

is a better land beyond," and she gets the attention of the woman, who listens attentively to the old story. Putting her finger to her deeply-lined forehead, she says, "Do you see, it is all written here—grinding, cooking, spinning, tired head, weary feet, live and die like a beast, all because we women have committed sin in former life!" Pathetic story.

"But," says the missionary, "Satan brought sin, and sin brought sorrow; but God loved us, and sent his Son Jesus Christ to save."

"Ah, yes, you know this. for you read all day; but what can we women understand?"

"Yes, you can understand this; there is no one too ignorant for the Lord Jesus to save."

"Well, give me my medicine and let me go home."

She gets it, starts, comes back, and says, "Tell me His name again!" Next day she returns, asks for more medicine, and while it is being prepared she says, "Tell me His name again!" For a while she is silent, then opens her heart again and tells her troubles to the sympathizing listener; and as she gets up to go away, says, "Tell me His name again before I leave;" and so she goes out into the darkness of heathenism repeating that Name—"the sweetest sound to mortals given."

Siam and Laos.

SIAM.

THIS is a country about which missionary intelligence is not so easily obtained as of some fields. Yet hardly another country can be said to be as fully open as it to Gospel influences and teaching.

The missionary work in Siam was commenced in 1831 by the American Board of Commissioners for foreign missions, and has been carried on without a break ever since. To-day, by far the largest part of the work in Siam is being done by the American Presbyterian Board, although the American Baptists and some other Boards have each some flourishing missions there.

The country lies adjacent to China and has a population of about eight millions, composed principally of Chinese and Siamese.

Buddhism, with its utterly selfish principles and its superstitious rites and witchcrafts, has been the prevailing religion. It is now, however, rapidly losing its hold, even upon those who have not yet embraced the new religion—Christianity.

LAOS.

The work here was undertaken in 1867, as an offshoot from the work in Siam. The natural conditions there, however, were less favorable than in the latter country, on account of its more remote situation.

The missionaries at first met with a kind reception, but after about two years, at the instigation of the Buddhist priests, the king tried to secure their dismissal. Failing in this, a persecution was set up and several converts chose to yield up their lives rather than deny their new found Saviour. After about a year the king died and since then the Laos Christians have enjoyed greater privileges than before.

From being a branch of the mission in Siam they have become a separate mission and have now outgrown, in number of churches and communicants, the body from which they originated.

Besides eight ordained missionaries in each country, there are in Siam three medical missionaries, and in Laos

five. In connection with each mission also there are some sixteen foreign ladies, together with a number of native teachers and other helpers. The medical work has been found a most valuable aid in winning the confidence of the people.

Since January, 1895, twenty Christian Endeavor societies have been formed among the three thousand Laos Christians. Their first Christian Endeavor convention was held a short time ago. And this, in a country where, thirty years ago, the Gospel had never been preached, and among people, who, up to that time, had never heard of Christ! Perhaps the secret of this phenomenal activity among the young people lies in the fact that *no less than nine* of the missionaries in Laos are themselves supported by Christian Endeavorers at home.

Let us, fellow-Leaguers, as we think of what God hath wrought in Laos, pray that our co-workers there may receive largely of His blessing and guidance.

H. C. WRINCH.

Suggested Programme for June.

INDIA.

HYMN.—"Two Cents a Week," JUNE CAMPAIGNER.

PRAYER.

BIBLE READING.—Psalm lxxvii.

I. *The Country.*

- (a) Its situation, extent and resources.
- (b) Its overwhelming population.
- (c) The political condition.

II. *The Condition of the People.*

- (a) Poverty and suffering of the masses due to oppression, famine, plague, etc.
- (b) Degrading effect of Hinduism—the prevailing religion.
- (c) The general effect of British rule on the welfare of the people.

III. *Missions.*

- (a) The beginning and development of Christian Missions.
- (b) The great need for Medical Missionaries, especially among the women.
- (c) The results of Missionary work.
- (d) The great need of increased effort.

For information see the articles on India in the present issue of the MISSIONARY CAMPAIGNER.

H. E. WOODSWORTH.

IN St. Peter's Street chapel, Leeds, Eng., there is a tablet to the memory of Mr. Benjamin Pollard, whose name is inseparably associated both with this sanctuary and with its predecessor, the Baggard House. He was the most successful class-leader Leeds has ever known. His first society class became the parent of no less than twenty-three others, and it has been estimated that 850 members had enjoyed his care and counsels; among these were both future ministers and missionaries. Among the first was the editor of the *Methodist Recorder*, and among the second, Rev. John Walton, who used frequently to write to his old leader when on the mission field. From Mr. Pollard's devout and prayer-loving spirit he was called "the prayer-loving little man." He had a warm love for our foreign missions, and every morning the missionary-box was placed on his breakfast-table for a daily offering.—*Methodist Recorder*.