Ahmednagar City

AHMEDNAGAR CITY: Population 38,300; 100 Miles East of Bombay.

Number of Churches - 2
" Communicants - 1143
" Bec'd on profession in 1911 - 54
Total Christian Community - 1521
Contributions for 1911 - Rs. 1488 = $496
Number of Pastors - 3

No. of Preachers - 5
" Biblewomen - 19
" Schools - 10
" Teachers - 105
" Christian Pupils - 703
" Non-Christian Pupils - 548
" Sunday Schools - 17
" S. S. Pupils - 1242

Patients in Hospital and Dispensary, 15,256.
AHMEDNAGAR CITY.

The names and the work of missionaries stationed in Ahmednagar are as follows:—

Rev. R. A. HUME, D.D.:—Church work, Theological Seminary, Parner District.

Rev. and Mrs. HENRY FAIRBANK:—High School and Sir D. M. Petit School of Industrial Arts, Alice House, Chapin Home.

Rev. and Mrs. H. G. BISSELL:—Church and Evangelistic work, Kolgaon District, Bible Women. (Mr. Bissell has been in charge of Dr. Hume's work during the latter's furlough.)

Mr. and Mrs. D. C. CHURCHILL:—Industrial work, Bible Woman's Training School, Hymn book revision.

Rev. and Mrs. A. H. CLARK:—Union Training School.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. BURR:—Literary Department of the High School, Harris Hall Dormitory.

Mrs. C. HARDING:—Missionary Emeritus.

Miss GATES:—Girls' School, Farrar Schools.

Miss STEPHENSON, M.D.:—Hospital for Women.

Miss BRUCE:—Vernacular Department of the Girls' School, Farrar Schools.

Miss JOHNSON:—Superintendent of Nurses.

MISS HARRIS:—Language Study.

Mr. and Mrs. CHURCHILL returned from furlough in July, and Dr. R. A. HUME returned in September. Miss RUTH P. HUME, M.D., went on furlough in May, and Miss BISSELL in June.

Mr. FAIRBANK writes:—"Two matters connected with the whole community have affected us deeply, plague and famine. Towards the end of August it was reported that plague had broken out in the city and that rats were dying in the High School compound. We at once set to work killing rats and inoculating people. The Civil Surgeon was most interested in the work of inoculation. He ordered serum by wire from Bombay, and it was not long before 1200 Christian people had been inoculated as well as a number of the non-Christian boys and teachers. Among all this large number of inoculated persons not a single one has had plague. Urged partly by the example and words of missionaries and Indian Christians, the people in the city came forward to be inoculated, overcoming superstition and suspicion, and the last statement was that in all over 5000 people were inoculated. We are happy to say that the plague has now practically disappeared from the city."
"During the first part of the rainy season we had seasonable, abundant rains. On one day in Ahmednagar seven inches fell. But for two months there was almost no rain at the time when the fall is ordinarily heaviest. This shortage of rain and the threatened failure of the crops have made additional burdens. We are glad to report that some rain fell in the last two weeks of November. But there will be a great deal of suffering still."

The past year has been marked by the erection of several new buildings. A Nurses' Home has been built for the Woman's Hospital, and extensive alterations have been made on the dormitories to be occupied by the Union Training School. In connection with the Girls' School a bungalow and school building have been erected, and work begun on two new dormitories.

The Ahmednagar schools and Christian community have had their full share in the festivities and inspiration of the coming of the King and Queen. The extensive mission buildings were never before so resplendent as they were on December 12, both by day and by night, while songs and addresses and meetings for prayer brought home to all the deeper significance of this great event.

3,000 AHMEDNAGAR SCHOOL CHILDREN, OF WHOM 1,400 ARE IN OUR MISSION SCHOOLS, CELEBRATING DABBAR DAY.

Ahmednagar Station is proud that the special hymn sung throughout the length and breadth of the Marathi country in hamlet and city, by pupils of every class and creed, was composed by our gifted and devoted brother, Rev. N. V. Tilak, of the Theological Seminary.
On December 26th there was a joint Christmas celebration similar to the one held last year. Christians from the S. P. G. Mission, the Salvation Army, the Roman Catholic Church, and the American Marathi Mission, as well as many non-Christians, met together on a large open field which had been especially decorated for the occasion, and joined in enjoying the games, music, and platform addresses. We believe that such Christian melas will have great significance in the development of the Indian Church.

Rev. Shahurao Modak is the pastor of the First Church, and Rev. Rawji Sathe is the assistant pastor.

The First Church. Mr. Modak writes:— "For a little more than a year and a half I have had the privilege of serving the First Church in Ahmednagar as one of its pastors. It is a large flock, and I feel sure cannot be well attended to by any one unless the Lord Himself helps him. This year we remodelled the constitution of the church, so as to make it more effectual and fruitful. I have felt much joy at the willingness of the church to do more for the Lord. More than fifty souls have been added to the church.

"My church and I shall have to agree to disagree as to which of us loves the other more. When in July last my people accidentally became aware of the fact that the Lord had loved me and borne with me for fifty years, they stormed my pulpit to give thanks to the Master for the mercy shown to me, and loaded me with garlands of flowers. It is my earnest prayer that this church may be and do all that the Lord desires."

Hariba Shelke, Superintendent of the First Church Sunday School, writes:— "Every Sunday morning about 700 boys and girls meet to study the International Sunday School Lessons. In the Primary Sunday School, which is held in the Old Church, there are twelve classes, while in the Senior Sunday School there are thirty-two. The teaching, except in a few advanced classes, is done in Marathi. In order to encourage giving we have two banners which are awarded to the two classes which have given most during each month.

"On Friday evenings Rev. H. Fairbank leads a Teachers' Class. Because of the interchange of thoughts, this class proves very helpful. Four rather large Sunday Schools and several smaller ones are being carried on for Hindu children in and near the city."

Wamanrao Makasare president of the Senior C.E. Society, writes as follows:— "In Ahmednagar there are eleven C.E. Societies with about 600 members. A union meeting of all the Societies is held once in two months. Some of the
girls from the Sunshine Society carry on a Sunday School which is attended by about 150 Hindu boys and girls. The boys from the Suwartik (bearer of good news) Society go every Saturday afternoon to villages within a few miles of Ahmednagar, to preach. They also carry on five small Sunday Schools. The Senior Conquerors and Gideon’s Band Societies have visited eighteen villages with their magic lantern, and have preached to more than 1600 people. Members of the Senior Society have distributed thousands of tracts during the year. Through the efforts of one of them two men and one woman have become Christians. God grant that in such ways Hindi-stan may soon become Christi-stan!"

Mr. BISSELL writes:—"The ‘Station Conference’ is an organization making itself known and felt. At its last meeting a committee of two missionaries and two Indians was appointed to consider the question of the authority of the conference. The body is composed of all the Ahmednagar missionaries, fourteen in active service, and about an equal number of representatives of the two churches and the Christian community. It has heretofore considered only matters of general interest to the progress of the kingdom. Its resolutions, few in number, have not been binding. The feeling has been growing that such a body should, to be effective, have more authority. This important question, now to be considered, is sure to result in increasing the efficiency of the organization."

Mr. TILAK writes:—"The year has passed with an abundance of joyful service. Foremost is the continuation of work on the epic ‘Christayana,’ the life of Christ in metre, in the style of the well known Marathi puranas of the Hindus. Another effort has been the production of three minor poems entitled ‘The Hermit Flower,’ ‘The Haystack,’ and ‘Britannia.’ The first is a discussion of the relative values of passive and active life. The second was inspired in October 1910, at the time of the American Board’s Centennial. ‘Britannia’ has for its subject the blessings which, under providence, accrue from the British rule over India.

"A considerable part of my time has been spent in giving public addresses. These have been before large bodies of students and young men, mostly non-Christians, but also before conventions of Christians and crowded village companies. An extended speaking trip of several days was made by invitation in the area of the American Presbyterian Mission, Kolhapur.

"More of my time than I can account for goes in personal conversations and correspondence with non-Christians. Almost invariably
such association leads to very direct inquiries and answers about Christian teaching.

"I am grateful to God for such rare opportunities of service among my countrymen, and believe that the thoughtful hearers of the Gospel are increasing in India in all the walks of life."

Rev. BENJAMIN P. UMAP has for many years been the enterprising leader of work for Bhils and Manges, two of the most depressed and neglected sections of the community. In addition he is acting pastor of the second church of Ahmednagar city, of the Jeur church, North, and the Astagaon church, South of the city. He writes:—"I find that a very small part of the work of a pastor consists in the conduct of appointed services. He must continually be in touch with his people, and must attempt in every possible way to better their condition, and must show them genuine Christian sympathy at all times. Still it is gratifying to report that the services have been regularly conducted and sustained with interest. We have made much use of the Magic Lantern and of evening song-services."

Dr. HUME writes:—"My aims and hopes in beginning what may be a last period of service are:—first, to help to develop and train a strong company of Indian Christian leaders, and to place more and more responsibility of all kinds on them for the enlargement of God's Kingdom under the supreme leadership of the Lord Jesus Christ; second, to help Indians to make the divine Lord Jesus not a distant and imaginary, but a present, Helper, and to make the Holy Spirit not a theoretical, but a present, Companion and Guide; third, in this way to help to develop a simple, real, large experience and outlook which, through such leaders, shall have an important part in developing a domesticated Christian thought and life which shall have vital value not only for India, but for the world. What a privilege to have even a small part in such an undertaking!"

Mrs. BISSELL writes:—"The noon class for the Bible women, for the first time in its history, is being taught by one of the senior women, and she deserves the greatest praise and commendation for her painstaking work. There are so few commentaries and helps of any sort written in Marathi that her task is not an easy one.

"When plague broke out and the Bible women found it in the homes they visited, the Station voted to suspend their work for a time and they were immediately told this decision; but when they came around on the first of the next month they reported work as usual. In the terror
and distress of the city homes they saw an opportunity for unusual Christian ministry, and in order to use this opportunity they had daily exposed themselves to the fell disease. Soon, however, the city was largely deserted and the work had to be suspended. One of the Bible women makes it her business to become acquainted with the patients in the Woman's Hospital. She also follows them to their homes. Here she introduces others of the Bible women and passes on to new patients homes. More and more, although our women are mostly from the despised lower classes, the women of the city are coming to look upon them as friends whom they can trust.

"One day early in July a Bible woman was visiting in the home of one of the silk weavers in the city. On this day the youngest child, a boy of perhaps four years old, fell and broke his right fore-arm. The Bible woman begged that he be taken at once to our hospital. But the oldest brother, thinking he knew better, took him to a fakir—a religious mendicant. Ten days later the child was brought to our hospital in terrible agony, and for weeks there seemed no hope of saving the arm. But finally, to every one's surprise, the bone knit and the flesh filled in. The father, mother and elder brother have been constant attendants at church service ever since."

The Bible Woman's Training Class has not been in session during the past year, but it is expected that a new class will begin work in July.

Mr. BisSELL writes:—"The regular work of the Theological Seminary was again omitted during 1911 because of the absence of Dr. R. A. Hume in America. His absence brought unusual pressure of general work on some of the other instructors so that it was not possible, as in the previous year, to arrange for 'Extension Work' which did much for preachers and other Christian workers in the districts.

"Next June, however, the Seminary will resume its work of assembling classes for instruction. Two classes are being arranged for. One will receive most of the instruction in English, and will begin a full course of probably four years. Another class will receive most of its instruction in the vernacular. Members of this class will be those who have approved themselves as worthy by some years of faithful Christian service. The course of study will be adapted to their attainments.

"Plans for joining forces with some other Missions in the conduct of the Seminary are still under way. The regular staff of instructors is Rev. R. A. Hume, D.D., Rev. H. G. BisSell, M.A., Rev. A. H. Clark, M.A., Rev. N. V. Tilak, Rev. T. Nathoji. Some instruction will also
be given by Rev. W. Hazen, M.A., Rev. R. E. Hume, Ph.D., and Rev. S. V. Karmarkar, B.D."

Mr. Clark writes:—"The Union Training School is under the joint management of the United Free Church Union Training School. Mission and the American Marathi Mission. It trains Christian teachers for all missions working in this language area, and we hope to welcome other missions to a share in its management soon. The Marathi Mission furnishes the plant and the missionary in charge. About two thirds of the pupils come from the Ahmednagar Collectorate and the remaining third from points as distant as 400 miles to the north or south. Indeed some of our pupils come from Hindi and Canarese districts and speak a very faulty Marathi.

"While on furlough in 1910 we raised, with the help of the American Board, about $8000 for land and buildings, as the school was at the time in unsatisfactory, temporary quarters. After much discussion and investigation it seemed best to use land and buildings which were already in the hands of the Mission and which, by additions and alterations, would fit our needs.

"The changes involved were extensive, the largest being the tearing down of several hundred feet of the city wall, built of mud with a plinth of stone by the Mohammedan rulers of Ahmednagar, probably in 1564, before the first English settlements in America. This wall separated two parts of the proposed plant. Indeed it has been confining the

healthy growth of the whole city for years and is all destined to destruction some day on sanitary grounds. Permission to tear down this
wall was finally granted by the Governor-in-Council of Bombay, together with the gift of the materials of which it was made. These were of considerable value and have been built into several walls about our new grounds. We had also to close some old ways and build a new public lane, secure a strip of public land which jutted into the middle of our property, lay pipe and a double cistern,—one side for our pupils and the other for several hundred outside people,—and, in general, do considerable negotiating, tearing down and building up, in all of which we have found the officials involved helpful and generous. The net result is that we have a very desirable pair of school buildings, an adjoining set of dormitories which are simple but ample, and, across the playground from the dormitories, the residence of the missionary principal, a spacious and attractive old bungalow.

"Meanwhile the life of the school has been going on in its wonted routine. Preparing Christian teachers is essentially a work of painstaking daily teaching and contact. Strong Christian character is the primary aim, though we recognize that it is essential that our pupils acquire the knowledge and skill which their profession requires. Marked success in the Government examination, added to similar success last year, has greatly increased our prestige with the authorities. We have engaged a man of medical training to teach hygiene, and we have sent a picked young man to the Government Agricultural College with a view to teaching agriculture. The aim in both cases is to fit our students to play a useful part in the general life of the villages to which they are to go, where agriculture is all-important, and where disease runs riot, unchecked by proper care or sanitary provision.

"We have been spending much thought on the problem of religious instruction, but the most important training in this line in the school is that given by the voluntary work of the boys. Through their own Endeavour Society they all engage in the conduct of Sunday Schools in five Hindu quarters of the city, and in Saturday afternoon evangelistic work. In this work I encourage, inspect, suggest, but the boys themselves organize and conduct, with the help of Wamanrao Makasare, our zealous Endeavour leader.

"Our entering class this fall is of better training and promise than that of previous years. We hope that this is a prophesy of what we may expect in increasing measure in the future."

Mr. Burr writes:—"There are 240 students in the literary department of the High School. The results of the Government inspection this year were very favourable. We have had an unusually
large number of bright boys in the 7th standard and hope that many will pass the yearly government examinations.

DARBAR ADDRESSES TO 530 BOYS AT AHMEDNAGAR HIGH SCHOOL.

"We are still continuing the night school in English which we started last year in connection with the High School. We find that this is a saving in the time of the industrial boys, for they are able to continue their work all day without interruption and at the same time they are doing some studying. It is also a saving to the school, because classes would become too large and unwieldy for good work with the addition of the industrial boys. It has been a distinct loss to the school to have to close for nearly a month on account of plague.

"It is an inspiration and a joy to work with these boys, to see their minds unfolding, to watch them thinking for themselves and appreciating some of God's laws."

Mr. Fairbank writes:—"I have been impressed with the need and the opportunity for character-building in the industrial work of the school. As soon as boys are put on an independent basis, and realise that they have to earn enough for their own support, they are tempted to do scamp work. In the carpet room there is temptation to use only one thread of yarn instead of two, and to take two warp threads in one. If it is carefully done, the deceit is difficult to detect, though the carpet in the end looks thin. On the other hand, boys who are on their own feet are willing to work longer hours and pay stricter attention to business than boys who think their support is assured, whatever they do. It is our aim to teach
these pupils that the goods that go from the school should be up to what we claim for them.

"The different departments have had plenty of work to do. In the carpet room there are two carpets on the looms that are of the finest quality yet made in the school. In every square inch there are 400 stitches, while the ordinary carpets we make for the London market have 25 or 35 stitches to the inch. One carpet of this quality is going to take a year for six boys to make.

"In the carpentry department the boys have had a variety of work to do, from doors and windows to highly finished bureaus and tables. Some of the boys have gone this year to Bombay to work and are doing well there. It is a satisfaction to be able to report that the carpenters who have done all the wood-work on the new Girls' School are Christians, of whom a good many were trained in this school. There are also masons at work who were trained at Vadala. Ten years ago these boys were famine waifs, and to-day they are getting from six to fourteen annas a day.

"I have enjoyed very much teaching the Bible to the two highest classes in the High School, and conducting the Training class for the teachers of the Sunday School of the First Church."

Mr. Churchill writes:—"Returning from furlough is second in interest only to coming to the country for the first time. As one takes up his work anew the reasons for its existence seem to broaden.

"The principal thing I have to report this year is that my dream of a trade school seems somewhat nearer to fulfilment. While on furlough I received permission from the Prudential Committee to raise the necessary funds for this object. We also secured some substantial subscriptions and laid the foundation of an interest which we confidently expect will soon result in liberal giving.

"Meanwhile my work goes on as usual in the Experimental Department of the Sir D. M. Petit school, which is the embryo American Deccan Institute in cramped and very unsuitable quarters. The work is much as it has been. The loom, for the development of which Government has been furnishing the funds for over two years, is our principal problem, and day after day we are trying to get into standard form the parts of the loom so that a repair may be made by any one who can handle a monkey wrench or a screwdriver. In order to do this we are forced to use cast-iron, a material with which the native artisan is not familiar. We have had, therefore, to start a foundry where we are now making almost all of our own castings, both for looms and for the machine
shop. The making of tools, jigs and dies is a slow and tedious process anywhere, even by skilled hands; but when it comes to the making of such things in Ahmednagar by young men of no training it is indeed an uphill proposition,—but by no means impossible if one has patience and perseverance.

"Up to the present we have taken up no new trade except for the direct purpose of assisting our weaving department. The carpentry shop, the machine shop, the foundry, the store, and the office, where a clerk and draftsman are constantly employed, exist for the purpose of making looms and other weaving apparatus. But these departments constitute about the best attempt at teaching trades which we have made. We can point to young men scattered around Ahmednagar, Poona and Bombay, earning their living by carpentry, machine work, etc., who have learned all that they know of these trades in these departments, where their instruction has been that of apprentices rather than that of pupils.

"To be enabled now by the gifts of friends to move our present plant to a suitable site, where we can start, besides weaving, practical farming and practical building in an Industrial Institution in which we shall teach our pupils how to produce the fundamental staples of their existence,—namely, food, shelter and clothing,—is the dream of my industrial aspirations, as it has been for the past ten years; and nearly half of my time is now occupied in a campaign for raising funds for this purpose. Such a school, if rightly conducted, will be one of our strongest means of spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ in India."

Mr. and Mrs. Burr write:—"There are about 200 boys from the High and Industrial Schools in Harris Hall this year. The health of the boys during the year has been good. We have felt it was time that the 7th standard boys were assuming more responsibility and learning to care for some one besides themselves; so we have adopted the 'Elder Brother' plan, and each of the older boys has some smaller ones to look after. This plan promises to work well. The 7th standard boys prepare themselves to teach the Sunday School lesson in case there is a vacancy. In this way they help the S.S. Superintendent and are able to do voluntary service.

"The Harris Hall boys do, in connection with the dormitory and the High School buildings, such work as the cleaning of the buildings and the yard, and the chopping of wood for fuel. Almost any afternoon, after school hours, one may see groups of boys around the compound repairing fences, cleaning up the yard, or working in the garden
“For many years the boys have wanted more of a gymnasium equipment, so this year for Christmas we have given them some wood and they are making such apparatus as parallel and horizontal bars, and a seesaw for the small boys.”

Miss Gates and Miss Bruce write:—“There are at present about 370 girls in all departments of the school, and twenty-six teachers. We are glad to report the faithfulness and efficiency of the teachers. The Government Inspectors spoke with great appreciation of the work which had been done throughout the school.

“A Brahmin who has taught for twenty-one years in the Girls’ School recently wrote:—‘In the beginning

**Increasing Appreciation.** when parents sent their daughters to school to be educated they thought they were conferring a favor on the Mission, but now the appreciation of female education is daily increasing, especially among Christians. The best testimony to this fact is that parents are educating their girls at a considerable expense to themselves.’ This change has been gradual, and we are still constantly trying to emphasize the fact that parents must pay something, however little, towards the support of their girls.

“At the end of the term in October, at the suggestion of a teacher, a prospectus of the school was printed in the Vernacular and distributed generally in the homes and schools in the city. As a result, we have had several applications from high caste girls and married women to enter some of the classes. We hope that a study of how to make the school a centre of help and influence for the women and girls of this city will be a special feature of the coming year.

“A Bible study schedule, prepared by Mr. Clark and Miss Bissell, has been found most helpful in organizing the teaching of the Bible classes throughout the school. The Christian Endeavour Societies have been active in their own small way. A few of the older girls help by taking classes in the city Sunday Schools. The little ones have earned quite a sum of money for their Society by digging up the thorny weeds—saratā—which are so troublesome and persistent.

“A Christmas box sent out this year by the Shepard Guild of the Shepard Memorial Church, Cambridge, Mass., has made it possible for us to give our girls a real Christmas tree, with a gift for each girl. It is several years since we have been able to do this for all our girls—nearly six hundred including the Farrar Schools—and it has been much appreciated.
The Lace School, which tries to help young widows and poor girls to earn a living, has been able to meet all its expenses by filling numerous orders from America, England and India. The work in the Sewing School has also been encouraging. Large numbers of garments have been made and sold, and a great many orders have been filled.

A small beginning has been made in a third industry, the raising of Eri silk worms. The silk of these worms is not of the best quality but is used extensively among the weavers in India. Government is interested in the project, and has loaned a teacher and machines until the scheme is proved successful.

"Four years ago the Woman's Board bought a piece of land of about eight acres for their work in Ahmednagar. On this land there was already one school building and a few three-roomed houses, which were used as dormitories for the Girls' School.

SAWING BEAMS FOR THE NEW GIRLS' SCHOOL, AHMEDNAGAR.

For some time the treasurer has had in his keeping funds for building a new dormitory. These have been added to gradually by individual gifts, and, with the help of Government grants, we are now able to build two simple but comfortable dormitories, one for the older and one for the younger girls. The school building which has long been used
by the girls is now sold to the Union Training School, and, with the money thus received, a new school has been built near the other Girls' School buildings. It is a very great advantage to the school that its buildings will now all be in one compound.

"This has truly been a year of encouragement, and our hearts are full of thanksgiving as we look back and consider the things that God has done for us."

Miss Bruce and Miss Gates write:—"The Juna Bazaar and Sali Wada Schools have had to be closed for nearly two months on account of plague. The Mali Wada school, however, was less affected by plague conditions, and the attendance there has lately been unusually good. The total enrollment in the three Farrar schools is at present 220.

"The Sunday School in the Sali Wada still continues to be one of the most interesting features of the work. Visiting in the homes of the children and getting acquainted with the women has been a great joy.

"We were much gratified that at the annual examination of the Juna Bazaar school the Government Inspector suggested our asking for an increase of grant. Not long ago a married woman came to the school, and asked to be admitted to the Infant class. When a class for women in her own home was suggested, however, she agreed most eagerly, and has persuaded three other women to join her in learning to read. The Juna Bazaar Sunday School increases in attendance weekly. Lately a number of men and women have come in to listen, while the doors and windows are also crowded."

Mrs. Fairbank writes:—"The year 1911 closes with 36 girls still under the care of the Alice House. Of these, five are in the Kindergarten Training class in Sholapur, six in the Ahmednagar Lace class, six in the sewing class, six in the Vernacular school, nine in the Anglo-Vernacular school, and one in a Blind school in Poona. Three are not in school.

"One of the needs of the Alice House has been an industry suitable for girls who could not go on with their studies in school, and for those who had become widows or who, after marriage, were in need of help. So when Prof. Knight of the Poona Agricultural College asked us to start the Eri silk industry, it was undertaken with the hope that it would be just the industry needed for these girls and women.

"The Eri silk worm lives upon the castor leaves which are abundant in most of the cultivated fields in India. The care of the silk worms is simple, as they require only room, food and cleanliness."
The girls who have had to do the work have enjoyed it, and there have been a great many requests for work for others.

"The Chapin Home has been the home of three widows all through the year, besides giving temporary shelter to many other women."

Dr. Stephenson writes:—"In thinking over the past year of the Hospital's history, only deepest thankfulness can be felt. The Medical staff has been weakened by the absence of Dr. Ruth Hume on furlough, but our Hospital assistant and compounder deserve the highest praise for excellent service rendered. The coming of Dr. Agnes Henderson, who gave her services to us for seven weeks, still continues to be an inspiration.

"Owing to plague and the consequent fleeing of the people from Ahmednagar, our city dispensary was closed in September and daily dispensary mornings were held at the Hospital. Plague is now over, but since our friends are beginning to come in daily increasing numbers to the dispensary in the Hospital it is doubtful when the city dispensary will be re-opened. Village work has not been very regularly maintained. However, several trips have been made for dispensary clinics.

"The in-patient work gives cause for great joy. To put the matter briefly, as Miss Johnson writes, 'Miracles seem to be happening every day.'

"The Hospital and its outside quarters have been most happily blessed with the installation of running water. In the Hospital four operating rooms have been tiled. Many of the rooms and wards are resplendent in fresh paint and whitewash, while new operating room furniture and instruments are now en route from America, all through the generosity of dear home friends. Last but not least, the roof of the Hospital has been successfully repaired so that it does not leak. Truly we are most grateful."

Miss Johnson writes:—"Very few changes have been made in our staff during the past year. Three nurses received diplomas in March. There were five in the class originally, but two failed to pass their examinations and this, coupled with careless ward work, made it necessary to withhold their certificates for a time. It was a severe lesson, but a salutary one. I am glad to say both have 'made good' during the year. One of our graduates left us to take up work in connection with our Girls' School in Bombay. She is proving a great help, we hear. One probationer has been admitted, so that our staff at present numbers twelve."
"In October we had the joy of seeing our nurses take possession of their new quarters, the 'Wadia Nurses' Home.' It is a commodious, two-story building with a little compound of its own. It is a great relief to have our girls comfortably housed, and we believe it will not only add to their comfort and happiness but to their real efficiency."

GAINING "MERIT" BY FEEDING THE POOR IN HONOR OF THE KING AND QUEEN, AHMEDNAGAR

THE PARNER DISTRICT.

Dr. Hume returned from furlough and resumed charge of the district in September. He writes:—"During my absence in America, the Parner, i.e., the Western section of the Ahmednagar district, was superintended with wisdom and devotion by Rev. H. G. Bissell. The district has a capable and faithful Indian assistant superintendent, Rev. Lahoji S. Hiwale. He lives in the middle of the district and constantly, on horseback or on foot, visits among the eighteen towns where Mission agents are stationed and many other towns in which Christians live. He commends himself to me by having some independence of opinion, plan and effort, and yet by a desire to receive suggestions and to live fraternally with all whom he superintends. Nevertheless it illustrates the problem which a missionary has in placing large responsibility on Indian leaders that such a superintendent has difficulty in being acceptable to all associated with him,"
**PARNER DISTRICT:**—Population 71,000.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Villages in District</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Churches</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.. Communicants</td>
<td>532</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.. Rec'd on profession of faith in 1909</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Christian Community</td>
<td>945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions for 1909</td>
<td>Rs. 515</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>=Rs172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Preachers</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.. Biblewomen</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.. Schools</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.. Teachers</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.. Christian Pupils</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.. Non-Christian Pupils</td>
<td>287</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.. Sunday Schools</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.. S.S. Scholars</td>
<td>462</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are no resident workers at Dhotre, Ghanegaon, Nimbgaon and Bhalavni. There are schools and teachers at Kedgaon and Bhoyare which are not on the map. Kedgaon is 4 miles and Bhoyare 11 miles W. of Ahmednagar.

*Note.*—Every village where there is a school or a resident worker is represented by a dot. If there is an organised church a circle is around the dot.
"The chief reportable gain of the year was the organization of a new church and the ordination of a pastor at Chas, eight miles S.W. of Ahmednagar city. Rev. T. Sonawane reports that fourteen persons joined the Nimlak church on profession of faith. The Kanhur church, Rev. B. B. Gorde pastor, is the banner church in collecting funds for its pastor’s support.

"Many more pupils from the farmer and middle castes attend Mission schools than formerly. As a specimen of Christian work done by teachers outside of school hours I give the following items from a statement by the Supe teacher: ‘(1) Every evening a Christian service is held, with much singing and prayer; (2) Persons who used publicly to sing indecent songs have been led to give up that practice; (3) Sick and troubled are constantly helped.’

"This Parner district is greatly favoured in being considered its ‘Foreign Parish’ by the State St. Church of Portland, Maine, which increasingly supplies a large part of the cost of the working the district.

"In the awful famine of 1899-1901 tens of thousands of people were kept alive by work on roads. Among these multitudes was a low caste woman who, in a storm, in a hut by the road-side, gave birth to a son. In the distress of that hour she made a vow that, if God would keep her first-born alive, she would dedicate him to God. The boy lived. When the work on the road ended the mother brought the child to her village. About that time in that village I was conducting a service in the Mission School-house. The mother and child were present. She said that then and there she wished to fulfil her vow by having the child baptized, that her Hindu husband had given his consent, and that, though she was not ready then to make a Christian profession and be baptized, she would sometime do so. The Mission teacher promised to help train the child. Under the unusual conditions and in hope that the child would help his parents to become Christians, I agreed. When I asked the child’s name the mother said ‘Jungley,’ because the baby was born in a desert place in a storm. A young Brahmin of the village, a pupil in the Ahmednagar High School, was present on the occasion and said that it was not fitting that a child receiving Christian baptism should receive such a name as ‘Jungley.’ He proposed that the boy should be called, ‘Yeshwant,” i.e., “the victorious,” and he then and there promised to give money for some clothing for the boy and always to take an interest in him. That a Brahman youth should thus show practical interest in a low caste child, and that he and the Mission teacher should practically act as god-fathers for it, illustrates the spiritual value of both the Mission High School and the village school."
KOLGAON DISTRICT:—Population 53,000.

Number of Villages in District 90  
Churches 6  
" Communicants 339  
" Rec'd on profession in 1910 6  
Total Christian Community 657  
Contributions for 1910 Rs. 342 = $114  
Number of Preachers 6  
" Biblewomen 5  
" Schools 11  
" Teachers 17  
" Christian Pupils 71  
" Non-Christian Pupils 180  
" Sunday Schools 11  
" S. S. Scholars 400  

There is now no resident worker at Valunj. But there is a school and teacher at Ralegan 13 miles South of Ahmednagar, and at Rui, 14 miles South-East.

Note.—Every village where there is a school or a resident worker is represented by a dot, if there is an organized church, a circle is around the dot,
To-day that Yeshwant is himself a pupil in the Ahmednagar Mission High School; and the next time that I visit that village his father and mother are to be baptized and received into church fellowship."

**THE KOLGAON DISTRICT.**

Mr. Bissell has had charge of this district and Balvantrao Uzgare is the assistant superintendent. Mr. Bissell writes the following:—

**District Work.**

"There never was a more favorable time for pushing the mission enterprise through school, churches, public addresses, good literature and personal friendship than there is today. The village Mission school is winning its way. At considerable sacrifice, as things here go, in the homes of the lowly especially, more people are sending their children and for longer periods of study than ever before. In Kolgaon the school constituency is clamouring for two or three standards of English and an extra standard in the vernacular. The school in Burudgaon raised its Government grant this year by Rs. 30. In Arangaon an additional teacher is greatly needed. In Ralegaon the people gave a site for a teacher's house, some villagers provided materials, and now a comfortable home is provided.

"There are two pastors in the district, in addition to the assistant superintendent, Rev. B. C. Uzgare. I wish to testify to their earnest desire to spread the good news and to help the Christians to a higher standard of living, giving and serving. I believe they do it by example as well as precept.

"Unfortunately the plague has broken up the school and the church services at Mirajgaon. But experience teaches that our schools do not lose a great deal by such interruptions except that here and there in the classes there are sad gaps.

"Beginning with 1912 a committee of five Indian brethren will assume entire charge of the nine Mission Schools in the Kolgaon district. The more strictly evangelistic work and the supervision of the churches will still be in charge of the missionary. All appropriations from the Boards for Educational work in the district, all Government grants, all special donations and contributions for these schools will be turned over to the committee. Their financial dealings will be directly with the Ahmednagar Station Treasurer. If they wish counsel they can consult with the writer. Otherwise the work is all theirs. This arrangement they asked to have tried for one year. This illustrates, first, the desire of the Mission to entrust such work to Indian leaders, second, the willingness on the part of some leading men to assume such responsibilities even with some risks, third, the possible local resources open to them but not to us."
JEUR DISTRICT:—Population 17,500.

Number of Villages in District 30 | Number of Biblewomen 1

" Churches 6 " of Schools 9

" Communicants 395 " of Teachers 11

Total Christian Community 609 " of Christian pupils 5

Contributions for 1910 Rs. 172 " of Non-Christian Pupils 146

= $ 57

Number of Pastors 3 " of Sunday Schools -

" of Preachers 2 " of S. S. Scholars 277

A Biblewoman resides at Nalegaon.

Note:—Every village where there is school or a resident worker is represented by dot. If there is an organized church, a circle is around the dot.
JEUR DISTRICT.

The Jeur Committee, consisting of Rev. S. R. Modak, B. C. Uzgare, B. G. Bhingardive and B. P. Umap, have charge of the Jeur District. Mr. Modak reports for this committee:

"Since the beginning of this year this committee has looked after all the Mission work in the Jeur District. It means the care and oversight not only of the schools for the bringing up of the young but also of the churches and preachers and the grown up people. When this committee took charge of the work two years ago there were eight schools and one more has been opened since. There are six churches with three ordained preachers in charge of them and two lay evangelists. The church building at Shendi was washed away by the floods last year and the problem of rebuilding the place of worship faced us. At first we did not know where the money would come from, but the Lord graciously increased our faith by the sight of a donation, with which in hand we started to build a place which could be used both as a church and a school. Dr. Patton, who was visiting India, did us the honor of laying the foundation stone of the new edifice, which is nearly ready for use. We still need money to complete it and believe the Lord is going to give it to us. When this building is ready for use our thanksgiving service will end with a prayer that we may be enabled to build another most needed school-house at Dongargan.

"There is another place where our teacher and preacher is living in a house without walls. The people of the town gave branches of their trees and some gave grass to make a roof which rests on posts and under which the faithful worker lives with his family, bright and happy. We are trying to raise money to build four walls, a little higher than the hedge he has at present, to prevent stray dogs and animals from coming in to share with him the roofed place.

"Besides the all important care of the souls in this Jeur District we have the care of the bodies: and the needs of the body are quite numerous. Peculiar and sometimes very perplexing problems come up for solution. We have the help of missionaries and also of others who love the Lord’s work, but above all the Lord Himself is working for and through us.

"During the year which is coming to a close Rs. 534 were received in small donations and subscriptions from our own countrymen."

Rev. B. C. Uzgare also writes:—"When we began we found it very hard to manage all the work in the district aright; nor could we even guess how we were going to supply the want of money for the Mission agents' salaries. All the members of the Committee prayed to God very earnestly, to show them a way out of this difficulty.
"We thank God very sincerely that He chose us to serve our country and countrymen; and still we pray Him that we may be able to serve Him. Our aim in all this, is to try to make the people, form their character like that of the blessed Jesus Christ."

AHMEDNAGAR DONATIONS.

RECEIVED BY DR. R. A. HUME.
FOR THE SUPPORT OF REV. A. S. HIWALE.
M. A. Rogers ........................................... $ 25.00
Rev. F. R. Luckey ........................................ 30.00

FOR THE SUPPORT OF REV.
A. D. OHL.
Mrs. Charles Hitehzoek .................................. 100.00
Rev. J. D. Williamson .................................... 50.00

FOR THE CHAPIN HOME AND
ALICE HOUSE.
Mrs. W. H. Hale ........................................ 400.00

FOR GENERAL WORK PARNER
DISTRICT.
W. B. Dickerman ........................................ 100.00
Mrs. S. S. Bronson ...................................... 100.00
United Church S. S. ..................................... 60.00
Mrs. J. C. Goddard’s S. S. Class ...................... 80.00
Mr. Daniel Hutchinson ................................. 10.00
Mr. Sydney Stevens ..................................... 25.00
Miss. Caro Douglas ..................................... 25.00
Dr. A. A. Blackman ..................................... 30.00
Mr. H. L. Gray ......................................... 20.00
Mrs. Leonard Parish .................................... 30.00
Men’s Club, First Church Cambridge Mass .......... 10.00
Women’s Association, Central Church Worcester .... 10.00
Mr. W. L. Felter ....................................... 40.00

FOR SUPPORT OF CHILDREN.
Mrs. T. G. Emory ........................................ 46.00
Girtion School, Wunnetka ................................ 40.00
Miss B. G Temple ....................................... 10.00
Miss Clara Bodman’s S. S. Class ....................... 10.00

RECEIVED BY REV. H. FAIRBANK.
M. S. King and Green .................................. Rs. 106 10
Miss Wheeler .......................................... 39 9
Miss Wheeler (for High School) ....................... 282S 0

RECEIVED BY MRS. FAIRBANK.
Rs. a. p.
Rev. R. A. Hume D.D. .................................. 124 13 6
Mrs. Hume .............................................. 75 6 0
Miss Wheeler .......................................... 622 4 0
H. S. S. .................................................. 46 0 0
Christian Herald ....................................... 351 0 0
Fort Hayne ............................................. 23 1 0
Amelis Sykes ........................................... 15 4 0
Mrs. Crafts ............................................. 61 0 0
Miss Perkins .......................................... 46 0 0
Mrs. Look ............................................. 45 0 0
Boys Fund ............................................... 8 9 3
Daughters of Covenant ................................ 45 12 0
Scarsboro N.Y. ......................................... 45 12 0
For Tara ................................................ 15 5 0
Mrs. Bogen ............................................. 90 0 0
Br. B. Bassette ........................................ 2 0 0
Mr. House ............................................. 2 2 2
Mr. Hess ................................................ 2 2 0
Miss Stephens ......................................... 48 13 0
Mr. Van Wormer ....................................... 107 7 0
For Phula ............................................... 30 10 0

RECEIVED BY REV. H. G. BISSELL.
Congregational S. S. Claremont
Calif .................................................. $ 42.05
Mrs. Bulington Evanston I I.I .................................. 30.00
Grace Cong S. S. Chicago, Ill ...................... 81.20
Cong. S. S. Evanston I I.I .................................. 26.00
Miss Wheeler ........................................... 46.00
Washington St. Church, Toledo, O. ................ 5.00
Mr. and Mrs. Axtell, Roseville, Ill .............. 105.00
Y. P. S. E. Boulder Col .................................. 75.00
Elmwood Mission Band ................................ 12.00
Mr. and Mrs. Verberge ................................ 26.00

RECEIVED BY MRS. D. C. CHURCHILL FOR
INDUSTRIAL WORK.
Mr. J. S. Trombley ..................................... $ 100.00
A. Friend ( thro Miss Wheeler) ....................... 15.00
From Miss L. C. Wattles .............................. 2.50
From Rev. C. C. Toffy ................................ 5.70

RECEIVED BY REV. A. H. CLARK.
Bedford Park C.E. ....................................... $ 100.00
Mr. M. A. C ........................................... 250.00
Mr. Arthur Johnson .................................... 50.00
Mrs. J. M. C ........................................... 22.00
Prof. Herbert Lord .................................... 20.00
Mr. William Dunwood .................................. 250.00
Mrs. M. L. Dunn ....................................... 14.00
A. S., W. S., and H.S. ................................ 150.00

RECEIVED BY MISS EDITH GATES.
Mrs. Smock ............................................. Rs. 30 7 0
Lanwood Evangelical Church, S. S. Chicago .... 21 12 0
Dr. Griev .............................................. 43 6 0
Mrs. McDougal ......................................... 429 14 0
Miss Wheeler .......................................... 254 9 0
Miss Geggings ......................................... 60 0 0
Miss Shock ............................................. 60 0 0
Miss Sharman .......................................... 60 0 0

RECEIVED BY MISS C. H. BRUCE.
Rs. a.
A. T. Pettingill ....................................... 76 2 0
F. E. Berk ............................................. 30 0 0

HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN.
Rs. a.
Wellesley, 1907, Memorial for Miss Alexander .... 449 10
Mrs. Tyrman ........................................... 75 0

JEU DISTRICT COMMITTEE.
Rs. a.
Rev. S. R. Modak ........................................ 285 0 0
Nagar Aikya Sabha .................................... 50 0 0
Chass Meeting .......................................... 3 0 0
Rev. N. V. Tilak ........................................ 35 0 0
Rev. A. S. Hivale ....................................... 10 0 0
Rev. B. C. Usgare ...................................... 15 0 0
Rev. B. P. Umap ........................................ 1 0 0
Mr. Buell .............................................. 1 0 0
Rev. C. H. Patton, D.D. ................................ 3 0 0
Mr. L. C. Axtell ....................................... 15 0 0
Mr. H. O. White ...................................... 17 8 0
Mr. T. B. Adbav ........................................ 5 0 0