

## Our Foreign Missions.

**The Dying Indian.** Rev. Hugh McKay of Round Lake, in a letter quoted in the *Western Missionary*, says:—One of our Indians died last night, and was buried this morning. I spent an hour with him last Sabbath evening. He lay in his blanket on the cold ground—his bare feet on the damp grass—more like a skeleton than a living person. He seemed glad to see me, and talked freely about death and the life beyond. We parted, feeling that we would never again meet in this world, but in the hope of meeting in the presence of Him who does not “quench the smoking flax or break the bruised reed.”

**Miss Agnes Turnbull, M.D.**

On the evening of Aug. 11th, at Belleville, Ont., Miss Agnes Turnbull, M.D., was designated as a missionary to Central India. Mr. Hamilton Cassells, Convener F. M. Com., W.D., who, amid the presence of an active business life, has, for a number of years devoted so much of time and strength to Foreign Mission work, occupied the chair. Addresses were given by the chairman, and several of the ministers present, and at the close, the outgoing missionary received many a cordial “God be with you,” contracted into the well worn, but world wide, “good-bye,” from friends whose prayers will follow her as she goes far hence to heal and teach the degraded and down trodden women of India.

**A forward step in the New Hebrides.**

There has been for quite a number of years a medical missionary in the New Hebrides, Rev. Dr. Gunn, of Futuna, but, as the island is small and isolated, his medical work has been, like that of nearly all our missionaries, confined to the giving of medicines in the few cases of ordinary illness. Now, however, an attempt is being made to establish a kind of medical centre, a hospital which shall have wider sphere. It will be on Ambrym, one of the large islands in the north of the group, or at Port Sandwich on Malekula, some twelve miles distant from Ambrym, if it is possible to get a site there. Dr. Lamb, a young medical missionary from the Presbyterian Church of New Zealand, is to have charge, and is to settle in the meantime on Ambrym. Of the place, he says “It seems to be the centre of the system of idolatry.” A few miles to the north is Santo the largest and most northerly island of the group, nearer is Malekula, the second largest island, while near it are the Maskalyne islands with a large population. The question of a training institute is also under consideration for the training of teachers for the whole group. Thus, like the slow rising of these coral islands out of the submerged reefs of the southern seas and their gradual crowning with verdure and beauty, is their elevation from the depths of degradation, misery, and sin, to the light and joy and blessedness of Christian civilization.

**Missionary Letters.**

Mr. Croil in forwarding an extract of a missionary letter to the *RECORD*, writes some words which are so pertinent that I take the liberty of quoting them. He says, “I transcribe a portion of it for your columns, the more that I observe missionary letters are scarce. A great mistake that it should be so, and I trust you may yet succeed in drawing out a regular and sustained correspondence, which the church has indeed a right to expect from its missionaries, and which, if they could only see it as we see it, would prove greatly to their advantage in the increased interest which would attach to their work, and a more ready and liberal response to the calls which are made from time to time for its enlargement and support.”

**Among the Pagan Indians.**

Rev. J. A. McDonald our missionary at Alberni, among the Pagan Indians of B. C. writes, “The Indian children are pleased with the pictures in the *Children's Record*, but few of them can yet read the lessons. On Sabbath morning at ten o'clock our Seshah school meets with an attendance of thirty. All expect papers, cards, or pictures of some kind. The Opitchesah school in the afternoon is not so well attended as there are not many children. This school we intend to unite with the white children to form a union school as there is none at present in the Church. Would you please ask our young friends the readers of the *Record* to send any illustrated papers or cards that they can give to help our schools, as I find it difficult to supply them. The work is prospering with God's blessing.”

**The Shady Side.**

Not long since our columns contained some extracts of a glowing description of Trinidad. That it is not always so, but has its shadows as well as its lights, is seen by Dr. Morton's words in a note to the *Pres. Review*. He says, under date Aug. 5th, “for the last two months we would gladly have enjoyed a little Canadian sunshine. In the month of June we had only two fine days. Official reports show that several places had a rainfall of from thirty to thirty-four inches. July reports are not yet out, but the month was a duplicate of June. In going to my college work one week, I and other passengers had to be transferred for over a mile on trollies pushed with poles—the railway being so washed out that even that was a risky thing to do. Miles of country have been under water which was several times from two to three feet deep under two of my school houses. One of my school boys was swept away and drowned when going to school. It reminds one, not of paradise, but of another less pleasant Biblical story. Notwithstanding, all the missionaries are well and hope for pleasanter days “when the clouds roll by.”