

missionaries (for Mrs. McLaurin must be counted in) from our already too feeble staff, meant much to the mission. It meant the closing up of Samulcotta Seminary for more than one year, and the entire cessation of all the work in this department which has been going on so hopefully ever since Bro. McLaurin had started it five years ago. It must be confessed that when the news reached us here in Canada of this foundation work, the education of a native ministry being stopped, that our fears grew apace, and that we seemed to see a dark cloud threatening the cradle we had watched with so much solicitude and hope. The moral effect upon the heathen mind of the closed doors would, we feared, be bad, and the difficulty of opening them be very great. The situation was full of perplexity. But as an old Puritan frequently remarked, "God loves to help at a dead lift." The darkest moment precedes the dawn. He to whose wise and compassionate heart the interests of our mission are much more precious than to ours, was quietly solving the problem and preparing the way for gradual relief. A series of happy circumstances, all supplied by the Heavenly Father, led to the solution of the situation. First, Bro. Stillwell passed his final examination sooner than the time allotted, and was therefore ready to undertake such work as might be most needed to be done. Then, in response to an appeal sent out by your Secretary for men to fill the gaps, volunteers came forward so readily that light fringed the darkness and we were compelled to stand rebuked before the Lord for doubting for a moment the safety of the ark of God. One happy feature of this crisis was that it proved beyond all dispute, that the spirit of missions was not dead in our churches, and that heroism in our young men had not become a thing of history. So many were the applications for service that we had difficulty in deciding whom to send. Our embarrassment this time was not the embarrassment of poverty, but of wealth. Two, young men were appointed at this time, and a third one very shortly after. And now if the situation is not immediately relieved it is on the high road to that end. Mr. Auvache hopes to pass his examination at no distant day, and then an additional worker will be available; while the young men now on their way to India, and the other soon to follow, will be acquiring the language as fast as they can, and so preparing themselves for such work and emergencies as God in His providence may develop.

*New Missionaries.*—At the meeting of the Board held in Toronto, on March 3rd, Mr. J. E. Davis, B.A., of McMaster Hall, appeared before it as a candidate for work on the foreign field. After earnest prayer for Divine guidance, his acceptance by the Board was unanimous and most hearty. At another meeting held in the same place, on the same day, an application was received from Mr. H. F. Laflamme, student in Toronto University, for service under your Board in India. There were many strong reasons why his application should be accepted at once, but the Board, not wishing to do anything hastily, adjourned for a week without taking any action in the matter. At the next meeting of the Board he was also appointed with the most cordial unanimity.

Among several other applications which came before the Board

at this time, one seemed to R. Garside, B.A., of McMaster Hall, all the members of the Board, and the desirability of sending him having just made the two able receipts of the Society. Action was therefore deferred to write to Bro. Garside, on actual facts. It soon became clear that this amount is all but for India some time in November. For some time the Board had been seeking a suitable attention was ultimately directed to Toronto, daughter of our Board of their Board she was appointed to your Board for its approval in July, the action of our sister sailed from Boston will proceed to Cocanada and guage for the work to which she best entertain the highest hopes.

FOR

On turning now from even work abroad, to the work in India recall in a single sentence to during the past twelve months might reasonably expect to be Laurin in very poor health, this period, insufficiently acquainted with away at it, Mr. Auvache and sick. Only one missionary any work.

Is it any wonder that in some to report as much gain in every be any wonder if in some respect workers? I think not. It was to gather up and attend to all that has been for the past year, and Christian, how helpless almost in