

During the present year a band of the "Loyal Temperance Legion" has been started among the boys. All the older boys in the boarding department and some of the day scholars have joined it. They meet once a month, and one evening each week their regular evening prayers takes the form of a temperance prayer-meeting which is led by one of the teachers. They plan to have an open meeting or concert once in three months to keep up the interest and have an opportunity to develop their various talents.

Though none of the boys have been baptized this year, some of the older ones profess to be converted, and among them two heathen boys who attend the day school have in various ways given evidence of a change of heart.

May these two prove to be the first sheaves of a rich harvest of souls.

#### A GROUP OF GIRLS FROM THE COCKSHUTT GIRLS' SCHOOL.

*My Dear Young Friends:*—Do you see this group of girls? They are all very sweet girls to me, especially those in the middle row who are in my class. When this photo was taken, cholera was in the town, and several girls were not then attending the school, and so are not in the picture, and one little girl, Subbamma, was so long dressing and putting on her many jewels that she was too late. Too bad wasn't it? Some very kind ladies from Woodstock sent these girls some dolls last year, and I only wish you could have seen how delighted they were over them. Their faces shone for days after, and they shine now if dolls are mentioned. The other day when one of them brought her dolly to school to make some new garments for it, she was followed by an admiring, envying crowd of other girls and boys.

You will perhaps be glad to know about the different girls in the group. It is only about two years since the school was opened, but three of these girls expect to pass into the Third Book at Christmas, perhaps before you read this. The others are in the First, infant and kindergarten classes. The central girl of the picture is Seemamma, the Ranees' adopted daughter. She is our most beautiful writer. The one to her right is Lakshmidēvi, the cleverest girl in the school. She can repeat a good Bible story illustrated by the pictures after hearing it only once. The one to her right is P. Mahalakshine, our best sewer. She makes her own jackets and skirts. You may see the jacket she has on, which is tied in a knot half way down her waist. She does very fine hemming and back stitching, and also wool-work on



A Group of Girls in Cockshutt Girls' School.

canvas. Seshamma sits on her right and is a little orphan of the barber caste. To the right of the Ranees' daughter are the Apothecary's daughter, Tulsi Ram in the middle row and her two sisters above and below. These three are all good singers and sing together very sweetly. To their left is a daughter of a dancing girl caste woman. One sitting below the Ranees' daughter is of the jeweller caste and is the only one of these who are married. Three little girls on the top row to the left are from the Rajah, barber, and shepherd castes and though they are so small they can sing seven or eight hymns and action songs by heart, and tell of Jesus' birth, and of the shepherds and the wise men. The others are of the fishermen and iron-monger castes.

Will you not pray for all these little girls that they may receive Jesus in their hearts as they give testimony of Him with their lips? Some of them, you see, have the caste mark, or as some say, the mark of the beast on their foreheads, and they also lose many days at school because they must attend the idol feasts of the household. Is not this very sad? Let us pray then for the conversion of these dear little ones.

Your dear friend in Christ,

S. I. HATCH.

#### THE COCKSHUTT GIRLS' SCHOOL

This school for girls, in the town of Ramachandrapuram was opened in July, 1898, through means provided by Mr. I. Cockshutt, of Brantford, who has supported all the Bible Women's work on this field, for many years, besides providing funds for Bible examination prizes, famine relief and various other objects. For this reason we thought it good to call the school by his name. We have rented a house in a very central position on the main street. The interest on a claim we have on the place partly pays for the rent. The house is only of mud and thatched and poorly