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The Missionary World.

BY THE REV. A. J. SANTER.

Formerly C.M.S. Missionary in Bengal.

DR. G. B. ARCHER, of the Ranaghat Medical Mission, Bengal, speaks of encouragement during itinerating work among the Nama Shudras, who show a marked spirit of real inquiry into Christianity and its teachings. Of a visit to a village he says: "Our first visit was in the evening, in the room used as a school, and soon the schoolboys came in, and the men from the fields. We had about sixty in all, and they listened most attentively while both the catechist and I spoke. The boys of the school bought copies of all our books and a New Testament. We learned afterwards that on Sundays they read only these books and sing Christian hymns. We visited the village twice afterwards and gave lantern addresses. On the last occasion fully two hundred and fifty men, women, and children were present. The young men, who had learned by heart four of our hymns, sang them with the greatest vigour. The teacher is asking for baptism, and we hope shortly to bring him in for further teaching. The people are also asking for a Christian schoolmaster. This is surely a great opportunity."



It is always a matter for rejoicing to hear of the progress and efforts of purely Indian missionary organizations, for the day must come when the Indian Church shall be self-supporting and self-propagating. The following, culled from the *C.M.S. Gazette*, gives hope that that day is fast approaching: "The Indian Missionary Society of Tinnevely, founded in 1903, commenced work among the Telugus in the Nizam's dominions, in 1904, with a single missionary. Now there are seven missionaries from Tinnevely, assisted by seventeen Telugu agents, carrying on pastoral, educational, and evangelistic work. There are Christians in twenty-eight villages containing over 900 catechumens and 242 baptized converts." The Bishop of Madras, who visited the district in November last, writes: "The changed lives of the Christians in this village have made a great impression upon the caste people. Before they were converted to Christianity they used to drink and steal. Now they have given up both, and some of them have even begun to pay off their debts. But what produced the greatest impression, apparently, was the preaching and singing of the children from the boarding-school. . . . It is a good thing to see that the life and teaching of the village Christians are now the greatest missionary power in the place, and it is certainly remarkable that the women of the village are specially earnest in the spread of Christianity."



On all sides efforts are being made to build up and strengthen the Native Churches, and render them self-supporting and thoroughly efficient, so as to leave the great work of evangelization to the missionaries. A scheme has

been launched at a C.M.S. Conference at Sapporo, Japan, for the working of the diocese at Hokkaido. Bishop Andrews writes: "We hope to place on the shoulders of the Japanese a large responsibility for building up the Churches, and the C.M.S. will confine itself to evangelistic work. . . . There are many difficulties arising occasionally and problems to be solved. We are determined to give the plan a good trial, and with God's blessing it will succeed. Our first Synod will be held in August, when the plans for the Japanese Diocesan Board, formed and put into operation, will be more clearly stated to the delegates, and I have no hesitation in saying that they will (as they are now doing) show how much they appreciate the idea that the work in Hokkaido is to be managed by their own Church."



At a time when constant earnest prayer is being called for on behalf of the Mission Field, it must be very encouraging (and may we not say somewhat humbling to English Christians?) to learn from the *C.M.S. Gleaner* that the largest mid-week prayer-meeting in the world is held—not in London—but in Pyeng-yang, one of the chief towns of Corea—that nation which is so marvellously turning to God. There is, we learn, an average attendance of 1,000 members, and sometimes overflow meetings take place. "It is not a lecture service," remarks a traveller, "where one man does most of the talking, but a prayer-meeting where all unitedly pour out their hearts to God." Some of the churches hold daily prayer-meetings. One, at least, has never missed a single night since the organization of the Church without holding a prayer-meeting. It is little wonder that in that village there is not a single heathen house nor a non-believing individual left. The Corean Christians are unitedly working and praying for a million souls for Christ during the year 1910. Do not such facts put many British Christians to shame? It is only eighteen years since missionaries entered Corea, the Hermit Land, the last of the nations to open its doors to the Gospel. Now the 8,000 believers are conspicuous for their love and study of God's word, their belief in prayer, and their passion for soul-winning.



Interesting testimony to Medical Mission work was given recently at the Keswick Convention. Among others, Dr. J. L. Goldstein, of the Mildmay Mission to the Jews, working at Tangier in Morocco, said: "Only a little while ago, dear old Jacob, a carpenter, a much-beloved man, a good Jew, but a very self-righteous Pharisee, stood looking on whilst my wife was washing and tending the wounds of a particularly dirty Jew. Words of scorn and ridicule were rising to his lips; but he did not get so far as that, for his eyes filled with tears, and he turned away quickly. . . . It is the love of Christ which constrains us to do these things, and it was that which spoke to that Pharisee's heart. Is it any wonder that we praise God when we hear a little Jew, whom we said we would pray for, saying to us, 'You need not pray for me any more now, because I can pray for myself to the Lord Jesus'? Is it any wonder our hearts are full of thankfulness when we think of the little Jewish girl who went through months of great suffering

from an incurable disease, and who, when we said to her one day that it was impossible for her to get better, replied, 'Oh, won't it be lovely to see the dear Lord Jesus face to face! I am not afraid to die!'



A Mahommedan woman, a patient in a Mission hospital, was being taught about Christ dying for us, and said, "Did He die for the Mahommedans as well as for the Christians?" She was taught the verse, "The blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth us from all sin." After three weeks, as she was leaving the hospital, she was asked what she had learnt, and replied, "Christ died for *me*."



Literary Notes.

MESSRS. J. M. DENT AND SON have published another fifty volumes in their really remarkable series of reprints, now known the world over as "Everyman's Library." With the publication of these fifty volumes, just one half of the volumes which it is intended to issue in this admirable collection of the world's best books have appeared. The scheme of the series will only be completed by the publication of one thousand volumes. The success of the venture was assured with the issue of the first fifty volumes. Here are some of the titles to be found among the last fifty: Sir Arthur Help's "Life of Columbus," "Homer," "Thucydides," Matthew Arnold's "Celtic Literature," Burke's "Reflections on the French Revolution," Sir Thomas More's "Utopia," George Eliot's "Scenes from a Clerical Life," Bede's "Ecclesiastical History," Berkeley's "Principles of Human Knowledge," and Lord Dufferin's "Letters from High Altitudes." It must be borne in mind that each volume is prefaced by a capital introduction written by an expert. We need hardly remind our readers that the books are published at 1s. net.



The Venerable Archdeacon Wilberforce is publishing through Mr. Elliot Stock an important volume of sermons entitled "The Secret of the Quiet Mind." This latest selection of sermons from the pen of the brilliant preacher is issued in the same series as "Sermons Preached in Westminster Abbey," etc. Mr. Stock also announces "The Work and Power of the Holy Spirit," by the Rev. W. Muspratt, M.A., Chaplain of Coonoor, India, a volume of helpful and stimulating sermons.



One of the most successful of the illustrated works published last autumn was a quarto edition of Charles Kingsley's "Water Babies," with pictures in colour from drawings by Mr. Warwick Goble. The rapid sale of the book showed a just appreciation of the artist, and the announcement will be