MINUTES AND REPORTS

OF THE

THIRTEENTH SESSION

OF THE

Woman's Missionary Conference

OF THE

Methodist Episcopal Church

IN

BENGAL AND BURMA,

HELD IN

CALCUTTA, January 26-28, 1900.

CALCUTTA:
PRINTED AT THE METHODIST PUBLISHING HOUSE,
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1900.
Officers and Committees.

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Vice-President ... ... Miss Knowles.
Recording Secretary ... ... MRS. ROBINSON.
Assistant " ... ... Mrs. Chew.
Corresponding " ... ... MRS. BYERS.
Statistical " ... ... MRS. CULSHAW.
Treasurer ... ... ... Miss Craig.

Committee on Finance:

Miss Maxey. | MRS. Smith.
Miss Perkins. | Miss Campbell.
Mrs. Warne. | Miss Forster.
Mrs. Jackson. | MRS. Robinson.

Publication Committee:

Mrs. Robinson | Mrs. Chew.

Examination Committee:

Hindustani.—Mrs. Jackson, Miss Campbell.

Educational Board:

Mrs. Byers. | Mrs. Hill.
Mrs. Culshaw.

Nominating Committee:

Miss Knowles. | Miss Craig.
Mrs. Warne. | Mrs. Byers.
Miss Campbell.
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<td>Miss Turrell</td>
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<td>Mrs. Warne</td>
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FIRST DAY.

Calcutta, January 26th, 1900.

The thirteenth session of the Bengal-Burma Woman's Conference met in the Parsonage of the Dharamtala Street Church, Calcutta, January 26th, 1900, at 2-30 p.m. with Mrs. Robinson in the chair. Hymn 667 in Songs and Solos was sung.

Mrs. Lee conducted the devotional exercises, reading the 103rd Psalm and speaking from Gal 2:20, and afterward leading in prayer.

Roll.—The Secretary of last year called the roll and the following members answered to their names:—Miss Blair, Mrs. Byers, Miss Campbell, Miss Craig, Mrs. Culshaw, Mrs. Dowring, Miss Forster, Miss Knowles, Miss Lamb, Mrs. Lee, Mrs. Leonard, Miss Maxey, Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Smith, Miss Stahl, Mrs. Warne, Mrs. Chew. The names of Misses Files, Keeler and Wisner were dropped, and those of Misses Moyer, McKinley, Turrell and Samson, added.

Organization.—It was decided to elect the officers by acclamation and the following were elected: President, Mrs. J. Smith; Vice President, Miss Knowles; Secretary, Mrs. Robinson; Asst. Secretary, Mrs. Chew; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Byers; Corresponding Secretary for Burma, Mrs. Hill; Statistical Secretary, Mrs. Culshaw; Treasurer, Miss Craig.

Committees The President appointed the following committees:

Publication.—Mrs. Robinson, Mrs Chew.

Examinations in Hindustani.—Mr. Jackson, Miss Campbell.

Nominating Committee.—Miss Knowles, Mrs. Warne, Miss Craig, Mrs. Byers, Miss Campbell.

Resolutions.—Mrs. Culshaw, Miss Craig, Miss Blair.

Hours of Session.—On motion the hours of session were fixed from 2-30 to 4-30 p.m.

Introductions.—Mrs. Humphrey was introduced to Conference and expressed her pleasure at being with us and her regret at leaving the work in India, assuring us that she would do all that lay in her power in America to help on our work. Miss Moyer, Miss Dart, Mrs.
Leonard, Mrs. Luering, and Miss Samson were introduced. Also Mrs. Dr. Mulford, Miss Turrell and Miss Dunhill, all of whom expressed their joy for the privilege of being in the work.

Reports of work.—The following reports of work were then read:—Asansol work reported by Mrs. Byers; Girls’ school, Asansol, Miss Forster. Beg Began work (Calcutta) by Mrs. Culshaw; Deaconess Home, Calcutta, by Miss Maxey; Girls’ orphanage, Calcutta, by Miss Craig; Darjeeling Girls’ school, Miss Stahl; Mazafarpur zenana work by Miss Soderstrom, report read by Miss Campbell. The reports were all accepted (see reports).

Discussion.—A discussion was then held on “Open Doors.” Mrs. Lee spoke of the eagerness of the women to hear the word, begging them to stay longer on their visits and come oftener; also of Kindergarten work which she hoped to begin this year through Miss Moyer, a trained Kindergartner, who has come to assist her. Mrs. Byers also spoke of the many who need the gospel and their willingness to hear it, but “the labourers are few” while the harvest is so great. Mrs. Chew spoke of the need of the work in Jhanjhra among the children in the schools, and regretted that the support was cut off this year by the ladies at home.

Miss Knowles was then requested to speak and gave a short account of what she had seen of work being carried on in New York at the emigrants’ office, where seven missionaries meet the girls who come from Italy and other countries, giving them Bibles and tracts. Referring to “Open Doors” Miss Knowles thought we should pray especially that we might enter the right door—the work to which we are best adapted.

Adjournment.—The conference adjourned to meet the following day, after singing the doxology.

SECOND DAY.

January 27th.

The second session was called to order at 2-30 P.M. by Mrs. Smith. Devotional exercises were conducted by Miss Knowles, who read Acts 6: 1-8 and led in prayer. Others followed and the hymn, “Holy Spirit, Faithful Guide,” was sung.

Introductions.—Mrs. Fox, Mrs. Stephens, Miss Elliot, Miss Benthien of the Bombay Conference, and Miss Fisher of South India Conference, were introduced. Minutes of the previous day were read and approved.

Reports.—Miss Blair reported the work in Tumlook. Mrs. Dowring’s report of the Hindustani work was read by Mrs. Warne. Mention was made of the cutting off of appropriations for this work.
It was moved by Mrs. Byers that a resolution be sent through the resolution committee concerning this matter to the ladies at home, asking that some provision be made for the work.

Mrs. Mozumdar read her report of work on the Diamond Harbour Circuit.

Mrs. Robinson read a report of the work in Bolpur. Mrs. Campbell reported the school work in Mazafarpur. Miss Turrell reported the work of the Rangoon Girls' School. The reports were accepted (see reports).

An interesting discussion followed concerning the question of results in our schools in the line of giving us Mission workers. Some very encouraging cases were mentioned, viz., Miss Illingworth of the Rangoon School, a former pupil of that school. The majority of the teaching staff of the Calcutta Girls' School were former pupils of that institution. Miss Stahl read a paper bearing on the same subject, in which she mentioned one case of a former pupil of the school who is a nurse in one of our hospitals. Her bravery and courage in doing the disagreeable duties connected with her position, and her care of the dying and her prayers for them, make her very noticeable among the other nurses. Her own testimony is, that the influence of the Calcutta Girls' School has followed her and enabled her to do these duties as she does.

After singing, "Blest be the tie that binds," the conference adjourned until Monday.

THIRD DAY.

January 28th.

Conference assembled at 2.30 p.m. Mrs. Byers led in the devotional exercises, her theme being "power for service."

The minutes of the previous day's session were read and after some changes approved.

Reports.—Mrs. Lee gave her report of the Bengali Girls' School. Mrs. Smith reported the work done in the Burmese school in Rangoon. The report was given of the Calcutta Girls' High School by Mrs. Chew. Miss Lamb gave her report. A report of the Thandaung school was given by Mrs. Smith.

Mrs. Meik's report of work in Pakur was read by Mrs. Robinson, (see reports). All reports accepted.

Elections.—Votes were taken by ballot for delegates to Central Conference. Miss Knowles and Miss Maxey were elected, with Mrs. Lee alternate.
Communications.—Letters were read from Miss Baucus, of Japan, and from Mrs. O’Neal. It was moved that the Corresponding Secretary send the greeting of the Conference to these ladies. After reading Mrs. O’Neal’s letter the hymn “Sow in the morn thy seed” was sung at her request, and at the same time some photographs of Mrs. O’Neal were passed around among the members of the Conference, who were pleased thus to get acquainted with our Corresponding Secretary in America.

Reports of Committees.—The Nominating Committee reported the following, and they were elected:—

Finance Committee.—Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Warne, Miss Smith, Mrs. Robinson, Miss Maxey, Miss Perkins, Miss Campbell and Miss Forster.

Educational Board.—Mrs. Byers, Mrs. Hill, Mrs. Culshaw.

Report of Examining Committee.—Mrs. Jacobsen was passed in her fourth year in Bengali, with grammar and translation to bring up.

Miss Soderstrom passed her second year in Hindustani, having the rest of the second book to bring up, also “Wilkins’s Hindu Mythology.”

Miss Campbell was passed in her second year, with “Hindu Mythology” to finish.

Committee on Resolutions.—The report of Committee on Resolutions was adopted (see Resolutions.)

Bengali Courses of Study.—Mrs. Lee moved that the Bengali Course of Study prepared by the Calcutta Missionary Conference be adopted by this Conference, and that hereafter missionaries and assistants be examined in the same (Carried).

Papers.—A paper was read by Mrs. Smith on “The Requisites for Missionary Work,” which was followed by the reading of the Minutes and their approval.

Adjournment.—The doxology was sung and the Conference adjourned.

Retta L. Robinson,  
Secretary  
Mary P. Smith,  
President.

RESOLUTIONS.

Mrs. Thoburn.

1. Resolved, that as a Conference we have heard with sorrow and much concern the news of the severe illness of Mrs. Thoburn, and that we desire to convey to her our sincere sympathy in this her hour of trial, especially coming at this time of anxiety in behalf of our beloved Bishop, and we pray that she may speedily be restored to health and to her many friends in India.
HINDUSTANI WORK.

2. Whereas, doubtless through a misconception of the work being carried on in the Hindustani language by our Church in Calcutta, the support for this year has been entirely unprovided for; and Whereas we greatly regret this, believing our Hindustani Church to be worthy of recognition; and Whereas the withdrawal of support from a work consisting of several day schools and of Zenana visiting will result disastrously, therefore

Resolved, that we beg to draw the attention of the ladies at home to these facts and ask them if possible to make provision for the support of this important work.

Rev. and Mrs. D. H. Lee

3. Resolved, that we as a conference extend our heartfelt sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. Lee in their sorrow caused by the removal of their six children to the Home above. We would also express our gratitude to Almighty God for the sustaining grace which has caused them to triumph so wonderfully in this affliction.

Miss Stahl.

4. Whereas Miss Stahl has been granted furlough after seven years’ faithful service in India, we pray that her much needed rest in the home land may be of great benefit to her, and that she may soon return to the work in India which she loves.
# Appointments 1900.

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**Asansol District.**

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<th>Location</th>
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<td>Asansol</td>
<td>Woman's Work</td>
<td>Mrs. Byers.</td>
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<td>Girls' School</td>
<td>Miss Forster.</td>
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<td>Evangeline Work</td>
<td>Miss Lamb.</td>
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<td>Bolpur</td>
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<td>Pakur</td>
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<td>Mrs. Meik, Miss Jacobson.</td>
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**Burma District.**

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<td>Pegu</td>
<td>Woman's Work</td>
<td>Mrs. Leonard.</td>
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<td>Rangoon</td>
<td>English School</td>
<td>Miss Turrell, Miss Illingworth.</td>
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<td>Burmese School</td>
<td>Miss Illingworth.</td>
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<td>English Church</td>
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<td>Thandaung</td>
<td>Miss Perkins, Mrs. Smith.</td>
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**Calcutta District.**

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<td>Girls' School</td>
<td>Miss Samson, Miss Caw.</td>
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<td>Bengali Church</td>
<td>Mrs. Culshaw.</td>
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<td>Superintendent Deaconess Home and Pastor's Assistant</td>
<td>Miss Maxey.</td>
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<td>Dennett Training School and Bengali Work</td>
<td>Mrs. Lee.</td>
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<td>Bengali School and Kindergarten Work</td>
<td>Miss Moyer.</td>
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<td>Bengali School and Evangelistic Work</td>
<td>Miss Dey.</td>
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<td>Orphanages</td>
<td>Miss Craig.</td>
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<td>English Work</td>
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<td>Hindustani</td>
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<td>Seamen's Mission</td>
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<td>Diamond Harbour</td>
<td>Mrs. Mozumdar.</td>
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<td>Tumlook</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mazafarpur</td>
<td>District Work</td>
<td>Mrs. Jackson.</td>
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<td>Zenana Work</td>
<td>Miss Soderstrom.</td>
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<td>Orphanage and Boarding School</td>
<td>Miss Campbell.</td>
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COURSE OF STUDY

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HINDUSTANI.

First Year—
Forbes' Hindustani Grammar to Prosody.
First and second Urdu or Hindi books.
The four Gospels in Roman with dictation.
Written translation of English first book.
To be read: Hunter's "Brief History of the Indian People."

Second Year—
Mirat-ul-urus, Dharamtula.
Written translation of English second book.
To be read: "Wilkins's Hindu Mythology."

Third Year—
Banaat-un-nash, Mumuksh Britant.
Forbes' Persian Grammar with exercises.
To be read: Robson's "Hinduism and its relation to Chris tianity."

Fourth Year—
Gutka, Part II.
Poetry, optional.
Gulistan, two books.
Psalms in Persian.
An Essay in Hindustani.
Reports.

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Asansol Circuit.

ASANSOL.

MRS. W. P. BYERS, 
MISS M. FORSTER, 
MISS BISWAS 
REBU ... 
KOSHILLA SHAW ...

... ... ... ... Missionaries.
... ... ... ... Bengali Assistant.
... ... ... ... Bible Woman.
... ... ... ... Teacher.

We began this year's work with renewed zeal and energy, and though there have been difficulties and some trials, God has put his seal upon our efforts and has enabled us to advance. We have missed our fellow-workers, Miss Carlson and Miss Biswas, but God has in a measure supplied their loss by sending us a W. F. M. S. lady. Miss Forster has got nicely into the school work and has now 35 boarders in the School and 75 attending as day scholars. They have Sunday School and Epworth League, and are doing nicely in Bible study. A number of the Hindu girls are gathered on Sabbath afternoon in the school for Sunday School and spend an hour at Bible study. Copies of the Children's Friend (which has been translated into Bengali) are distributed every week and the children are delighted with the picture papers. A number of our girls say they wish to be trained for mission work. There has been but little sickness this year, for which we are thankful. Members have come from the villages around for treatment but those in the command have all kept well.

Our evangelistic work has rather suffered this year owing to lack of workers. Rebu does her best, but amongst a quarter million people one or two timid women can do but little. The village women come in to service on Sundays and beg of us to go and visit their homes. Some of them walk so far as sixteen miles to church. They seem so pleased when we go to the villages and there is no greater joy to the missionary than to visit their simple homes and go from hut to hut getting acquainted with them and trying to make them acquainted with Jesus. Many thousands about us have not ever heard the name of the Saviour who died for them and will say when we tell them of Jesus, "Oh that is a new name, who is He and what did He do." Our hearts yearn for these people. They treat us kindly and are ready
to listen. May God send us some one to help in this needy and important work. The fields are white for the harvest but there are few reapers.

The women at the leper asylum are happy and some are doing well in spiritual things. We visit once a week and have a little talk and prayer and singing together. It is always a precious time and does us all good. They missed Miss Biswas and her good talks with them after she left. They can repeat the Lord's prayer, ten commandments and the creed, and are now memorising portions from Scripture. They learn slowly and need much perseverance to accomplish anything.

Our Mission Bakery is still a success and Ellen continues faithful. We have now Rs. 600 as the beginning of a building Fund for a W. F. M. S. Ladies' Home. Rs. 550 profits from the bakery and Rs. 50 a gift from a friend who lately visited Asansol. Two of the school girls work with Ellen during the mornings and attend school during school hours.

We are all very happy and hopeful. The work is still in its "day of small things," and yet when we consider how marvellously God has blessed the small beginnings we are encouraged to believe for and expect much greater things in the future.

CHARLOTTE M. BYERS.

BENGALI GIRLS' SCHOOL.

We began the school with twelve boarders and a round of measles. By the end of April the number of day pupils on the roll was forty-nine, average attendance thirty; which numbers have swelled to 117, and average from fifty to sixty.

Shortly after we came Sarah left us to study medicine; and until lately when our new teacher, Koshilla, was obtained, we were assisted in the day school by Boshonta who taught the senior class. At present we have 35 boarders. The year has been a very busy one: we are grateful our school is gradually growing.

The boarders have not only opportunities in study: but they are steadily becoming more industrious. During the year they patched and quilted seven quilts and sewed sixty jackets. Each of the larger girls has one of the younger children to care for. Besides this there is a little nine-months old baby which was sent us some time ago, she had been left in the bazar by her mother—a lonely home!

She is tenderly cared for by the girls. They attend to her food, they sew little frocks for her and give her daily oiling: and they take great pride in her bright ways. Every girl has out-door exercise every day. Even the little "tots." have their work hour, as well as the calisthenics.
We have good times at day schools. It always makes me glad to watch the little villagers from all the surrounding parts, gathering in. The one small group of Bowries, I find it difficult to keep at all regular, as there are younger children at home to care for or cows to tend; notwithstanding I welcome their bright, good natured faces into the midst of the as a rule more taking children of other villages and who attend regularly. I have visited several times the villages from which the pupils come, and it is almost needless to say I find this very interesting. We are becoming acquainted with each other and it is pleasant to visit the homes.

For the entire school, daily our first exercise is a short Bible lesson, and I am sure the villagers who join us for study, cannot but imbibe good and be permanently influenced. Our boarders receive regularly careful, religious teaching and their lives we guard; and try to build up strong, self-reliant, kind, obedient and trusting Christian children. I am thankful we have now an energetic, sympathetic Bengali teacher. In recognition of the work done in our school, a grant of Rs. 30 was given to it. We hope for good work this coming year and for blessing from God upon our school.

Miriam Forster.

BOLPUR.

Mrs. J. E. Robinson ... ... Missionary in charge.
Rebekah Mundal ... ... Bible Woman.

The work of the W. F. M. S. in Bolpur has been carried on without a missionary on the spot and at great disadvantage during the year. Proper supervision at such a distance is not possible. The girls’ day school that is held in the Mission premises numbers thirty-four. The teacher has died lately and the Bible woman will need to teach in the school until another teacher can be secured. There are also two village schools where girls attend. Our preacher and Bible woman teach Scripture in these schools.

Rebekah, the Bible woman, visits the mohullas and villages and is well received. Some of the high caste Hindu women have sent for her to sing and read to them and some of them have learned hymns. We are expecting a married missionary to be sent to Bolpur next year and Rebekah will then be able to do more of the mohulla and village work. In anticipation of this we have asked for a bullock cart in our estimates and hope that our request will be granted as it is not possible to do the village work efficiently without it.

The mission compound is large and has several fine wells and space for a number of buildings. The people around Bolpur are of a good class of Hindus, most of them able to read and there is a fine field for work.

R. L. Robinson.
PAKUR.

Mrs. Meik .... ... Missionary.
Miss Jacobson .... ... Assistant Missionary.
Mohini Mundal .... ... Bible Woman.
Krepamoy Mundal
Meingla Khan
Phoolmoni Mullick
Rame
Rajoshari
Rajabella
Kemthi
Diljan

Girls' Orphanage.—Another year has gone by and we have to report some measure of success in our work among the girls of this school. Our numbers are now sixty again, as death has claimed three. Several of the girls we believe to be truly converted and trying to live after the truth; and while we are not yet satisfied with what has been attained to, still we believe that the Gospel leaven is leavening the whole number and many of them have had their attention arrested and are filled with a desire to live better lives and do God's will. The disappointments and discouragements are many, but on the other hand, many are the encouragements we meet with when one and another show signs of heart repentance and growth in grace.

The class work of the school has been satisfactory and three of the girls have just been up for the upper and lower primary examinations. Four of the older girls are at present employed as pupil teachers, and teach for several hours each day. The regular routine of house work goes on, and all take part in it according to their strength; they make the fire, cook, clean the great cooking pots, wash the drains, plaster the floors, prepare food for the sick, help to clean them up and make them comfortable. The little ones pick up the paper and sticks and straws which lie about and so keep the compound clean. Plain sewing and some fancy needle work are taught. All the girls belong to the local Epworth Leagues.

Epworth Leagues.—We have two leagues, one senior and one junior, the members are both boys and girls and appear to take great interest in their meetings. They use the regular Bible reading course and in most of the meetings have to give written answers to questions on these readings; or one of the number is prepared with the history of one of the Bible characters, or, it may be, an essay on some given subject. Some of the youngest children sing very nicely and they are greatly encouraged in this by being made to sing just two or three together in their little league meetings. They can tell off the books of the Bible, repeat many Bible stories and verses.
THE DISPENSARY continues its good work and about ten thousand persons have been helped in sickness.

CONVERTS' CLASS.—This class is held daily and is a blessing to these women who have been brought up in such fearful ignorance.

WIDOWS' HOME.—The widows now number eleven, and are much improved in every way. One of them accompanies the Bible-woman in her village work and we are hoping that she may develop into a good Bible-woman herself. One has charge of an infant and is kind and attentive to it, so it may be she will make a good ayah by and by. One is matron to the sick and little ones, who are much benefited by her kind, motherly attentions. One is cook to a Baboo's family and has made much progress in the art of cooking, which is a thing they know very little about in these out of the way districts where all to their rice is grand fare, and the ordinary meal only rice. The rest of the widows husk and grind grain. They all attend the converts' class for spiritual instruction and some are learning to read.

VILLAGE WORK.—The village work has been kept up, though, as usual, through the rains some of the villages cannot be visited by the lady missionary, as there is no road between this and the river, the whole place being sown with paddy and more or less under water. Then the river itself when swollen is not fordable, and at no time very safe for the oxen to cross. One of the Mission oxen last year broke its leg there and died from the effects, so we are hoping that at no distant date the W. F. M. S. agent here will possess a horse and small boat to help them across the fields and river. The following report of this village work by Miss Jacobson will interest you:—

"For many years there was no lady missionary stationed here, so that little or nothing had been done for the Christian women in the villages. They were too shy to come to the churches, where crowds gather, and there learn anything, so when we started work among them, we found them just as ignorant as their Hindoo and Mohammedan neighbours. The story of Jesus was new to them, and it took months before they could understand it at all, and still longer for them to grasp the fact that it concerned them personally. We are sorry that the work among them cannot be carried on more thoroughly and regularly than it is being done, but there are several hindrances to this, and the chief hindrance is that there are no roads to these villages, the ox-cart has to take us across the fields through the river. In the rainy season they are all under water and sown with rice, and the river overflows its banks so that it is impossible to get across with the cart. The native Bible woman tries sometimes to get to these villages on foot, but it is with great difficulty she can do so. Although we are thus hindered, we rejoice to see that some good has been accomplished, and some progress made by the poor women. They have learned by heart portions of the Word of God, and have become familiar with the stories of the New Testament. Sometimes even in prayer they make
known their wants to their Heavenly Father in their own simple words. A woman in one of the villages told me how they had spent their Christmas day. Their husbands had gone to another village where most of the Christians had gathered for service, but as their little mud huts have no proper door which can be locked, the wives had to stay at home to guard their small possessions, and I asked what they did to observe the day. One of them answered, 'What could we do, we can not read or preach, so we all gathered here in Jeerou's mother's house and sang the hymns we had learned and repeated the Lord's Prayer and ten commandments.' I thought they had done what they could.

"Another time I asked, 'What did the preacher preach about last Sunday?' She said it was about the Prodigal Son, and told me the whole story in such an intelligent manner that I saw she had grasped its meaning; and in my heart I rejoiced that the Light of the world shall dispel all the darkness of sin and ignorance.

"Thirty of the Christian women in the villages have been taught, and here in the station fourteen of the ignorant women have received daily instruction in the Scriptures. Many of the women in the circuit are Santals, and for them we have been able to do nothing, as we do not understand their language nor they ours, so the only instruction they get is from the pastor of their little village congregation. One of the widows in the home here is a Santal, and she seems quite intelligent, and is learning to read in hope that some day she will be able to read her Bible; and it may be that in her we are preparing a worker to go forth among this people. The work has been carried on in six villages, in two of these we started work only a few months ago. At first they were not very willing to receive us, but after some weeks one of the women said: 'we were determined not to let you come to our villages, for we were afraid of you, but now we like to listen to your singing and to hear you speak.' We have no Christians there, but the door is open and many more doors would be opened if we had more Bible women but we have only one."

Isabella Meik.

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Burma District.

Mrs. Smith ... ... Thandaung
Miss Perkins ... Thandaung Orphanage
Miss Turrell
Miss Files, ... Rangoon
Miss Illingworth Girls' School.
Mrs. Hill ... Rangoon.

Rangoon, Burmese Girls' School.

The teaching staff of this school was increased by one this year, thus giving us three teachers. A fourth standard was begun and
careful attention was given to the kindergarten. We were unfortunate in our headmistress having to absent herself from the school during the month of June on account of the illness and death of her mother. Then during the month of November she herself was ill; this doubtless accounted in a measure for the somewhat discouraging results of the Government Examination. However, we have done well heretofore and need not feel very badly over this. Last year we earned in passes, Rs. 124 but we shall fall a little short of that this year. The children were especially commended by the inspector for their drill exercises, a new feature introduced into the school this year.

On December 23rd a Christmas tree was prepared for the school. All were treated to sweets. The boys received presents suitable for them, while the girls were made happy by the twenty-two dolls sent out from America to Mrs Hill and which she kindly gave to our Burmese Girls’ School. The immediate friends of our school were present and were quite pleased with the Scripture recitation and singing of the children. This school has nearly completed its seventh year, during almost all of which time it has been under such superintendence as I, busy with other mission work, could give.

Several changes must take place next year. First, the superintendence must pass to another on account of my home-going. Again, Miss Marsh, one of the Des Moines branch scholarship girls who has done such good work in this school, is to be married in March. Also the teaching of English will no longer be allowed in the school; the superintendence will be assigned to some one who very likely will be able to give just as much time to it, if not more than I did. We have a possible candidate from the English Girls’ School for the place of Miss Marsh, but being very young and inexperienced we are a little doubtful of her success. If we insist upon teaching English, which has always been one of the attractions, we can hope for nothing from the Government grants either for pupils or teachers. If we drop the English a number of our children will leave, we fear.

However, since there is no W. F. M. S. representative yet assigned to take charge of this work, we will abide by the Government regulation, lose some pupils but perhaps can earn enough money, with what are left to justify us in continuing. The losing of the pupils of course reduces our fees and our grants. We may also have to reduce our teaching force and move into cheaper quarters. It certainly looks discouraging that after having worked this school up, we must now begin to work it down. But I believe no stronger plea can be made to the home-church than I made last year for an agent of the W. F. M. S. to study the language and devote her entire time to this school. We will try another year managing as best we may be able. The Sunday School continues with an attendance of twenty-six.

Mary C. Smith.

We regret that up to the time of going to press other reports from Burma have not reached us.—Secretary.
Calcutta District.

CALCUTTA: BEG-BAGAN AND BALIAGHATA.

MRS. CULSHAW, ... ... ... Missionary.
KRISTI BISWAS, ... ... ... { Bible Women.
OMALA DASS, ... ... ...}
CHINTAMONI DASS, ... ... ... { Teachers.
LIZZIE MULLICK, ... ... ...}

The work among the Zenana women at Beg-Bagan has increased during the past year; new houses have been opened to us from time to time and now there are 21 houses visited from week to week. Very few of the women in these houses can read at all, but they listen with all the more interest to the hymns we sing and Scriptures read and explained, and often enter into an argument on the subject of the morning. In many houses only the children can read, so the tracts and papers are left with them. These children, for the most part, attend the day school for girls in the same neighbourhood. The number on the roll there is 43, of these only three are from Christian homes, the others are all Hindus and many of them are married. Three pupils sat for the Government Primary Examination and the assistant teacher took the fifth standard examination. The latter is a Christian; she is married, but having no family she is able to spend 4½ hours in the school every day for which services she receives the small sum of Rs 3 per month. The head teacher is a Christian also, the wife of the Bengali Pastor at Beg Bagan. The Annual Distribution of dolls, etc. took place on the 22nd January, when the usual programme of hymns and recitations was gone through.

The visiting among the Christians, members of the Dharamtala Church, has been much appreciated; of these we have 18 homes that are regularly visited once a week. This visiting is as important and as necessary as that among the women in the zenanas and the reading of God's word with a word of prayer is always a part of these visits. Perhaps we are nowhere made to feel more welcome than at the Campbell Hospital once a week. In a large free ward for native women we find many who drink in with eagerness the good news of the Gospel and a short prayer meeting is held with a number gathered together who are not too sick to be bed-ridden. Seventeen Zenana homes at Baliaghata are also visited on two days in the week. Unlike the women at Beg Bagan, most of these women can read and are very intelligent; they would like to see us every day, but that is impossible at present. The work here as elsewhere is deeply interesting and our prayer is that God will send into the field consecrated workers who will do the work because they love it and see the need of it.
CALCUTTA GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL.

Miss Widdifield ... ... ... Principal.
Miss Caw ... ... ... Assistant
Miss Muller,
Miss Barker,
Miss Staples,
Miss Frost,
Miss Allnut,
Miss Wittenbaker,
Miss Adams,
Miss Wallis,
Miss Tweeddale.

The term opened in January, with the usual attendance. Soon after the opening it was found necessary for Miss Stahl to go to Darjeeling, to take charge of Arcadia, and Miss Widdifield was appointed Principal.

With an efficient corps of teachers, in which there were few changes, each department of school work has been conducted on the same general lines which have proved satisfactory in the past, and we have had a prosperous year.

When the results of the last Government examination were published in January, it was found that the Calcutta Girls' High School had maintained its former high record in scholarship, and the High School class headed the Girls' Schools of Bengal. According to the Government report of the High Schools only three girls in all Bengal passed in the first division. All three were from this School, and two of them received Scholarships. Seven of the nine presented for the Middle School passed and for the Primary, twenty-four were presented, fourteen of whom passed.

The gold medal promised by the Committee at the last distribution to the girl who should pass highest in the Government High School Examination, was won by Miss Florrie Collins.

This year forty-three candidates were presented for all examinations, but the results are not yet known.

The faithful earnest work of the teachers in all the standards is a matter of much gratification to all the friends and patrons of the school.

Miss Caw has again had the work in the Middle and High School classes which she has done so successfully for many years past. She has been assisted by Miss Muller of Naini Tal.

Miss Barker and Miss Staples have done good work in the Sixth and Fifth Standards.

Miss Frost has had charge of the Fourth Standard in which the attendance has been unusually large during the past year. She has done faithful and efficient work. After the May holiday it was thought best to divide the class on account of the increased numbers, and a
division of it was given to Miss Allnutt who had previously taught this Standard in the Arcadia School at Darjeeling.

Miss Wittenbaker and Miss Adams in Standards III and II have both had large classes and have done their work faithfully and well.

The kindergarten has had the usual number of little people, the enrolment at the class of the year being seventy-one. Miss Tweeddale, who has conducted this department so successfully for a number of years, is planning to open a training class at the beginning of the new year for young teachers who desire training in kindergarten work.

The music department, with Mr. J. S Derrick in charge of the vocal classes, and Mrs. Shepherd of the instrumental, has been as satisfactory as usual. In June, seven girls sat for the Trinity College examination in Theory of Music. Five passed, and obtained a high percentage of marks, Miss Mary Baker scoring 98 out of a possible 100. In May, a successful concert was given in Dalhousie Institute. The nett proceeds were Rs. 163, which were given to the Girls’ Orphanage.

The Scripture course planned by the Pastors’ Association has been followed throughout the year, and in December a committee from the Association conducted an examination in all the standards, giving the Fifth Standard and upwards a written examination, and the fourth and all below an oral one.

Thanks are due to Dr. Moses, whose services as attending physician are much appreciated by the managers of the school, and by the patrons. The health of the school was never better than it has been this year, a fact which speaks well for the boarding department.

It is impossible, at this early date, to speak definitely of plans for the new year. We are glad, however, to state that Miss Samson, an experienced teacher from the United States, has arrived, and will take up work in the school at the beginning of the year.

The ladies who examined the Needle-work reports as follows:

A committee of ladies met at the Calcutta Girls’ School on December 7th, to examine the needle-work done by the pupils during the year. They were pleased with the work, and found it up to the grade of former years, excepting that by the Third Standard no sewing was presented and the samplers shown were of inferior quality. Some good work had to be set aside, on account of the garments having been washed. We would suggest that tucks should be run, and not back stitched, as was done in a few cases.

Prizes were awarded as seen in the prize list.

Signed by the Committee. { MARGUERETTE E. WARNE.
{ ANNIE F. REMFRY.
{ CARRIE J. SAMSON.

Scripture Examinations.

Standards V.—VIII. of the Girls’ School had the same papers as those of the Boys, and the results were somewhat similar. The lowest standards of the Girls’ School were examined orally by Mr Brockway, who reports as follows:—
"I orally examined Standards I to IV of the Calcutta Girls' School in their Scripture course, and for the most part found that the children had been well taught and answered readily and exactly. Standard III, which had studied the life of Christ, did especially well, three of the girls answering every question exactly. The classes were evidently well managed and trained and it was therefore quite a pleasure and a privilege to examine them."

REV. DAVID RAID,

Examiner.

DEACONESS HOME.

MISS MAXEY.

The year 1899 has brought the Deaconess Home no remarkable changes, and shall we hope that it has borne away a record of some little good done, some lives made brighter, some dark places made light, some strangers entertained and made welcome to the best we had to give?

Again we have to thank the friends for gifts and helps in various ways, but most of all for sympathy and words of cheer. We have missed some of those who have helped us in the former years. But our heavenly Father, not unmindful of his promise, has not suffered us to lack any good thing. Perhaps no one is so much missed as our good friend Mrs. May. From the opening of the Deaconess Home, she has been one who was always ready to help in love and sympathy, as well as in wise advice. We miss her, but rejoice that she has been welcomed to that heavenly home that was a very real place to her.

There have been in the Home this year Miss Blair and Miss Lamb who are both engaged in the Bengali work. Their work will be reported elsewhere. Dr. Mulford has recently come to our Home, and we believe that she is God-sent and has a wide field of work opened to her. One of the blessings that God sent us this year, was the privilege of having with us, for a few months, Brother and Sister Lee. He, whose they are and whom they serve, alone knows the blessing they were to the Home. It was a sacred privilege to have them with us at the time that they had to face the sad picture of their own home left desolate, because of the crowning of those who were the light and joy of home and life. Many lives have been made stronger and purer, broader and sweeter, because of the triumph of faith in the lives of our brother and sister.

Since the first of May there have been 1607 calls made in the homes of our English Church people. This is a part of the work that has always been remembered with pleasure. The welcome given has been one of the ways that the Father has fulfilled His promise to give a hundredfold, in exchange for that which we give up.

We look out into the coming year with this assurance that our Father has undertaken for this Home and that he will use it to glorify himself.
GIRLS’ ORPHANAGE.
MISS CRAIG, Missionary.

In February, 1899, a change in the management of the Girls’ Orphanage was found necessary. Miss Stahl, who had charge of it, was transferred to other work in Darjeeling, and because of this the Orphanage had to be given over to the care of others. The writer of this was put in charge, and entered upon the duties about the 1st of February. At that time there were about thirty girls in the Orphanage, with Miss Wallis as an assistant in this work. About the 1st of April a position in the School as a teacher was given her, and she left us to enter upon her duties there. She was succeeded by Mrs. Switzer in the Orphanage who has been with us up to the present. During the early part of the year the upper flat of this building was rented to families, but as time went on we had so many applications for children to be admitted we were obliged to take possession of part of the upper flat, for the accommodation of the children we took into this home. We closed the year with forty-six children enrolled. The work of the home, with the exception of the cooking, is done entirely by the girls, and we hope by this means to train girls in such ways that in the future they will be successful home-makers. These girls are willing and teachable, and will abundantly repay all efforts made in this direction. Owing to the fact of not being able to live with the girls, as careful supervision cannot be given to this work as it deserves, but we have tried to do the best possible under the circumstances, and trust that in the future some better arrangements can be made for them. Our experiences financially have been much the same as in the boys’ orphanage. Without any assured income we have been provided for month by month, and were able to close the year with a balance to our credit. We feel very grateful to the friends who have assisted in this work. The principal and teachers of the Calcutta Girls’ School helped us in this work in every possible way, and I would not forget to mention the Sunday hours that have been given. Perhaps in no day of the week is it so difficult to know how to keep the children profitably occupied. They are released from all other duties, and consequently have a good deal of leisure time. Miss Lamb very kindly gave an hour each Sunday to the girls during the early part of the year, and later on one of the teachers from the school. Only those who have the care of so many children can understand what a boon it is to have them pleasantly and profitably entertained during the Sunday hours when not in service. In the Christmas entertainment in the Calcutta Girls’ School these girls shared equally with the girls of the School, which kindness was very much appreciated. In the afternoon of Christmas Day they with the boys enjoyed the dinner furnished by a friend. We have also received a good deal of clothing during the year for the girls, which is very acceptable where so many have to be provided for. With the help and co-operation of friends we hope to make the year that is before us a profitable one for these children that have been committed to our care.
Reports.

The Dennett Training School and Bengali Zanana Work.

Mrs. Lee
Miss Lamb
Sharoginee Biswas
Bhago Buttee Biswas
Boshanto Ghose
Chrita Biswas
Ootton Biswas
Rhoda Biswas
Christie Biswas
Amula Ghose
Promilla Biswas
Krepomoy Mundal
Shoraj Mundal
Bishalukee Mullick
Torronginee Biswas
Hemanginee Biswas
Promoda Das
Luckee Chatterjee
Rahel Biswas
Echimohe Biswas

... Missionaries.

... Bible Women.

... Teachers.

This has been a year during which our work has been somewhat unsettled. We have kept about the same number—100—of pupils as last year. We have been unable to take in more for the want of room. We have been able to buy property and have altered it so that we now have a fine lot of class rooms for the upper standards. We are still in great need of dormitories—and a room for infant classes. We are negotiating for some additional land on which are two small houses, and we are hoping for a new building, after these arrangements are completed. We trust we will be able to enlarge our work, should we be spared another year. With all the inconveniences with which we have had to contend, the important part of our work has gone on, and we were able to send up thirty-five candidates to the Government examination, besides four sent up from Beg Began day school (under Mrs. Culshaw.) We have not yet received the results, but are expecting a large part of that number to pass. Last year eighteen passed in the different standards, and our Government grant has been considerably increased. The spiritual work has been encouraging. The eight new workers put out from the training department have done good work, and we have had ten Bible women at work most of the year. Two of these have since been transferred to Tumlook, and are doing a good work there.
Our day schools have also increased—one new one with about sixty pupils having been opened. The Sunday-school work has also been encouraging. We now reach on Sunday over 500 children. Our Zenana work is most interesting, and I am surprised that more Christian women do not take up this service for Jesus. The women receive us so gladly—and there are many more calls than we can fill.

Our old Jhee (the woman who gathers the children for school) died this year. She had been working in our Mission for about 15 years. She was very faithful in her work of gathering in the children for the school but she never gave up the worship of idols. I often said to her when she came with a fresh mark on her forehead, "Well, Jhee, how much longer are you going to worship idols and this, too, when you have heard so much about Jesus. This is the only name given under heaven whereby we can be saved."

One Friday she received her pay, and went home. On the following Sunday a little Hindu girl came to call us, the teacher and myself, saying that Jhee was dying and wanted to see us. We went. The poor woman was in great distress of mind and body. She was looking for our coming; as soon as she saw us she called out to me, "O, mem, what name was that? I am dying and I do wish to go to that happy place. Who is it that can save me?" We told her Jesus who died for us. He alone can save. We then taught her how to pray to him, and she began to ask him to save her from sin. She seemed to quiet down and we left her. In a few hours after she died; her last words were "Jesus, Jesus." We trust she claimed him by faith and that we will find her one day among the redeemed.

We are thankful for the working of God's spirit in our midst; several of our worst girls have been converted, and are becoming most helpful to us among the others. Our revival services have borne good fruit, as we who see the daily lives of the girls can notice as no others can. We are putting out five or six new workers this year. The Lord willing, we hope to open up new stations this year and man them with workers who have been trained with us.

We are thankful for God's mercy in continuing us in this blessed work, and for the prayers answered. We welcome back to us Dr. Mulford. There is a wide field before her and we by faith see a mission hospital in the near future. We also welcome Miss Moyer, who, we trust, as soon as she has gotten the language, will be able to introduce Kindergarten in our training school—a thing for which we have so long wished. Our text last year was, "Ah! Lord God, there is nothing too hard for Thee!" and so the year has proved it to be.

This year we have taken for our watchword, "My God shall supply all your need," Phil. 4, 18. And we go forward trusting in Him.

Ada Lee.
BENGALI ZANANA WORK.

When I had learned to sing the Bengali hymns and read the story of the creation and of Christ's life, I started out with the hope of finding forty or fifty houses where they had not been taught the words. Soon I found it was not easy to stop with the number I could visit once a week, as is thought best, while singing in one house the neighbouring women would send their children to ask me to come to their homes, or if it was in a village the women themselves would take me to the houses of friends. In some houses I heard myself announced as the Jesus mem sahib, in others, as the mem sahib who sang Jesus' songs and read the Jesus book; and once I was surprised to hear a boy who evidently had no ear for music, introduce me as a beautiful singer!

Occasionally I found those who were not willing to hear about a new religion, and I had to wait until the way was prepared. After a few minutes' conversation their fears and doubts would vanish sufficiently for them to allow me to sing, and then as they heard about Christ's love they were won and anxious to know all the story. Finally I had more than a hundred houses which I got around to as often as I could. In some of the Zananas the young wives and children have learned "What can wash away my sins?" and another song about Jesus. A number are learning to read and after awhile will be able to read their own Bibles.

Comparatively few Zanana women are baptised unless the entire family comes out, because to do so means to leave their homes; but I believe many are living the light they have and rearing their children in the Christian faith.

Truly "the harvest is white" and there is untold joy in the reaping. EMMA L. LAMB.

HINDUSTANI MISSION ZANANA WORK.

We are very glad to report that although our work is new, yet it is growing daily. Since January a woman's class is opened among the Christians of our congregation; we believe that this little effort will help us in securing workers for our work which we need very much. We have nothing to pay these women in any way regarding their support, but we have supplied them with books prescribed in the Zanana Course, and are expected to pass a regular examination. Zanana Work is in growing condition, since we gave our last report in the District Conference. Seven new houses have been opened, and a special care is taken for Christian women and children, which is hopeful.

DAY SCHOOLS.

The number of these schools has increased since our last report; number on roll at present is 42. Visits in Zananas for 5 months 219, attendance 1125. Hospitals 15, attendance 90. We thank Miss Maxey very much for the kind help given to us in securing books for these women.

MRS. DOWRING.
SOUTH VILLAGE WORK.

CHAMPAHATI.

There is a girls' school just started. The number of girls is about 28. Adharbala Roy is teaching them diligently. The condition of the school is satisfactory. I have taught in the Sunday School of the Dharamtala Girls' School for the grown up girls, and also the girls of the Junior League. I have besides taken care of the congregation when necessary. For the last six months I have not been able to do much in the city owing to our removal. I am sorry that for want of travelling expenses I have not been able to work at distant places. Hope the members of the committee will remove this difficulty.

MRS. MOZUMDAR.

TUMLOOK.

Miss Blair  Missionary.
Golap Singh  Bible Women.
Giri Bala Biswas  Teachers.
Dikko Singh
Giri Bala Sircar

At the District Conference in October I was given charge of our work in Tumlook, a place fifty-six miles from Calcutta, reached by steamer down the Hugli and up the Rupnarayan. It had been impossible for some time to keep a Bible woman there, since no one could be induced to live there without a lady in charge. So the Bible visiting had been given up for a while. The school remained; a fine day school of some forty-five little girls. It has rapidly increased, and now we have an enrolment of nearly sixty, and I have no doubt could be worked up to a much higher figure if only there were room for more girls. But at present all have to be accommodated in one not very large room which does very well so long as they are sitting with folded hands waiting for the signal to depart, but becomes somewhat straitened when the school machinery is in full motion. We look forward to the day, however, when not only we, but they, shall have better quarters. I have with me two teachers, one well qualified to take the upper classes, and the other a good motherly girl who does nicely for the lower classes.

Two Bible women went with me, and have taken up the work heartily. We are trying to find the houses of all the school children, where we shall visit if allowed. And there seems to be very little difficulty in getting into them. Nearly every where we are gladly received, and some are particularly cordial in urging us to come again. The outlook seems exceedingly encouraging, and the possible extension of the work almost limitless. As I already hinted, we look forward to the day when our own buildings shall shelter us.
is land ready and waiting to build upon whenever the money for build-
ing is provided.

Kate A. Blair.

Darjeeling: Arcadia Girls' School.

Miss Stahl ... ... Principal.
Miss Counsel
Miss Wells
Miss Galstaun
Miss Britain
Miss Williamson
Miss Lawrence
Mrs. Short
Mrs. Carne

The term began in March, with a large proportion of the former pupils and a good number of new ones in attendance. As it was necessary for Miss Knowles to have a year's rest at home, Miss Stahl took charge of the school at the beginning of the year. The teachers, for the most part, continued in the positions they have filled so acceptably for several years: Miss Lawrence in the music department, Mrs. Carne in French, and Mrs. Short in drawing and painting. There were a few changes necessary as Miss Foy resigned her position to be married, and Miss Allnutt was obliged to give up her work because of her health. Miss Wells, Miss Britain and Miss Galstaun have filled the vacancies thus left in the staff of teachers.

Since the last report was made, the examination results show that Miss Ethel Cox, presented by Arcadia for the University entrance examination in 1899, passed first in the list of female candidates, with honours in French. The three girls presented for the Government Middle School examination all passed, and two of the four presented for the Primary. Fourteen girls sat for the London College examination in the Theory of Music, held at Darjeeling in July, and all but two passed, five of them in the First Division. The prize awarded by the London College for the highest marks at each centre, was won by Flora Robinson, in the Junior Pass Division, who is credited with 98 out of a possible 100 marks.

During the year, Miss Lawrence was compelled by failing health to give up her work and return to her home in England, a necessity very much regretted by the management of the school as well as by herself. Thanks are due to Mrs. Carne for consenting to take the pupils on the piano until a permanent teacher could be engaged, and to Mrs. Shepherd who so kindly came to us during the summer holidays and
coached the classes in Theory of Music, during the last few weeks before the examination. The girls did themselves and their teachers much credit, in winning the high results mentioned above, notwithstanding the disadvantage of a change of teachers.

That satisfactory progress is made in this department is attested by the large and increasing number of pupils enrolled for drawing and painting. The pupils would have had a fine display of their work by the end of the year, had it not been for the unfortunate closing of the school prematurely.

Aside from the inevitable round of colds, consequent upon the change from the plains, and one case of more serious illness, in the first month, the health of the school has been almost perfect. The bright appearance of the children upon reaching Calcutta, notwithstanding the trying experiences through which they had passed, was remarked by many. Sincere thanks are due to Dr. Baldwin Seal, for his careful, prompt attention whenever his services were required.

There is a beautiful home life, and a close association between teachers and pupils possible in a school of this size, which is impossible in a larger school. This home life, which has been a pleasant feature of Arcadia from the beginning, was prominent this year also. The Christian Endeavour societies, senior and junior, held weekly meetings, in which the pupils were much interested. The Sunday services at the Union Chapel, including the Sunday School, were much appreciated by them also.

The terrible catastrophe of the 25th September in consequence of which the school was closed so unexpectedly, is so well understood as to need little explanation here. However, there are one or two points it may be well to mention.

The loss of life at Arcadia was caused by the falling in of the walls of the room in Ida Villa in which the children were at the time.

It may not be generally known that there were nine ladies, including the lady principal and teachers, sitting in the room with the children when the walls fell, nearly all of whom were more or less injured. It is the opinion of those who understand all the circumstances, that if instead of the ladies there had been nine strong men in the room, and all other conditions as they were, the result would have been the same. The walls collapsed without any warning, giving no opportunity for rescuing those seated in the corner where the two walls met. Had the walls of the building been wood, and not stone, the probabilities in favour of saving the lives of all the children would have been much greater.
The governors of the school, and Miss Stahl, wish to express their grateful appreciation of the sympathy shown and help given in that trying time, by the residents and general public of Darjeeling. They feel that thanks are especially due to the men and women, who, in the darkness and storm, risked their lives in various ways to help to rescue the imperilled children; to the proprietor of the Grand Hotel and to the Scotch Mission for receiving and sheltering the pupils and teachers until they could be transferred to Calcutta; to the clergymen of the station, and all others who assisted in the arrangements for the beautiful and impressive funeral of the children, on the morning of the 27th September.

It was agreed to put on record an expression of the profound grief with which the Governors had received the news of the Divine visitation of the 25th September by which ten pupils of the Girls' and Boys' Schools had lost their lives at Darjeeling: and to assure the bereaved parents of their deepest sympathy. The Governors bow before this move of God's far-seeing Providence, note with awe and gratitude the special manner in which the children about to be called away were led to fix their mind on heavenly things during several days before the disaster, and unite with the parents, the other relatives, the teacher, and the companions, of the departed in waiting for the time when all will be gathered in the presence of Christ for ever.

Among the many kind expressions of sympathy the calamity at Darjeeling has called forth, we have pleasure in mentioning the action of the Calcutta Auxiliary Bible Society, which has sent a souvenir Testament to each pupil of Arcadia. These will be much prized and appreciated by the children.

The arrangements for the teaching staff for next year are not yet complete, but either Miss Knowles or Miss Stahl will be in charge of the school, and no effort will be spared to maintain the present high reputation for efficiency in each department. We hope in coming years, with God's blessing, to make the School a great boon to the European girls of Bengal.

The school will re-open as usual, in March. Every care has been taken in the selection of premises, and the property known as Queen's Hill has been decided upon. The following is an extract from the report of the Municipal Engineer, dated Darjeeling, 23rd November, 1899.

"I examined the Queen's Hill property to-day, and found that with the exception of a petty slip behind the servants' quarters, it has not suffered any damage during the late cyclone and rains—and if the following small alterations are carried out, I would have no hesitation in pronouncing it perfectly safe and secure from the likelihood of any landslips."
TIRhoot District.

Masafarpur.

Mrs. Jackson  Missionaries.
Miss Soderstrom Deaconess.
Miss Campbell  Bible Women.
Ruth          Teachers.
Eliza
Unda
Bupee

Mazafarpur: Girls' Orphanage.

The past year, though fraught with many blessings has been one of peculiar trial owing to the prevailing ill-health of the children. For months together it was more like a hospital than a school. To have at one time from ten to twelve children suffering was a common experience. Ten have gone to the land where the 'inhabitants shall not say I am sick.' One dear girl entirely lost her eye-sight, and another has become partially blind, being just able to see a little out of one eye. Some others who were in great danger of going blind have had their sight mercifully restored.

Every care that was possible has been taken of the girls and at present I am thankful to report that the general health is much improved. One of the European doctors of the station has given his medical advice free of charge and has been indeed a friend to the children in their hour of need. Another gentleman has paid all their medicine bills; no small account when at times the cost of the medicines came to more than a rupee a day. Some of the bigger girls have been learning embroidery and they might have been able to earn a little money by it, but their sickness prevented this, still the knowledge has been acquired and if they have better health in the year before us they may be able to get through more work. Sickness has also been the cause of their not being able to study as usual during the past year, so instead of their usual prize distribution, through the kindness of friends I was enabled to have an inexpensive Christmas tree for them which they enjoyed thoroughly. Mr. Jackson kindly presided on the occasion and some of the ladies and gentlemen of the station were present, and were much pleased with the children's singing and recitations. We have great cause for thankfulness that during the recent cholera epidemic our little flock was preserved from the scourge though it came to our very gate, and for a while was all around us; but the Lord's crowning mercy has been in drawing twenty of the girls to give their hearts to Him. They are now all Christian children with the exception of the little ones who are too young yet to understand, and three who are half-witted. Eight have joined the Church on probation. Eleven of them wish to be trained
Reports.

as workers, and for these I hope to start a Bible Class as soon as Conference is over. Most of them belong to a mission band, and some have been out on Sunday afternoons to sing the Gospel to the women among whom Miss Soderstrom works.

They enjoy it very much, and as they listen to the way the gospel message is delivered it teaches them the work they are anxious to learn. We have a league and Sunday School to which Mr. Jackson’s boys also belong. In these departments the children and officers have given two rupees to the missionary collection and three rupees to the starving children in the famine districts. Two rupees more have been pledged for the latter purpose and fifteen of our girls are earning as much as they can toward it. On the 16th of this month one of the bigger girls was married, and the ceremony was barely over when one of the smaller children fell into a kind of fit, and for three hours we never left her side expecting every minute to be her last. Mr. Jackson hurried away for the doctor who came very promptly and prescribed for her, but pronounced her dying. Later on he came again and found her better and after three hours consciousness began to return and she is now convalescent. I mention this to show you with what startling suddenness illnesses occur among famine orphans! But

``The inner side of every cloud
Is bright and shining,
I therefore turn my clouds about,
And always wear them inside out
To show the lining."

The brightest side is that the children are ready to go when they are called. And in view of the great reductions made in the money allowed for the Orphanage, and the hard times it may mean for the remaining children I can see the Lord’s mercy in providing for the ten He has called to Himself, and say with the Psalmist: “Because thy loving kindness is better than life my lips shall praise thee.”

L. A. Campbell.

Evangelistic Work.

By the arrangement of the presiding elder, Rev. H. Jackson who allowed Rs. 15 from the orphanage fund, and the generosity of a kind Christian friend who gave monthly donations, this work was carried on during the past year. We have been able to visit 85 Mahallas each consisting of from 5 to 12 households; and also 3 Villages, and 10 wayside places.

In the beginning of our visits to the homes many of the women and children would run away screaming at the top of their voices, “Sahib ata hai,” which means “Gentleman is coming” (of course I was the man.)

But now whenever they see us, they ask us to come and talk to them, and we gladly go, praising God for another opportunity of telling the story of the cross. It would take too much time to tell
the many interesting incidents which occur in the work all the time. Many are enquiring into the truth both men and women; often as we speak we see the tears running down their faces as they ask, "Who is this Yishu Masih," and when we tell them I wish you could see their faces brighten. One woman I specially remember lifted up her hands toward heaven and cried, "Oh such words I never heard before; oh such words; can your Yishu Masih forgive my sins?" Such expressions encourage us to believe that the light is finding its way into darkened hearts.

One young woman whom I noticed following us from place to place on the different roads has come over and been baptized; she is now learning to read and write and we trust some day she may become a worker for Christ.

We have also a day school with 36 names on roll, mostly Mohammedans.

We continue to ask for a lady physician for this station. During the cholera epidemic Miss Campbell and myself gave medicine to over fifty patients; a box of "Pain Killer" was sent to me and used with great success. We are in great need of buildings in this place, and hope our ladies at home will consider our need and by a gift from Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 20,000 our needs would be supplied. At present there is no orphanage and no home for converts, and women and children have to be kept in the Ladies' Mission House. Praising our Father for all His mercies and blessings in the past, we still go on trusting Him for the future, knowing that He will fulfill all His promises to those who believe:

Standing on the promises that cannot fail,
When the howling storms of doubts and fears assail,
By the living word of God I shall prevail—
Standing on the promises of God.

A. E. Söderström.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAMES OF DISTRICT AND CHARGE</th>
<th>NAME OF MISSIONARY IN CHARGE</th>
<th>NATIVE WORK</th>
<th>ENGLISH WORK</th>
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<td>Orphans</td>
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**Asansol District:**
- Asansol: Mrs. Byers, Miss Forster
  - Day Schools: No. Non-Christian Women, No. Pupils on Roll
  - Orphans: No. Christian Girls
  - Books and Tracts: No. No. of Gifts distributed
  - Sunday Schools: No. Tracts distributed
  - Property: No. Sunday Schools
  - Medical Work: No. No. of Patients treated
  - Boarding School: No. No. of Boarders
  - Orphans: No. of Orphans

**Burma District:**
- Rangoon: Miss Turret, Miss F. Perkins
- Pegu: Miss J. Smith
- Thandaung: Miss P. Perkins

**Calcutta District:**
- Bengali work: Mrs. D. H. Lee
  - Day Schools: No. Non-Christian Women, No. Pupils on Roll
  - Orphans: No. Christian Girls
  - Books and Tracts: No. No. of Gifts distributed
  - Sunday Schools: No. Tracts distributed
  - Property: No. Sunday Schools
  - Medical Work: No. No. of Patients treated
  - Boarding School: No. No. of Boarders
  - Orphans: No. of Orphans
- Calcutta Girl's School: Mrs. J. Culshaw
- Deaconess Home: Miss Widdifield
- Hindustani work: Miss Maxey, Mrs. Dowring, Miss Craig
- Girls' Orphanage: Miss C. J. Stahl
- Darjeeling Girls' School: Mrs. D. H. Lee
- Thumlook: Miss Soderstrom, Miss Campbell

**Tirhoot District:**
- Mozafarpur: Miss Campbell
  - Day Schools: No. Non-Christian Women, No. Pupils on Roll
  - Orphans: No. Christian Girls
  - Books and Tracts: No. No. of Gifts distributed
  - Sunday Schools: No. Tracts distributed
  - Property: No. Sunday Schools
  - Medical Work: No. No. of Patients treated
  - Boarding School: No. No. of Boarders
  - Orphans: No. of Orphans

**TOTAL:**
- Bible Work: 2,127
- Day Schools: 686
- Orphans: 5,361
- Books and Tracts: 1,177
- Sunday Schools: 430
- Property: 430
- Medical Work: 420
- Boarding School: 300
- Orphans: 217
### GENERAL STATISTICS W. F. M. S.

**Amount received in India for the work of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, for 1899.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Names of Districts and Charges</th>
<th>Names of Missionary in Charge</th>
<th>Grant-in-aid</th>
<th>Donation and subscriptions</th>
<th>Local Missionary Station</th>
<th>Tuition and Board of English School</th>
<th>Fees in Native Schools</th>
<th>Total received from each station</th>
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*Note: All amounts are in Indian Rupees.*