



TRICHINOPOLY, SOUTH INDIA.

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PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROPAGATION OF THE GOSPEL.

**T**HIS is the name of a large town and of a district in South India, in the Diocese of Madras. The town is famous for its jewellery, cigars and silk cloths. It has a population, with its suburbs, of about 100,000 souls. The district, which is about the size of the County of Norfolk, has a population of a little over 1,200,000.

Trichinopoly is one of the oldest of the Missions of the S. P. G. It was begun in 1762 by the Rev. C. Schwartz, who is so well known as the Venerable Father Schwartz. He went there from Tranquebar at the time that the great wars for supremacy in India were taking place between the English and French. Trichinopoly with its neighborhood was the great battle-field of the South, and it was there that Lord Clive first came prominently into notice.

The English at that time had no clergyman to minister to them, and they therefore asked the Rev. C. Schwartz to remain with them. He consented to do so, and together with his work among the English, he made known the Gospel to the Hindus. Through his preaching many of them became Christians. He built a large church within the Fort of Trichinopoly, just at the foot of the great rock, a picture of which appears at the head of the page. The Rev. C. Schwartz left Trichinopoly in 1768, and his place was filled by the Rev. Christian Pohle, who lived in Trichinopoly for about forty years. He, like Father Schwartz,

had to minister to the English, and therefore he could not devote much time to missionary work among the Hindus. The S. P. G. has unfortunately not been able from want of funds to keep more than one European missionary there at any time, and consequently there has not been the same progress there as there has been in Tinnevely. The number of our Christians is but little over 2,000, and these are scattered about in small congregations, some of which are forty miles from the town of Trichinopoly.

The great and sacred River Cauvery, the source of so much wealth, and the object of worship, divides the district of Trichinopoly almost in half,—running nearly due west and east,—and for many years the saintly Rev. C. Kohlhoff was the missionary among the people north of this river. In 1879, the Rev. J. L. Wyatt was appointed to Trichinopoly, south of the river, and unfortunately in 1880 Mr. Kohlhoff died and Mr. Wyatt took charge of his work also.

Mr. and Mrs. Wyatt began work by opening day schools for the higher classes of the Hindu girls. Up to the time they went there nothing had been done in this direction. They were obliged to get even their teachers from their old home in Tinnevely. In this, however, they found but little difficulty; the affection of their old pupils and workers for them induced many to volunteer to follow them and help them in their new sphere, and there are now fourteen girls' schools with over 700 little girls learning in them; only about 200 of these are Christians, the rest are Hindus. There are also two boarding schools for