

the covert hostility of the heart. In the case of those who are, or have been, persuaded of the truth, it soon becomes evident to us that Satan, having lost his power over them in idolatry, exerts it fearfully now through their caste and other prejudices, and through the dread of incurring the hatred of their relatives should they make an open acknowledgment of Christ. "Can we not be Christians," they say, "without being baptised?"

Here, evidently, is the stone lying over the graves of these youths. The grossest idolatry prevails among the lower classes in Poona, but not among those young men. During the short time I have been among them I have heard them again and again acknowledge the beauty of the Christian doctrine and the absurdity of idolatry, but how to meet the ordeal of open confession they do not know, nor apprehend, when told, that the grace of God is sufficient. To us who labour here, and to the praying people at home, does not the Master's voice seem still to say, "Roll ye away the stone," It is heavy and has lain long; but let us act on John Eliot's experience, "Prayer and pains, through faith in Jesus Christ, will do all things."

It is my privilege occasionally to give the girls of the boarding-school a Bible lesson; and no part of our mission work is more enjoyable, the girls being not only willing to hear, but ready to receive, and so pleasantly contrasting with our heathen boys. Some of the girls are already disciples of Christ. All of them who are old enough to understand are glad to hear of him. In this part of our work the words of the Lord in their most literal acceptation are verified namely, that he "came to seek and save that which was lost." The boarding-school and orphanage receives into its kind embrace poor outcast girls and gives them the adoption of children.

Some weeks ago a policeman brought us a girl from the bazaar—Mona, by name—a truly miserable—looking object, squalid, dirty, (realizing the sooty gnome of fable), in a flutter of rags, cast off by any relatives she may have had, and left to starve, or beg, or steal. She was received; externally metamorphosed in a day or two into a tidy girl; and the other evening could make sensible replies to Mr. Gardner when he asked her regarding the God that made her, and the way to be good and happy. It seems as if we could, to heathen eyes, in no way better illustrate the spirit of Him we serve than in the maintenance of such an institution; and already, in the conversion and usefulness of girls, and in the happy deaths of those taken early, such as I have myself been privileged to witness, have we not the seal of the divine approbation?

It seems to one newly entering on the field and observing the great preparatory work going forward, that it must be a mistake to be impatient of results. "The husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain." In our hand is the promise, and in the purpose of God it is fulfilled, "The God of the whole earth shall He be called." This must be. "Beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day."

General Religious Intelligence.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE IRISH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

We referred in our last number to the meeting of the General Assembly, and to the election or re-election of the Rev. John Rogers as Moderator. The attendance of ministers was large, although that of elders was scarcely equal to that of former years. The proceedings generally possessed much interest.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.—The Foreign Mission Report was presented by Rev. Dr. Morgan. It mentioned that two additional missionaries were ready to go out to India, while a third would soon follow. The two referred to were or-