, her heart would be the same old orthodox heart. And so is the practical balance-wheel of the world. A man's enthusiasm rises and falls with his opinions. A woman's zeal overrides all opinion, and strikes at the centre of what needs to be done. In Christian work and in mission work she is just what she is at home. She says, "John, if you don't do this, I will." And it is the influence of that that makes John do his duty. Woman's work and woman's influence are two distinct factors. Humanly speaking she is the religious light of the great majority of homes, and she has an eye on the family pocket-book, not only market days but Sundays, when the Lord's box goes round. It is wonderful how she will save, and it is wonderful how she will give. God is looking down and sees a great many men who are beginning to distrust their theological armor, and to lose their fighting qualities, and God is giving the command to women to go forth in that weakness which is the real strength of God and the Gospel. A woman doesn't care anything about the philosophical nerve of missions; but she knows how to take the direct road from the heart of Jesus to the perishing world. And I expect her voice and influence are going to increase as her work and gifts have increased the past few years. The hopeful sign today is the advance of this imperial guard, which is destined to keep the work strictly along evangelical lines, and give a mighty spiritual impetus to it.—*Home Missionary.*