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Missionary Visitation.

WE invite attention to a letter in another column from our trusty friend the Rev. Louis H. Jordan, ex-pastor of Erskine church, Montreal, not only because of its interest but because it contains the first outside testimony which the Church has received from an eye-witness respecting its work in Central India which has been going on uninterruptedly for over fifteen years. It has often been suggested that the time has come when all the foreign missions of the church should be visited officially. There can be no doubt that such a visit would be doubly useful, (1) by encouraging the missionaries in their arduous and, in some instances, lonely labours, and (2) by creating a livelier interest in their work by the diffusion of information entirely independent of local considerations. The cordial—nay the enthusiastic—welcome accorded to Mr Jordan, in a private capacity, sufficiently indicates that our missionaries would appreciate such a visit; while the fact that a ministerial trip “round the world” has now become such a common occurrence there would be little difficulty in making arrangements to give effect to the proposal. The only thing to be regretted in connection with Mr. Jordan’s visit to Indore was that he had not sufficient time at his disposal to make him-

self familiar with a work that is beginning to assume such large dimensions, and with the details of which it was impossible for him to become acquainted in a passing visit.

Missionary Methods.

THE question has been seriously discussed whether schools and colleges should form part of the work of missions among the heathen? Ought we to teach the people branches of learning that are not essentially identified with Gospel work? Some of the churches have noble institutions for the training of students—institutions which are largely attended—but from which very few if any converts are received. Ought the churches to continue such work? This question has been carefully investigated by able men of various churches, and the conclusion arrived at is, in the main, that the churches have done well to educate—that they could not dispense with the school and college. Sir William Muir, a very high authority in such matters, says it would be a calamity to India if mission schools were withdrawn. He regards their influence on the mind of India as of inestimable value.

“It was the Scotch schools and colleges that first called forth the sympathy of the Hindus for Christianity.” Christian truths and sentiments have got hold of minds that