

HE CAME AT LAST.



A HINDU boy in one of our Mission Schools in Couva, Trinidad, years ago, while a smart diligent scholar, did not seem to profit much by the Bible teaching that he received. He left the school and went to work.

The good Missionary who had taught him, Rev. Thomas Christie, of Nova Scotia, failed in health, came home, went to California and died there, but was never permitted to see any fruits of his labors so far as this boy was concerned.

A few weeks since a wealthy young Indian merchant came to the Missionary who is now in Couva, and expressed a wish to be baptized and join the Christian Church, and brought his family of six children for baptism. It was that boy of Mr. Christie's. He had come at last. The good Missionary did not live to see the fruit of his labors. He did his work, others have taken it up and carried it on, and and bye and bye, he that soweth and he that reapeth shall rejoice together.

A CHANGED HEATHEN.

IN the New Hebrides, lying near the island of Efate, is the small island of Fila. Rev. J. W. Mackenzie, our missionary on Efate, tried for long to win an entrance to Fila, but the people were bitterly opposed to the coming of a missionary, and his efforts to gain them were in vain.

How different now. Mr. and Mrs. Mackenzie were leaving their island home a few months ago for a visit to Australia, to see their children, who are there at school, and the people were very sorry to part with them even for a short time. Mr. McKenzie writes:—

"We hear every month from our poor natives. It is very touching to hear how they long for our return.

I wish you could have seen the chief of Fila as he bade us good bye when we were leaving. He wept like a child. It was quite a contrast to his behavior towards me some years ago when he came down to the beach

to prevent our landing, telling me if I went ashore I would be murdered."

All this is encouragement to us in our work for missions. Sooner or later the fruit of faithful labor will appear.

SCHOOL GOING IN TRINIDAD.

"CATCH THEM IF YOU CAN."

STAY at home if you choose," sounds pleasant to some. Let Miss Blackadder one of our tried Mission teachers tell us how they do in Trinidad. The old trouble of getting the children to school still exists and probably will until we have a law compelling them to attend.

It is very hard to see ever so many children, wild, idle, nearly naked, playing in the streets, and yet we have to go about, begging and imploring them to come to our schools. Abuse is often given us. Sometimes we are told "If you can catch them you can have them."

The greater number of children only attend two or three years at the most. They are very young when they enter and so we have to do all we can in that short time.

Many come and go, do not remain long enough to learn to read. As missionaries we are glad to welcome them, teach them hymns and Bible stories and prayers, but we would like to have them longer.

I almost lose hope sometimes about the girls ever obtaining any education or training. Only very small girls, mere babies, are generally allowed to attend school, just enough to keep them out of mischief while their mothers are at work.

Perhaps they remain till they can read the first or second book, then the mothers say they know enough for girls, or they want to marry them. Out they go, and in a few months all is forgotten. So you see teachers here do not have an easy idle life.

Yours sincerely

ANNIE L. M. BLACKADDAR.

TELL THE STORIES OF THE PICTURES IN THIS ISSUE.