Holidays are now a thing of the past and school and work and all the daily routine of life is in full swing again and everybody was eager to get to their "bit" once more. Life in Mukti seems to be made up of "bits", bits here and there all over the place, that call for much prayer and strength and wisdom, but we have the inspiration of knowing that God is taking all the "bits" into His own skilful hands and working them into a beautiful whole, and how we'll rejoice, and all those who have so faithfully laboured with us too, when we see out of all the "bits" His beautiful mosaic of perfected lives. It has been my privilege to attend the Indian Keswick at Ootacamund. Mr. Sloan and Mr. Bevan were sent out as a deputation by the Keswick Council from England, and it was like a breeze from the little Cumberland town surrounded by the "everlasting hills" to have these messengers sent from God. Hundreds of weary, jaded, war worn missionaries were gathered together to hear what the Lord had to say to them and to get His fresh vision.

Satan was active as ever in seeking to hinder in every possible way; both speakers got ill, but there was such a flood tide of prayer ascending from all over the world that Satan once again had to retire a defeated foe. Hallelujah! Day by day for five days, the showers of blessing came down and many were the testimonies of deep heart thanksgiving. The streams of refreshing from the Conventions will flow to many and many a far away Mission Station, and who knows but that this may be a link in God's chain for the coming revival we are praying for and expecting all over India.

Our hearts are bubbling over with praise for beautiful rains that have fallen, not only here at Kedgaon, but according to the newspapers they have been pretty general. We hope grain will soon get cheaper now.

We have a wonderful clean bill of health. You heard last month about the chickenpox that some had been in contact with; it might have meant a big thing in a community like this, but our Father watched over us and we had only one case here.

We have had our Annual visit from our friend the Auditor, and a fresh stimulus to our faith, and the Lord seems more than ever close to us. We closed the year with all the bills paid and not owing any man anything.

It has been blessed to see all the different channels that the Lord has used to supply the needs of His family here. Money has been sent from Germany, Italy, Palestine, Mauritius Islands, Africa, China, Switzerland as well as Australia, New Zealand, America, Canada, England, Scotland, Ireland, and from India itself. It seems as though the Lord had told the world to care for us.

Every now and then He lets us have His tests to remind us that the "trial of your faith is more precious than gold" in His sight.

A day or two ago our youngest little blind girl Hephzibah, went into the "Many Mansions". We could but say "Thank you Lord for taking her."

She had only been blind for two or three years, and so life was harder for her than or one born blind; now, she sees, and sees Jesus.
Two wee tiny baby girls have been added to our family; one twelve days old, and the other a month. They were unwanted, so the Lord is letting us have the privilege of loving and caring for them for Him.

Please pray for the Indian nurses, that they may take these little ones to care for, as a trust from the Lord.

Some of our girls went to Supa for a little holiday and also to preach the Gospel. One of them was telling me how intently the people listened as they told of the Saviour's love, some of the high caste young men really believe that Jesus is their Saviour too, but they are afraid to confess His name publicly, because of the persecution that will follow; they have Bibles and read them too. Just lately the Lord took two of these young men away from home and friends to a neighbouring city to live, they at once made their way to a Mission House and got into touch with Christians, and we are praying that they will have courage to be baptized and openly take their stand. There are many we believe who are like these young men, secret believers, let us ask that holy boldness may be given to all such.

Some of our girls and matrons are preparing to go to Pandharpur for two weeks to help sing and preach the Gospel at a big Heathen festival, at such times the workers there are glad of reinforcements.

Almost daily requests still come for Bibles and Testaments both in the vernacular and English and we are expecting that one day some one will have rich reaping. "One soweth and another reapeth."

We are glad that there is such a desire to read the Word of God, may He by His Spirit make it "quick and powerful."

We would bespeak your prayers for all those who do the cooking, and washing and cleaning, no small item here, it has to be done, day in and day out, and the way it is done tends in no small measure to keep things going peacefully and happily. Pray that these workers may never feel the work drudgery and that they may be specially blessed.

We want you to pray for Krishnabai, who has given such faithful service for some years. Now she is in Bombay at the University Settlement seeking to get a Secondary Teacher's Certificate, which will equip her more fully for further service. Pray that she may be helped in all her studies and that she may be kept close to Jesus. She will be gone about a year. In her absence Rebecabai and Bhimabai are seeking to carry on in school; new places are always difficult for those stepping in, so be "helpers together" by prayer for them.

There are increasing calls for much earnest prayer everywhere in the work. We have a compound of young girls which we call "Bethlehem." They are just budding into womanhood and we are so anxious about them, they have all sorts of new ideas and seem intent on having their "fling" as we would say. We long to see them really born again, not just called Christians, but truly loving Jesus and wanting to live for Him.

We feel so inadequate to cope with them, but they are one of the "all things" that are possible to Him. Please pray for Bethlehem and for Miss Macdonald as she seeks to guide them into His way.

Like the eagle God sometimes has to stir up the nest, and it looks as though He was going to do that here. At the last Ex Committee meeting, when Mr. Moyser was with us, and Mr. Garrison was about to leave for furlough it was decided that as I had not been home for twelve years, it would be good for the work and good for me, if I took a furlough, so D. V. I sail from Colombo on August the 11th for London, by the S. S. Ormonde. I would not have chosen this, but so far as I know it is God's next step for me; it will be a big wrench, but it will be one more opportunity of proving new realms of His abounding grace and sufficiency.
The Lord gives me such assurance and peace about it all. After a rest, I will be glad to meet all the dear friends who have so loyally helped in the work, it will be some compensation to see them face to face.

My address for letters will be c/o Miss Wood, Bramble Bank, Throstle Nest Drive, Harrogate, England. Please pray that I may know, and do all His will.

For each of my fellow-workers who will be left behind to carry on, and to face all the difficulties and puzzles and onslaughts of the enemy, and for all the girls and women and children, I ask the same persistent continuous prayer, and love fellowship, which has meant so much to me and has strengthened and cheered me so often.

May I remind all our friends once more that it will simplify and help matters at this end, if Cheques and Postal Orders and Money Orders, etc., for the work, are made out to "Secretary" Ramabai Mukti Mission!

We praise the Lord again and again for wonderful gifts from Himself that have come just when the barrel of meal was at an end, these have reminded us that Jesus knows, and He is never too busy to care for even the least of His children. What a Father we have! How real He makes Himself to us!

With heartfelt love and thanks to all those who for His sake keep us on their hearts.

Yours in blessed fellowship,
M. LISSA HASTIE.

Ramabai Mukti Mission,
Kedagaon,
Poona District, India.