

THE Children's Presbyterian.

MISSION SCHOOLS.

Dear Children—

Many of you have been recently giving your money for the Day Spring and Mission Schools. I want to tell you something about what your money is doing in these schools.

For this purpose I print the following pieces which were in two of the newspapers in Trinidad. They show what the Governor of Trinidad and others think of importance of your work. Above all they show that God is blessing your work and fulfilling the promise, My word shall not return unto me void. The school here mentioned is in the Mission district occupied by Mr. Grant whom many of you have seen. But this is but one of the many schools in this district, and in districts of Messrs. Morton, Christie, and McLeod. There are 38 Mission Schools in Trinidad supported by you, and there are, attending these schools, 1592 children. Only think of it nearly sixteen hundred children that but for this mission would be growing up in ignorance, heathenism and vice, are now being fitted for lives of usefulness here, and many of them we trust for glory hereafter.

An examination of the India School in Coffee Street took place in presence of His Excellency the Governor and party, on Wednesday the 20th ultimo. There were present also a large number of visitors from the town and neighbourhood, together with the parents and friends of the children. The School-room and grounds were most creditably decorated by the scholars, both present and past. A triumphal arch with the motto "Welcome" spanned the approach from Coffee Street, and the room itself was set out with flags, platted cocoanut and palm

leaves, mottoes, etc., in the arrangement of which some of the ladies of our town were found at an early hour.

His Excellency arrived from *Les Efforts House* punctually at 12 o'clock. He was accompanied by Miss Freeling, Miss Erskine, Capt. Bingham, and the Hon. Mr. Fenwick.

The proceedings opened immediately thereafter by the singing of a hymn and offering of the Lord's prayer by the scholars.

The several classes were then put through a strict examination in Reading, Spelling, Dictation, Mental Arithmetic, History, and Geography, in all of which they showed the greatest efficiency, and gave the greatest proof of their being thoroughly grounded in various subjects. The specimens in writing were most creditable, and in some cases the proficiency shown in this branch was quite marvellous; but what excited most astonishment and at the same time thorough amusement was the recitation of "*The Charge of the Light Brigade*" by a youngster not over seven summers and standing perhaps not above three feet in his boots. The rendering was perfect, both in gesture and intonation, and on getting through his part the juvenile performer was much applauded.

At this stage the heads of each class or division came forward and presented an address to His Excellency. It was read by one of their number in a very clear matter-of-fact manner. The Governor replied, bringing within the scope of his remarks such truth and information as he thought might be useful and of service to his younger hearers, as well as having a beneficial bearing on the minds of their parents and other relatives present.

Mr. Dick, as one of their managers of the Schools, conveyed the acknowledgements of Mr. Grant and those of the Managers to His Excellency and the other visitors, for their kind attention on the occasion.

The scholars now sang the National Anthem, the whole company, as in duty bound, rising to their feet.