

ST. AUGUSTINE'S MISSION, RORKE'S
DRIFT.

IN 1875 a mission was opened among a tribe of Basutos in the Estcourt district, Natal, by Mr. Stewart, at the request of their chief, Hlubi.

As a reward for his loyalty to the British during the Zulu war, the chief was granted a location in the Isandhlwana district, Zululand, and by his desire Mr. C. Johnson (who had become their teacher) accompanied the tribe to Isandhlwana in 1880.

Having assisted in forming the station of St. Vincent and been ordained, Mr. Johnson removed to a place twelve miles off, where Hlubi himself and many of his people had settled. Here a second station, called St. Augustine's, was opened. When it was first proposed to build a school-church, 130 of Hlubi's men came forward and promised to contribute 30s. each.

There are now nineteen churches and chapels in the district, each with its altar, and each forming a centre of mission work, surrounded by sub-stations and preaching places. Altogether there are ninety-one out-stations and preaching centres in the district where Divine service and classes for instruction are carried on regularly. To serve these places Mr. Johnson has thirty-two paid and twenty-five unpaid native assistants, one being a priest and one a deacon, the others being catechists, schoolmistresses, and evangelists.

Last year no less than 282 persons were baptized. About 500 of the Native Christians have gone to Johannesburg to work in the mines, and Mr. Johnson, in the face of some difficulty, has been enabled to make arrangements for their spiritual welfare there also.

Our last number showed how bravely the people were bearing their losses from the rinderpest. This plague has been followed by a terrible epidemic of enteric fever and dysentery. The natives themselves think that the rinderpest has spread to them now that the cattle are all dead, and in reality the symptoms are much the same in the human being as in the cattle.

How this fresh trouble has been the means of bringing hundreds of natives under missionary influence shall be told in Mr. Johnson's own words. He writes :

The Native doctors with their medicines, of course, have failed entirely, as they always do, in any serious epidemic. Ipecacuanha, laudanum, quinine, catechu, Epsom salts, and aconite are very simple medicines, but they have won golden opinions and much gratitude amongst these people lately. They came to me here from all parts of the country. I have had as many as 150 in one day. It has become rather a tax, and, as some of the heathen mothers, living at a distance, have brought their sick babies and have stayed with us while they were being treated, it has added a great deal to

my wife's work, as the sick children have to be fed on arrowroot, maza, etc. How my wife manages to get through all her work I cannot tell ; she has her Native Girls' House with an average of twenty-four girls for the year, which, with my Native schoolboys and our own family, bring the total to be looked for daily in the kitchen to fifty-three ; and, now with these sick people in addition, it is, I fear, a little too much ; but she manages it all somehow, and would be terribly disappointed were anything left undone. I very often have a little laugh when I read some very forcible opinion delivered at some missionary meetings in England to the effect that missionaries would be better workers if unmarried. I can afford to have my little laugh, for I have an unsalaried Mission worker in my wife, whose assistance in the work here (I will not say my work) can never fully be estimated in this world. I do not often enter into domestic affairs in my reports, but there it is, and I would not like to have it cut out. — *Gospel Missionary.*

"EVEN A CHILD IS KNOWN BY HIS
DOINGS."

We are but little children weak,
Nor born in any high estate ;
What can we do for Jesus' sake,
Who is so High and Good and Great ?

We know the Holy Innocents
Laid down for Him their infant life,
And martyrs brave, and patient Saints
Have stood for Him in fire and strife.

We wear the cross they wore of old,
Our lips have learned like vows to make ;
We need not die ; we cannot fight ;
What can we do for Jesus' sake ?

Oh, day by day, each Christian child
Has much to do, without, within ;
A death to live for Jesus' sake,
A weary war to wage with sin.

When deep within our swelling hearts
The thoughts of pride and anger rise,
When bitter words are on our tongues,
And tears of passion in our eyes ;

Then we may stay the angry blow,
Then we may check the hasty word,
Give gentle answers back again,
And fight a battle for our Lord.

With smiles of peace, and looks of love,
Light in our dwellings we may make,
Bid kind good humor brighten there,
And still do all for Jesus' sake.

There's not a child so small and weak
But has his little cross to take,
His little work of love and praise
That he may do for Jesus' sake. Amen.

NEW GUINEA has now a Bishop, the Rt. Rev. M. J. Stone-Wigg, who was consecrated in Sydney Cathedral on the feast of the Conversion of St. Paul. The Anglican Mission in New Guinea at present deals with forty miles only of the coast line, and the Bishop proposes an immediate extension to over 140 miles. The children of Sydney have contributed more than £70 for a boat for the Mission.