

SPECIAL NEWS FROM HONAN.

Just as the RECORD was going to press, and after the Foreign Mission pages were filled, the following letter from Rev. J. Goforth to Rev. R. P. Mackay came in and is inserted here. It is so full of good cheer that it is in place anywhere. It should serve as a stimulus to help in bringing up our Mission funds both East and West :

CHANG TE FU, Honan, December 16th, 1895.

Dear Mr. MacKay :

I am constrained to say "Glory to God in the highest" for He is graciously manifesting His divine power these days. During the last five weeks we have had such a number of men coming day by day that we have kept up constant preaching on an average of eight hours a day. Wang fu hi, the converted gambler and opium smoker, from Bitterville, helps me. I am just giving him his board. We talk by turns, never leaving the guest room without some to preach from morning till night. The men keep coming in in increasing numbers. I noticed once to-day when preaching that the guest room was filled, while others were listening outside the door and windows. Almost every time we speak, men seem to be brought under conviction. Men will sit a whole half-day at a time listening. Some seem to get so much interested that they seem to forget that they have miles to go home after sundown. Interested ones come again and again. Each evening when almost tired out, we have to turn men away, and tell them to come the next day. This evening I had to turn away three enquirers, along with others, when it was too dark to see.

To-day has been the best of all the days. Never in Canada or here have I before realized such power of the Holy Spirit. We say but little about the idols, but we hold up Christ crucified. He will draw them away from these vanities. God's time to favor the people of this city and surrounding villages has come. Oh, that we may walk humbly before Him, for we have never seen His power on this wise before!

Mr. MacGillivray is out in the field.

Mrs. Goforth is encouraged with the women.

Yours truly, J. GOFORTH.

What contrasts! between the above and the riots of five years ago; between the bitter hostility of a dozen years since in Central India and the recent gathering of many hundreds to open a Mission College, on a site presented by the chief native ruler; between Dr. Mackay's landing 23 years since and the sixty chapels and native preachers now in Formosa; between Dr. Morton's roadside beginnings of 28 years ago and the college, churches, 53 regular preaching stations and nearly five thousand children at school in Trinidad; between naked cannibals and the Christian South Sea Islands of to-day! What hath God wrought!

OUR OWN CHURCH SCHEMES.**WHY WE SHOULD SUPPORT THEM.**

It is our duty. Common honesty demands it. We are members of a body that has undertaken certain lines of work, and we are as much responsible for this work as is any other member. We have no more moral right to leave our share of that work to others, while we do all our giving in some other direction, than we have to shirk any other obligation. It is neither right nor honest.

And there is no reason why we should thus seek new lines of work. We can find nothing elsewhere, so far as opportunity is concerned, that we do not find in our own work.

Do we wish to give the Gospel to our French countrymen? Our French Evangelization work is as effective as that of any Church. Do we wish to build up the Church of Christ in the waste places of our own land? Our Home Mission scheme does this work.

Do we wish to give the Gospel to the heathen? We have variety in our own Church. We have work among the Islanders of the South Seas. We have work in the very centre of the world's greatest citadels of heathenism, India and China and we have a part of India brought to Trinidad. Do we want success? All of our missions have been successful, some of them signally so. The New Hebrides, Trinidad, India, Formosa, China, nearly all of these, in their results, bear favorable comparison with almost any other missions in the world. Do we want solid, enduring work? No missions can exceed our own in that line.

While we should have charity for all work that seeks man's good and God's glory, and wish it God speed, we are not responsible for the support of all. If some one starts a new scheme and appeals for help, that is no reason why we should take it up, and desert other work for which we are responsible. Congregations, C. E. societies, mission bands, etc., have no right to give their funds to other good objects that may appeal to them, until they have fairly done their part in the work carried on by their own Church, for which they are responsible.

If a father entrusts his son with some work, and coming back finds that the son has been generously helping a neighbor and leaving his own work undone, will the father be satisfied? And when the Lord entrusts a work to us, as a Church, it is not doing His will, if we leave that work undone and spend our strength helping our neighbors in their work.

One kind of revival that is needed in parts of our own Church, is that of personal responsibility for the work of our own Church. Blessed is that Church whose membership stand loyally by each other and by the work which together they have undertaken for Christ.