



## RAMABAI MUKTI MISSION

### PRAYER BELL

May 1926.

OUR DEAR FRIENDS,

The wheels of time seem to go round very quickly, the hot season holidays have come round again. This week three of our fellow workers, Misses Hastie, Berkin and Browne have left for needed rest on the hills, for some time they have been bravely going on "faint yet pursuing" and now we trust they will have a real blessed holiday, others will be going away later.

Miss Morris was the first to leave home, but she certainly has not gone for rest, for she is at Mahableshwar, a near hill station, where a summer school is held for students of Marathi, Miss Morris is studying hard, and we believe she is getting on nicely, this is an answer to prayer, and a great joy.

We have just had our quarterly visit from our friends and co-workers of the Alliance Mission; this visit was an outstanding one for two or three reasons. We were glad to welcome Mr. Moyser back from furlough spent in England and America. Mr. Moyser was a Mukti trustee for years, and was the trusted friend of our beloved founder, Pundita Ramabai. He returns to India to take over the chairmanship of the Alliance Mission, while Mr. Garrison goes for a well earned furlough. We have appreciated Mr. Garrison's help during the past year very much, and now as he goes on furlough we wish him God speed, and if the Lord tarries, we trust he may soon be back for further fruitful service for the Lord in this land.

Another outstanding feature of this quarterly gathering was that we each brought short reports of the work in which we had been engaged during the past year, and these were quite refreshing. We hope to quote from them from time to time.

Miss Berkin, who has for 6 months been looking after the friends who come to visit us and see this work, tells us that during this period, there have been over 100 visitors. These friends have been a cheer to us, and they have been cheered in seeing this monument to the faithfulness of our Lord. Miss Berkin has found much joy in this service.

Dr. Smedley gave us a most interesting report of the medical work, in which she speaks highly of the ever ready help given her by Miss Brazier and Miss Myerscough. Dr. tells of many improvements which have been made in the buildings during the last year.

We quote from Doctor's report :

" We have a room for our dispensary work which is twice the size of our first room. The skylight in it makes it possible to do much work without going outside for light. We have now two good stone floors to replace the earthen floors of former days. We have a good stove for sterilizing and enough instruments, basins, dishes, etc., for our ordinary work. Then we have had a few pictures given us, and these brighten up the room nicely, and we have a dispensary ready for work in a humble way."

" We owe a debt of gratitude to the Indian Red Cross, for without its aid many of the comforts and necessities for the sick would have been wanting."

" Our confinement room used for women who come to the Rescue Home, was formerly a corrugated iron building adjoining a dormitory for epileptics, work there was very difficult; during the year the iron walls have been replaced by good brick walls, and the room nicely whitewashed."

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“ We are glad to say that patients are beginning to come from some distance. One patient usually brings a company of friends, sometimes as many as a dozen. Miss Macdonald has sent us faithful souls to tell the “ Old old Story ” day by day. People have come as far as three days journey by oxcart, so the seed has been sown over quite a territory. We pray that it may bear fruit. Many come afraid to look upon a white face, sometimes they run away when we come near, but often we overcome their fears, and they gain confidence in missionaries. If we can break down superstitious fears and gain their confidence, we feel we have done something, although we long for greater evidence of the overcoming power of Jesus’ Name.”

“ We can report improvement in co-operation among our nurses, they have been very faithful in attending classes in nursing, and have made fair progress. Three helpers have been learning to pull teeth, and they are doing simple dental work nicely. I have felt the necessity of increased knowledge, many times for lack of it, our best efforts have been counteracted. We believe the coming year will show better results from our nursing force. Our compounder has made fine improvement, we have learned to depend upon her much. ‘ My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge ’ is very true in this country.”

April brought us another great joy, Miss Butler, whom many will remember, had to go home last August to nurse her dear mother during the last three months of her life down here, wrote us that the way was opening up for her to return to us here. We are so thankful for this, for a time it had seemed that she might be needed at home, to fill the vacant place, but prayer has been made about this, and now we praise God for the answer, and the supply of one of the big needs here.

Then, as we praise for the opening of the door for Miss Butler, let us remember Miss Craddock, who had to go home on account of ill health 15 months ago. She writes that she is much better, and if it is in the will of God, we would be so thankful to see her back this autumn. We feel that these dear young workers who know Marathi and love and know the people, can ill be spared, so please stand with us in prayer for victory over any of the devices of the enemy, and for the doing of God’s perfect will in each of their lives.

Then April is the month when our school year closes, and before this, examinations were the order of the day, and then, when results came, we had to rejoice with those that rejoiced, some who wept had to be made to weep a little more, when sheer laziness had been the cause of failure. One tiny tot of 5 years of age was found weeping bitterly in a quiet corner, because she had not passed out of the beginner’s class, for her there was no reproof, she had been in hospital with high fever for several weeks, besides she is only a little mite, so we sought to comfort her, and kiss away the tears.

The successes were as follows:—High School 38 successful out of 58. Primary School 99 successful out of 144.

Another month we hope to tell you more about the school, the work of the year has really been quite encouraging.

Accept our hearty thanks for all your loving thought for us here, please continue to pray for us that we may be true workmen, approved of God.

Yours in our Beloved Lord  
per. pro. M. LISSA HASTIE  
M. W.

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