

THE CHRIST OF GOD.

He has come, the Christ of God!
Left for us His glad abode;
Stooping from His throne of bliss,
To this darksome wilderness.

He, the mighty King has come!
Making this poor earth His home;
Come to bear our sin's sad load;
Son of David, Son of God!

He has come, the Prince of Peace!
Come to bid our sorrows cease;
Come to scatter with His light,
All the shadows of our night.

Unto us a Child is born!
Ne'er has earth beheld a morn,
Among all the morns of time,
Half so glorious in its prime.

Unto us a Son is given!
He hath come from God's own heaven;
Bringing with Him from above
Holy peace and holy love.

NATIVE CHRISTIANS IN INDIA.

The Rev. E. Mackenzie Cobham, of Madras, made the following interesting statement at a Wesleyan Missionary Society's meeting, concerning the character of the native Christians in India.

"When one is always hearing," he said, "that the Indian native Christians are so bad, one is tempted to think that the magistrates must know something about them; so I went one day to our Chief Commissioner of Police in Madras to ask for the criminal statistics of our Presidency. He very kindly gave them to me.

First of all he told me who were the worst people in Madras. Government divide the population into three classes—Christians, Mussulmans and Hindus. In the city of Madras, a city of 400,000 people, which of these three classes is the best, which the worst?

Government says: "The statistics which we have received say this:—The Mussulmans are not the best people, the Hindus are not the best people, the Christians are the best people." Out of every 447 Hindus we have a criminal; out of every 700 Mussulmans in the city of Madras we have a criminal: but it takes 2,500 Christians to make one. Out of every 100,000 Hindus throughout the 31,000,000 of the

Madras Presidency we have 40 criminals; we have 62 criminals out of every 100,000 Mohammedans; but we have only 16 out of every 100,000 nominal Christians.

That is the testimony of Government—that is to say, speaking out before the whole world, Government says that the best men in the country are those men who, by the grace of God, have been lifted up out of idolatry and heathenism and made Christians. The fact is, that if all the population of the Madras Presidency were nominally Christians, we would have 12,000 fewer criminals every year than we now have.

To go a step further, I may tell you that Christianity in South India has won the respect and esteem of the whole community. I will give you an illustration. Not very long ago one of my evangelists met in the streets a Hindu with a troubled countenance, a man who had a great deal of money with him. He had gone to the town to collect what seemed a bad debt, and he had got it. He had tied it round his waist. Then came the trouble to keep the money. He was afraid, since he was in a strange town, that it might be stolen, and that he might be murdered. He met my evangelist, and saw by his dress that he was a Christian, he saw by his face that he was a Christian; for God puts a bit of sunshine beneath a brown skin, you know. He said: "Sir, I should like to stay at your house, if you please, to-night." "Oh! but," said the evangelist, "my dear sir, I am a Christian, you are a Hindu; there are thousands of Hindus here." "Yes, it is just because you are a Christian I want to stay with you. I can trust a Christian, but I cannot trust a Hindu." Is not one such testimony worth a volume of sneers?

The China Inland Mission undenominational, has 129 unmarried and 43 married missionaries; these, with 117 native workers and the wives of the missionaries, constitute a band of over 300 and the mission asking for 100 more, of whom seventy are already secured. The income of the past year was \$110,745. Donations were received from Africa, Palestine, America, New Zealand, Australia, India, and every European country except Austria, Turkey and Greece. Of converts, the Society mentioned 1,655 as "in fellowship," and 402 as baptized during the year.