

and what Blessed Friend it was that did it all? Lost by nature, lost by sinfulness, lost in misery, in depravity, in helplessness, in ruin, in despair! Lost utterly and hopelessly; yet sought, and found and saved! God grant that each one here this day may be able to take up for his own those beautiful words of a good divine and poet, whose beauty lies just in this, that they have so saturated themselves with the very spirit of the beautiful and hopeful text, of which God in His kindness has allowed us to think at this time!

"Love found me in the wilderness, at cost
Of painful quests, when I myself had lost.

"Love on its shoulders joyfully did lay
Me, weary with the greatness of my way.

"Love lit the lamp, and swept the house all
round.

Till the lost money in the end was found.

"'Twas Love whose quick and ever-watchful eye
The wanderer's first step homeward did espy.

"From its own wardrobe Love gave word to
bring

What things I needed,—shoes, and robe, and
ring"

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Church of Scotland India mission.

In view of the annual collection in the Home Church in behalf of this scheme, the Committee have issued the follow statement:

The Committee would respectfully suggest a few facts for the thoughtful consideration of those who are specially expected to contribute to this Scheme.

I. THE MISSION FIELD.

"India" represents a population of probably two hundred millions. Each of these is a human being, made after God's image, possessing that same human nature which in Jesus Christ is highly exalted to the very throne of God; each is known to God, and of more value to Him than all the material universe; each must stand before the judgment-seat of Christ to be judged according to his works, and must live somewhere for ever and ever.

The inhabitants of India are, moreover, given to us in the providence of God, as our fellow citizens, and are in a special sense our "neighbours," our "own flesh."

II. PROTESTANT MISSIONS TO INDIA.

25 Protestant missionary societies labour in India; of these 3 are in Scotland, 8 in England, 1 in Ireland, 4 on the Continent of Europe, and 9 in America. There are, besides these, 7 societies for literature and education. These societies maintain upwards of 550 missionaries, and, along with the Bible and Tract Societies, &c., expend annually about £250,000.

The India Government expends in secular education upwards of £700,000 per annum.

III. RESULTS.

These cannot be estimated by the mere

number of converts to Christianity, as there is necessarily a great preparatory work, in which "one sows" what another "reaps," while both will "rejoice together" in the day of harvest. This is chiefly a sowing time in India; but nevertheless there are in British India, including Burmah and Ceylon, upwards of 150 native missionaries, 1800 native catechists, 1550 native churches, 50,000 native communicants, 214,000 native converts, with probably 100,000 boys and girls receiving *Christian* instruction.

One result of missions should be remembered—that of 2000 native converts involved in the sufferings of the great mutiny, 11 of whom were massacred, not more than 6 apostatised, and even they returned when the trouble ceased; while all proved faithful to the British Government, and to the English families with whom they were connected as servants, &c.

IV. OUR INDIA MISSION.

Since last collection was made our missionary, Mr. Taylor of Sealkote, has returned in bad health, and Mr. Lang, whose father and two brothers are ministers of our Church, has been ordained, and set sail for the same station. Mr. Thomson, teacher in Dundee, has also gone for Madras. The strength of our mission staff has thus been maintained. But it has been proved by statistics that, to keep up, but not to extend a mission in India, the supply must amount in ten years to the one-half kept in the field. We are at present able to keep up, although not to extend our staff; but for this we thank God and take courage.

When those missionaries who are on their way to India shall have reached their destination, the statistics of the mission will be nearly as follows: Stations, 5; ordained European missionaries, 7; European teachers, 3; native preachers, 2; native catechists, 10; native colporteurs 3; communicants in connection with native congregations, 200; adult baptisms during the year, 28; pupils receiving Christian instruction, 1438; in Gyah Orphanage, 60—all of whom are supported by Sabbath-schools in Scotland. Received from school fees and Government grants in Sealkote, Bombay, Calcutta, &c., £1804; local subscriptions, about £600. There are besides, in connection with the Ladies' Association, 6 European and 2 native Christian teachers with 210 pupils, most of whom are supported as well as taught. The income of the Association was last year £1874. The Ghospura Mission employs 1 native catechist, with 71 pupils. We have thus, in the India Mission connected with our Church, 16 European agents, with 15 natives directly engaged in mission work—in all, 31, with 1719 boys and girls under *Christian* instruction. Along with these, we should remember with gratitude the efficient aid given to our missions by our 13 chaplains in India. As to