THE AMERICAN RAMAH ASSOCIATION

REPORT OF THE
TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL MEETING
APRIL 15, 1920
THE
AMERICAN RAMABAI
ASSOCIATION

REPORT OF THE
TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL MEETING
APRIL 15, 1920
BOARD OF MANAGERS, 1920

President.

Vice-Presidents.
REV. DANIEL DULANEY ADDISON, D.D., Brookline.
REV. GEORGE A. GORDON, D.D., Boston.
REV. ALEXANDER MANN, D.D., Boston.
REV. AUGUSTUS H. STRONG, D.D., Rochester, N. Y.

Treasurer.
MR. EDGAR C. LINN, 1352 Beacon Street, Brookline.

 Corresponding Secretary.
MRS. S. W. LEE-MORTIMER, 170 Huntington Avenue, Boston.

Recording Secretary.
MISS ALICE H. BALDWIN, 233 Fisher Avenue, Brookline.

Managers.
MISS CLEMENTINA BUTLER.
MISS ANNA H. CHACE.
MRS. JOSEPH COOK.
MRS. E. C. E. DORION.
MRS. SUSAN SNOWDEN FESSENDEN.
MISS ANTOINETTE P. GRANGER.
MRS. C. O. DORCHESTER.
MR. A. M. FRITCHLEY.
MISS S. B. RICH.
HENRY FAIRBANKS.
MISS KATE G. LAMSON.
MRS. JAMES MCKEEN.
MRS. S. W. LEE-MORTIMER.
MRS. HENRY W. PEABODY.
MRS. ARTHUR PERRY.
JULIA MORTON PLUMMER, M.D.
ARTHUR K. STONE, M.D.
MRS. W. H. THURBER.

Executive Committee.
MISS CLEMENTINA BUTLER, Chairman, Wesleyan Building, Boston
MISS ANNA H. CHACE, MRS. HENRY W. PEABODY.
MRS. C. O. DORCHESTER, MISS KATE G. LAMSON.
MRS. S. W. LEE-MORTIMER.

Principal of Shârâda Sadan and Mukti.
PANDITA RAMABAI D. MEDHAVI, Kedgaon, Poona District, India.

Vice-President of Shârâda Sadan.
MANORAMABAI M. MEDHAVI.
MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN RAMABAI ASSOCIATION

The adjourned Twenty-second Annual Meeting of the American Ramabai Association was held in Trinity Chapel, Boston, on Thursday, April 15, at 3 P.M. The President, Dr. Harlan P. Beach, presided and called upon Rev. Robert A. Hume, D.D., of India, to open the meeting with prayer.

The minutes of the last meeting and of the Twenty-first Annual Meeting were read by the Recording Secretary and were approved.

Miss Butler, chairman of the Executive Committee, read Ramabai's annual report, followed by a most interesting report from Manoramabai.

They were accepted and placed on file.

The report of the Treasurer, Mr. Edgar C. Linn, was then read. It was accepted and placed on file.

The Corresponding Secretary read her report. It was accepted with thanks and placed on file.

The report of the Nominating Committee was presented by Miss Lamson with the recommendation that the vacancies in the Board of Managers be filled by the Executive Committee before the printing of the Annual Report of the meeting.

The report of the Nominating Committee was accepted, and on motion, duly seconded, it was voted to suspend the by-law requiring election by ballot and to instruct the Recording Secretary to cast one ballot for the persons named in the report of the Nominating Committee. The Secretary deposited the ballot as authorized, and the persons nominated by the committee were declared to be unanimously elected to serve as officers of the Association for the ensuing year.

Dr. Beach then introduced as one of the speakers for the afternoon, Mrs. Hannah Hume Lee of India, a daughter of the Rev. Robert A. Hume. Mrs. Lee had a most delightful and attractive personality and gave
a charming picture of Ramabai and Manoramabai, whom she had lately visited.

Mrs. Lee spoke of the criticism that was sometimes directed against missionaries, in that they did not give due value to the art and literature of the countries in which they were placed. She said this thought came to her as she noticed there were no pictures by native artists on the walls of Ramabai’s School. She spoke to Ramabai of this fact, and the reply was made that it was impossible to exhibit such pictures, as they were not suitable.

Mrs. Lee said it was often imagined that only the poor, despised and outcast girls were inmates of the school. This, she averred, was not so, as while they were there, so also were girls from the most cultured homes.

Mrs. Lee spoke of Ramabai as the flower of India’s womanhood.

Dr. Hume then gave a brief, but interesting address, alluding to the services, legal and otherwise, he was able to perform for Ramabai. He mentioned the Kaiser-I-Hind gold medal bestowed upon Ramabai and described its appearance, being the fortunate possessor of the medal himself.

He gave great praise to Manoramabai, saying she was a most beautiful character, very accomplished and able, worthy of such a mother as Ramabai.

At the close of his remarks, Miss Butler introduced Miss Alice Harris, as an outgoing missionary nurse, who is to be in the hospital in Baroda, India.

Upon motion, duly seconded, it was voted: That a simple report of the Annual Meeting be printed; also that the booklet entitled “Pandita Ramabai and Her Work” be amplified and brought up to date and reprinted.

Dr. Beach then said a few words of prayer and the meeting was adjourned.

ALICE H. BALDWIN,
Recording Secretary.
REPORT OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

God's blessing is on Ramabai's labors, and to aid her in these, Circles and individuals are cheerfully subscribing, as will be shown by the Treasurer's Report.

With some of the Circles I have corresponded, but had the pleasure of attending a meeting of the Dorchester Circle and found there a blessed spirit of faith, self-denial and giving to this cause.

Never has Pandita Ramabai needed our prayers and assistance more than now.

The number of child widows and little orphans has been fearfully augmented by the aid India gave the Allies in the World War, and drought and famine have added their deadly work among the natives.

The letters received from early members of this Association are interesting in allusions to their Circles long since disbanded, owing to change of residence, circumstances, or to death, and the sentiment expressed that it is wonderful how the interest in Ramabai and her work continues unabated and that the few remaining members, although scattered, continue their individual donations to her marvelous undertakings for the uplift of her people.

I could tell those dear, untiring members that although Death seemingly has claimed some of their comrades as his victims, they are neither dead nor sleeping and their good deeds continue.

Ofttimes some one from a bereaved home writes me that their loved one was so interested in India that they wish to continue her subscription as a memorial to her.

A doctor of philosophy writes me: "My wife, deceased 1917, has been for years a regular contributor, ever since she saw Ramabai, then a visitor to America.

I wish to continue her contribution, in memoriam, and intend to do so while I live. When my remittance of January, 1919, is reported, it will be gratifying to see her name as it appeared for many years as
an old contributor whose interest in Ramabai’s work is still vicariously going on.”

From another household, a loving sister writes: “I am sending you a package by mail for the work of the Ramabai Association. The jewelry belonged to one who was deeply interested in your work, and the pin and its cross was a precious memento to her. I can think of nothing that would please her better than for me to pass it on to be used somehow for the work.”

The jewelry was sold and the sister credited with the amount. So the good work goes on.

In the 1919 Annual Report it was stated that a few copies of Ramabai’s books remained, price one dollar each. When these are sold, the edition will be exhausted. The little pamphlet with the outline of Ramabai’s life cannot now be obtained. A new edition, brought up to date, may possibly be published if it is in much demand and funds permit.

Respectfully submitted,

SARAH LEE-MORTIMER.
AUDITOR'S REPORT


Mr. E. C. Linn, Treasurer,
American Ramabai Association,
Brookline, Mass.

Dear Sir:

Acting under your instructions, I have made an audit of the books of this association, covering the fiscal year ending March 23, 1920, and have found the same correct.

Yours truly,

GEO. M. BLANDFORD,
Auditor.

———

TREASURER'S REPORT

March 23, 1920

GENERAL ACCOUNT

Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>April 1</td>
<td>Balance</td>
<td>$291.73</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 5</td>
<td>Deposit</td>
<td>$72.10</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 23</td>
<td>Interest</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 5</td>
<td>Deposit</td>
<td>$152.51</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 19</td>
<td>Deposit</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 29</td>
<td>Deposit</td>
<td>$28.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 20</td>
<td>Deposit</td>
<td>$13.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 14</td>
<td>Deposit</td>
<td>$32.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 1</td>
<td>Deposit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug. 19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 8</td>
<td>Interest</td>
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<td>Oct. 3</td>
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<td>Oct. 17</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 29</td>
<td>Deposit</td>
<td>$71.15</td>
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</table>

Amount forward $926.03 $291.73
Amount forward .................................. $926.03 $ 291.73
Nov. 14, Deposit .................................. 10.00
Nov. 18, Deposit .................................. 70.00
Dec. 4, Deposit .................................. 118.00
Dec. 20, Deposit .................................. 21.00
Dec. 22, Deposit .................................. 117.00
Dec. 26, Deposit .................................. 30.00
Dec. 29, Deposit .................................. 16.00
Dec. 8, Interest .................................. 3.25

1920

Jan. 6, Deposit .................................. 10.10
Jan. 14, Deposit .................................. 25.00
Jan. 23, Deposit .................................. 24.00
Feb. 3, Deposit .................................. 9.00
Feb. 17, Deposit .................................. 81.00
Feb. 20, Deposit .................................. 82.00
Feb. 26, Deposit .................................. 25.00
Feb. 28, Deposit .................................. 124.00
Mar. 1, Deposit .................................. 371.00
Mar. 5, Deposit .................................. 179.00
Mar. 9, Deposit .................................. 29.25
Mar. 10, Deposit .................................. 40.00
Mar. 13, Deposit .................................. 60.94
Mar. 16, Deposit .................................. 23.00
Mar. 23, Deposit .................................. 2.00 $2,396.57 $2,688.30

Disbursements

1919

April 5; Geo. M. Blandford, for audit of books, year ending March 31, 1919 $ 10.00
July 14, Old Colony Trust Co., for rent of safe deposit box ................. 10.00
Sept. 20, Vermont Printing Co., for 2,500 reports .......................... 93.00
Sept. 25, Vermont Printing Co., for 500 envelopes ......................... 3.00
Nov. 13, Frederic D. Fuller, for services in preparing power-of-attorney for selling Poona property in India, and also for attending the meeting of the Board of Managers ...... 12.75

Amount forward .................................. $128.75
Amount forward ......................... $128.75
Nov. 28, F. Addie Farnham, for bill as follows:
   Clerical work .................. $24.00
   Envelopes ...................... 3.25
   Postage ........................ 8.00
   ____________________________ 35.25

1920
Mar. 23, Edgar C. Linn, general expenses, including clerical and legal services .................. 100.00
Mar. 23, Postage, telephone, etc ............. 3.79
   ____________________________ $ 267.79
   ____________________________ $2,420.51

LEGAL AND MEDICAL FUNDS

1919
April 1, Balance .............................. $250.83
June 11, Deposit— Coupons on bonds ...... 35.00

1920
Mar. 4, Deposit— Coupons on bonds ....... 66.50
   ____________________________ $ 352.33

RANDALL TRUST ACCOUNT

1919
April 1, Balance ............................... $ 53.55

1920
Mar. 4, Deposit— Coupons on bonds ...... 24.50
   ____________________________ $ 78.05

MARGARET WAITE FUND ACCOUNT

1919
April 1, Balance ............................... $153.92
June 11, Deposit— Coupons on bonds ...... 35.00

1920
Mar. 4, Deposit— Coupons on bonds ...... 43.75
   ____________________________ $232.67
GENERAL FUND

Receipts

1919
April 1, 1920
Mar. 23,

Subscription for support Sharada Sadan 
Subscriptions for support Mukti School
Subscriptions for support Kripa Sadan
Subscriptions for special funds:
   Support of a child widow
   Support of a boy
   Famine Fund
Donation to general fund
Interest on current accounts
Rental of Poona property to Government

$291.73
270.25
213.20
20.00
25.00
15.00
67.00
1,769.60
16.52
1,000.00

$3,688.30

Payments

1920
Mar. 23,

Remittances for support Sharada Sadan (including $1,000.00 rental of Poona property to Government)
Remittances for support Mukti School
Remittances for support of Kripa Sadan
Remittances for special funds:
   Support of a child widow
   Support of a boy
   Famine Fund
Postage, printing, etc.
General expenses of the Association, covering clerical assistance,
Balance March 23, 1920, in bank
Cash on hand

$2,839.85
213.20
20.00
25.00
15.00
67.00
167.79
100.00
$239.25
1.21
240.46

$3,688.30

AUSTRALIAN FUND FOR LEGAL AND MEDICAL AID OF LITTLE WIVES OF INDIA

1920
Mar. 23, Balance ..$3,127.33

1919
April 1, Balance ..$3,025.83

1920
Mar. 23, Interest .. 101.50

$3,127.33

$3,127.33
RANDALL TRUST FUND

1920                                      1919
Mar. 23, Balance ...$ 778.05              April 1, Balance ...$ 753.55
1920
Mar. 23, Interest ...  24.50

$ 778.05                                      $ 778.05

MARGARET F. WAITE FUND

1920                                      1919
Mar. 23, Balance ...$2,357.67              April 1, Balance ...$2,278.92
1920
Mar. 23, Interest ...  78.75

$2,357.67                                      $2,357.67

SUMMARY OF BALANCES

Legal and Medical

Cash ........................................ $ 352.33
Liberty Bonds ................................ 900.00
B. & A. Bonds .............................. 1,875.00

$3,127.33

Randall Trust

Cash ........................................ $  78.05
Liberty Bonds ................................ 700.00

$ 778.05

Margaret F. Waite Trust

Cash ........................................ $ 232.67
Liberty Bonds ................................ 250.00
B. & A. Bonds .............................. 1,875.00

$2,357.67
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Circles</th>
<th>Sháradá Sadan</th>
<th>Mutki Sadan</th>
<th>Kripa Sadan</th>
<th>General Fund</th>
<th>Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Record of Christian Work, E. Northfield, Mass.</td>
<td></td>
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<td>17.00</td>
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<td>American Friends, Board of Foreign Missions, Richmond, Indiana</td>
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<td>Worcester, Mass., Ramabai Circle</td>
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<td>Mrs. S. Agnes Betsinger, Syracuse, N. Y.</td>
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<td>Stamford, Conn., Ramabai Circle</td>
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<td>Providence Ramabai Circle</td>
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<td>Sarah F. Whiting, Wilbraham, Mass.</td>
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<td>Mrs. F. B. Carber, Montclair, N. J.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>26.00</td>
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<td>Miss H. B. Rogers, N. Billerica, Mass.</td>
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<td>Ministering Circle of King's Daughters of St. Andrew's P. E. Church, Philadelphia, Pa.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mrs. Martha Perry, St. Paul, Minn.</td>
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<td>Ramabai Circle of Bellevue Reformed Church, Woman's Board of Foreign Missions, Schenectady, N. Y.</td>
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<td>Brookline, Mass., Ramabai Circle</td>
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<td>Metropolitan Tabernacle, New York</td>
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<td>25.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>$112.25</strong></td>
<td><strong>$67.26</strong></td>
<td><strong>$20.00</strong></td>
<td><strong>$287.10</strong></td>
<td><strong>$486.61</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
# LIST OF DONORS TO THE AMERICAN RAMABAI ASSOCIATION

April 1, 1919, to March 24, 1920

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Circles</th>
<th>Shāradā Sadan</th>
<th>Mutki</th>
<th>Kripa Sadan</th>
<th>General Fund</th>
<th>Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Brought Forward</strong></td>
<td>$112.25</td>
<td>$67.26</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
<td>$287.10</td>
<td>$486.61</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ramabai Circle, Canandaigua, N. Y.</td>
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<td>James M. Whiton, New York City</td>
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<td>Mrs. P. Gabriel, Bridgeport, Conn.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dorchester, Mass., Ramabai Circle</td>
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<td>30.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>By will of Mason C. Penn, Plymouth, Conn.</td>
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<td>G. S. Blakeslee, Cicero, Ill</td>
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<td>Mrs. E. A. Gould, N. Billerica, Mass.</td>
<td></td>
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<td>5.00</td>
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<td>Miss Eliz. G. Brown, Utica, N. Y.</td>
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<td>Readers of The Evangelical Christian, Toronto, Can.</td>
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<td>Woman’s Missionary Society of the First Baptist Church, Fairport, N. Y.</td>
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<td>E. A. R. Stone, Lexington, Mass.</td>
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<td>Mrs. Annie A. Wheeler, Canton, Mass.</td>
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<td>Adeline Willis, Naples, Maine</td>
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<td>Miss Celia L. Rogers, Falmouth, Mass.</td>
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<td>Franklin, N. Y., Ramabai Circle</td>
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<td>Miss Eliz. MacGregor, Brookline, Mass.</td>
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<td>5.00</td>
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**$133.25** $ 67.26 $ 20.00 $ 743.25 $ 963.76
### List of Donors to the American Ramabai Association

April 1, 1919, to March 24, 1920

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Circles</th>
<th>Shāradā Sadan</th>
<th>Mutki</th>
<th>Kripa Sadan</th>
<th>General Fund</th>
<th>Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brought Forward</td>
<td>$133.25</td>
<td>$67.26</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
<td>$743.25</td>
<td>$963.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Elvira S.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moore, E. Orange, N. J.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rochester, N. Y.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ramabai Circle 100.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Famine Fund</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>*67.00</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>For support of boy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>*15.00</td>
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<td>Smith College, 1888</td>
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<td>Germantown, Pa.</td>
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<td>Ramabai Circle</td>
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<td>Berta L. Ross, Lumberton, N. J.</td>
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**Total Donations:**

- **Shāradā Sadan:** $233.25
- **Mutki:** $97.26
- **Kripa Sadan:** $20.00
- **General Fund:** $1,095.35
- **Totals:** $1,552.86
**LIST OF DONORS TO THE AMERICAN RAMABAI ASSOCIATION**

*April 1, 1919, to March 24, 1920*

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Circles</th>
<th>Shāradā Sadan</th>
<th>Mutki</th>
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*Special funds.*

|                  | $270.25 | $213.20 | $20.00 | $1,769.60 | $2,380.05 |

*Total amount donated.*
REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The members of the Association will be glad to know that the property in Poona, which was the first home of the Shârâda Sadan has been sold at Ramabai's request, since her great institution is more favorably located in Kedgaon. The money received for this sale was rupees sixty-seven thousand. Seven thousand of this was paid to Ramabai for immediate use and sixty thousand has been invested by our representative in India, Rev. Henry Fairbank, in promissory notes of the government of India. The interest will be about three thousand rupees a year, which will go to support Ramabai's current expense. It will be remembered that it is many years since the school moved from Poona and the property has been leased to the government, but it was Ramabai's view that it was best to sell, and a power of attorney was sent from this country to Mr. Fairbank, who reports the successful consummation of the deal. Mr. Fairbank will act as our trustee.

During the year the famine relief work which Ramabai has done has been limited only by lack of funds. It was the hope of your chairman that people would respond more generally to this cause. The need is not yet over and any funds which may be collected by the circles and sent for this purpose to the treasurer of this Association will be forwarded immediately. There is nothing which will so wear down the strength of our beloved Pandita as to see human misery which she might relieve if her friends and supporters would send her money. The famine conditions are not yet over and if every member of the Association would contribute something toward this relief Ramabai's heart would be greatly cheered.

The new booklet, with the account of Ramabai's work in which will appear the portrait of Ramabai, seated at her translation of the Bible, will be available in the
early fall. Send your requests to the Corresponding Secretary of the Association.

Attention is called to Manoramabai's report of the help she receives from the young women now graduates of college who are teaching in the Shârâda Sadan. It is quite different from the day when the whole burden of the advance classes was upon her shoulders. More and more the splendid results of the work are being manifest, and we are indeed grateful that we are permitted to have a share in this wonderful work for India's womanhood.

CLEMENTINA BUTLER.
REPORT OF PANDITA RAMABAI

January 30th, 1920.

My dear and honored Friends: I want to send my hearty greetings to you at the end of this thirty-first year of our existence as a school. Doubtless God has blessed you richly for all your generous kindness to us. “He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord, and that which he hath given will He pay him again.” “He is able to do exceeding abundantly, above all that we ask or think.” You have supported this school for thirty-one years and the good seed which you have sown have not been sown in vain.

Our school has grown from a very small beginning. It is now a recognized high school. You have helped to train many girls who are doing good work here and elsewhere. We are all very, very grateful to you for all these blessings brought to us by your prayers and your good material help.

A great many girls have gone out from this school trained for their lifework. Many have become good wives and mothers. Some are doing good work as teachers and matrons. Some have chosen medical work as the work by which they may help others.

Those who are in school at present are being trained for various kinds of work. The work of training them is not an easy one and everything does not go smoothly; but my helpers and I are glad and happy to be doing the work and to be spent for it.

The year that has just ended has been a very hard year. High prices of all things and very low exchange have made it hard for us and for other people to live. Hundreds of starving women and children came for help. We helped them for months until we came to the point of starvation and could give them nothing.

About two hundred and fifty women and children were learning four hours a day in school and working four hours at relief work every day. Hundreds of other women were provided with work. They were all happy
to be here and we were happy helping them, but I had
to discontinue the work for want of funds. Many
women and widows are starving and begging to be
taken on to work, but I cannot do anything for them.
It was a great opportunity to reach and educate these
people so far and so long as we could, and now it is a
great grief to see them helpless and starving. As I
write this letter I see some young widows from a neigh-
boring village coming to be instructed in the three R’s.
They had to face great opposition from their caste
people and from other villages. Women of their caste
never learned to read and write, at least, not in their
village within anyone’s memory.

How could anyone tolerate such an unheard of
innovation! Two of these young widows had mothers,
and when they expressed their desire to learn in the
school they, too, opposed their daughter’s learning to
read and write.

I advised the girls to move forward very cautiously so
as not to offend their parents and others. At first they
began to learn secretly. After a while, they boldly faced
the question and declared their intention to learn at all
costs. They took no notice of people’s criticism and
of the opposition from their relatives. They have now
gone on for some months, steadily learning their books,
and they are very happy because they have been ad-
mitted into the school.

I am giving them each a small sum of money towards
their support, in return for which they do some work. I
am glad to see that they have a desire to go on with
their education and courage to persevere.

You have helped me to get two University graduates
for this school and I am very thankful to you. My
daughter, who has thrown herself, heart and soul into
the work, is now able to develop the school according
to the requirements of the Government Educational De-
partment, since she has passed the teachers’ examination
in addition to the B. A. examination.

She is in entire charge of the school work. Krish-
nabai Gadre, who passed the B. A. examination of the
Allahabad University, is a great help to her in the educational work.

Some of our old girls who are living in their own homes in other places have placed their children in the Shâradâ Sadan to be educated. This has increased the number of the inmates of the Shâradâ Sadan, and thus the benefits of the school are being extended to the second generation.

I thank Our Heavenly Father for permitting me to be here for these thirty-one years. He has done great and wonderful things for me and for my children for which I thank and praise Him continually with my whole heart.

Now I must close this letter. I wish you a happy and joyful New Year, and with many grateful thanks for all your kindness,

I remain,

Yours most sincerely in the Lord’s service,

Jan. 10th, 1920.

RAMABAI.

Shâradâ Sadan,
Kedgaon, Poona District, India,

Dear Friends: The report which I wrote last year closed with the announcement that my dear Mother was to be the recipient of the Kaisar-I-Hind Medal. This year she is actually in possession of this beautiful gift bestowed upon her by our King-Emperor through His Excellency Sir George Lloyd, Governor of Bombay. It is a gold medal of the First Class, oval in shape and having the figure of the Royal Crown above it. In the center on one side is the King’s Cypher, “G. R. I.,” and on the other side is carved the Lotus, the flower of India, and across the lotus plant the words “Kaisar-I-Hind.” All round the medal at the edge on the back, with the lotus plant in the center are the words, “For Public Ser-
vice in India.” The decoration hangs from a blue ribbon band, and above the ribbon is a bar of gold with some pretty little flowers that look like daisies carved upon it. The whole thing is about four inches long.

I wish that my mother could stand before you herself at your annual meeting wearing this decoration which belongs as much to you as to her and to the many Christian friends all over the world who have had a part in her work. But she was not able even to go to Bombay to the Governor’s reception, so I went for her and had all the enjoyment which ought to have been hers.

My mother has not been able to travel for the last ten years, but her health has been better on the whole this year than it was last year. She is working steadily at her Bible translation and making good progress in it. She also directs all the work of the Mission. She goes carefully into all the details concerning the work of the kitchen and the dairy, the storeroom, the fruit gardens, the carpentry, masonwork, printing, the weaving, and several other departments. Very little goes on in Mukti that she does not know about and she is always working out some new plan for the good of the community. We are very thankful that she is able to do so much and to keep her hand so firmly on the helm.

The past year has been a sad one, especially in our part of the country and in the Nizam’s Dominions. The failure of the crops and the long dry season resulted in a serious famine. The New York Christian Herald has sent most generous help to our people and we are very grateful. Sums allotted to us from this fund and other amounts sent for Famine Relief have enabled us to help more than six hundred people all through the worst of the famine days, by giving them regular employment. A daily Bible Class was held for all who were employed on the Relief Work, for one hour during the hottest part of the day, and the people became so interested that they began to ask to be taught how to read.

So a day school was opened for them and they were allowed a few hours off work in the afternoon to go to school. It was indeed a very mixed school. The classes
sat all along our front verandah. They were gray-haired men and women, and young people of all ages. Since whole families came to work, the tiny babies could not be left at home, and so temporary cradles had to be manufactured. They were very primitive hammocks made of the rags which the parents could spare from their own clothing, which was scanty enough, and hung up between the posts of the verandah. Thus, while the babies slept, the parents and elder sisters and brothers would learn how to read and write and how to count and to do simple sums in arithmetic. Some of our Shâradâ Sadan girls taught regularly in this unique school all through the days of famine, and they and we felt that they were working for God.

This Famine School is now almost closed, as Mother sent the people back to their villages when the Famine Fund began to close. But we still have a few women, widows and deserted wives, and nearly a hundred orphans whom we could not turn away. They are very grateful to all who have helped to preserve them during the famine.

Indeed, we all are very thankful for all the generous help sent to us, and for God’s mercies, which are “new every morning.” We now get sometimes only eight and a half rupees in exchange for one pound, whereas about three years ago we used to get fifteen rupees. For one dollar we now get about two rupees, where we used to get three. On the other hand, jwari, one of the principal food grains used by our people, is selling now at five seers to the rupee. Five years or more ago we could buy eighteen seers for the same sum. A very common, coarse cotton sari, which could once have been bought for two and a half rupees, now costs us nearly eight rupees. It takes six sacks, or about six hundred seers of grain a day to feed our large family, and then there is clothing which must be bought, and many other expenses. Nearly all missions in India are feeling the burden of the great loss in exchange.

My dear mother has not only finished her translation of the Book of Psalms, but she has engaged an Indian
musician, trained in the Baroda School of Indian Music, to set these Psalms to Indian chant tunes, which are much more suitable for use in this country than the English tunes which are generally used. Indian tunes appeal more to the Indian people than English tunes. We have several classes in vocal music, in which this musician teaches our girls and boys to sing these Psalms and many other songs. The little children's class is learning to sing some kindergarten songs which my mother has written. Many people come and visit us with the special object of hearing this music, and we hope that it will be widely used in schools in India.

Miss Ferguson, our kindergarten and drawing teacher, has now returned to us from Australia with a full kindergarten teacher's certificate. She had not quite completed the course when she came out to India the first time, but she worked hard when she was at home for her first furlough and now she is fully qualified to train kindergarten teachers. Her drawing class is growing so large that we must find another teacher to help her soon. She is sending up quite a nice class of candidates for the first drawing examination this year. It will still be several years before we can provide our own drawing teachers, but we are working with that aim in view.

I feel more and more grateful for the opportunity which you gave me of spending some years at an Indian college connected with an Indian university. One great advantage which I have gained by the experience is that I have been brought into touch with many people who can help me in various ways to forward the work of our school. Living as we do in this little village where the mail trains do not stop, it is very difficult to keep pace with the times and to keep in touch with things that are going on in the world. It is important that we should learn all that we can about the progress of education in our country and about the various fields of service that are open to young women so that we may be able to help our girls as much as possible and adequately prepare them for life. I feel that in this re-
spect I can be of much greater service to them now than I could five years ago. Krishnabai's experience at the Isabella Thoburn College has brought us into touch with things further north, and the little school which I have started in the Nizam's Dominions brings us into contact with that state and with Madras; so our sphere and connections are widening and we are trying to learn all that we can and to help our girls.

Last year, when our school was inspected, our science apparatus was not complete and so while we were allowed to send our girls up for the matriculation examination, the recognition granted to our matriculation class was only provisional for one year. This year the school has been inspected again and we have now received permanent recognition. This is very encouraging. I am doing a good deal of teaching myself, but I have several good helpers and I am expecting a new helper from England soon.

Two of our girls have been sent to a normal school in Poona for a two years' course of training. I hope soon to have some more candidates for training and then, when we have our own trained and fully qualified teachers to carry on the school work, I hope to be able to help my dear Mother more in other departments of her work.

Since our high school has been recognized by the Educational Department of the Government, many new students have joined the school. Some are children of Christian parents from Poona and Ahmednager. Others are Hindu boys and girls who come as day scholars from the villages around us.

India is not the country now that it was thirty-one years ago when you started your work among us. Great Indian leaders are arising who are doing their utmost to forward the work of women's education.

Open air games are being organized, and this year a sports tournament for Indian ladies has just been held in Poona under the patronage of Her Excellency Lady Lloyd, the wife of the Governor of Bombay. This has been arranged especially to encourage healthy exercise
among Indian women. There has also been great agi-
tation with the view to obtaining votes for women.

According to the last census report, the percentage
of female literates is very small and the number of
Hindu and Mohammedan ladies who can read is pain-
fully small when compared with the large numbers who
cannot. "The backwardness of the larger communi-
ties in female education is attributed chiefly to the cus-
toms of the people, including early marriage, caste,
and purdah."

During these days of suffering and famine, widows
and orphans, deserted wives and other women in sore
trouble are continually coming to our doors. We meet
them wherever we go and their stories are heartrend-
ing. But the fact remains that there are exceptions, and
there is real progress. There is a small number of edu-
cated Indian women who, inspired by different motives
and working in different ways, are all aiming at the
uplifting of the women of their country. If these all
unite they may do great things for our country.

Mr. Karve's institution has now become a women's
university. Mrs. Ramabai Ranade's institution in
Poona is doing splendid work and it is but a branch of
a greater work started by the late Mr. Malabari.

In Guzerat, an institution similar to Mr. Karve's has
been opened for the women of that province. Medical
colleges and arts colleges for women are being opened
by missionaries and by the Government, so that we are
not now working alone. We are contributing in various
ways to the one great work. Many leaders visit our
school and have interviews with my mother, with the
object of gathering information and ideas which they
may make use of in their own institutions.

Then, some of our girls have institutions of their
own. Only two months ago, I quite unexpectedly came
across a woman who recognized me and who told me
that she had been a student in the Shâradâ Sadan about
twenty-seven years ago. She is a widow woman and
when she came to us she was probably quite illiterate,
but now she is educated and in charge of a Government
Vernacular School which prepares candidates for the Women's Normal College in Poona.

One of our girls who came to us many years ago as a child widow is now a lady doctor in charge of a mission hospital. Some of our girls are working as Bible-women and a few are working in large cities helping the missionaries to gather together hundreds of illiterate children and to give them not only secular teaching, but also a true knowledge of the Word of Life. Some who have married are managing their households well and they are looked up to in the society to which they belong. All are seeking to carry with them into their separate spheres of service the spirit of Light and Liberty and Love which they drank in, consciously or unconsciously, while studying in the Shâradâ Sadan. They all have a certain stamp upon them which cannot be mistaken and which is recognized and valued by those with whom they come in contact.

And yet, these who are now doing such a beautiful work were once despised, down-trodden, needy, desolate women. A Hindoo lady who visited our school a few years ago said, as she looked around, "The difference between our work and yours is that we reject unlikely candidates and take only those who give promise of success. You take the unpromising and produce most astonishing results." This is quite true. We are not ashamed to say that we work for those who cannot help themselves and that as we depend upon Him, God Who stooped so low that the world might be redeemed helps us, and by the blessing of His good hand upon us, brings forth out of the rough ore costly vessels for the Master's use.

You, our dear friends in America, officers and members of the American Ramabai Association, have been to us the hand of God, stretched forth across the ocean to save us from distress. You have caused us to hear the loving voice of the Saviour who calls us to come unto Him and rest. Hundreds have responded to the call and have grasped the hand outstretched to help. Thus they have been led to the Cross and their feet
have been planted upon the Rock of Ages. And now, very timidly and amidst all sorts of opposition, they are, one by one, venturing to face the waves again and to hold out one hand to help their sisters in distress, while with the other they still seek to cling tightly to the Cross of the Saviour. At the same time realizing their weakness and their inability to stand alone, they appeal to you, who have helped them for so many years, to still hold them firmly in your strong, untiring grasp, and to support them by your love and faith and prayers until the great work is done.

With deep thankfulness for all that you are doing for us, I remain,

Yours in Christ’s service,

MANORAMABAI.

FORM OF BEQUEST

I give, devise and bequeath to the American Ramabai Association, a corporation duly established under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the sum of ________ Dollars, to be expended for the purposes of the corporation under the direction of its Board of Managers.
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Be it known, that whereas E. Winchester Donald, E. Hayward Ferry, Pauline Agassiz Shaw, Judith W. Andrews, Antoinette P. Granger, Clementina Butler, Catherine E. Russell, Abbie B. Child, William V. Kellen, Martha Silsbee, Cornelia C. Donald, Meta Neilson, Mary Rogers Bangs, Clarence John Blake, Josephine Dexter, and others, have associated themselves with the intention of forming a corporation under the name of The American Ramabai Association for the purpose of promoting and assisting in the education, and to ameliorate the condition of widows, deserted wives, and unmarried women and girls, all of the higher castes, in India, and have complied with the provisions of the statutes of this Commonwealth in such case made and provided, as appears from the certificate of the proper officers of said corporation, duly approved by the Commissioner of Corporations, and recorded in this office:

Now, therefore, I, William M. Olin, Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby certify that said E. Winchester Donald, E. Hayward Ferry, Pauline Agassiz Shaw, Judith W. Andrews, Antoinette P. Granger, Clementina Butler, Catherine E. Russell, Abbie B. Child, William V. Kellen, Martha Silsbee, Cornelia C. Donald, Meta Neilson, Mary Rogers Bangs, Clarence John Blake, Josephine Dexter, and others, their associates and successors, are legally organized and established as and are hereby made an existing corporation under the name of The American Ramabai Association, with the powers, rights, and privileges, and subject to the limitations, duties, and restrictions which by law appertain thereto.

Witness my official signature hereto subscribed and the seal of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts hereunto affixed this twenty-sixth day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-nine.

(Seal)

WILLIAM M. OLIN,
Secretary of the Commonwealth.
BY-LAWS

Article I. The members of the Association shall be such persons as shall from time to time be elected by the Association or by the Board of Managers, and such persons as shall be selected for membership by the Ramabai Circles now or hereafter existing, provided that no more than one person shall be so selected by each circle in any one year, and that no person so selected shall become a member of the Association till notice of the selection has been received by the Recording Secretary of the Association.

Art. II. The officers of the Association shall consist of a President, not less than five Vice-Presidents, a Recording Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary, a Treasurer, and Twenty Managers, all of which officers together shall constitute a Board of Managers. All said officers shall be elected at the Annual Meeting, and shall hold their office one year, and until others are elected and qualified in their stead. The election of officers shall be by ballot, and all or any of them may be voted for on the same ballot. Any vacancy occurring in any of the offices may be filled by the Board of Managers, or the Executive Committee in consultation with the President.

Art. III. The Board of Managers shall manage and control all the property, business, and affairs of the Association. The President of the Association shall be Chairman of the Board. The Board shall meet at such times and places as the President shall appoint. The Board shall make an annual report to the Association.

Art. IV. The Annual Meeting of the Association for the election of officers and the transaction of any business shall be held in March of each year at such time and place in Boston as the President shall appoint. Special meetings of the Association may be called by the President or by the Board of Managers, notice of the purpose of the meeting being included in the notice of the meeting. Notice of the time and place of the Annual Meeting or of any special meeting shall be given by publication in two Boston newspapers at least a week before the meeting.
Art. V. Seven members shall constitute a quorum of the Board of Managers.

Art VI. Voting by proxy shall be allowed at meetings of the Association.

Art VII. The Ramabai Circles shall be such voluntary and unincorporated Associations as now do or hereafter may exist in different localities for the purpose of maintaining interest in, and providing funds for, the work of this Association.

Art. VIII. The By-laws may be amended by vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting, provided that notice of the proposed amendment shall be included in the notice of the meeting.

Art. IX. There shall be on the Board of Managers representatives, not exceeding six, from societies contributing to the funds of the Association.

Art. X. There shall be an Executive Committee of the Association, consisting of not less than five members of the Board of Managers. In the interim of the meetings of the Board of Managers the Executive Committee shall possess all the Powers of said Board and shall manage and control all the Property, business and affairs of the Association in consultation with the President.