

and to commence work in earnest. As we stated some time ago, San Salvador will not be abandoned, but three new stations will be established—at Isangila, Mbu, and Stanley Pool. We have no space at our command to enter into details, nor is it necessary, seeing that the Congo supplement of the August *Missionary Herald* contains all the information that can be supplied. Suffice it to remark here that six missionaries, in addition to the four already in the field, will be required to carry out the plans of the committee, and that, besides this, a river steamer, as well as the steel boat in course of building, must be provided. Ten men for the Congo Mission, and the funds necessary for establishing four stations at once, suggest the importance of the decision of the last quarterly meeting of the committee. We give in, not our unhesitating, but our firm and convinced adhesion to the new departure. The question was, Shall we go forward, or abandon the Congo Mission? Never did a summons come to our society more clearly expressed or more emphatic in its tone. It is a call of duty—the cry of the perishing and the command of the Saviour unite in urging us forward. The forward movement is attended with grave responsibilities and serious liabilities; but brave and faithful soldiers of the Cross could not shrink therefrom when the Captain of their Salvation bade them march. The committee has done right. It would have been no less cowardly than disloyal not to have taken this new departure in the Congo Mission.

"This enlargement of the Congo Mission—an addition of three stations and six men, with the cost of a river steamer—will involve an immediate increase of more than £2,000 a year in the expenditure, and the maintenance of the three new stations and six additional men, after all preliminary expenses have been defrayed, means a regular expenditure of £1,500 or £2,000 to the outgoings of the society."

The *Freeman* adds, "After much prayer and earnest deliberation it was resolved to make the Congo Mission our own work, the special contribution of Baptists to the evangelization of the interior of Africa. Having put our hand to this plough we must not look back. The first step pledges us to the whole journey, the beginning of the work binds us to complete it. The reception given to our brethren by the king and people of the Congo country is a further reason why we should press onward with the work in hand. Mr. Comber and his associates have met with a cordial welcome, have won the hearts of the men of San Salvador, have found 'open doors' which invite them to labor elsewhere. Our prayers have been answered, and the Lord has pointed northward up the Congo and said to us, 'This is the way.' Can we do any other than heed the voice which speaks. The men of the Congo region for Christ and liberty must be our rallying cry. Souls are perishing. The perishing ask our help. Christ is waiting to be gracious to the Congo country. He commands us to preach His Gospel there. What other can we do than go in and claim the country for our Saviour?"—*Ex.*

## OUR INDIAN STATIONS.

### Cocanada.

#### THE GIRLS' SCHOOL.

Mr. Timpany writes, July 30th: "The school girls who went to their villages for vacation will begin to return to-day. Quite a number will not come back, but their places will be filled by others. One of the girls was baptized two weeks since in her own village by Josiah.

She learned to love the Saviour here. I do not think that since the school was started there has been a girl who has passed fifteen years of age without coming to Christ. Perhaps you would like to know how Lukshmi is doing. So far she seems to be a very nice girl and is one of the best scholars in the school.

"I do not write long letters now-a-days if I can help it. My sickness has left a good deal of work in arrears, and I am trying to work it off with as much economy as possible. Yesterday was the first day for more than a month that I had not fever. I had been overworking the past ten months and finally collapsed."

### Akidu.

#### A MONTHLY MEETING.

Ever since Mrs. Craig and I took up our abode at Akidu, we have had a monthly meeting for the Christians of the surrounding villages. At the first meeting, which was held on the first Sunday in December, we organized the Akidu Church. We had no meeting in March, because I was in Cocanada. You all know that the first Sunday in April was a day of dark gloom and deep sorrow here, so that another meeting was missed. Until this month the meetings were held in a small mud building in the compound of the house I bought as a temporary dwelling-place. On Sunday last our meeting was held in an unfinished room of the new house.

Three weeks ago I took possession of the room that is to be my study. Although only that one room was fit to be occupied, still it was quite an event to me leaving the old house and taking up my abode in the new. Perhaps I might compare it to a church taking possession of its basement before the main audience room is finished. If I could only have seen my joy reflected in somebody else's face, how different it would have been, but with all my sorrowful recollections I was very thankful to God for His mercy in prospering the work thus far.

The room next this is to be the bedroom. It is the largest room of the four that make up the house. It is roofed and the walls are being plastered.

To return to our subject: Our meetings were held in that large room on Sunday. The floor was swept on Saturday evening, and on Sunday morning mats were spread on it.

Our first meeting was at 7.45. Beside the few Christians who live here, a few had arrived on Saturday from neighboring villages. As I invited my work-people on Saturday evening, a good many were present on Sunday morning. My remarks were intended chiefly for them. I read Matthew's account of some of Christ's miracles, and then spoke of our Lord as the great Healer. After that service was over we had our Sunday-school. My servants and the mission-helpers compose the school. They learn a verse of Scripture every day, and then recite all the verses on Sunday. But the meetings I have spoken of are our usual Sunday meetings. After the Sunday-school I examined three men who had come for baptism. Between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. a good many Christians put in their appearance. At 2.30 we began our services, which consisted of a preaching service; a business meeting; the celebration of the Lord's Supper; and, finally, the baptism of some believers. In announcing the first hymn, I called the attention of our brethren and sisters to the fact that by God's grace we were met to worship Him in a room of the new Mission House, and reminded them that this should be a special reason for thanksgiving and praise. I think they sang the hymn of praise with the heart as well as with the voice. After