

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.

Central India.

Difficulties in Medical Mission Work.

FROM DR. MAGGIE MCKELLAR.

Neemuch, C.I., Jan. 1, 1894.

A Happy New Year to all the readers of the LEAFLET. Grant that whether in Canada or India, our prayer may be :

“ Another year is dawning ;
Dear Master, let it be,
In working or in waiting,
Another year with Thee.”

Christmas has come and gone and it has been the brightest and happiest that many of us have spent in this land, because God has given us proof that all the words which we have spoken in the past have not been in vain. What a glorious day it will be for India when Christmas will mean to her what it does to our hearts ; then there will be no need of one saying to another, “ know the Lord.”

If hearing the Word meant receiving it, then many in the last few months would have been named by the name of Jesus. From fifty to a hundred hear the Gospel every day in the dispensaries. Many, I know, have to listen against their wills. I have found that we might have, to all appearance, a very attentive audience, but when asked individually about what had been said, they could not tell. In the first pause, a new patient would be sure to ask one, or all, if allowed, of the following questions : “ Has the Dr. Miss Sahib made her marriage yet ? ” or, “ Why does she not wear rings, bracelets and earrings ? ” or “ How does she get into her dress ? ” or “ What makes her skin so white and has she medicine to make mine white like that ? ”

I am adopting a plan now, the success of which I will be better able to tell a month hence. After the service, and when they come to me for their medicine, if they cannot tell me something