

HOW HINDOOS PRIZE OUR SCHOOLS.

THE schools are one of our best means of doing mission work. Even parents who are still heathen will send their children to be taught, and when these children come to school they learn not only how to read and write, but they learn to Christ.

One of our Missionaries in Trinidad, Miss Kirkpatrick, writes :

"Rampersad, a bright intelligent boy of twelve years of age, but the son of a Brahmin, was one day speaking of baptism. On being asked why he was not baptized he replied : 'My father belongs to a big or high nation and will not allow me. I asked him once and he told me if I ever mentioned it again he would turn me out of the house.'

"Thus we see that the boy's faith in his father's god is destroyed, and we can only hope that his father may shortly see the uselessness of trying to force him to worship that in which he has not belief, and consent to his being acknowledged a Christian.

"One morning a venerable looking man might be seen entering the school yard with three children. In his personal appearance he presented a very interesting picture. He was arrayed in the real East Indian dress, which consists of the *kurta* or tunic, the *kapra* which falls midway between the knee and ankle, and a tight-fitting embroidered cap. In this case everything was spotlessly clean, and he, with his snow-white hair and beard, looked so cool and comfortable that no one could but admire the costume, and feel a regret that it is so often cast aside for one not nearly so well adapted to the climate.

"On entering the school-room he gracefully made his salaam, and explained that his little boys had spent the previous day in secret play. He wished to be informed whenever they were absent from school, as he always intended them to be there. If detained by any necessary cause word would be sent to that effect. He himself is still a heathen, but it is hoped that these little children of his second family may become Christians.

"Thus it is something encouraging peeps out—now among the children, now in the parents, and at all these the Missionary eagerly grasps, hoping in time to see still more fruit."

LETTER FROM REV. W. L. MACRAE.

PRINCETOWN, Trinidad, Sept. 7, 1892.

DEAR Mr. SCOTT—I send you a note for the boys:—About three years ago a Mohammedan boy who was favorably disposed towards Christianity left this district and went to Couva, where he was found by the missionaries there and received valuable instruction and help from Miss Fisher and the school. While in Couva he manifested a determination to become a Christian and began to develop many noble traits of character, although persecuted by his Mohammedan friends.

A few months ago he returned to this district and attended Miss Archibald's school. In a short time he became an active member of our Y. P. S. C. E. and took a firm stand on the side of Christ, becoming quite a leader among the other boys.

This raised such a storm of persecution in his own home that he came to me one day asking for a room in the yard. He said his people were making it so hot for him that he could not stay at home. I reminded him of what the Master endured for us, and of the disciples rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer for His sake, and told him he should stay at home as long as he possibly could, with the hope of winning his people, but that if he were turned out there was an empty room in the yard for him. He went away saying he would do so, but was afraid he could not stand it long.

A few evenings ago Mr. and Mrs. Grant and Claudie were with me at the tea table, when looking out, I called their attention to this poor boy carrying his bed through the yard towards the empty room. It seemed a touching instance of the constraining power of Divine love, and at the same time an illustration of the good work our lady teachers are doing.

Yours faithfully,

W. L. MACRAE.