

India. Such testimony from the leaders of a non-Christian sect is very encouraging to our mission work, when it shows how Christianity compels acknowledgement from the heathen, both as to its character and its results, in the following words:

"It is not the glittering bayonet . . . which can keep our people loyal. No. None of these can hold India in subjection. . . . If you wish to secure the attachment and allegiance of India, it must be through spiritual influence and moral suasion.

"And such indeed has been the case in India. You cannot deny that your hearts have been touched, conquered, and subjugated by a superior power. That power—need I tell you—is Christ. It is Christ who rules British India, and not the British Government. England has sent out a tremendous moral force in the life and character of that mighty prophet, to conquer and hold this vast empire. None but Jesus ever deserved this bright, this precious diadem, India, and Jesus shall have it."

NOT DARK WITH JESUS.

Not dark with Jesus—I can trust my Friend;
These eyes are dim, I can trust to Him,
Rejoice, I cannot see the end:
'Tis never dark with Jesus.

Not dark with Jesus; I can leave it there,
This tearful task He would not ask,
Were it not best for me to bear:
'Tis never dark with Jesus.

Not dark with Jesus; for my friends are His,
Tho' far they dwell, He loves them well,
And bids me trust Him e'en to this:
'Tis never dark with Jesus.

Not dark with Jesus; lo, the clouds are gone!
"Child, be of cheer for I am near!"
My soul shall glory in the sun:
'Tis never dark with Jesus.

—E. V. K.

THE FORWARD MARCH.

During the first 1500 years it is estimated that Christianity gained 100,000,000 of adherents, during the next 300 years, 100,000,000 more. While within the present century it has gained upwards of 200,000,000, or more than during all the rest of the Christian era. There is good ground for the statement in the Encyclopædia Britannica that Christianity has won the nations of the future.

It has been often stated for a fact that Buddhism leads the religions of the world. The author of "The Light of Asia," reckons its followers at 470,000,000. But this figure includes the entire population of China at its largest estimate. Careful observers, like Prof. Monier Williams and Dr. Hopper have lately shown that the number of Buddhists does not exceed 100,000,000, at the outside. It must henceforth be admitted that Christianity, with its 460,000,

000 of adherents, has fully four times the following of Buddhism, and stands at the front of the world's religions. One hundred years ago the doors of almost every Pagan nation were closed to the Gospel. As late as 1880 it was estimated that the number of heathen accessible to Baptist missionaries and fairly allotted to them was, say, 250,000. Now the number is put at more than 100,000,000. The barriers have well nigh disappeared. The whole world is practically open to Christianity.

"NOT HEAVY—NOT SHORTENED."

Not "heavy" is the Ear
Thy prayers are seeking,
Why shouldst thou, seized with fear,
Forbear thy speaking?
As mothers' ears are keen,
Awake or sleeping—
So God, alert, unseen,
Safe watch is keeping.

Not "shortened" is the Arm
To thee extended;
Then bid thy false alarm
Be quickly ended.
That out-stretched Arm is strong,
Almighty ever:
That out-stretched Arm is long,
And faileth never.

Not shortened is God's Arm,
Nor dull His hearing;
He bends with welcome warm,
And both hands bearing
The blessing thou dost crave
In richest measure,
Receive, till thou shalt have
Abounding treasure.

WINNIFRED A. IVERSON.

BROCKVILLE MISSION CIRCLE.—Our regular monthly meeting held in January, proved a most interesting one; there were about sixty in attendance and an excellent programme was well rendered. The leading feature of the meeting was the presentation to Mrs. Vaux of a Life-membership in the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society. Mrs. Vaux has been President of the Mission Circle for many years, and has taken a deep interest in the work, and her worth in that responsible position was thus fittingly recognized.

Mrs. Vaux, who was taken entirely by surprise, expressed her thanks in fitting terms. In the course of her remarks she stated that she had hoped to see the Circle with a membership of one hundred. The ladies present acted promptly on the suggestion, and within a few minutes the number of members was increased from ninety two to the century mark. Rev. Mr. Symore, pastor of the church, who came in just as this interesting part of the proceedings was in progress, spoke briefly referring to the high appreciation in which Mrs. Vaux's services were held by the people of the Baptist church, expressing regret at her departure from town, and wishing her and hers God-speed in their new home.

Refreshments were served and an hour was spent most pleasantly in social intercourse.

LIZZIE DENANT, Sec.