Degradation of Women in India.

The population of India is about 300,000,000 or about four times that of the United States. There are 95,700,000 women in India under British rule, and several millions under Mohammedan rule, and of these not one in two hundred can read. When the missionaries first tried to get permission to teach the girls to read they were met with scorn. "Girls can't read. A woman can't learn to read any more than a dog," was the reply that the men in India said. However, after much perseverance and prayer one of the missionaries obtained an opportunity to teach a girl to read, and so demonstrated the possibility. Now when consent is asked of a husband to teach his wife to read, he usually firmly refuses saying that if she were taught the gods would be very angry and take his life.

There are few little girls in India that are not married or betrothed. Betrothal is equivalent to marriage in this respect, it is indisputable. The husband may claim his wife at any time regardless of circumstances. She may be five or six years of age, and he may be sixty or seventy, he may be blind, paralytic, insane or a leper, but he can take her as his lawful wife, and no law nor friend can protect or help her in the least. Poligamy is common, and before betrothal, (the burning of widows,) was prohibited by British law, the reward offered to the best wife was to sit upon the funeral pile of her husband and hold his head while he was consuming, until she herself was burnt to death. The less favored wives kindly they will not want to poison you." His quick answer was, "But we do not and will not. They must know that we are superior to them, and they must worship us, and serve us." A wife is never permitted to speak in the presence of her husband or his brothers unless she is spoken to, and she must be silent in silence whatever he or his family may choose to do. Home life is unknown. Each boy brings his wife into his father's family, and all live together. The Countess of Dufferin in the Nineteenth Century Magazine, speaking of home life in India as seen from the Government House, says: "The prettiest wife, in beautiful array, is there exhibited; but follow the little creature home, and see the discarded wives, burnt, scarred, deformed, with their noses cut or bitten off, and the widows in all their misery. Then the dark shrouds are added to the pretty Oriental picture that is exhibited on state occasions."

Dr. Ryder in her book, The Little Wives of India, says: "In coming to India I expected to find women and girls who would much resemble those I had seen in Mexico, Central America, and on the Isthmus of Panama—healthy, happy, well developed women, with dark faces, and laughing, bright eyes. I can never express the sadness of heart that I experienced when I met their look of hopeless endurance—their skeleton-like arms and legs—and saw them walking the prescribed number of paces behind their husbands, with never a smile upon their faces. The other day a decrepit Hindu, per­ married, came to me for dissipation presented himself to me for treatment. He was about forty years of age but looked 60. He trembled in every limb. The heavy blood-shot eyes and quivering lip proclaimed only too clearly the nature of the disorder, which he attributed to his wrecked condition was the correct one. A more repulsive development of the brute in human form I have rarely met. He told me he had one wife living, but that in a few months he intended taking to himself another, to whom he had been some time betrothed. Does it need any words of mine to prove to you that the fate of that poor, trembling, terror-stricken child, who is handed over to the tender mercies of such a creature, is worse than death? Talk no more about the miseries of the Irian child-widow. The fate of this child is worse a thousand times, than if that old wretch should drown himself in a ditch, and leave her to bemoan his loss in widowhood. Twice or three times as many little girls are married (or sold) to men as to boys. This fact greatly increases the enormity of the wickedness of child-marriage for it proves that the large majority of little girls become the victims of old or middle aged men before they are ten years of age. In 1880 there were 5,000,000 more men than women in India. The child-wives die by thousands, live to live on and take to themselves yet other little wives." Christianity is rescuing hundreds of widows, orphans and discarded wives, bringing them up to useful and happy lives.
"ALL NATIONS" QUARTERLY.

Reports From Local Mission Societies; Auxiliary to the W. H. & F. M. S.

We expect to publish in our Quarterly once a year a report from each of our Local Mission Societies. The reports are from New England; next quarter we hope to report the rest of New England and the Middle, Southern and Western states, except those on the Pacific coast. Locals please take notice.

New Locals.

Since July five new Local Mission Societies have been organized, viz., Brattleboro and Castleton, Vt.; Friendship and Mechanic Falls, Me., and Westfield, Mass.

In our July report the Local at Antioc, Cal., was omitted by mistake.

Springfield, Mass.—"We organized Nov. 17, 1898, with 17 members and decided to hold meetings every two weeks, the places of meeting to be announced by the pastor the preceding Sunday and advertised in two of the daily papers. We meet at the homes of the different members, holding a meeting in the church once a month. We make and sell 100 members, comfortable, holders, button-bags, aprons, broom-bags, etc., to help the treasury and we have been wonderfully successful. We have also made jackets and skirts for the children in India. We also support a native teacher in India $3 a month, the money being plowed by individual members, cards for which have been arranged as follows:

Pledge for Teacher in India.

With the blessing of the Lord I promise to give the Woman's Home and Foreign Mission Society of the Advent Christian Denomination in Springfield, Mass., Mrs. Martha Shaw, Treasurer, ....... cents monthly for the support of a teacher in India.

NAME..........................
ADDRESS..........................

We have paid for and made a curtain to be used in the kindergarten department of our Sunday school and paid for printing cards announcing lectures to be held at the church, and still have a good plump treasury. We send postal cards to members of the society when we have special meetings. We have collected and sent a barrel of literature south, besides doing missionary work for our own church. We now have $55 in hand, which we feel rejoiced at the increase and certainly expect more. We badge our members. In a recent letter received from Mrs. Susie B. Thompson, Sec. of W. H. and F. M. S., she sent us the following motto: "He that believeth in me, the works that I do, shall he do also." We have the following committees, Lookout, Sick, Purchasing and Music. We have plans under consideration whereby we hope to increase our membership and get subscribers to the "All Nations."

Belle N. Richards, Sec.

Manchester, N. H.—Like other years, this one has had its trials, its shadows, its short comings and maybe, its failures—we must wait until the day of reckoning before we can tell as to that—but surely it has been rich with blessings. Six new members have joined us, making a total membership now of thirty-three. We have held eleven meetings and although the attendance has usually been small, we trust they have not been wholly in vain.

As some of the children seemed to be quite interested in mission work, in October a Junior Mission Band was organized. The first work done by the children was to make picture books, which were sent to India. To do this we obtained several yards of light blue paper cambric. This was made into books of about eight pages each and the children cut out bright, pretty pictures and pasted into them. This may seem simple, but when we remember that many of the little people of India never saw a picture in their lives, it gives us great pleasure to do anything that would brighten their benighted lives. With the picture books we also sent 37 yards of print and some thread. Recently the Y. M. C. A. rooms were opened for mission work here and the ladies have made sixteen little jackets and skirts for the children of India. We hope that this society may always contribute as much as possible for the India box. By this effort the women of our denomination may be able to show to the women of heathendom who are weary and sin-burdened, under the heavy shadows of idolatry and superstition, that we love them and their children. Mercy and love are the fruits of Christianity and they are never found in those lands where Christ is not known.

During the past year we have distributed about six pounds of tract and some of the members after reading their Crises have sent them to the McAuley Mission, the Y. M. C. A. rooms, and to the county farm at Grasmere.

We have been able to give nearly $1 a week toward the support of Brother Malone in China.

We sent a large barrel of clothing and $8 in money to Brother Townsend of the South.

In March we bought a small piece of land at Silver lake, but as we were not a legally incorporated body, it was decided to give the deed of this land to the church association. 'Through the kindness of Brother Crossett a large number of church directories were printed. These are very interesting little books of about 20 pages each, with advertisements on one page and church items on the opposite page and have helped us financially. Wishing to show our appreciation of the kindness shown to our society by the church janitor, Mr. Sleeper, we made him a little Christmas present of $5.

As we look around us and see the magnitude of the work in mission fields and listen to the calls for help from every side, at home and abroad, we feel that we are but a speck dropped down into the great ocean of humanity. Yet we realize that it is not so much by great, heroic efforts now and then, that grand results are accomplished, as by a steady and continuous use of small gifts. If we, as Christians, could but realize that giving to the Lord is just as truly worship as prayer or any other act of devotion, the duty that now is too often irksome would become a great delight.

We are glad that some of our number have adopted the tithe system. But one says "That was under the Law and we are now free from that." True, but Christ in talking on this very subject said: "These ought ye to have done." Surely if every Christian would follow this rule there would be no lack of funds.

When we, especially young people, feel that our lives are very plain, and uneventful; we sigh for greater opportunities, for broader horizons, for a higher place than our own little niche in the world; yet every one of us, no matter how limited our outlook can see a present duty and with the help of the Lord, try to do it. God grant that this may be our lot.

We may double our efforts and heed the words of the Preacher found in Eccl. 11:6, "In the morning sow thy seed and in the evening withhold not thine hand; for thou knowest not whether shall prosper, either this or that, or whether they both shall be alike good."

Lois M. Magoon, Sec., and Treas.

Financial Report of the W. H. and F. M. S. of the Bethel Advent Church, in Manchester, Sept. 10, 1899:

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[Reports continued on Page 6.]
FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD.

An epoch in foreign missions was created by the Presbyterian foreign board last week, when its officers announced that 52 new missionaries had been appointed and would soon sail for the foreign field. All these have had their salaries provided for by churches, societies, and individuals. This is the largest number ever sent out by any board in one year. They are assigned to 17 different foreign countries.—Congregationalist.

Mr. F. S. Brockman tells of a young people's society in a Western village with 85 members. In 1894 they were giving $50 to missions. The leader secured a series of missionary addresses, provided a missionary library, and in other ways sought to cultivate an interest in missions. The next year the contributions were $106. He continued to cultivate, and made prayer an important factor. The next year they gave $300. The next year their attention was directed to a student, and they said: "Why shouldn't we send out this young man?" Their contributions were increased, and they pledged $1,085 a year for five years to keep their own missionary on the field. It was easier, said the leader, to get the $1,085 than it was to get the first $50. Here was a village society of 85 members giving an average of over $10 per member for foreign missions, when asked intelligently to respond to the missionary appeal.

England.—The church of England Zenana Mission reports 220 missionaries, and an income of £46,118. To its hospitals and dispensaries 300,000 women come annually for healing.

France.—One of the most successful agencies in the evangelization of France is the canal boat in connection with the McAll mission, "Le Bon Messager." In France, owing to the multiplicity of canals, it is possible to travel 20,000 miles in the heart of the country by this means. A writer in the New York Evangelist says: "It is impossible to give with any sobriety of description an account of what this boat work is to the people of France. The floating chapel, seating 150, moves slowly along its way, stopping at hamlet after hamlet, and wherever it stops, for two weeks or three, the room is crowded, the river banks are thronged, if there is a bridge overhead it is crowded, too, and this for meeting after meeting. When it moves along the people follow it, walking 3 miles, 5 miles, even 15 miles, after their long day's work in the field, for the privilege of a service."—Missionary Review.

Africa.—In many fields there are found instances of a warm interest in foreign mission work. Here in Uganda affords the most conspicuous example. Bishop Tucker last summer visited Toro, under the shadow of Ruwenzori Mountain, supposed to be the famous "Mountains of the Moon," to the far west of the Uganda protectorate. He found there 12 churches with accommodation for 3,000 worshipers; 2,000 were able or learning to read, 100 were communicants, and 45 of these were engaged as teachers, supported by the natives themselves. Uganda missionaries have penetrated to the confines of Stanley's Great Forest, and the bishop came in contact with two individuals of the remarkable race of Pygmies who were under instruction.—C. M. S. Report.

Syria.—The American Press at Beirut last year issued 138,000 volumes and printed more than 28,000,000 pages. There are now about 672 distinct publications on the catalogue, which can be obtained at the Press. They include not only the Scriptures, but religious and educational books, theological, scientific, historical, juvenile, and miscellaneous books, prepared by the American missionaries and the professors of the Syrian Protestant college and by Syrian authors.

India's Claims.

1. India is the second largest nation in the world. Her population is but little less than three hundred millions, only second to China. Her people comprise one-third of the heathen world, and one-fifth of the population of the globe.

2. India has been specially prepared in the providence of God for the work of evangelization. It is lying at the feet of the Church of Christ, as a great imperial opportunity, inviting a conquest more glorious than the empire of a Cyrus or a Cesar.

3. While we cannot speak in unqualified terms of the India government with respect to its religious and moral principle it must be confessed that it is a model of efficiency, economy, order and energy. Like a mighty hand, it grasps every fibre of the nation and holds all in a system of homogeneous and perfect order.

4. Life and property are under absolute protection. Railroads and highways are opened up into every portion of the country. Post-office and telegraph lines communicate with every part. Hotels, inns, and lines of stages can almost anywhere be found.

5. The extraordinary blessing which God has given to mission work in India affords special encouragement to labor in this field. While the difficulties are, of course, very great, and the one obstacle of caste is, perhaps, more formidable than anything to be found in other lands yet the results have been very encouraging, and in many instances, quite extraordinary.

The heart of Christ is yearning over India. The love and compassion of God are brooding over the sorrow and shame of her poor suffering women and children, and her degraded and perishing men. Could you but see the noble faces of thousands of her men, the oppressed and toiling forms of her poor women, and the beautiful faces of her lovely children who are growing up in vice and degradation, your hearts would bleed for them, too, and all that is within you would lead you to either go or give, to bring to them the hope and gladness that Christ has so freely given to you.—The Claims of India, by Rev. A. B. Simpson.

Thousands of little girls are dedicated every year to a priesthood more horrible than death. Millions go through every privation of torture, to satisfy the demands of their conscience and propitiate their cruel deities.

The spirit of their heathenism is most revolting and depressing. There is no hope in it, and no love. Their deities rule by fear, not by mercy, and the object of their religious rites is, to propitiate their anger and escape their vengeance. Life is for them a dreary drudgery, and in death their brightest hope is, such a transmigration of the bodies of the resident, the faithful, to the existence of a little less intolerable.

4. The religious destitution of India is very great.

In a single year, as many as twenty-five thousand souls have been gathered in one mission, and whole villages have turned to God in manifestations of reformation and Pentecostal power.

There are about 3,000 ordained missionaries in a population of 285,000,000, or one to every 200,000 of the inhabitants; whereas in America, we have one ordained minister to every 600 people.

In one of the largest cities of Southern India, which is often visited by hundreds of thousands of pilgrims in a single day, there is no settled missionary, and nothing more than an occasional visit of an itinerant preacher. You can ride for hundreds of miles on railway trains, through a thoroughly cultivated country, past towns and cities of 12,000 and 20,000 inhabitants, with hardly any churches, parishes, or chapels; and commercial houses, and be told at almost every station that there is no missionary there. The country looks almost as civilized as our own, yet the religious destitution is heart-breaking. And all this without any cause or excuse. Every one of these Mohammedans is declared to be a heathen, and one might command the surrounding country with a parish from one hundred thousand to a million people to minister to.
Our Home Work.

We want all our Locals to make much of their home work. Tent and Evangelistic work in your state or county, visiting the sick, helping the poor, placing good books and papers in families where there is little or no religious reading, these departments of work, and many more, can be taken up systematically by our mission societies as the need arises, and thus invaluable help to the church can be rendered by our united efforts.

Substitutes.

A native preacher, or tract distributor, or Bible reader, can be employed in India for from $25 to $36 a year. Whoever wishes but cannot himself go, can hire a substitute to preach in his stead for $2 or $3 a month.

Our Pony and Carriage.

When it was evident that a conveyance was needed for our missionary superintendent we had resource to prayer. We saw that with the thermometer too in the shade, it was impossible for her to ride the three miles from her boarding place to our school on a wheel and then teach and visit from house to house all day. It was very hard for her to go in the jutcar and be two hours in making the three miles. We did not see how we could take the money from our treasury to buy the "pony and bandy" without crippling our treasury. This is how the problem was solved. Our wheel was sold for $40, just what it cost us in India, and a bandy bought. Next four or five dollars were sent in to be used "toward buying a horse." Then a consecrated brother in Quine proposed to do work as a substitute in a wheel, and sent $50 to be used where it was needed" and that money was devoted to the purchase of a pony.

Cap. Spence from Bangalore July 27 writes: "I have purchased a tiaf (conveyance) for Minnie, horse and all. I will let you have particulars when I next write." And now, we have the Mount in the field, and we are not only making progress, but also enlarging our wants and needs.

Late.

"Better late than never." Far, far better. Nearly 400 of our members of 1897 and 1898 have not yet renewed their membership for 1899. We hope all will do so.

Our Bible women can now go out on their work with the knowledge that as they go they are welcomed and trusted as they impart the comfort and instruction of the Word of God. We now own a good set of buildings embracing a school room, a home for our teachers, and a "Children's Home," with a large ground on which is a valuable grove of trees. The soil is fertile, and here gardening can be taught to our children, and food raised toward their support. This land, with buildings, we bought for $200. Twelve dollars a year will support a child in our Children's Home, and already we have support pledged for nine children.

That is, nine parties here have "adopted" children in India, and nine children can be rescued from nakedness, starvation and idolatry and be placed in our Home under Christian influence and training.

We have a new school of fifty pupils started in a Brahmin village, and hope to open a third school in Jeldenpet. We have one native preacher who is employed by a brother in Maine as a "substitute" to preach in his stead the Gospel among this heathen people. We invite all to join us in our work. A brother can become a member of this society by paying an annual fee of 50 cents, and a child fourteen years of age becomes a member upon the payment of an annual fee of 20 cents.

A Children's Page.

Will our members help us prepare a Children's Page for our next Quarterly?
A Christmas Present.

As Christmas approaches we shall all be planning gifts for those we love and many will wish to give some little token of love to our dear Missionary Superintendent, Miss Minnie Spence. Now if all of us who wish to give her some trifling present put in what we feel we can afford together we can make her a gift which will be valuable not only to her but to the service of God. For a long time we have felt the need of a camera in India. Those "adopting" children wish pictures of their children; and now that Boston is free of charge, it will be more interesting if we could have in it pictures of our schools, children, teachers, Bible women, etc. To employ a photographer who would have to come from a distance would be quite expensive, and as we depend upon our fees to carry on our regular work we do not like to draw upon our treasury for a camera. Why not make our Missionary Superintendent a Christmas present of a camera? Already one sister has given 25 cents and another 10 cents, while the sisters in Portland, Ore., send $8, 50 cents toward the camera, and $5 toward a Christmas present for the children. The secretary writes: "We are glad that we can give the poor little neglected children some pleasure, trusting this it will give them some loving thoughts of us as followers of Jesus." Now let all who want to have a part in getting the camera send their contributions, small or large, and whatever is left over after paying for the camera shall go toward providing a Christmas present for our poor children in India, and toward furnishing our Children's Home.

Our Box.

The second week in October the Advent Christian Publication Society meets in Chelsea, Mass. As our ministers and delegates will be going to that meeting it will be a good opportunity for those having articles to put in our mission box to send them there. This box will be packed at the Crisis office we expect. So far not nearly half enough to fill the box has been sent. Let every S. S. in every place from which there is to be a delegate or a minister go to Boston, prepare a package for our India mission box. Let every mother give at least two yards of print, or a toy of some description to a little brother or sister in India. Let all our New England Locals take hold of this. Read Miss Spence's letter in our July Quarterly. We hope there will be a prompt response to this call.

Will You, Please?

If all our members will subscribe for our Quarterly the paper will be self-supporting. This we desire very much. Only about half of our members at present are subscribers to our Quarterly. Wrap a dime in tissue paper, write your name and address plainly, stating that you are a member, enclose a postal card addressed to yourself, and mail to the editor of the Quarterly. Follow all these directions closely. If you fail to wrap up your dime it will probably wear a hole through the envelope and be lost. If you do not state you are a member it will make your already overworked editor needless work hunting over the books to ascertain the fact. If you do not enclose the postal you will not know whether your money arrived safely. And if you fail to write your address plainly you will wonder why you do not get your paper, as some are wondering now who forgot to sign their names.

Notice to Members of W. H. & F. M. S.

Beloved—The Executive Board, with the consent and co-operation of the Advisory Board, realizing the prodigious amount of labor devolving upon the business manager of the W. H. and F. M. S. have voted that she be paid a salary of one hundred dollars per annum, payment to date from the third anniversary of the organization of the society. This action the board deemed necessary as the business manager, Mrs. S. K. Taylor, has for more than two years put her time and strength into this work without compensation, and for the last twenty months has devoted all her time to the work of this society, the growth of the missions having made her work necessary.

This work has been arduous, but the building up of this mission has been the dream of our sister's prophetic soul for years, and, as she who planned the work could best execute it, under the Spirit's leading, no one else has been able to do more towards it than to give her a little assistance as that became necessary.

"The Lord giveth the word, the women that publish the tidings are a great host." When the Holy Spirit calls the leaders of the Lord's host, He chooses wisely, and the work shall prevail.

So we, listening to the Apostolic command, "help the women who labor with us in the Gospel," have thought it right to give our sister this small remuneration for her services.

Yours for the Master,

SUSIE B. THOMPSON, Sec.

Acceptance.

Gratefully appreciating the kind thoughtfulness of our executive and advisory boards, the business manager had decided to accept the proffered salary. She deeply regrets that she cannot forever, as heretofore, freely give her time and strength to the Lord's work. But as it saving her time to this work necessitates the employment of extra help in the kitchen and elsewhere, and throws heavy financial burdens upon her husband, she feels it a duty she owes to him to accept gratefully the compensation offered. Do you pray for your Business Manager?

Secretary's Report.

The annual business meeting of the Woman's Home and Foreign Mission Society was held at Alton Bay, N. H., Aug. 23, 1899. Rev. Sarah K. Taylor, President and Business Manager, presided at the meeting.

1. The report of the Corresponding and Recording Secretary was read and approved.

2. Treasurer's report read and approved.


4. President's report given and approved.

5. Remarks by President.

6. Remarks by Dr. Taylor.


After remarks by some of the members present the Convention adjourned.

Signed, SUSIE B. THOMPSON, Recording Sec.

The Globe Scrap Book—Substantially and handsomely constructed, with cloth covered binders, board sides, Russia leather back and trimmings. Twenty heavy Manila envelopes, numbered consecutively and ruled on both sides for memoranda, are attached in book by means of two safety holders running through eyelet holes as shown. The holders are easily opened permitting the adding or removing of envelopes as desired. Additional envelopes may be purchased when wanted. An index sheet is pasted on inside of front cover for recording contents of envelopes. The book is kept closed by a self-adjusting snap fastening, not shown in illustration. From cover to cover the Globe Scrap Book is a sample of thorough workmanship and artistic finish and is without exception the best scrap book ever made. Outside dimensions 11x7x4x2 inches. Envelopes will fit dates papers 43x104 inches. Mailed, postpaid, to any address in the United States for $2.

Address all orders to MRS. SARAH K. TAYLOR, Rockland, Maine.

For Sale By Us.

Presents for your child or friend.

The Globe Scrap Book—Substantially and handsomely constructed, with cloth covered binders, board sides, Russia leather back and trimmings. Twenty heavy Manila envelopes, numbered consecutively and ruled on both sides for memoranda, are attached to the book by means of two safety holders running through eyelet holes as shown. The holders are easily opened permitting the adding or removing of envelopes as desired. Additional envelopes may be purchased when wanted. An index sheet is pasted on inside of front cover for recording contents of envelopes. The book is kept closed by a self-adjusting snap fastening, not shown in illustration. From cover to cover the Globe Scrap Book is a sample of thorough workmanship and artistic finish and is without exception the best scrap book ever made. Outside dimensions 11x7x4x2 inches. Envelopes will fit dates papers 43x104 inches. Mailed, postpaid, to any address in the United States for $2.

For Private Circulation.

We wish to publish a book for private circulation entitled "The Child Wives of India." The price will be fifteen cents. Will all who would like to purchase the book send us at once a postal card to that effect, and when we get five hundred orders we will issue the book. Six copies have already been ordered.

For Private Circulation.
Reports from Local Societies

[CONTINUED.]

Waterbury, Conn.—"Our society as yet is very small as we have been organized only since the 1st of June with 11 members, and one has joined since, and as we have met but five times since organization, of course, but little has been done. We finished off a few of the little frocks for the children in India, which some of the sisters had begun previous to our organization, also we did a little local charity work, and some in Ladies Aid Department, but through July and August we have not met, this having been the plan previously through the hot months, but we begin again this week the 15th and we do hope that much may be accomplished during the fall and winter. We have not any children as yet, but I hope that we may soon. We have the Mission Department and the Church Aid Department. I feel that we can do a great deal by working together in love. God grant it may be so."  M. M. CORA S. SWIFT, Sec.

Dover, Me.—"We have twenty-six members, ten of whom have been added during the year. We have four children. We have but one department. Our work has been mostly confined to India. Our monthly mission meetings are very interesting though the attendance is comparatively small, average about ten. Some of our people live out five, six and eight miles. If they could attend the mission meetings they would become more interested. Presume we should have done more home work had there been as much destitution and suffering as in cities."  MAUDE E. PLUMMER, Sec.

Hampton, N. H.—"Our society was organized with eight members. We have gained four new members, making twelve. We have but one department. In regard to home mission work: we placed a mission box in our post office and that, with the tracts, cost $3.34, which was raised by a special collection. You know our society has been organized ten months, so we haven't done a great deal, but hope the Lord will bless the little and we expect to do more in the future."  CLARA D. REDMAN, Sec.

Mapleton Me.—"At the time of the organization last May, there were only three of us. We meet once a month, the second Tuesday in the month. At the second meeting there were three more joined. Sister Preble said at the time of the organization that she was in favor of organizing if there were only two of us. We have now twelve members and $4.85 in our treasury, besides $8 subscribed for home mission work."  MRS. ALICE C. DAVIS, Sec.

Bridgeport, Conn.—"We are organized, and have two purposes, namely, to do home and foreign mission work for the Lord as He shall direct and enable us. We are glad to report the addition of two new members and also some garments begun for the children in Miss Spence's school. Trusting in Him who has said, "It is not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, we hope to surmount all difficulties and be able to give a better report for the next quarter's work. Yours in the service till He comes."  ELLA C. ROSWELL, Sec.

Excerpts From Personal Letters.

Woodstock, N. B.—"Our society met again last evening, with encouraging results; viz. an increasing interest in the work, manifested in many ways, but, particularly by the enrollment of six new members. We have, six and one-half years of age, brought in an offering of two dollars, collected in a penny talent envelope. The children can make up the goods into children's dresses, aprons, blouses, etc., and return them to the store where I will sell them for the benefit of this society. I have a ladies' furnishing store in this town and I have offered to sell the society goods at wholesale prices. The members can make up the goods into children's dresses, aprons, blouses, etc., and return them to the store where I will sell them for the benefit of this society. I have a ladies' furnishing store in this town and I have offered to sell the society goods at wholesale prices. The members can make up the goods into children's dresses, aprons, blouses, etc., and return them to the store where I will sell them for the benefit of this society. I have a ladies' furnishing store in this town and I have offered to sell the society goods at wholesale prices. The members can make up the goods into children's dresses, aprons, blouses, etc., and return them to the store where I will sell them for the benefit of this society. I have a ladies' furnishing store in this town and I have offered to sell the society goods at wholesale prices. The members can make up the goods into children's dresses, aprons, blouses, etc., and return them to the store where I will sell them for the benefit of this society. I have a ladies' furnishing store in this town and I have offered to sell the society goods at wholesale prices. The members can make up the goods into children's dresses, aprons, blouses, etc., and return them to the store where I will sell them for the benefit of this society. I have a ladies' furnishing store in this town and I have offered to sell the society goods at wholesale prices. The members can make up the goods into children's dresses, aprons, blouses, etc., and return them to the store where I will sell them for the benefit of this society. I have a ladies' furnishing store...

Valley Head, Ala.—"I have received a number of copies of the Quarterly and I am highly pleased with it and hope and pray that it may at an early date find its way into the homes of every Adventist in America, that they may see more clearly the importance of our missions and their support."  CROUSEVILLE, Me.—"We are doing nicely in our mission work. Women are beginning to show more interest, even, than we hoped for. Have found that we can keep hands busy by making articles for sale, the profits going to help the missions."  PITTS TOWN, N. Y.—"But we have such good prayer services at our society and the Lord has answered prayer for which we praise his name. We love to get your good letters and enjoy the Quarterly so much."  OAK PARK, III.—"We are dead on foreign missions, it is time we aroused. The Lord will soon be here and what account can we give. Oh! I want the photo's of the two children we have adopted, I will promise for one and will do my best to secure for the other from the church. I told them last Sunday they could give $1 each, twelve of them, any one could do that and it would put us in personal contact or touch with the work. We would feel personally interested in those children and I want to send my photo to the child I am working for too, so he or she can look at me and feel that I am very much interested in their souls salvation, and I want to know their names, so I can write for them."  PITTS TOWN, N. Y.—"The All Nations Quarterly is just blessed and grows more and more interesting."
Letter From Minnie Spence.

Madras, India,
Aug. 3, 1899.

My Dearest Mrs. Taylor:

I suppose you have not written since I left home. * * * The business about the house is now nearly settled and before the next mail, perhaps, the school will be once and for all settled in a proper place. I shall write all about it in the next letter.

Now I have your letter before me and I am rather too much occupied with all sorts of ironsations. Solomon and his wife are quite settled in the caste school and about 50 children are on the rolls. You will be glad to hear that we have entered many of the Brahmin homes and in time the work will so grow that we shall need a special Bible Woman to work in the Zenas or be a woman set apart for Zena work. Now that our work is getting more settled I shall write oftener, twice a month or every week if I can possibly do it. About the children or the "Children's Home"—I have as many children as all of you can support and probably they will need to adopt and I should like to let you know before the end of this year exactly how many I may adopt as I should like to make arrangements ac-

Accordingly, if they would like the children photographed they must try and send something extra so that each one can see what their child looks like. You will all be glad to know that I have at last a hand of my own, a very nice cart and pony but it will cost a little more than the hired jutjar which worried me very much. The keep of the pony will cost rupees 15 a month but I shall be able to do more work. When I returned after my holidays I find the rains have begun and it is a trifle cooler. About the coachman. I only wish I could find a coachman who would do both coachman's work and teaching, but coachmen are generally the very poor class without any education. Perhaps when we open the children's home I can get him to help in some way. The children that are taken into the home will only be those who are really or practically without a home. I shall try to get the most needy ones in. I want each one that adopts a child to pray for his or her conversion. You ask what is Zena work. Well, it is glad to help. If a woman does not leave her homes like some of the Brahmin women or it means teaching married women in their homes to read, write, sew and of course daily Scripture lesson given before leaving the house. You will be glad to hear that I am going to the homes of women who can read, write and clothe their own children. I have now given about the position of the house is as I said, just between the Pariah and Caste village but there are large fields separating our house from the caste village. As we enter the house or school (our new house from the caste village. As we enter the house or school (our new
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Facts.

One million persons have been won to Christ in India, 350,000 in Africa, 75,000 in China, 40,000 in Japan. In the South Sea Islands, fifty years ago most of the people were savage cannibals; today Christianity is the prevailing religion. Notwithstanding this progress, we are told more than half of mankind are living in barbarism or savagery.—C. and H. All.

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Answer to Correspondents.

Yes, each member or donor is permitted to direct where his contribution shall be expended, but as we depend upon our annual fees to sustain our regular work, you can readily see that to divert these fees would hinder the work.

We do not know just how many members we have because some who joined in 1897 and 1898 have not since then remitted their fees and we do not know whether they will drop out from our society or whether they desire to remain members and help carry on this work. We hope the latter.

Have we an age limit? No. Our youngest member is three years old and we have two members aged respectively 93 and 94 years. We rejoice that our aged sisters are partakers in this blessed work, and we hope the time will soon come when many mothers will bring their little ones to Jesus in this way. One of our W. C. T. U. sisters tied a white ribbon around the wrist of her little girl only a few hours old saying, "I give her to God and to temperance work." Let the mothers all consecrate their children to Christ and the work, he committed to his church just before his ascension: "Go and teach all nations and do, I am with you always, even to the end of the world. Amen."

Of course every Christian ought to be willing to take any part assigned her in the mission meeting and do the best she can. In many literary clubs each member before being admitted has to promise to do what she is requested to do. We can not hold our members up to this, but I believe many will gradually grow into it. There is nothing that will expand the heart and mind like the love of God in the heart. Our sisters who have this will grow spiritually, intellectually, and first and most of all, in willingness to do anything to help the cause of Christ.

What is a Local? We call a Local Mission Society, auxiliary to the Woman's Home and Foreign Mission Society, a Local as it is a shorter term than Local Mission Society.

These missionaries are said never to have returned to their home land: Arch-deacon Henry Williams, during 45 years of labor in New Zealand; Oakley, during 51 years in Ceylon; Rebmann, during 29 years in East Africa; Robert Noble, during 24 years in Musulipatam; Bishop Bompas, went out to North-west Canada in 1865, and has since come home but once, viz., in 1872, for his consecration.

Please.

If you fail to get the paper for which you are subscribed at a certain meeting will you please write to us? Several put their names on our envelopes but forgot to write the name of the state.
Little Kindnesses.

If you were toiling up a weary hill,
Bearing a load beyond your strength to bear,
Struggling and losing foothold here and there;
And each one passing by would do so much
As give one upward lift and go his way,
Would not the slight repeated touch
Of help and kindness lighten all the day?

There is no little and there is no much.
We weigh and measure and define in vain;
A look, a word, a light, responsive touch
Can be the means of life or pain.
A man can die of hunger, walled in gold,
A crumb may quicken hope to stronger breath,
And each one passing by would do so much
Some little thing that tells for life or death.

—Susan Coolidge.

India’s Curses.

Caste, child-marriages and famine not only cause constant and indescribable suffering among people in India, but are the three great obstacles continually hindering Christian work. Caste vanishes before Christianity. The converted Hindoo gives up his caste.

Only by British law can child marriage be removed; but meanwhile is there nothing that we can do to lighten these dark lives? Into the life of a helpless, hopeless child, whose mind is darkened by ignorance and superstition, and whose heart is ever filled with fear and terror, the Gospel of the kingdom and is converted Hindoo whom she has never known gives love of God and of salvation for them. Caste vanishes before Christianity. The converted Hindoo gives up his caste.

India’s Curses.

Famine.

With the methods of cultivation at present used in India, the soil is not capable of sustaining its population, hence every few years a famine sweeps away a great multitude of victims. Albert Norton, Rochester, N. Y., wrote in 1877: “It was our privilege to be in India during the great famine of 1897-98, in which there was a population of more than six millions and perhaps 10 million died of famine and famine diseases.

Notwithstanding all that is being done by government relief works and by private subscriptions, there will probably die in this present distress in India, of famine and famine diseases, between five and ten millions of human beings.”

The picture on this page is reproduced from a photograph taken for the Christian Herald of New York. We are told: “In the original photograph there were still more appalling figures which we are compelled to omit because of their shocking ghastliness. Those are members of the group who fell down dead of starvation before the photograph was taken. Every village has a contingent of men, women and children who, in the best of times, live from hand to mouth, and who, when the price of grain rises in the time of famine, inevitably perish unless aid is extended to them. The aggregate number of them is enormous, probably not less than thirty millions, and they are so scattered that only the missionaries who live among them can reach them.”

To day there are thousands of orphans whose parents perished in the famine of 1896-97 that wander homeless, naked and hungry from place to place. Shall we do a little toward reaching some of them? “He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth to the Lord; and that which he hath given will He pay him again.”—Prov. 19:17.

Inevitable Starvation.

Is staring thousands in the face—more children to care for.

Dear workers and friends:—Cries of distress are rising from almost all parts of India, and thousands are again threatened with inevitable starvation and death unless rains in the very near future.

For some cause God has seen fit to withhold our rains this season, and many of the fields and plains are dry and barren. What rice has been sown is mostly dead or dying. Day after day the discouraged and disheartened farmers scan the few fleeting clouds and in helpless distress cry to their gods for mercy. It is now August 9, and very little rain. Our monsoon is supposed to break June 15. We should have had at least 45 inches of water, but instead have had but five or six. Some of the poor farmers have begged us to give them rice to sow in case it should rain again.

We feed 100 poor every Sunday at the meeting after preaching to them of Jesus. Rice is going up very fast in price and will soon be out of reach of the poorer class. Not only the Central Province is threatened, but almost the entire nation.

A clipping from a Bombay paper reads as follows: “Each week the agricultural prospects of India appear more serious. Two weeks ago the cry was, ‘Rain is urgently needed.’ This week we hear from many quarters that the crops are withering, fodder is insufficient and prices are rising. In some parts there is the additional distress of wells drying up. Clouds continue to pass over Bombay, but with the exception of slight showers rain holds off.”—Frank C. Hotle, Pentecost Herald.

In Charge of Women.

Four large missions in Burma are now in charge of women. This is not because the women desire the great responsibilities. They are all calling for relief from the too heavy burdens. But the Baptist Missionary Society has not the funds to send the men needed. These important fields are in Maubin, now under the sole care of Miss Carrie E. Putnam; Tharrawaddy, in charge of Miss Sarah J. Higby, while Miss Zilla A. Bunn has the double responsibility of the Zigon and Prome Burman work, aided only by Mrs. C. H. R. Ewell, who is a Pwo Karen Missionary.