

of China.) In India it is a degrading vice, the mark of a debauchee; and 99 out of 100 who practise it are degraded and worthless, perhaps criminal persons. In the ports, no doubt, respectable, hard-working Lascars and others are to be found who indulge in it; but as a rule an opium smoking native of India, of whatever rank of life he be, is vicious and without any self-respect. The reverse is the case in China."

Dr. Thomas Smith, of Edinburgh.—This eminent missionary, author, and professor has resigned the professorship of Evangelical Theology in the New College, Edinburgh. He was ordained in 1839, sailed for Calcutta to engage in mission work along with Dr. Duff, and for twenty-one years was his colleague. The state of his health obliged him to return to Scotland thirty-one years ago, when he undertook the pastorate of Cowgatehead Church, Edinburgh, and in 1878 was called to succeed Dr. Duff in the chair which he now resigns. As the author of biographies of Dr. Duff and Dr. Begg, and of many valuable works, an expert in mathematics, a missionary authority, and a leader in ecclesiastical courts, the venerable doctor, who has reached his seventy fifth year, is deservedly honored and revered.

Miss Hoare, of Calcutta.—There recently died in Calcutta a lady whose name is beloved in many a remote village in the Sunderbunds, and in those swampy tracts south of Calcutta wherein she had lightened the load of misery and pain which press so heavily upon the poorest of a poor population. Miss Hoare devoted a large fortune to the founding of an educational institution in Calcutta, and of schools in the villages. At the same time she exercised a large-hearted benevolence in ameliorating their bodily distresses, and for the last fourteen or fifteen years she had spent much of her time among the villagers. Living in their houses, sharing their food, and patiently enduring the discomforts which a European lady must of necessity experience under such

conditions, she won her way into the hearts of the natives. Broken down in health in 1891, she was obliged to seek rest at home. Partially restored, Miss Hoare promptly returned to Calcutta, but soon died, leaving means, however, whereby her work will be continued.

Mr. Eugene Stock, the editorial secretary of the Church Missionary Society, has been invited by the General Committee to proceed to Australia and New Zealand on a special mission, and he will sail without delay. It seems that the visit was suggested by a letter from the Bishop of Sydney, urging the appointment of a delegate of "tried experience" to travel through the British Colonies to stir up interest in foreign missionary work. Than Mr. Stock's selection, no better could have been made either as regards minute knowledge of the Society's vast operations or capacity as a singularly graceful and persuasive platform-speaker.

Methodist Free Church Missions.—The Missionary Committee reports that two new chapels have been erected in Jamaica. An expedition started early last January for the Mundi country, lying beyond Sierra Leone.

Germany and the Slave Trade in Africa.—Information has been sent in a letter by one of the English officers in command of a Central African expedition, confirming the serious charges made by Captain Lugard against the Germans with reference to the importation of powder into Africa. Captain Lugard protested strongly to Mr. Stokes, the ex-missionary, who is now in the German service, against his selling powder to the natives, and offered to buy the entire stock brought by Mr. Stokes from the coast for the British East Africa Company. As Mr. Stokes is employed by the Germans, they are morally, at least, responsible for his actions. But the message of Captain Lugard is supplemented very strongly by the letter written from Tanganyika. In his journey through German East Africa the writer states that he encoun-