

IRISH PRESBYTERIAN MISSIONS.

Mr. Taylor, Missionary at Borsud reports no fewer than fifty-eight baptisms in the month of March of the present year. Of those baptized forty were adults and eighteen children. He is expecting a still more extensive revival, meanwhile he is busy reading and translating the Confession of Faith and Pilgrim's Progress. The following account of work among the Dheds, a peculiar Indian tribe, is not without interest.

"The Dheds are subdivided into something like clans. Up till now, with one solitary exception, our influence has extended only over one clan. But last week we were able to break fresh ground in a new clan. The work among them is too fresh to be considered anything but tentative as yet, but yet a short account of it will be interesting to our people at home, and give them an idea of one of the ways in which the field opens up. About four weeks ago we had a visit from rather a peculiar-looking man, evidently of very excitable temperament, with a strong dash of self-assurance. He attended our service, and immediately declared his resolution to become a Visvasi, *i.e.*, Believer—the common designation of Christians in this part of the country. He invited Desai and some more of our people to come over and see his village. They went, and found he was a sort of priest, the owner of a little house which he had dedicated to Mata, the favorite goddess of the people, and a man of some influence in his clan. He took the Christians into what may, by courtesy, be called the temple, though it is a wretched hut, consecrated to Mata. He turned the idol out, and bundling up all the symbols and instruments of worship, &c., handed them over to Desai, and declared that henceforth he and the place should be devoted to Christ. He then began to speak very demonstratively, and proceeded to detail a great variety of notions, many of which were anything but Christian. This brought Desai out, who took the opportunity of describing what Christianity and the Gospel required; and the man was rather taken aback. Next Sabbath he returned with his two children, whom he said he wished to leave in our charge to be brought up as 'proper Christians,' and also begged that we would open a school in his village. He offered the said hut, or temple, for a school, or residence for a native teacher, and he would himself guarantee the fees of twenty scholars. Desai visited the village again, and found that the man was preparing to carry out his word, and had engaged the scholars that should attend the school, and as Desai could not stay then, having important work in another direction, at Anund, I sent Girdhee, another of our native teachers, and the only man I can spare. The village glories in the name of Mujkno, and is only seven miles from Borsud; I went to visit it yesterday. There were 22 children in the school, of whom five had already learned to read. You will say learned to read in a week! Yes. To learn to read in Gujarati is a very different thing from the same operation in English. The Alphabet is phonetic and syllabic, and a man or child has only to learn the letters and he is ready, as far as the mere reading is concerned, for any book in the language. The great toil and trouble necessary for English boys in learning how to spell, is entirely saved to Gujarati scholars. The other children were in different stages of forwardness with the alphabet. I had a good audience among the people, and several promised to come to the service here on Sabbath. In all this there may be a good deal of mere excitement, but I hope there is also that which will give us a firm hold upon this clan also."

Mr. Waddell, missionary in Spain, has taken up the schools at Cordova which Mr. Tugwell the Episcopal missionary, was compelled to abandon, so