

From Sundries—

Miss J. McNaughton, Lancaster, \$15;
Estate Miss Jenny McArthur, \$6.48; re-
fund from "Among the Telugas," 84c;
Friend, for Valluru School, \$39. Total,
\$61.32.

Summary: Total from Circles,
\$442.80; total from Bands, \$100; total
from sundries, \$61.32. Total, \$604.12.

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TOP KNOTS AND THE CHURCH.

Who would imagine that wearing the hair a certain way would make it easier for any one to be a true and faithful Christian? Only a little while ago a church found it was so. Get a map of India, and look off over in the eastern corner for a small state called Manipur, placed in the midst of the mountains. Perched on the side of one mountain among the wild people of the hills, the Nagas, is the village of Ukhru, and there is set a church—the only church in that part of Manipur.

Thirty-five Nagas used to belong to that church. Some lived in Ukhru, where Mr. Pettigrew, the missionary, also lives, and some in other villages. The professing Christians followed the styles, just as we do, and looked just like the heathen. They stretched their ears with enormous earrings and shaved all but a round tuft on top of their heads, decorating them in the most amazing fashion, as you see in the picture.

When the devil-worshipping feasts came off in the villages, every one was expected to join in. Some of the church-members said, "Why not? No one can tell that we are Christians. If we do not go, all the rest of the village will hate us. Besides, we will miss the fun; and very possibly the evil spirits do

have some power, after all, and we may offend them." So they went, most of them, and dishonored Christ by their behavior.

When Mr. Pettigrew heard of it, it made him very sorry, and after the church-members and he had talked it all over, they decided to have a final meeting to settle the matter. When they were assembled, the missionary put to them the very question which Joshua put to the children of Israel, in Josh. 24: 14, 15. Read what he said, "We will serve the Lord, and him only." The rest would not say that, and the church sadly dropped their names.

What do you think was one of the first regulations made by the newly organized church? That all converts should wear their hair in a neat, trim style, doing away with the tuft on top. The missionary thought it a rather foolish provision, but let the church make its own rules, and time has shown that it was the wisest thing that could have been done. Who can guess why? You see, when the heathen Nagas saw the Christians' hair, they knew they were Christians out and out, and they did not expect them to do the wicked things which they themselves did. So it was easier for the Christian. The same thing is true here when a boy or girl is an out-and-out Christian.

Now, some of the old members are asking to come back on the new terms, and others are asking to be accepted and baptized. But the church will wait a year, according to another rule they have made, to see if the converts stand by their promises. We shall be glad to hear something again how the rules of the Ughru church are working.—Selected.