

Spirit. Let, then, importunate and believing prayer go up in the name of Jesus for this Institution from the hearts of its numerous supporters; and oh! if only drops of blessing come down on it, what a revival of true godliness shall we see! What vitality and what breaking forth on the right hand and on the left, to the honour of our dear Redeemer, and the everlasting salvation of many souls!"

LETTER FROM THE REV. MR. HERDMAN TO  
THE REV. MR. NICHOLSON.

*Calcutta, March, 1860.*

MR DEAR SIR,—God has mercifully spared me another year in this great, guilty city, to report on the operations in and around it, which are carried on by the desire and at the expense of the Scottish Ladies' Association for the Female Education in India.

I. The Orphanage has continuee on the same premises, 111 Boitakhanah. In some respects the place has proved objectionable, but no better has been found, and now it is probable that we shall have to fulfil the lease by an occupancy of two years more. We have no cause to think it unhealthy, although in course of the year several of the inmates have been removed by death. The truth seems to be, that many of the poor orphans are brought in originally in a very enfeebled state, with no strength of system, and some of them never attain to vigour, but after a shorter or a longer period they pine away. I do not remember that there was anything of special interest with regard to those who have lately passed from us. In the case of every one, if I mistake not, Miss Hebron was very hopeful—judging by the children's conduct rather than by mere verbal expressions—that they had been taught by the Holy Spirit to know Jesus, and to repose their heart's trust in Him as all their salvation and all their desire. If so, they are singing before the throne now; and they will be for a crown on *that* day unto all who in love sought their conversion from Satan to God.

Of Miss Hebron I need say no more than that I believe our gracious Master will testify respecting her—"She hath done what she could." The glory be all His!

She has been but indifferently aided during the greater part of the time under review. The assistant, who was employed as a day-teacher, ceased to evince that interest in the work without which we could expect no blessing, and her services were therefore dispensed with some months ago. Looking for a lady from home, we appointed no successor. Then you know how Fatima disappointed the hopes we had entertained of her being an efficient matron. However, in her place Miss Victor has proved hitherto a trustworthy and useful person, of apparently Christian principle.

VOL. VI.—No 11.

It was on the first week-day in January that Miss Hillier arrived by the Overland steamer. She has entered with much zest, and with much promise of success, on her class-duties. She is working hard at Bengali, and she is full of zeal to embrace every opening for labor in her Saviour's cause among the benighted daughters of this land. It will be no more than I now anticipate if, before 1861 expires (please God), I am able to write that she is not only of great value in the Orphanage, but that she is also obtaining admission into the zenanas of respectable native families. But the future is in our Saviour's hands. One of the most pleasing features, at present, of the school is, the vigor with which the singing is conducted. As I approached unawares, last week, I wondered what old Scotch melody struck on my ear. They were sounding forth Bengali words to the tune of "Bonnie Laddie! Hieland Laddie!" and before I left I had it over again, joining heartily with them to their great gratification. "Auld lang Syne" is another of their airs to sacred lines.

The Candian school prospers under its energetic teacher Gris Chunder Dutt. From 30 to 35 are present; 3 being in the highest division, 6 in the second, 4 in the third, and all the rest at alphabet, &c. I was there also a few days ago. We had "God Save the Queen," in Bengali; an object lesson; general questions in geography and the maps of Bengal; with catechizing on Scripture events. The best girls read with ease.

A fourth school has been opened since New Year; but I am sorry to say I have never yet been able to visit it. It does not, however, lose much by that. Your invaluable superintendent goes to it, as to others, frequently. It is situated on the continuation of the Upper Circular Road, and may be called the Manicktollah School. Its teachers, Christians of course, are named Okhoy and Rachel, receiving 12 rupees per month. Miss Hebron informs me that the children number about 40, and adds:—"Two of the girls had commenced reading the 'Peep of Day' very nicely, but were removed to the Normal School on the plea that they were their old scholars; three others are getting nicely again."

Yours, &c.,  
JAMES C. HERDMAN,  
Senior Chaplain of the Church }  
of Scotland, Bengal. }

—o—

#### THE FOREIGN MISSIONS OF OUR CHURCH— INDIA.

During no previous period of its history has the Church been so alive to the importance of missionary exertions, as at the present day. The field is wide almost as the world itself, interesting and inviting every where, though dark and desolate enough