

English Notes.

BY REV. JAMES DOUGLAS.

The Annual Report of the Church Missionary Society.—This report furnishes a compact résumé of the proceedings of this society during the year. A hopeful financial advance has been made. The contributions during the past two years have been £30,000 in excess of the average income previously; and there has been a large increase in the number of candidates accepted for the work. Whereas, during the ten years ending 1882 the yearly average was twenty-six, during the ten years ending 1892 it was forty-eight. The actual number for last year was eighty-one—by far the largest number of any past year. This great increase, however, is regarded by the editor of the *Church Missionary Intelligencer* as somewhat deceptive, for out of the total of eighty-one fifty-two are women. It is not that he deprecates the acceptance of so many women, but where are the men to keep this large company of women in countenance? Let us hope, with the late Dr. Guthrie, that in this instance "the women are the boys."

A Threefold Plea.—The Rev. T. Walker, of Tinnevely, in his recent speech at the Church Missionary Society's annual meeting, entered a threefold plea (1) in behalf of a great extension of educational work, in the gracious results of which, unlike Dr. Pentecost, he fully believes; (2) in behalf of a wide extension of evangelistic work; and (3) in behalf of a warmer interest in the native churches. Speaking in support of the second plea, he says: "I have known a poor Hindu seek me out with much difficulty, and speak to me in words like these: 'Ah, sir, I have long been seeking peace in Hinduism; I cannot find it there. Now I am going to seek it in the religion of the Saviour, because I have watched the lives of Christians and believe they have it.' Time only forbids me citing similar instances and illustrations by the score."

Medical Missionary Curriculum.—*White Fields*, the organ of the Zenana Medical College, London, strongly advocates the sufficiency, for general purposes, of their two years' curriculum. The committee point out that all young missionaries have not the ability, time, or means to secure the full registrable diploma; and besides, how few of those who have will devote themselves *without fees* to minister to the poor and needy and moneyless! The gaps are too many to fill from such a quarter. In view of these facts, the two years' curriculum seem to supply the golden mean; and experience confirms the wisdom of it. Those who have gone forth from this college testify to the adequacy of the tuition. Miss Rainsford, a former student, writing from Naronal, says: "I have found my knowledge, in nine cases out of ten, enough to relieve or cure where possible. Here we are thirty miles from a railway and doctor. I have seen over 8000 patients last year, and done over 300 operations. I saw a few weeks ago 177 patients in a day."

Prince William Sherker.—This prince, who has been duly elected by the Kasir Bullom people, West Africa, to be their king, has written a letter to Mr. Humphrey, of the Church Missionary Society, which abundantly shows the good name which that society has won for herself in those parts. He says: "Bearing in mind the friendly relations which always existed between that society and my predecessors, you will be pleased to learn that among the instructions I received from my principal chiefs or headsmen on ascending the throne, one was that I should by no means let the cord of friendship between your noble society and this country be broken, which already shows the extent of her influence. Taking all these into consideration, together with my own personal wishes to be led and advised by wiser minds, I feel I cannot refrain from expressing the hope that my humble note to you, the representa-