

Our Foreign Missions.

For fifty years our missionaries have labored in the New Hebrides, and the first single lady missionary has just gone to that field. She will assist Dr. and Mrs. Annand in their Training Institution on Tongoa. She is supported partly by the W. F. M. S. East, and partly by the women in Australia. Her bright cheery picture, with a bright cheery letter, giving her "first impressions" to a girl friend, is in a recent issue of the Australian Presbyterian, and signed "Daisy Symonds," to which others add B. A. In stating the above we do not forget the splendid service of the daughters in some of our own mission families, Geddies, Mackenzies, Robertsons.

The Foreign Funds, East and West, are in a better condition than many, even hopeful ones, anticipated. In the East the burden of debt is about removed. The West has a balance on the right side. But amid the congratulations I hear some missionary from India ask, sotto voce, "but how has this balance been obtained? By cutting down our grants; by closing some of our schools; by withholding needful extension of the work." When the doors, so many of them, that the Lord is opening for us, are entered in and the treasury still overflowing, then will there indeed be cause for gladness.

The F. M. Committee, East, is answering the earnest appeal of **Laborer for Demarara**. Mr. Cropper and sending another missionary to Demarara. There are 115,000 East Indians immigrants there, and we have but one missionary among them. Here is a part of India brought near us. They are separated from the mass of India's superstition and from the bonds of caste. They are our British fellow subjects, brought from one British colony, India, to another British colony, Demarara: and no other church but ours is giving them the Gospel.

"Is the Church going to send us any new men this year?" writes Rev. **Men for India**. Norman Russell, from India- "Some must go home next year, after seven years here, to recruit for a little, and we are left short-handed. The field is enlarging, the needs increasing, and we have had no new men for three years and more. Never had we better hearing; never more inquiry about Christianity, but we need men."

EXTRACTS OF LETTERS FROM REV. J. BUCHANAN, M.D.

Amkhat, Ali Rajpur, 16 Jan., '99.

Dear Sister:—

We have been having quite a time of it. The children and I had a slight touch of fever, and Mary (Mrs. Buchanan) is down with, I fear, a serious illness, so I am both doctor and nurse. This is such an out of the way place that it is impossible to get any help here in time of sickness. It was bad enough when well, now it is much worse; but still, in sickness or in health, God is a present help, and so we need not despond.

17th. Mary is much better, so that it is likely that it is malaria she has had; still, it seems as if she cannot stay in here in the Bheel Jungle much of the time.

Indore, 26th Jan., '99.

We have all had our turn of malaria. Mary had quite a sharp attack. As soon as the malarial fever subsided, I got her out of the jungle, as far as Dohad, the railway station, thence to Rutlam, then down here to Indore to consult the civil surgeon of the Government Hospital, Dr. Guimlette.

After a year in the Bheel jungle, I now see that it would be very risky for Mary to be in there for more than one or two months of the year. From March to August there is no malaria, but the heat is exhausting, especially after the middle of March, so that there are only February and March that it is not positively dangerous for one in her condition; and to do mission work among the Bheels is going to call for sacrifice and separation from both of us.

Indore, 16th Feb., '99.

I am sorry to say that there appears to be no improvement in Mary's health. She herself has become quite discouraged, and it is not much wonder, after all she has come through. If it may be that she is to be better again, and for this I hope, still it means that, for at least three-fourths of the year, we must live separately, as she could not live in the Bheel jungle. But if she only has her health, we shall sing with gladness. If she is to be poorly, the separation will be hard.

But I am looking beyond the present, and God would not have us borrow trouble.

There are a few more among the Bheels expressing their desire to be Christians.