

demand her for the vile service of the temple, but he would not yield, and instead begged the missionary to receive and protect her, saying: "For years I have watched the 200 Christian girls of your school go back and forth, and I never have seen an unhappy face among them; I want my daughter to be like them."

Mrs. BARROWS, a missionary of the *American Board*, said in an address:—When the missionaries first came to India, they were looked upon with contempt. Their religion was a mushroom of yesterday, compared with the Hindu religion, as old as the Ganges and the Himalayas; the Christian religion was considered not only young, but also as immoral; for did not Englishmen claim to be Christians, and yet were not the army and civil service in India filled with open wickedness? But gradually, during these long years of Christian work, it has come to be understood by the more intelligent and honest among them, that all Europeans are not truly Christians, and the fruits of Christianity as evidenced by the truly religious, are making more and more of an impression upon them. Among the native newspapers are many violent haters of Christianity, and when the famine broke out last year, and the mission compounds were gradually filled with children, orphaned by starvation, these newspapers cried out that the missionaries, unable to satisfy themselves with the number of converts gained by argument, were trying to make India Christian by taking possession of the children! Years ago, this would have elicited no reply from the non-Christian press. But I myself read, in a Hindu journal, a denial of this, and a statement that in feeding and caring for the hungry, the Christians show themselves more full of pity than the maharajahs, who, although their treasuries are filled with silver, neither built shelters for the destitute nor provided them food. And the article contained these words: "If you desire to find the noblest examples of true charity, you must not look to Hinduism, but to Christianity." "The noblest types of character yet evolved by our race are found among many of the Christian missionaries in India." These quotations from a Hindu newspaper show that gifts, whether of money or of lives, are fruit, and are accepted as such by the non-Christian world.

"SHE'S SO CLOSE."

The *Culver Missionsblatt* relates an amusing story given by a missionary. He was at home, and with a friend stopped to dinner with a wealthy, childless farmer pair, who had been present at the previous missionary meeting, and seemed much interested in it. The missionary's friend informed him that this couple had formerly been active and liberal Christians, but had of late years seemed wholly taken up in money making. However, they received the two gentlemen with great cordiality, took their admonition as to the danger of wordliness in excellent part, and inquired eagerly after additional missionary news. At last when the farmer chanced to be out of the room, his wife slipped a gold piece into their hands, whispering: "Take this, but don't let my husband know it; he is so close." When they took leave, the husband went with one way, and on parting, put a gold piece in their hands, saying: "Don't let my wife know of this; she is so close." Let us hope that when they found each other out they resolved to keep on crucifying mammon.

THE ALABASTER BOX.

BY REV. ELIZA L. BROWN.

We read of Mary's precious gift to Christ,
The alabaster box of ointment sweet,
And ponder on its deep significance,
If Christ should come into our midst to-day,
Would any render unto him, we ask,
Such costly offering, in devotion true?
"Many shall come from out the east, the west,
And sit down in the kingdom," Jesus said;
And of the deed of mercy:—"Inasmuch
As ye have done it unto one of these
My brethren, ye have done it unto me."
So, in the present, consecrated lives
Are bearing priceless treasures unto him.
They bring the gifts of warm and loving hearts:
Of humble duty in the lowly place:—
Of cultured mind and growing intellect:—
Of eloquence;—of strong, heroic deed.

Oft in the light of some great sacrifice
 Prompted by love to God, and love to man,
 So moved are hearts of those less dutiful
 They humbly of themselves "Unworthy!" cry.

And ye who turn, from pleasure and from self,
To overburdened souls, with help and cheer;
Or go, perchance with tears and aching hearts
To bear the message heavenly to those
Who sit in sorrow or in darkness drear,
In this, or lands beyond the seas, ye break,
Through love to Christ the alabaster box
Of worth untold! As incense evermore
Rises the influence of your gracious deeds

And unto these who by all waters sow,
In faith and patience such as Jesus taught,
And in obedience to His command,
"Go into all the world, the gospel preach,"—
The Psalmist's lofty and inspired strains
Give an assurance blessed:—"He who goes
With weeping, bearing forth the precious seed,
Shall come again rejoicing, bringing sheaves!"
Christian Missionary.

LIBERTY, INDIANA.

DR. DOWNIE, in the *Baptist Missionary Magazine*, tells of an interesting baptismal scene which took place in an out-station at Nellore, called Rebala. "It is a jungle village where a little handful of Christians have been struggling for a long time to get a little chapel and school house of their own. We promised them a door and window if they would do the rest, and when we went out to the dedication we could hardly avoid sharing the manifest pride the poor people had in showing us the house they had built to the Lord. It was only a mud hut covered with palmyra leaves, but we doubt if Solomon felt any prouder at the dedication of the temple. A church will be organized as soon as the people are able and willing to call and support their own pastor, which, we think, will be very soon."

The *Church Missionary Intelligencer*, in its last issue, gives a very touching story of missionary zeal. "A box held by a poor woman, who hawks tapes and needles, was opened lately in a parish near Birmingham, and proved to contain 22 threepennybits, 85 pennies, and 21 halfpennies—a total of 128 coins, the value of which was 13s. 5d. This was the result of holding the box for six months, not for a year, and seems almost parallel to the giving of the widow in the days of our Lord."