

medal belonging to the chief, and Sokomah was told to point out the person who concealed it. He obeyed rather reluctantly. He dressed himself, however, and came before us a sight to behold. He had on a high cap, with a red front decorated with shells, the back of it being covered with tufts of palm fibres of dark color. His body was bare, with horns of various sizes (his charms) dangling at his sides. Several folds of cloth encircled his waist, bound with a white sash, the ends of which dangled behind him. He carried a drum, upon which he kept up a constant beating. He was followed by two young girls, each bearing a basket on her head. One of the baskets was covered with a white cloth, the other, the principal basket, with a red cloth, and decorated on the outside with white shells and beads of various sizes and colors. Several women followed also, and sung a chorus, while Sokomah led in a solo. After a few preliminary songs and address, our magician proceeded to find out the person among us who had concealed the medal. The beating upon the drum and the singing were kept up. As these grew furious I noticed that the baskets appeared to move unsteadily and uncontrolled upon the heads of the girls, the red basket especially. The girl swayed from one side to another, then darted forward and stood before one of the audience. Suddenly she fell upon a certain man, repeating this thrice, whereupon Sokomah told us the man had the medal.

Sokomah soon saw his mistake when the man grew indignant, and declared that he had come to the place not knowing what was concealed. Sokomah explained that the basket had seen disease or something about to come to the man, therefore it went to him. We told him he had not been sent for to tell of diseases, but to find out the person who had the medal. It was amusing to hear the jeers of the people, some saying, "Sokomah will find out he come *now* to place where God's people are;" "His devils can't do anything where God's Spirit lives;" "Too much praying in Shaingay for your business, Sokomah!"

After singing and dancing all the afternoon—for we kept him at it—Sokomah came to the conclusion that some book-man or Mohammedan had done something to thwart him. Hence his baskets walked around all the afternoon without accomplishing anything. Thus Sokomah of wonderful fame declared himself completely confused and baffled. Yet it is a painful truth that in many parts of this land persons have been punished, yea, some have been put to death, for crimes that were charged upon them by such such impostors as Sokomah.—*D. F. Wilberforce, in Missionary Visitor.*

THE LATEST MOHAMMEDAN MANIFESTO.

THE following manifesto, circulated in India wherever there are Mohammedans, will give the best picture of the difficulties our missionaries meet in their work among that class of people:

"What, O Mohammedans! do you remember that blessed time when your forefathers spread the teaching of the unity of God in the whole world? Their labors are still your boast! To-day these great ones sleep in graves of excellent reputation, but you who pray for the repose of their souls, careless of the great-

ness of your true faith, have reached such depths of degradation, that Christians, morning and evening, are wiping Islam out, and you sleep! If there is a remnant of the excellence of your great ones left you nowadays, then it is this only, that Mohammedan women are unmatched in the world for goodness, modesty, obedience to their husbands, and adherence to the faith; but herein is the misfortune, that they, too, are becoming snakes in your sleeves, and you do nothing!

"Behold the spies and beguilers, English women of Christian missions, under pretence of educating and teaching handiwork, go about teaching all your women-folk in every house. *Especially are the tender, innocent, under age girls of Hindus and Mohammedans, taken in dolis to their schools, and there they are taught the Testament, and hymns which tell of Christ being the Son of God, and so the seeds of blasphemy are sown in their hearts.* Whatever the seed sown is, that also will the fruit and harvest be. *When from childhood these things are instilled into them, then when they grow older, nay, in two or three generations, all women being drawn to the Christian faith, and careless of their own, will go into the churches and become Christians. Examples are not wanting.*

"Some people labor under the delusion that these Mission English women are appointed by Government. The Government interferes with no one's faith; this is the work of missionaries only, who collect subscriptions to enable them to propagate their faith. If you forbid them to come into your houses, and decline to send your girls into their schools, they cannot force you. For this reason an authoritative declaration has been obtained from learned men of Islam, and is published. Let all men act upon it. Those who do not do so, a list will be published of their names, and they will be dealt with."—*Missionary Link.*

Along the Line.

JAPAN.

Letter from REV. F. A. CASSIDY, M.A., dated from SHIDZUOKA, May 20th, 1890.

AS our workers in the country are greatly isolated during the year, and enjoy none of the privileges which cheer the life of those in the capital, or other large cities, it was thought best to make our first District Meeting as much a means of spiritual refreshing as possible. Dr. Eby very willingly came out with a couple of exhaustive lectures on the now burning question of "licensed prostitution." We therefore opened our series of meetings by a public lecture meeting on the evening of the 13th inst., in the largest theatre in the city. The same place had been occupied the previous night by two scholarly Boston gentlemen, who came to explain to the Shidzuoka people how modern science had discovered all our old religious ideas to be nonsense, and the Bibles of all the nations to be nothing more than old books, which are interesting as a history of the religious meanderings of unguided humanity in search of truth; and how that the said modern science had destroyed