

hesitate, or withhold consent? Or shall I not, instead of only thinking how hard and how difficult it is to live like a branch of the True Vine, because I thought of it as something I had to accomplish,—shall I not now begin to look upon it as the most blessed and joyful thing under heaven? Shall I not believe that, now I once am in Him, He Himself will keep me and enable me to abide? On my part, abiding is nothing but the acceptance of my position, the consent to be kept there, the surrender of faith to the strong Vine still to hold the feeble branch. Yes, I will, I do abide in Thee, blessed Lord Jesus.

O Saviour, how unspeakable is Thy love! "Such knowledge is too wonderful for me: it is high, I cannot attain unto it." I can only yield myself to Thy love with the prayer that, day by day, Thou wouldest unfold to me somewhat of its precious mysteries, and so encourage and strengthen Thy loving disciple to do what his heart longs to do indeed,—ever, only, wholly to abide in Thee.

Missionary.

INDIA.

There is no work so encouraging as that among children, whether at home, or among the heathen, and Miss Dewar, who assists Miss Wanton (of whose work we wrote last week) in her Schools at Amritsar, tells us how the fresh young hearts out there open to receive the good seed: "Perhaps the work amongst children is the most hopeful; their hearts are not yet hardened by the many cares which shadow the woman's life; they do not know the impure legends and useless tales of which their religion is full, so the simple story is received simply in the yet fresh soil of their hearts. Is it not a subject of thankfulness that about five hundred girls are receiving regular Bible teaching, and can repeat many precious texts, and that the Saviour, who forbade not the little ones to go to Him, is loved by many a child-heart in this dark city?"

An incident which happened lately may be mentioned to show how a child, taught in one of the city schools, may be an influence for good to others. The lesson had been given in a Hindu Zenana, so the teacher opened her picture-book and began to explain some simple story. But the Bibi would not be interested; she did not understand her visitor's "Rachcha" (Punjabi) for one thing, and seemed rather weary of the effort to be polite. She did not say, "I wish you would have done," but her wandering eyes spoke plainly enough that her mind was far away. The missionary saw this, and perhaps never felt her weakness in utterance so painfully as then. But help was near. The creaking door opens, and a bright face peeps in, a smiling face, too, which seems to say, "I know you." The owner of the face comes in and sits down quietly, looking very earnestly at the picture. When the story is done, she looks full in the missionary's face, and asks, "Do you never sing hymns?" "Often," the missionary replies, only too glad to find a sympathetic listener. "Then let us sing one," says the child; "I have brought my hymn-book." So saying, she produces the well-known blue book from her basta. The hymn is sung, to which the Bibi has listened most attentively, being very much astonished to see such a clever child. After singing, Maya has something more to ask. Lifting her big brown eyes earnestly, she asks, "Do you never tell these people about Jesus? Show them the picture of the Cross." The request is readily granted, and the child explains, in her own simple way why Christ died. The Bibi's eyes do not wander now; she listens with satisfaction to the sound of her own native tongue and

the familiar idioms she can easily understand. Thus little Maya can carry the precious truths she learns in school into many a dark home. May her simple faith grow firm, so that she may be a true missionary amongst her ignorant sisters!

"There are doubtless many more Mayas, and Sughis, and Nikkis, who are led to tell of the loving Saviour about whom they have been taught. Children can go where no one else can, and often their simple words tell when others fail. If in each of the twelve schools scattered over the city one child be a light-bearer, surely we can say that the labour amongst the little ones is not in vain.

"Amongst the Zenanas visited, the following pupils may be mentioned: Taj Bibi and Jan Bibi, the sister and daughter of a rich lawyer, are both interesting women. They are always willing to listen to Bible reading, and ever pleased to sing hymns. One day, after singing about the Name which makes the heart glad, Taj Bibi said, 'That is a beautiful hymn, and quite true; my heart does feel glad when I sing it.'

And already there are little ones safely landed upon the other shore:

"One of our dear little ones was called to her heavenly home instead of returning to school after the long holidays. The day school reopened she was taken ill, and after great suffering passed away. We could feel no doubt as to her being one of the Saviour's lambs, and all the girls in her class bear record to her endeavours to do right both in and out of school. During her illness she many times asked to have the hymn 'Jesus loves me' repeated to her. She gained her class prize, but she was called to receive something far better."

Surely this one incident would repay any who have practised self-denial in order that they might be able to send something to help on the Zenana mission.

The mission station of Batala derives special interest from the fact that Miss Tucker, so well known as A. L. O. E., is in charge of the work there. Miss Hørule, who assists Miss Tucker, writes:

"I have opened a new school, where I have 14 pupils. A few women from the neighborhood generally collect there, too, to listen to the teaching, or simply to see what is going on, and I use the opportunity of addressing a few words to them about Jesus and His love to us. One woman particularly listens very attentively, and asked me again and again to sing to her something about Jesus, and when I left she entreated me to come to her house, too, "for I love you very much," she added.

"Besides the schools I have seven Zenanas, with 11 pupils, but I do hope more Zenanas will be opened to me where the women are willing to learn to read. To some of the houses it is quite a treat to go, and in one I have got the women to join with me in singing hymns. They afterwards said that it was my love to them and their love to me which made them overcome their prejudice. I think you would have enjoyed seeing the little group around me: one of the women sitting beside me sewing a newly-commenced pair of slippers for her husband; her sister-in-law sitting on a low footstool on my other side, bending over the book on my knees, the mother and some other women, who had come in for a visit, listening to our singing 'Rock of Ages, cleft for me.' This gave me an opportunity of speaking to them of Christ's atonement, and that my joy and comfort was His righteousness, and not my own. In another Zenana I have two equally interesting pupils, very gentle and ladylike, and very eager to learn. A younger brother of theirs asked Miss Tucker for an English Bible, as he so much wished to read

it. Dear Miss Tucker has given me one to take to him on my next visit to his sisters.

"These are the bright rays which the Lord sends me now and then to cheer and encourage me on my way, for I feel sometimes so discouraged and sad."

The children who are taught in the schools often act as pioneers for the missionaries, as in the following instance:

"A boy who knew a little English, and entered into conversation with Miss Krapf whilst I was examining the girls and talking to the women, asked us afterwards to come and see his old mother who lived close by. We of course went, and were very kindly received by her and her relations; indeed, they listened so eagerly, and were so anxious to learn, that though the first visit, I could fully enter on God's love towards us sinners, and the redemption through Jesus Christ. Afterwards the daughter-in-law asked us to sing 'There is a happy land,' for it will comfort her," she said, meaning her mother-in-law. We sang it, and bhajan too, Miss Krapf playing the tune on her little table harmonium, one of the women explaining the meaning of the words line by line to the old mother as we went on with the hymn. When I arose to go, the old woman put her hand on my shoulder, and with such an anxious look in her eyes asked, 'And is this the only way to salvation? Then I seek it too.' I could not leave her thus in such a doubting state of mind, so I sat down again, and began again from the beginning of Jesus and His love, and how He also spoke to her weary soul to come unto him and find rest. She repeated again and again, 'I will seek that way.' We gave her boy one of the Gospels, and a copy of the 'Old old Story' in Urdu, and he promised to read it to his mother. You will, I am sure, join with me in prayer that this poor woman may find rest in Jesus for her weary heavy-laden soul."

To be Continued.

British & Foreign News.

ENGLAND.

At a meeting of the electors at Oxford, on Tuesday May 13th, Archdeacon Farrar, formerly Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge was elected Bampton Lecturer for the ensuing year.

THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY is about to issue a penny edition of the New Testament. It is likely to have an immense circulation. It will be neatly got up in readable type.

Mr. Mundella, at the annual meeting of the Sunday School Union, stated that he had himself been successively a Sunday-scholar, teacher, and superintendent, and therefore was well able to gauge the value of such an institution. It is a striking fact to which he alluded as showing the value parents place upon Sunday-schools, that in England, whereas some 4,300,000 children attend the day-school, upwards of 5,000,000 are to be found in the Sunday-schools. The necessity of employing this mighty engine of influence directly and at full pressure for the moral and spiritual welfare of the young becomes increasingly urgent as secular education advances. Redoubled ardour in inculcating Christian truth is everywhere called for.

The canonry at Windsor, worth 1,000*l.* a-year, which is vacated by Mr. Carpenter's appointment to Ripon has been conferred upon the Rev. E. Capel Curzon, Rector of St. George's, Hanover-square. Mr. Curzon has long been known as a hardworking London clergyman—for nine years at St. George's, Bloomsbury, and for eight years in his present sphere of labour. His promotion has been well earned. Both the selection of the new bishop and the appointment of a successor at Windsor, stand out in such marked contrast to the recent ecclesiastical appointments, that they have naturally excited some surprise. We believe the explanation is to be found in the exertion of an august influence which has many times been used for good in the Church of England, and which we devoutly trust may long continue to be so used.

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