

THE Canadian Missionary Link.

CANADA.

In the Interests of the Baptist Foreign Mission Societies of Canada.

INDIA.

VOL. VI., No. 4.] "The Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising."—Is. lx. 2. [DEC., 1883.]

"Doe the Nexte Thyng."

From an old English parsonage down by the sea
There came in the twilight a message to me
The quaint Saxon legend, deeply engraven,
Hath, as it seems to me, teaching from heaven.
On through the hours its quiet tones ring,
Like a low inspiration. "Doe the nexte thyng."



Many a questioning, many a fear,
Many a doubt hath its answering here.
Moment by moment, let down from heaven,
Time, opportunity, guidance are given.
Fear not to-morrows, child of the King,
Trust them to Jesus, "Doe the nexte thyng"

Oh, He would have thee daily more free,
Knowing the might of thy Royal degree
Ever in waiting, glad at His call;
Ftranquil in chastening, trusting through all
Coming and going, no turmoil need bring,
His is the future, "Doe the nexte thyng."

Do it immediately, do it with prayer;
Do it reliantly, casting all care;
Do it with reverence, tracing the hand
Which placed it before thee with earnest command
Stay'd on Omnipotence, safe 'neath His wing,
Leave all resultings, "Doe the nexte thyng"

Looking to Jesus, ever serenely,
Working or waiting, be thy demeanour
In the shade of His presence, the rest of His calm,
The light of His countenance, live out thy psalm
Strong in His faithfulness, praise Him and sing,
Then, as He beckons thee, "Doe the nexte thyng"

—From "Stillness and Suffering."

Native Christian Women at Work in India

Woman in India has been secluded, repressed, and silenced for centuries. The zenana has been little better than a luxurious prison. Hence the great difficulty of influencing home life in India. Public opinion and the customs of the country have alike discourag'd any work by native women outside the zenanas. Thanks largely to the labours of such ladies as Mrs Lewis, Mrs Smith, and Mrs Rouse, access has been gained to the women of India, and many of them have become Christians. The wives and daughters of our missionaries have done a good work, not only in the zenanas of the rich, but also in the dwellings of the poor. Sooner than might have been expected the seed sown has yielded in fruit. Turning to an interesting letter from the Rev. R. Spurgeon, of Barisal, our readers will observe that, at Soogiam, a large number of women attended a meeting held, two of them reading papers, others speaking, and some leading the meeting in prayer. At Askor a service was held in which thirty women and thirteen men were baptized.

Since then, thirty-two more have been baptized. Our hope of India brightens. Not less welcome, and to the same effect, is the news in a recent letter to Sir Morton Peto, Bart., written from Delhi, where the Rev. R. F. Guyton says:—"One most important feature of our work just now, and one for which we are all grateful to God, is a very manifest deepening and freshening of spiritual life among our native Christians: this is specially remarkable in the women. These have hitherto been most apathetic and unmovable, after the fashion of women in this country; they are now beginning to move. Only last Sunday, quite unknown to us, and even unsuspected by us, some of them went out into the 'bustles' round, and there preached. If that spirit can only be maintained, we shall win all in the bustles; for our difficulty hitherto has been that, however much we influenced the men, the women were against us. I should explain that these women were simply the wives of native Christians, not Bible-women, and not paid in any way, therefor."

This, now, is in the past. Woman is taking her proper place in the church. "We shall win" if woman can be won for Christ. Verily, prospects in India are more cheering than they were. Oh, that Carey had lived to see the dawn of this new day in the homes of India!—*Freeman.*

Christian Progress in India.*

(From the Literary World)

The decennial returns of Protestant Missions in India, Burmah, and Ceylon, which have only recently been published, contain an immense array of figures illustrative of these missions at the close of 1881. Their reliability is vouched for by the fact that they were prepared at the suggestion of the Calcutta Missionary Conference which is composed of about thirty missionaries, representing six of the largest British, and one American society. Three of their number were invited to collect and prepare for publication the statistics in question, and since the information relates to every mission throughout the empire, and was supplied by the representatives of each station in reply to carefully prepared tables, relating to every branch of mission work, the information is unusually full and accurate. The results are now published in a small quarto volume of eighty-two pages, most of them crowded with carefully-arranged figures which give the statistics of every mission station throughout the empire and Ceylon.

After an introduction, giving the history of this and previous decennial censuses, a list of the various missionary societies, and a general summary of the statistics and the conclusions they suggest, there follows a long

* Protestant Missions in India, Burmah, and Ceylon. Statistical Tables, 1881. London: Thacker, Spink & Co.