

**SCATTERED SEEDS; OR,
FIVE YEARS' ZENANA
WORK IN POONA**

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Scattered Seeds; Or, Five Years' Zenana Work in Poona by Mrs. Malcolm Ross

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MRS. MALCOLM ROSS

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ZENANA WORK IN POONA

SCATTERED SEEDS

OR

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BY

MRS MALCOLM ROSS

"So is the kingdom of God, as if a man should cast seed
into the ground." &c.—S. MARK, iv. 26-29.



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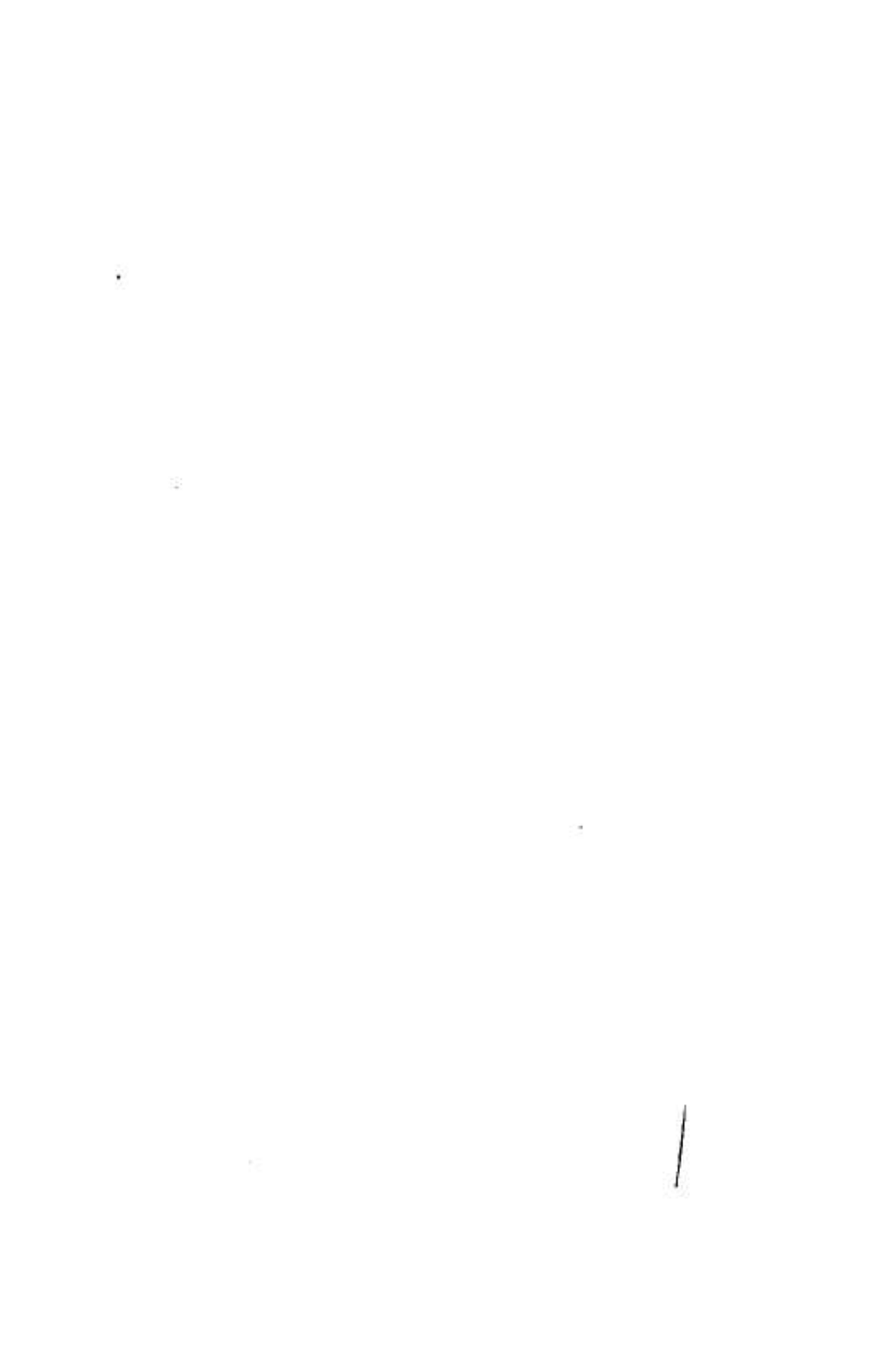
P R E F A C E.

THE following narrative of Mission work in Poona, which originally appeared in a series of papers in the Church of Scotland's 'Missionary Record,' has been reprinted in its present form, at the request of many friends who have been kind enough to say that they considered its publication as a separate work likely to do some good in creating an increased interest in the cause of Female Mission work in India. In this hope it is, with a consciousness of its many imperfections, now offered to the notice of an indulgent public.



C O N T E N T S.

	PAGE
I. INTRODUCTORY,	1
II. HOW THE FIRST SEEDS WERE SOWN,	8
III. BREAKING GROUND,	18
IV. FIRST VISITS,	25
V. MY NATIVE ASSISTANT, AND NATIVE LADIES,	33
VI. BRAHMIN WOMEN, AND SOME OF THEIR WAYS,	47
VII. MY BRAHMIN GIRLS AND THEIR FRIENDS,	61
VIII. "FIRST-FRUITS,"	73
IX. THE BAPTISM,	86
X. THE LITTLE CHILDREN BROUGHT TO CHRIST,	92
XI. THE RESULT OF THE SUMMONS,	99
XII. "SOME BY THE WAYSIDE,"	106
XIII. HINDOO REFORMERS,	118
XIV. THERE ARE LAST WHICH SHALL BE FIRST,	129
XV. "REVEALED UNTO BABES," BUT "HID FROM THE WISE AND PRUDENT,"	139
XVI. CONCLUSION,	145



SCATTERED SEEDS:

OR, FIVE YEARS' ZENANA WORK IN POONA.



I.

INTRODUCTORY.

So much has been written of late about the condition of the women of our Eastern Empire, that there does not seem much left for any new writer to say on the subject. Still, the country is of such vast extent, and peopled by so many different nations, that the restraints imposed upon the females differ greatly in the different parts of India; and even in these are modified by the rank and position in the social scale which the families occupy.

Over the greater part of the Bengal Presidency and the North-West Provinces, where the Mussulman element preponderates, a much greater degree of seclusion and isolation from all society, beyond