

THE MISSIONARY WORLD.

OUR TRINIDAD MISSION.

The Rev. Dr. Morton writes from Tunapuna to the Halifax Presbyterian Witness:—

November 2nd I took the communion service at Princes-town. The church is not fully seated, but every seat was full, and Mr. Macrae will have to order more settees. It was very refreshing to revisit my old district and see the work thus prospering. Monday the Mission Council met and welcomed Mr. Grant and Miss Fisher. Official examinations of some of his schools prevented Mr. Grant from joining us in the inspection of the following days.

Tuesday Messrs. Macrae, Coffin, Soodeen, myself, Mrs. Morton and Miss Fisher visited Jordan Hill school, which we found doing well, and then drove on through a most hilly country to Lengua, where we inspected the school and dismissed the children for the day, and then attacked a picnic breakfast at half-past twelve o'clock. In addition to Mr. Macrae's ample supplies, the catechist had killed a fat-fowl, and drawn extensively on somebody's orange garden. Even a dyspeptic editor would have enjoyed a feast, as we did.

To spare our horses, the gentlemen set out to walk to the Barrackpore school—two miles away. The croaker of our party—a picnic party is not complete without a croaker—predicted that it would rain, as soon as he saw the dark clouds gathering up in the east: and, as generally happens at picnics, especially when the black clouds come up, it rained. This rendered the part of the road which was not gravelled extremely bad; and we returned to headquarters with considerable loss of dignity. Our work was, however, done, and we thought well done. The rest of the party had held a splendid woman's meeting. What matter for loss of dignity or shoe-blackening! Our spirits rose and we took the road. But clouds soon formed in all directions, and broke on us in continuous rain all the way home.

Wednesday forenoon we inspected Miss Archibald's school, which we found in a flourishing condition. In the afternoon the gentlemen rested, and the gentlemen visited three other schools. Thursday, Miss Archibald took Soodeen's place, and we left for Piparo, taking Ben Lomond school by the way. Our commissariat proved excellent, but our transport somewhat broke down. We had still three miles to go and a river to ford, in visiting a settlement where it is proposed to erect a school. Some rain had fallen—more was coming—to walk was impossible on account of the river, so we set out on a mule cart, sitting back to back on boxes. After crossing the river we found it better to walk, as the road was rough. What a change since I was last here! Forests turned into cocoa estates, and bridle-paths into roads! We advised the establishment of a school. Rain was falling fast, but the river was still fordable, and we found our way back to the rest of the party, who were both relieved and amused at our appearance.

In our absence a women's meeting had been held, from which men were not excluded, and the men raised no objections to being taught by a woman. We reached home wet and weary, with no worse consequences than a stiff neck on the part of a missionary who does not usually bear that character.

THE MARVEL OF MODERN MEDICAL MISSIONS.

In the illustrations of romance there is nothing more surprising than the wonders wrought by the consecrated agency of medical missionaries in heathen lands. Missionaries were not slow in learning that the order pursued by the Saviour and the disciples was the right order for the present day. The Master first healed the sick and then preached the Gospel. The same order He also enjoined the disciples to observe: "Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out devils; freely ye have received, freely give."

Everywhere the most appalling need confronted the missionary worker. In every land he found the horrors of heathenism intensified by the cruel practices of ignorant and superstitious medicine-men.

In China, public opinion will not permit the dissection of human subjects, consequently the Chinese doctor is left to sheer guess-work, and to him "everything below the skin is a *terra incognita*." He locates the intellect in the stomach, and, so, enormous rotundity in the equatorial regions is indicative of mental greatness. Many of their favourite prescriptions are compounded from the dried carcasses of snakes, insects and ground bones of the tiger, or other strong animals, while it is a mark of filial devotion for a child to cut pieces of flesh from his or her body, cook them and give to parents who are afflicted with disease.

The Siamese believe that sickness is caused by evil spirits, and medical attendants are seen brandishing huge knives and commanding the spirits to depart, and in other cases the bodies of the sick are pierced by long needles with the view of locating the spot where the evil spirit has lodged itself. The main remedies in Syria are bleeding and the cautery, practised chiefly by barbers and muleteers.

In western Africa Dr. Summers found many sick children who had been horribly cut with knives, and Bishop Taylor saw, after the cruel incantations of a medicine man, a little girl killed, stabbed to the heart, by the side of her suffering mother, because it was believed she had bewitched her parent into a fit of sickness.

Illustrations might be indefinitely multiplied to show that

the "tender mercies" of the heathen are cruel; that even when they set out to relieve those whom they love, their remedies are worse than the disease; and that myriads of the sick die beneath the miseries of their maladies and the far worse tortures of a treatment conceived in ignorance and applied by unfeeling superstition.

We need not wonder, then, that when the skilled medical missionary applies his scientific principles, uses his well-proved remedies, and directs his keen blade by an unerring knowledge of a true anatomy, he is able to work wonders which are pronounced miraculous by the densely ignorant heathen around him, and that everywhere he finds that the exercise of his healing power is the *open sesame*, and pioneer of the message of salvation to sinning and sinking men. Volumes might be written to set forth, in romantic and thrilling story, the ways in which the healing art has been blessed to the opening of huts, zenanas, courts, palaces, towns, cities, and entire provinces to the unrestricted and welcomed proclamation of the Word, followed, also, by expressions of gratitude and munificence in giving, which would prove illustrious examples in Christian England or America.

The Rev. Dr. Colin S. Valentine, on a journey to the hill country for his health, learned of the serious illness of her Highness, Maharani, the wife of the Maharajah Ram Singh, Prince and Governor of Jeypore. Called upon the prince, he was invited to an examination of the case, remained to treat her Highness, who had been given up by the native physicians, and the doctor was soon able to pronounce her recovery as complete.

The Maharajah expressed his gratitude in warmest terms, insisted upon Dr. Valentine remaining as his physician, made over the colleges and educational institutions to the doctor, and added a grant of 10,000 rupees for a college library and philosophical instruments. The doctor replied that he was a missionary, and could accept of his Highness' proposals only upon the distinct understanding that, as such, he would be allowed, without let or hindrance, to teach the doctrines of the Christian religion. His conditions were accepted and the Europeans were formed into a Church, and during the whole time Dr. Valentine was at Jeypore he enjoyed the confidence and friendship of the Maharajah, and was enabled to establish several institutions for the physical and moral advancement of the people; such as the school of arts, the public library, the philosophical institute, a museum, a medical hall, branch dispensaries, jail discipline, the instruction of prison works, etc.

It has been said of Dr. Peter Parker, who was the real founder of medical missions, a man of singular beauty of character and eminent ability, that "he opened China to the Gospel at the point of his lancet." Thousands flocked to him for the recovery of their sight, and for healing of every sort of disease, until it was quite impossible for him to attend to the multitudes who claimed his care.

His skill became known extensively throughout the Chinese empire, and the hospital that he opened in Canton in November, 1885, has brought not only physical relief, but spiritual blessings to many thousands. The labours of this remarkable man were not confined to China alone, but extended to other countries. He was instrumental in the founding of the Edinburgh Medical Missionary Society, which has sent forth scores of noble young men to bless humanity, and has been the means of founding many Home Medical Missions, in addition to those established in foreign lands.

The great city of Tien-tsin, on the river Peiho, and the terminus of the Grand Canal, furnishes us another marvel among the victories achieved by medical missions. On a certain day the late Dr. J. K. Mackenzie was present with the native converts at prayer. At the same time a member of the English Legation, who was closeted with the Viceroy, learned that his wife was seriously ill, indeed in a dying condition. The Englishman asked: "Why don't you secure the help of the foreign doctors?" He was induced to send a courier with a message summoning Dr. Mackenzie. In a few weeks (Miss Howard, of Peking, undertaking the local treatment) Lady Li was quite recovered. The news of her restoration to health spread throughout the city, and daily Dr. Mackenzie, as he entered the vice-regal palace, was beset by crowds seeking medical or surgical aid. In the presence of a large number of officials, in the court facing the reception room, chloroform was administered to a patient afflicted with a tumour as large as a child's head, which the doctor successfully removed. This operation, with others performed in the presence of the Court, excited the surprise and admiration of the viceroy and his friends, and heightened the effect produced by Lady Li's recovery. The viceroy set apart, with great good-will, a portion of a very fine memorial temple, to be used as a dispensary, advanced the money for the immediate purchase of drugs and necessities, and ordered that subsequent bills should be sent to him for settlement. Dr. Mackenzie, keenly alive to the value of a hospital in aid of Gospel work, recommended the founding of such an institution. The first subscription was given by a military mandarin, who was a patient, had been a Tai-ping rebel, and was bitterly opposed to Christianity. Others, all Chinese, followed, and soon the sum reached \$4,500 (a large amount in China), and this without help from the viceroy, who, however, assumed the expenses of the hospital as well as those of the dispensary. In six months wards for thirty patients were in use, and subsequently wards for thirty patients more were added, and also other needful rooms and appliances, over \$10,000 having been given during fifteen months by the Chinese alone. The military mandarin returned a year later, bringing a friend with him, to whom he said, after Dr. Mackenzie had shown them through the institutions: "I will repeat my former subscription if you will give the same." "All right," promptly replied his friend, and on that day \$1,500 were added to the funds.

The best medical authorities say the proper way to treat catarrh is to take a constitutional remedy, like Hood's Sarsaparilla.

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