

MISSION FIELD.

BISHOP HANNINGTON'S SUCCESSOR.

The Church Missionary Society, have suggested to his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury the name of the Rev. Henry Perrott Parker, M.A., Missionary of this Society in North India as successor to Bishop Hannington. His Grace expressed his acquiescence in the choice, and his readiness to consecrate him to the Bishopric in East Africa.

Mr. Parker was ordained deacon in 1876, and priest in 1877, by the Bishop of Exeter (Dr. Temple). He was Curate of Holy Trinity, Exeter, from 1876 to 1880, when he went to India in connection with the Church Missionary Society.

The present position of Foreign Missions is the subject of an important article in the new *Quarterly Review*. "We know of no direct result of the century's foreign missions," says the reviewer, "more significant and satisfactory than these two. (1) That in 1884 there were no fewer than 2,322 ordained native ministers, or nearly as many as the whole number of foreign missionaries, officers of an army of 26,637 native workers of other kinds, catechists, and teachers. (2) That the number of native communicants was 769,201, and that they had increased in the year by one-fifth. The two together mean that at the present rate of increase in this year, the ninety-fifth, since the first Englishman went out as a missionary, there are outside of Christendom, reformed Christian communities more than 3,000,000 strong, led by 2,500 ordained ministers of their own speech. In India alone the census of 1881 showed nearly 2,000,000 of Christians of all kinds, and an increase of the reformed native Christians at the rate of 86 per cent, in the decade. The growth of the dark races who are coming under the power of Christianity is beginning to form a striking parallel to the growth of the English-speaking races, to whom they have been entrusted for their civilisation in the highest sense."

WEST INDIES.

The diocese of Nassau labours under especial difficulties since 'dis-established' in the Bahamas. On the Island of St. Salvador, in particular, the Church has never been strong. The late rector succeeded in securing the erection of six churches, but after his death the Baptists drew many of the people away; indeed, the Baptist congregation at Arthurtown is mainly composed of lapsed Churchfolk. But the Rev. F. B. Matthews, the new rector, has regained many. Since his arrival, thirteen months ago, he has travelled up and down the island, visiting the various stations, 1616 miles, baptized 106 infants and 43 adults, and presented 209 candidates for confirmation. With the exception of about eight

souls there are no white people on this island.

A PLEA FOR EXTENDED HELP FOR CHRISTIAN MISSIONS.—In many of the Colonies the English and native races, the representatives of a great historic Church and of Paganism in one or other of its many forms, are brought so closely together that the evangelisation of the latter can be hopefully undertaken only by those who remember the axiom of St. Augustine, that "the example of a Christian life is the first step to the conversion of the heathen and the inculcation of Christian truth is the second." A Colonial Bishop writes to the society that while in his diocese pagans are being made Christians, he sometimes fears that through the neglect or poverty of the Church, Christians have become pagans. Experience tends more and more to teach as true the order which the society has always observed in its operations; first to care for those who are already of the household of faith, and secondly, by all lawful means to attract the heathen to the teaching of the Gospel. But with an income that, it is well to repeat, may almost be called stationary coupled with the knowledge that existing Missions are sadly crippled for means, that men are sinking under burdens too heavy for them to bear alone, and that spirits are broken by the constant knowledge of open fields which cannot be entered, the society administrator the funds intrusted to its stewardship, with the earnest endeavor, as far as possible, to co-ordinate means with the needs of the colonists and the heathen, and point out new fields which ought to be occupied, and will be occupied, if the Church rise up to her privileges.—*From Annual Report of the S.P.G.*

A missionary in India, writing in the London Society's *Chronicle*, states that the natives sometimes thus reply to his exhortations: "You ask us to give up the customs of our fathers; but, if you are in earnest, why are your visits so few and far between, and why are you so few?" The missionary might have replied that that was only a proof that the visits were those of angels; but this would scarcely have satisfied the natives.

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