

Our Work Abroad.

LETTER FROM TUNI.

Tuni, June 16, 1903.

Dear Fellow-workers,—That call for volunteers for the Home Department of the Foreign Mission work has been a great inspiration to us out at the front. We know there are many who are true yoke fellows, but this definite call at this particular time is so full of promise and encouragement.

God surely has great blessing in store for us. That week of prayer in April, was a blessed one to us here in Tuni. A few of us met each day and took some example of prayer in the Word, also the conditions of prevailing prayer as our study. We felt God was very near to us and that He was answering the prayers of His people on our behalf.

Since then, there have been definite answers to prayer in our midst, and there is a spirit of expectancy on the part of some that shows the working of the Spirit in our midst.

Some of the causes for joy and encouragement are these :

Last month at our regular meeting of the S.S.S.S. there were 18 present, the largest number we have ever had. These are Christian women. One of them is a woman who was excluded from the church in Mr. Garside's time. We all felt so sorry, for we knew that her life was a hinderance. She came back lately with a confession of her sin that showed plainly the Spirit's work, and her life is proving it.

Another woman present in that meeting has been the sweeper woman in the compound since Mr. Currie's time. Until recently, we were utterly discouraged about her. She seemed so stupid and unresponsive. But God's Spirit worked in that dark, dull mind while we were out at Pentakott as we read through the Gospel of Mark.

As we talked of the blood of Jesus and the necessity for its being applied, Chinama's heart was quickened and soon after she came to talk to me and tell me of the new thoughts and desires that had arisen within. Both she and her daughter are pleasing us very much as we watch the change in them. It is manifest in seemingly little things, which prove surely that a new principle has entered into their lives.

Then there is a deeper interest on the part of some as regards the weaker members of our

church. And so I could go on, telling of tokens of the Spirit's presence in our midst. 261

Before closing, it is on my heart to ask you to join us in definite prayer for three of our number here in Tuni who have grown careless about attending the services, also for a teacher in the town who is much interested and thinking very seriously about this matter of salvation and also of confessing openly his faith in Jesus.

May the Lord add daily to the number of those who join in this ministry of intercession.

God is opening many doors, we never had better hearing amongst heathen than now.

Your fellow-worker in Him.

ELLEN PRIEST.

COCANADA FIELD REPORT.

First Quarter of 1903—H. F. Laflamme,
Missionary.

MY field includes the Taluk or county of Cocanada, through which three of the twelve mouths of the Godaveri empty into the sea. The population of the field has risen from 181,406 in 1801, to 213,758 in 1901, or by 32,352 in the decade. The population of the town alone has risen to 50,000 or by 8,000 in the last ten years.

I spent four days at Ramachandrapuram. As manager of the Industrial School I had the contract for woodwork for all leper buildings there, numbering seven in all; and also for the boys' dormitories, the mission store house and the station chapel. These are now all complete and represent an equipment for aggressive and large Christian work that must prove very effective. On one of the two visits there, I measured up the veranda roof of the new chapel and preached the dedication sermon; on the other and last visit, I completed the covering of the home for untainted children of lepers.

I travelled 152 miles, preached 110 times, led 14 prayer meetings, and 14 Bible classes, and attended 19 other meetings, making a total of 157 meetings to an aggregate of 6,205 hearers. I engaged in 55 personal talks, made four pastoral calls, distributed 312 handbills, sold 34 books and 27 tracts.

There have been eight baptisms. Two of these were the sons of our late pastor, Jonathan Burder, who are now in the Dr. Kellock Home for Lepers.

Under the peculiar circumstances the Church authorized their elder, brother Josiah, the head