

boys, not to mention the visitors. This meeting was conducted by Rev. J. R. Stillwell, in whose hands the institution grew and flourished for fourteen years in times past. Reminiscences of the school's history were interspersed with drills, songs, dialogues, recitations and other enlivening numbers by the students, teachers and others. Pictures of the King and Queen, the graduating class of 1919, and of former Principals and workers were presented which will constitute a valuable addition to the portrait gallery already in existence. Among these was a fine enlarged photo of Mr. N. Abraham, who gave years of service in the school.

Saturday was Sports Day, and the boys gave themselves heartily to the races, gymnastic exercises and various games. A football match was one of the chief features in the programme for the afternoon.

It is gratifying to note the progress made by the school since the senior classes were transplanted to Cocanada in 1912; it then began as a Primary School, but gradually the higher standards have been added until it reached the Higher Elementary grade last year. We have every reason to feel that under Miss Robinson's energetic and capable management it will continue its prosperous career. The training provides for physical, mental and spiritual development, and surely our boys will be a power in the life of the community when their school days are over. To them we look to carry on the work of the Lord, and give the gospel to their fellow countrymen in the days to come. Besides Mr. and Mrs. Stillwell, Mr. and Mrs. Craig, Mr. Bensen, Dr. and Miss Laura Allyn, Miss North and myself were privileged to be present during some part of the proceedings.

A. E. Baskerville,

In "Field News."

THE BEGINNING OF THE SEMINARY AT SAMALKOT.

It was in January, 1880, at the fourth

annual conference of the Mission when it was unanimously voted that a Training School be opened for Christian workers. Samalkot, 9 miles from Cocanada, was selected as the site. In the distant past it had been a military station. One of the old buildings was secured and repaired, and in 1882 the Seminary was opened with Mr. McLaurin in charge. In the first year there were 19 students; in the second year over 50. Among the rules, the use of jewelry and tobacco was forbidden, the national costume made compulsory, and one hour a day must be spent in manual labor. Indian men as well as women wear jewelry. It was not so very hard, however, to part with that, nor to keep to their own costume—so much more comfortable, economical and dignified than English clothes as usually worn by natives—but the tobacco habit was part of their very life, and was very hard to part with, while the idea of students working with spade or hoe was outrageous. No man of books in India worked with his hands—it was unthinkable! That the missionary was to work with them did not help a bit. Exhortation and entreaty being in vain, the fiat at last went forth that it was either work or quit. A few left for a time, but common sense conquered, and soon the boys became proud of their gardens.

The material was, of course, pretty crude, and there was need to begin very near the fundamentals with these first students, but it was a joy to see them grow. The cream of the young manhood of the Mission was here. They were keenly alive to their privileges and eager to improve. "This is our market day," one exhorted his class-mates. "Here we have access to stores of knowledge as never before. Let us be diligent for the opportunity will pass." With this spirit in the boys the missionary "intensely enjoyed" (his own words) teaching them.

Their powers of reasoning had to be aroused—no trouble for them to commit to memory. A Debating Club was start-