

retary for the whole of India, a national organization having lately been formed. As an American Churchwoman, chosen and sent out by the London committee, her salary paid by twelve working girls at home she has the opportunity, and improves it well, of helping to make known to each other and bind together sisters of one faith and one communion widely separated by land and sea.

In Calcutta, Miss Marston continues the useful school and Zenana work in which she has been engaged for twenty two years, for the past eight years as an independent worker, maintained by the voluntary contributions of friends. I was her guest when here four years ago, and it was a great pleasure to meet her again and to spend many hours with her in her little home, talking of the dear women and children that she loves, and of all her difficulties and encouragements in caring for them.

One day we paid most interesting visits to two of her Zenanas, and met several of her former pupils. At both places we were cordially received, and at one delightfully entertained, the sons of the family receiving us as well as their mother and her daughters and daughters-in-law. After showing us some really fine original paintings and playing to us on native instruments, a phonograph was exhibited with much pleasure, and then we had an illustration of the way in which a missionary can sow the good seed even on an unusual occasion. Having listened to more songs and a speech of Mr. Gladstone's wonderfully rendered, Miss Marston was asked to say something into the phonograph, when she promptly sang into it, in Bengali, a verse first of one hymn and then of another, which were clearly repeated with evident effect, especially upon the poor old mother, who seemed to appreciate both the tune and words. Left behind us on their separate cylinders, we could not but hope they would often in the future carry a message to many an unknown listener.

A similar opportunity came to me one day. We were visiting a girl's school, and in one class room a group of little maidens were copying English letters in cross-stitch on canvas from an old fashioned sampler. The teacher, turning to the blackboard, handed me a piece of chalk and asked if I would not write something for them to learn and remember, and it pleased me to write for them a verse which, as a child, I had embroidered on my own sampler, as my mother had on hers before me, one little girl reading it aloud after I had written it, and the teacher telling them all to write it in their copy books:

Jesus, permit Thy gracious name to stand,
As the first effort of my infant hand;
And as my fingers o'er the canvas move,
Early incline my heart to seek Thy love.
With Thy dear children let me have a part
And write Thy Name Thyself within my heart.

These schools of all kinds for girls and women are among the most interesting features of missionary work in India. The illustration (see *Spirit of Missions* for April) shows a school that we visited. All but three in the picture have accepted the Saviour through their own act, the others being children of Christian parents. Those standing in a row at the back have all been baptized within the past year, the others within two or three years, and most of them have suffered real persecution on account of their religion. One teacher told us that much encouragement had been given to Christian schools for girls from the fact that almost all the scholarships in the Lady Dufferin Hospitals had been taken by Christians, as they were the only young women who had received sufficient education to be able to compete for them. Her graduates are also now in great demand as teachers, more applications being received for them than can be supplied. Here in Benares is one of the sweetest of these schools, and it is a happiness to think that this most heathen city is at the same time a centre of life and light going out, from a Christian household planted in its midst, to all parts of India.

Books and Periodicals Department

The New Century Review. Price, Six pence. London: The Unicorn Press, 26 Paternoster Square, E.C. New York: The International News Company, Duane Street.

Rev. H. W. Horwill, writes in the March number, on the Bible in Board Schools. The method to be adopted in teaching the Bible in Schools, should be taken into account. It is quite possible to teach the Bible from a standpoint that will produce Unitarians, for "Unitarians believe that the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of man as taught by Jesus, is religion at its highest and best," and the London school board inspectors reported, not long ago, that in their schools "the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of man are the key-notes of the doctrinal teaching." The Indian famine is attributed by an anonymous writer largely to the co-existence of usury and despairing poverty. Sir John Colomb continues his articles on British Defence, and Mr. Edward Aveling in his "Charles Darwin and Carl Marx" seizes an opportunity for expressing his intense admiration for the great evolutionist whom he considers one of the greatest men of the age. Byron's "English Bards and Scotch Reviewers" are pleasantly brought to mind by an article on the subject by Mary Hartier.

(1) *The Expositor*, (2) *The Clergyman's Magazine*. London: Hodder & Stoughton, 27 Paternoster Row.

Some valuable thoughts are given in the March *Expositor* by the Rev. Professor James Orr, on Israel in Egypt and the Exodus, with reference to Professor Flinders Petrie's recent discovery. The Rev. G. Matheson furnishes much food for thought in his interesting paper on the Christian promise of Empire, and the teaching of Wesley on Christian Perfection is well remarked upon by the Rev. Dr. Beet. In the *Clergyman's Magazine*, Professor Moule continues his chapters on the Epistle to the Colossians. Several sermon notes and hints, besides other useful articles, are given.