

English Notes.

BY JAMES DOUGLAS.

Wesleyan Missionary Society.—Owing to the financial crisis, October 5th was set apart, by the request of the Home Committee, to be observed as an Intercession Day at home and abroad. From all parts of the mission field tidings have come as to the way the day was spent. In most places collections were made and offerings received in behalf of the deficit; while in various places the day was followed up by a series of services having in view the conversion of sinners and the increase of spiritual-ity among the members.

Some of the reports from distant lands are especially cheering. This applies to all districts in Ceylon, where out of their great poverty the people brought willingly from their tiny store to the common fund. In Hassan, Mysore, India, the large sum of 120 rs. was forthcoming—a wonderful response if the smallness and meagre resources of the church in question be considered. Writing from Hassan, Mysore, the Rev. H. Gulliford says: "We are delighted to think there is a prospect of growing prosperity in every department of the Methodist Church. . . . If we could multiply our Christian influences a hundredfold, there would be a vast turning to God. As it is, we are afraid to begin any new work, lest we should have to abandon it again."

In Freetown, Sierra Leone, a day of fervent prayer was spent, interspersed with appropriate addresses, and the free-will offerings of our people amounted to £10. The largest amount received from the foreign field came from Lagos, West Africa, where the people's gifts reached the aggregate sum of £107 8s. 5d. Altogether Intercession Day seems to have been well spent, and to have been fraught with much spiritual stimulus. The most effective part of the record is contained in the letter received from Mr. John T. Waterhouse with an accompanying check. The circumstances are so unique, that

we judge it well that Mr. Waterhouse should tell the story in his own words:

"My father received in Tasmania a letter from his old friend, Theophilus Lessey, informing him of the miserable cry of 'Stop the missionary supplies.' It almost broke his heart. It was not for himself he felt so deeply, but for those under his charge, faithful men of God, who, with their wives, had entered the mission field for life, and whom it was now proposed to leave penniless 18,000 miles or more from home. As I have said, it nearly broke his heart, and I have no doubt that his effort to sustain the cause in Van Diemen's Land brought him to a premature grave. When on his death-bed I was at his side. He appeared to have ceased to breathe, and the doctor said, 'He is gone,' when I took him by the shoulder and said, 'Father, speak.' He rose in his bed, stared as if on vacancy, looking in the middle of the room with glassy eyes, and exclaimed, 'Wesley, Clarke, Smith. Missionaries! Missionaries!! Missionaries!!!' He then sank down on his bed, breathed two or three times, and the vital spark had fled. . . . I enclose you a check for £25, with my sainted father's appeal on his death-bed, 'Missionaries! Missionaries!! Missionaries!!!' "

Presbyterian Church of England.—The Swatow Council is clear as to the desirability of planting a missionary at Sua-buc, a large port half-way between Swatow and Hong Kong, but for want of funds the project lies in abeyance. "We are afraid," writes Mr. MacLagan, in the name of the Swatow Council, "that at home it may not sometimes be realized how much even the ground nearest us is unoccupied. Within a day's journey from Swatow there are numerous large towns and villages as yet untouched. It is with reluctance that we leave these unvisited, to spend a fortnight in mere travelling for a month or six weeks' hurried visit of the southwest stations."

Kaisua Island. - Recently the reaping