

per for the first time among this people, when Mr. Cropper, ten East Indian men and one woman joined with him in that sacred ordinance. of whom only the workers from Trinidad had communicated before. British Guiana has nearly 100,000 East Indians among whom the Church of England has had a mission for many years. The Presbyterian Missionary Society of Demerara had also been supporting catechists among them for some years previous to 1884, when arrangements were entered into with the Presbyterian Church in Canada to secure an ordained missionary for this work, and Rev. John Gibson was sent out in 1885. The work under Mr. Gibson seemed to be developing hopefully, when, after a week's illness, he was called away, nearly a year ago. A successor to Mr. Gibson will likely be appointed shortly, and it is hoped the work in British Guiana will be prosecuted with zeal and perseverance.

The importance of the East Indians to such colonies as Trinidad and British Guiana cannot be overestimated. Through them British capital and management have made these colonies flourish. India, with its crowded population has benefited by their removal; they too have improved their worldly circumstances. God had, however, higher purposes in view. When the first ship with immigrants arrived in Trinidad, May 30, 1845, two school boys were learning to read in Nova Scotia, who knew nothing of Trinidad or of Indian immigrants. It has come to pass, however, that these two boys have given the vigor of their lives to work among this people. That many have been eternally saved is one result; but it is not all. The people have been taught and elevated. The land of their exile has been accepted by the most of them as a comfortable home. The prospects of their children are bright

with hope—numbers of them occupy posts of respectability and usefulness. Some will, however, from time to time return to India, sturdy colonists, with new views of life, increased personal resources acquired abroad, and with the Hindi Bible and Hymn Book in their hands. One such began the work in St. Lucia, Many such it is to be hoped will aid the work in India.

It would be wrong to conclude this short sketch without acknowledging the work of those who have fallen on sleep. Rev. Thomas Christie labored from 1873 till 1881 at Couva, and died two years later in California. Rev. John W. Macleod labored for five years from 1880 at Princetown and died in Trinidad. Their names and their work we record with affectionate remembrance. Rev. I. K. Wright also labored for four years at Couva. He retired in 1888 on account of his wife's health, and is now settled in British Columbia. This field is now in urgent need of men—one for Couva and one for British Guiana. "Pray ye, therefore, the Lord of the harvest, that He would send forth laborers into His harvest."

Changes in China Affecting Its Progress.*

BY REV. H. D. PORTER, M. D.

WHEN the British Minister and his colleagues first sailed up the narrow Peiho and saw the mud hovels on the banks, he must have thought there could be little hope of the elevation of the nation to any degree of progress. Not even the elegant costume of the Imperial Commissioners, nor the finesse of their speech, could have persuaded him that any material advance was likely to be made. It is that hopeless aspect of the Eastern civilization which has been so wonderfully changed by the contact and growth of the generation whose

* This is but a portion of a most valuable paper, presented before the International Missionary Union in 1889. We regret we cannot find room for the entire paper.