

stand Thee, but for us, who are shut in, it is not possible to learn to know Thee. We see only the four walls of the house. Shall we call them the world, or India? We have been born in this jail, have died here, and are dying.

"O Father of the world, hast Thou not created us? Or has, perchance, some other god made us? Dost Thou care only for men? Hast Thou no thought for us women? Why hast Thou created us male and female? O Almighty, hast Thou not power to make us other than we are, that we too might have some share in the comforts of this life? The cry of the oppressed is heard even in this world. Then canst Thou look upon our victim hosts and shut Thy doors of justice? O God Almighty and Unapproachable, think upon Thy mercy, which is like a vast sea, and remember us. O Lord, save us, for we cannot bear our hard lot; many of us have killed ourselves, and we are still killing ourselves. O God of mercy, our prayer to Thee is this, that the curse may be removed from the women of India. Create in the hearts of the men some sympathy, that our lives may no longer be passed in vain longing; that, saved by Thy mercy, we may taste something of the joys of life."

Strength and Income of Foreign Missionary Churches and Societies.

The latest statistics enable us to be certain that the hundred Missionary Societies and Churches of Protestant Christendom—reckoning each which has a separate financial organization, though there may be more than one in each Church—raise every year more than 2½ millions sterling from all sources, or 2,275,000*l.*, in the following proportions:—

Great Britain	1,530,000 <i>l.</i>
America	600,000 <i>l.</i>
Continent of Europe	145,000 <i>l.</i>

These hundred organizations send out 2900 ordained Missionaries, or 3120 altogether, including Medical Missionaries who have a full professional qualification. Including women Missionaries and native preachers, we may accept the following figures as within the truth. They justify us in estimating the strength of the missionary host in the year 1884—a century after the Father of Modern Missions began his praying and preaching and writing for the conversion of the heathen—as 5,000 European and American, and 30,000 Asiatic, African, and Polynesian Missionaries of Christ.—*Christian Age.*

OUR INDIAN STATIONS.

Sad Event at Samulcotta.

Mr. J. I. Bates sends the following extract of a letter from Mrs. McLaurin, dated Cocanada, January, 1885, in which she speaks of Mr. and Mrs. Timpany as being very well:

A sad thing happened yesterday. One of our Seminary pupils, the bright, pretty bride of our best student, fell into the well there (in Samulcotta). This is no small sorrow to us here, for she had endeared herself to us by her lovely spirit and kind, pleasant way, with all; but the brunt of the blow falls upon the friends north, who for years have carefully trained and taught her, and who were looking forward to her being one of their most valuable helpers in the work—and they have so few. This is the first death among our students, and a peculiarly sad and mysterious providence it seems. Well it is we do not have to explain or account for these things, but only trust, believing that He "doeth all things well."

Cocanada Free School.

From the Madras Times Dec. 27.

The annual distribution of prizes of this Institution took place on Thursday, the 11th instant, in the School room. As our worthy Collector, Mr. Foster, was absent from the station, Mrs. Foster kindly gave away the prizes. The school-room was tastefully decorated with flags and banners, kindly lent by Captain Lloyd, of the S. S. *Madras*, relieved by floral decorations. The ceremony was well-attended. An attractive programme was observed, and the following report by the Secretary was read:—

The Committee has much pleasure in submitting this their first report on the working of the Cocanada Free School, which embraces a period of 18 months. It would be needless and out of place to revive the question as to the reason why the school was opened; it was made sufficiently public at the time. Suffice it to say that the exclusion of Baptist children from the St. Thomas' School, suggested to the Revd. Mr. Timpany the desirability of opening a strictly non-denominational school, to which children of all creeds and denominations could be sent, without their religious convictions being interfered with. I may add that this school is strictly conducted on these lines. The only obstacle in the way of opening the school earlier than we did, was the difficulty experienced in obtaining a suitable Mistress. Happily this was removed by the arrival of Miss Folsom, who amply met all our requirements. On the 2d July 1883, the school was opened with 11 pupils on the rolls, and, during the period under review, attained the maximum of 28; with an average daily attendance for the year of 22 pupils. The school (as its name implies) is a free one; no fees are charged, but all parents, who, in the opinion of the Committee, can afford to do so, are expected to subscribe. The school supplies a want long felt in this town, by placing within the reach of the poorest the means of providing a sound elementary education for their children. Commodious school-room quarters for Miss Folsom and a peon are provided free of charge. Owing to the generous response to our appeal for assistance, made by the public, we were enabled to furnish the school-room with a good set of desks, benches, maps, books, and other requisites, and before the lapse of a quarter the school was in thorough working order. In April last Mr. Grigg, the Director of Public Instruction, visited the school, expressed himself highly satisfied, and subsequently recommended it for a grant. On the 9th of August last, a salary grant of Rs 25 was sanctioned, with retrospective effect from the commencement of the official year. The school is entirely dependent on public subscriptions and this grant. In August last an Assistant Teacher was engaged, as Miss Folsom found it impossible to give efficient supervision to 5 classes, as well as prepare candidates for examination.

We shall be glad if subscribers and friends visit the school occasionally, and satisfy themselves by personal inspection as to the progress made. A few have inspected the school and recorded very favourable opinions in the *Visitors' book*; such visits tend to encourage the teachers as well as the pupils. The Committee take the opportunity of tendering their warmest thanks to the ladies and gentlemen who have so generously subscribed towards the support of the school. They also desire to record their high appreciation of the valuable services rendered by Miss Folsom, whose untiring zeal and energy in organizing a new school and raising it to its present state of efficiency deserve great commendation.