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# W. B. M. U.

## TIDINGS.

AMHERST, N. S., MARCH, 1894.

VIZIANAGRAM, INDIA.

Dec. 22, 1893.

DEAR SISTERS :--

My second year of missionary life has closed, and as I look back, though there have been many trials yet I can truly say, goodness and mercy have followed me all the way.

I feel that to the best of our ability good faithful work has been done during the past year. Since last July we visited regularly a large number of houses in the town beside talking in the streets. The women always listen well and are pleased to see us come. Every Monday and Thursday we visit the District Munsin's house where we have the privilege of reading and explaining the Gospel and singing and praying with from eight to twelve Brahman and Komity caste women. Our work among these women was most discouraging at first but we are pleased to say that recently they listen to our message with much better grace. I really think that the Munsin's wife is earnestly seeking after that which pertaineth to Eternal Life. Our other work in the town is largely among the lower castes, but not less interesting for that fact. There is one woman among the latter class in whom we are particularly interested. One of my Bible women—Mahalukshmi—has visited at her house for about three years. From the first this woman manifested an interest that the others did not. About a year ago she asked to be taught how to read and wished to read about the Saviour for herself. She seems perfectly happy to have us talk with her, and often listens for hours at a time to God's word.

read and explained. She tells us that she has given up idol worship and believes in Jesus as her only Saviour. Yet to become a Christian means to leave home and loved ones, and that she feels she can not do. We feel that if she is worshipping God aright He will provide a way for her to leave all and follow Him, and are therefore hoping that the day is not far distant when she will come out boldly on the Lord's side.

We have access to a large number of houses in the native part of Cantonment. This no doubt is owing to our school and the fact that most of the young women with whom we come in contact have attended Mrs. Goffin's (a London Missionary) school. We find it a great advantage to meet with women who can read. They of course are more intelligent in every way. When we find a woman who can read, we give her a New Testament, a portion of which she is to read over carefully as often as she can till we come again. This rule we find works real well. We believe that the day for Salvation of some of these women among whom we are now working is coming, and it makes our hearts rejoice. Pray for us.

Yours Sincerely,  
KATE MACNEIL.

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### WHAT HAS THE AID SOCIETY DONE FOR ME, AND WHAT HAVE I DONE FOR THE AID SOCIETY.

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The first question is easily answered, "Much every way," for my personal indebtedness to the Aid Society is not small. It has given me many friends in the church drawing me into closer fellowship with them in their work for our blessed Master; it has opened the way for my acquaintance with Christian Women in other Aid Societies; and it has given me an opportunity to meet a large number of ladies from all the Aids, at our annual meetings, otherwise I might never have known them. It has afforded me the privilege of conversing with several missionaries from other Societies, that they are no longer strangers to me, persons whom I have seen and

and taken by the hand. It has also increased my knowledge of foreign missions and estimate my interest in them; to it I am indebted for a deep interest in the things of the kingdom, and it has been a means of grace to me in helping me to see my personal duty in stirring me up to attempt work for missions which seemed impossible.

The second question, "What have I done for the Aid Society?" is not so easily answered. The little that I do have accomplished, or even attempted seems so insignificant when I look at it, so far short of what might be done if I were filled with the Holy Spirit and strong in the power of His might, that I hesitate about setting it down on paper.

However being desirous to do more for the Aid Society. I am constrained to put before you some of our privileges and responsibilities.

The second By law of our Constitution says that our "object shall be to aid the W. B. M. U. of the Maritime Provinces, in the evangelization of heathen women and children." This shows us the great work that confronts us, for we believe from reliable statistics given that there are not less than 850,000 women and children on the Binlipatam, Vizianagram, Bobbili, Chicacole, Para Kimed! and Palconda fields. I am not able to tell you of the degradation and intricacies of heathenism in which this great number of women live, but our representatives can; they see, and converse with them daily, finding out much about them, that we gladly receive in their letters to us.

Just here, our interest should increase in the work we are trying to accomplish through those who have gone to our benighted sisters, to tell them of the power of God's love—able to save even women who so often say, "we are fools, we talk to the men, they will understand the gospel" and "how will this joy, peace and pardon come to us."

Our responsibilities are great and are enforced in a very forcible manner, when as members of Aid Societies we remember that we have sent NINE women as our representatives to the perishing thousands of India's heathen. There are other agencies at work and the nuns already out number

aries in the districts where our stations are.

Can we who have the "faith which was once delivered unto the saints," be cognizant of this effort of Rome and not do more to stop it? The only way is for our own representation to be strengthened, and that immediately, and thus truly evangelize the Telugu women and children on our mission fields. We the members of Aid Societies are able to do it, and let us remember His promise, "Lo I am with you alway," everywhere with you whom I send forth to labor. Our Saviour has not ceased from His labors. Incarnate still, He has compassion on the multitude.

Think you His heart does not yearn over the sorrows of the child-widows in India, as it did over the desolate widow of Nain? And does He not today look out upon the restless, untaught crowds of Telugus that press to the shrines of their idols, seeking to buy peace with their offerings, with the same love and longing with which He wept over Jerusalem? Oh yes! He points to the whitening fields, to the wasting harvests, and says: "Come forth beloved, and follow me to seek that which is lost."

What answer shall we make? Shall it not be that we will away "To the work! To the work! We are servants of God; Let us follow the path that our Master has trod."

The Lord's work can only be done by means of believers. Most of the work for women must be done by women, Jesus' mighty word of deliverance must reach heathen women through us, or they will never hear it. There will never be a full Christianity for women until every woman is working for some other woman; and when some women are working for many others. That the new day for womanhood at large is coming, no one can doubt, and may He hasten the time when Telugu women will no longer cry out, "O Brahma! why hast thou made us women, since the misery of women is so great?"

This is "one of the glorious things" we most desire to see.

A LIFE MEMBER W. B. M. U.