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Missions in India.

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IN 1814, Dr. Middleton was appointed the first Bishop of Calcutta. At the same time Dr. Bryce was appointed the first Scottish Chaplain in that city. The former founded a college for the education of native missionaries; the latter founded the first Presbyterian Church there. From that time the history of missionary effort in India has been one of almost uninterrupted progress. Bishop Heber succeeded Middleton in 1825. "His career was one track of light, the admiration of Britain and India." To him we are indebted for the missionary hymn,— "From Greenland's Icy Mountains," written long before he ever set foot on the "coral strand." He died in his bath at Trichinopoly, 3rd April, 1836. The S. P. G. Society under whose auspices these prelates went to India, had long before adopted some of the Danish Missions and also established others of their own. The Church Missionary Society, representing the evangelical party in the Church of England, has been singularly successful in India. Its first mission was established in Calcutta in 1815, and now its stations are spread over all the north western provinces. Its greatest results however have been achieved in the southern district of Tinnivelly, formerly a branch of the Tranquibar Danish Mission, to which Messrs. Rhenius and Schmid were sent in 1820. Through their agency numerous schools and churches were built and thousands of converts gathered into the fold. But the most recent accounts from Tinnivelly cast into the shade the records of previous results. A year ago it was reported that within nine

months 16,000 natives had sent in their names to Bishop Caldwell and placed themselves under instruction for Christian baptism. These two Societies have together 131 stations in India, 143 European and 104 native ordained ministers, 759 lay preachers, 1,100 congregations, and 23,700 communicants.

The Wesleyan Missionary Society commenced work in Madras in 1816, and in the Bangalore district in 1821. It has forty missionaries and assistant missionaries, 1,174 members in full standing and 9,000 pupils in its schools. In Ceylon it is still more largely represented, having 62 missionaries, 2,659 members, and 12,537 scholars. The congregationalists, through the London Missionary Society, sent out three missionaries to India in 1804. Others followed from time to time and established numerous stations in different parts of the country. In 1836, they founded an important educational institution at Bhurampore, near Calcutta. The fruits of their labours now appear in the formation of upwards of 359 congregations, comprising 50,000 native Christians.

We come now to speak of the Presbyterian Missions, which constitute an important factor in the evangelization of India, for the Scotch, English, Irish, and American churches in nearly all their various branches are here represented. In 1822, the Scottish Missionary Society sent out its first four missionaries, who commenced their labours at Bankot, sixty miles south of Bombay. Among these was Dr. John Wilson, one of the most distinguished of all the Indian missionaries. He selected Bombay as the seat of the mission with which his name was ever afterwards identified. There he and his colleagues, notably Robert Nisbet, James Mitchell, and Dr. Murray Mitchell founded a noble mission and an educational institution