

such a desire to purchase. The difference in Malang being that the people were anxious to learn about the Christian way, and to hear what the books were about.

AN OPIUM FARM.

We sold a large number at the Opium Farm, a most unlikely place one would have thought, but there I was kept by the head-man for fully an hour explaining what the religion of Christ is. In this village it was only at the very first that I had any occasion to press the Scriptures, the whole of the remainder of the day the people followed us and crowded round us to buy both Malay, Javanese, and Chinese. My great sorrow here, as everywhere since I had left Batavia, was that I had not got the Scriptures in Javanese.

My usual plan with a Malay or Javanese, after the usual salutations, is to show him a book (Scripture Portion) in Arabic character, and ask whether he can read it, and as I got further from Batavia, and then further from Surabaya, the oftener was the answer in the negative. Then when the natives saw I had books for sale many would come and ask what I was selling, and on being informed they would ask whether I had the "Injil" (New Testament in Javanese), and on my telling them that I had not at that time, but that I hoped to have a supply next year when I came down, the almost invariable reply was, "Ah yes, sir, but we might be dead when you come again, or even if not we might not see you; what we want is the book in our own language now." I am sure you will not have any difficulty in imagining how sad at heart it made me to find men not only willing but anxious to buy, but to whom I could not sell—it makes the tears start to my eyes even now as I am writing it.

A GRAND WORK.

I had been wanting, ever since my arrival in Java, to go to a large town called Bandung, some 130 or 140 miles from Batavia; the railway was only, however, open for about two thirds of the way, but just after my return from Java I had an opportunity offered to go up in a carriage with one of the directors, who was going on a trip of inspection on the new line, shortly to be opened. I was also anxious to go to a place at about half the distance, called Sukabumi. So, on the morning of April 30th, I started, together with Mrs. Haffenden and the boys, leaving them at Sukabumi and continuing the trip with Mr. O——, who had kindly procured for me the permission to make the trip on the unopened portion of the line. We arrived at Bandung too late in the evening to do any work, but next morning I started out after breakfast at about 9 o'clock, and up to midday, when I returned for tiffin, I sold 125 books, and in the afternoon I was out for about two hours, and sold seventy more, making in all 195, being the largest number I had sold myself anywhere in Java. I was thoroughly tired out when I got home, for it certainly is hard work selling and talking continually in the hot sun for several hours together; but if I was thoroughly tired I was still more thoroughly happy, for this Bible-selling is grand work, especially perhaps where it is quite a new thing—just the kind of thing that St. Paul, I think, must have delighted in, sowing where no sower had been before—and in Bandung I think there must have been hundreds who, even if they had just heard of Christ, had yet never seen the Word of God. I was so glad that Mr. O—— was with me, for he is very interested in our work, and his sympathy, of course, doubled my own pleasure, and then close Christian fellowship rests one so after a hard day's work.

Next morning, May 2nd, we started on our return, and I arrived at Sukabumi in the afternoon, and found that Willie, entirely by himself, had sold thirty-one Scriptures. I then went out myself for a couple of hours and sold sixty-four more, which I considered very good for a small place, where