

O dreamers, dreaming that your faith is keeping  
All service free from blot,  
Christ daily walks your streets, sick, suffering, weeping,  
And ye perceive Him not!

MARGARET J. PRESTON.

### Baptist Zenana Mission in India.

Dear Mrs. Newman,—None of the Baptist May meetings were more enthusiastic than that of the Annual Missionary Breakfast in connection with the Zenana Mission. About five hundred men and women sat down to breakfast in the Common Street Hotel, and it was my privilege to be one of the number. Mr. Charles Townsend, of Bristol, occupied the chair. Miss A. G. Angus presented, in a very admirable way, a brief annual report. Work is carried on in twenty different stations, several of which have been established during the past year. In some of these places the Society have only Bible women and schools. The staff consists of 38 Zenana missionaries, 37 assistants, 49 native Bible-women, and 77 native school teachers. There are 51 girls' schools, with 1,550 pupils. Upwards of 700 Zenana's are regularly visited, in which are 1,400 pupils, whilst more than 2,000 houses are visited for Scripture reading only.

Dr. Underhill presented the financial statement. The total expenditure of the Zenana mission for the year was about \$37,715—being \$940 above the receipts. A handsome collection was taken at the meeting towards making up this deficit.

The chairman made a brief address, in which he said he felt that the chair at these annual gatherings should be occupied by a woman. He asked for a large number of new workers to go out to India, adding that when money is really wanted for a great purpose the Baptist denomination would readily supply it.

Mr. A. H. Baynes, the Secretary of the Foreign Missionary Society, who had just returned from a journey of 40,000 miles, in which he had visited all the stations under the charge of the English Baptists in India, made a very stirring address. It was very evident that his inspection of the work done on the fields had fired his heart with fresh ardor. In order to show the effect of mission work on India society, he read a circular drawn up by a council of learned Hindoo Pundits, which has been translated into several vernaculars, and is being circulated by hundreds of thousands in India.

The readers of the LINK will be glad to see a full copy of it. It needs no comment from me:—

#### AN APPEAL TO ALL FAITHFUL HINDOOS.

"Missionaries have come from Great Britain at a great cost, and have cast their net over our children by teaching them in their schools, and they have already made thousands of Christians, and are now continuing to do so. They have already penetrated into our most out-of-the-way villages and built their churches in them. If we continue to sleep as we have done in the past, not one will be found worshipping in our own temples in a very short time, and, what is worse, the temples themselves may be converted into Christian churches! Do Hindoos really understand that the number of Christians is increasing, while the number of Hindoo religionists is decreasing every day? How long will water remain in a well which continually lets out, but receives none in? If our Hindoo religion is incessantly drained by Christianity without receiving any accessions, how long can it last?—When our country is turned into the wilderness of

Christianity will the heart of Hindooism continue to grow? Let us remember there is no connection between the British Government and Christianity, for the Queen-Empress proclaimed neutrality in all religious matters in the year 1858. We must, therefore, oppose these Christian missionaries with all our might. Whenever and wherever they stand up to preach their Gospel, let Hindoo preachers stand up and start rival preachings, and then they will soon flee away. Let all caste differences be entirely forgotten, and let all faithful Hindoos join as one man to banish Christianity from our land. Let us use all possible efforts to win back the vast numbers that have already embraced the Christian religion, and at once withdraw all our children from mission schools. Above all else, let us most vigilantly watch the efforts of these Christian ladies in our zenanas. Let them only once get hold of our women—our wives and our mothers—and our religion is doomed. The strength of Hindooism lies with our women, for they have the training of our future sons and daughters: as the mothers, so the children. At all cost, we must do our utmost to stop the work of these lady missionaries in our Zenanas, or soon our women will all become Christians and our religion will be lost for ever. Let us awake out of sleep, or soon it will be too late. Christianity is making rapid progress, and we must take action at once."

Mrs. Williamson and Rev. C. Jordan, missionaries, who had just returned from Calcutta, each delivered a very earnest address.

The meeting was one of great power throughout, only to think that the good Dr. Duff three years after he had settled in Calcutta, wrote to a friend in Scotland: "Female education in India, so far as I can see, is hopeless. You might just as well try to scale a wall five hundred yards high as attempt to give Christian education to either women or the girls of India." And now, according to the figures given at this meeting, 90,000 Hindoo girls are receiving regular elementary education. More than 75 per cent. of this number are receiving a distinctively Christian education in connection with mission schools. More than 700 High Caste Hindoo girls are in the schools of the Baptist Zenana mission alone.

Think what a joy it must have been to Mrs. Sale, the real pioneer of Zenana work, to be present at such a meeting as I have been writing about. I felt myself greatly honored to look into her most intelligent and kindly face, and take her by the hand.

On returning to my apartments, a glad surprise awaited me in the receipt of a note from Mrs. Archibald, nee Carrie Hammond, of the mission of the Marathe Provinces, telling me of her arrival in London on her way to New Brunswick. She has been over eleven years on the field. The voyage thus far has been a pleasant one to her, and she was greatly refreshed.

I need not add that I have since enjoyed some pleasant hours with this devoted and successful missionary. She sails from Halifax in about ten days.

MRS. T. H. RAND.

13 Gordon Street, Gordon Sq.,

London, May 3rd, 1890.

THE *India Watchman* challenges the production of one heathen nation with clean morals in actual life. It says, "Heathen man of all castes, though married, do not count fidelity to wife or wives as of any moment. We have known wives and daughters to be sold, pawned, or made over to other men for debt for a time."