

Their training should be adapted to develop the unworldly spiritual character which missionary work requires. It should always be adapted to the individual case. All missionary students should be trained in laborious and self-denying habits, and exercised in evangelistic work among our own lapsed masses, especially open-air preaching.

Lastly, every missionary student should be furnished with the practical instructions of the ambulance corps, as to how to deal with accident cases; while those who are preparing for labor in Central Africa and other parts of the world where no qualified medical aid is to be had should receive, in addition to other teaching, special medical instruction of an elementary and practical nature, and in those instances where there is marked aptitude and desire for it, the missionary student should have the advantage of a full medical course.

### THE WORK AMONG THE FIJI ISLANDS.

[A Paper read before the London Conference by Rev. John Calvert.]

[The facts concerning the missionary life of this remarkable man, stated in a note to Dr. Pierson which we give below, will add interest to his paper.—J. M. S.]

"DEAR DR. PIERSON:

"SEVENOAKS, KENT, June 19, 1888.

"In 1838 I went to Fiji with John Hunt. In 1850 I came home with the printed New Testament and MS. of the complete Bible, and was four years in England. In 1860 I went again to Fiji with several young missionaries newly married. In 1872 I went to South Africa for nine years. In Nov. 1886, I went on a visit to Fiji and returned through America, and I am now settled down here as supernumerary. I have lately supplied twenty cases of Bibles and Testaments, from the Bible Society, and four cases hemispheres in zinc cylinders to keep them safe, when not used, from the cockroaches. And I am now putting to press Hunt's Theology, Hymns, Catechism and Book of Offices.

"Affectionately yours,

"JAMES CALVERT."

Of all the many Oceanic missions in the Pacific, I am here to represent but one, in which a great part of my life has been spent—the Mission to Fiji. This large and beautiful group, which lies 1,800 miles northeast from Sydney, and 1,200 north of New Zealand, consists of some 300 islands and islets, eighty of which are inhabited; and the two largest are ninety miles in length. The islanders are a fine race, of fair intelligence, and, according to the measure of their own simple wants, very industrious. Having been left to themselves and to the undisturbed control of bad influences in all the past, they became extremely vile and degraded. Cannibalism was a recognized institution among them and practiced to a frightful extent. Infanticide was a general custom, and the burial of sick persons before death was common. Cruelty of all kinds abounded; and polygamy, with its inseparable consequences of evil, was established throughout the group.

The condition and claims of Fiji were brought urgently before the Christian people of England, and particularly before the Wesleyan Methodist Churches, about fifty years ago. Already two white missionaries were doing noble work in the Islands. They were re-enforced from time to time. They never exceeded thirteen at any one time—now they are only nine; and this number will probably be still further reduced, the work being carried on chiefly and successfully by agents raised up among the people themselves. Happily we have always been heartily one, so that our prayers and labors have not been hindered, but greatly helped. Regular weekly English worship and the class-meeting among the mission families were of the utmost value in keeping our own souls alive. God chose the men employed; none of them extraordinary or great, but suitable, well adapted, ready to rough it and go on heartily with every branch of the work that had to be done, making little of difficulties, dangers and afflictions, but the best of everything and everyone. And all our work personally, and in the training of native