

that prevail, and the opposition that is stirred up if a woman is brave enough to give up the observance of certain feasts or fasts; all combine to make us feel keenly that this is no easy conflict, and that no human power or wisdom is sufficient to overthrow the power and devices of the enemy. Our confidence is that the battle is the Lord's and so victory is sure."

VUYURU.

*Village Schools.*—This is the only work taken up on Vuyuru field by the Women's Board.

*Mr. H. E. Stillwell* reports:—Of the 16 village schools on this field, 12 have been permanent. The year closed with 14 in operation, having an average attendance of about 200 scholars. Nine of these schools are doing really excellent work.

*Mr. Stillwell* was rejoiced while touring in the region of the Kistna river, at having three little lads, each about 10 years of age, present themselves for baptism, and although it is not his custom to baptize Indian children of such tender years, the testimony of their new birth was so clear and intelligent, that he baptized them. These are the direct fruit of the village school.

A noticeable thing in the villages where there are good schools, is the heartiness of the services in the house of God. Partly because, in their leisure hours, the parents have sat near when the teacher was telling the children a Bible story or drilling them in the singing of a hymn, thus becoming interested; and partly because the children have in the school learned many hymns and so are a great help in the singing of the congregation.

And now, may "the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that Great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make us perfect in every good work to do His will, working in us that which is well-pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen."

JANE BUCHAN,

Corresponding Secretary.

RAMACHANDRAPURAM.

GODAVARI DISTRICT, AUG. 23, 1900.

To the Members of the Women's Foreign Mission Board and Convention, Canada.

*Dear Sisters,*—As the time of the Convention has been changed to October, my report should cover the period from Jan. 1st, 1899, to July 1st, 1900, one year and a half of work.

During this time a sister most dearly beloved has gone away to the home-land. I must look now for her welcome over yonder. To her intense interest and special sympathy with me in all phases of my work, to her weekly messages of love, good wishes and inspiring thoughts, to her prayers and her aspirations regarding me, do I owe to an inexpressible degree any small success that may have attended my poor efforts in this darksome land. Her strength in weakness, her constant perseverance amid discouragements and her fortitude amid sometimes overwhelming sorrows, were to me a constant inspiration, but now the blessed memory alone remains to me. Fragile in frame, delicate in constitution, she yet possessed a mind and heart capable of mastering all the details of an exacting profession, of performing

her constant daily duties, yet of taking in the whole world as her parish, the whole world to which, and for which, her sympathies were ever extended, her prayers ever directed, and her purse ever open. Never forgetful of what she owed the home, her great delight was in ministering and leading others to minister to the needs of those rescued from the bonds of heathenism, or of those who remained yet bound. Her fellow-members may know what she was to them in Church and Sunday School, Circle or Band, but few can ever estimate, and none can ever realize what she was to me through her life and through her letters. I am glad to know that she knew something of what she herself was to me, for when she thought the last call had come, her anxious thoughts were for me and how I would miss her letters.

From twelve to fourteen years I have reported to you of tours made, of villages visited, of homes where Christ has been taught, of day schools and Sunday Schools where young and old too, have been instructed in the Scriptures, of plain heart to heart talks with visitors to my room or to my boat, of those who have found the Saviour, of the spirit of missions implanted in many of our Christian women, of the training of special workers, of the times of prayer and refreshing, of work opening up in new directions, and of God's signified approval in many different ways, but of one of the silent and potent influences behind any one or all of these, I have not reported, and I have felt that at this time these few words in tribute to that sister's precious memory would be my truest report. A knowledge of her inspiration in the work is more than a knowledge of the work itself, inasmuch as the greater includes the less.

Dear sisters of our home circles, may I ask a few questions? Are you busy in your appointed work day by day? Do direct church duties take much of your time? Are you never in robust health? Are your means limited? Have you inward sorrows of which the world knows nothing? If indeed so, let me say that these need be no hindrance, for one consecrated life has overcome them all and found true joy in doing God's work in a land whose shores her feet had never touched, and among a people whose faces she had never seen.

God grant that the army of consecrated home workers may be increased more and more, a hundred-fold, nay, a thousand-fold! Then will His power in India and in Bolivia be known, and His name be established in the earth.

I am, dear sisters, your co-worker in His vineyard.

S. ISABEL HATCH.

## TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE RECORDING SECRETARY OF THE W.B.F.M. SOCIETY OF ONTARIO (WEST).

Seven regular meetings of the Board have been held during the last eighteen months, with an average attendance of seventeen. One special meeting of the members residing in the city, and seven meetings of the Executive Committee. At the first meeting of the newly appointed Board, held in Ingersoll, May, 1899, estimated for the regular work amounting to \$6,203.37 were passed, and special appropriations of \$332.13. The balance required for a Zenana con-