

raise suspicions that would seriously interfere with the future of our work. Many of the people are up in arms. The wisest, best, and most prudent attitude for the converts is to keep quiet and be careful: just what they are doing.... 5. Great changes will take place before this reaches you. Still, as there will be no change in the Lord of Hosts, I ask every soul in dear Canada who loves the Lord Jesus to pray for poor oppressed Formosa: I mean prayer with the heart, not mere words, but fervent believing prayer.... Let there not be in Canada a single word about discouragement, not one word of fear or of sentimental pity. Rather let there be a healthy, robust, and vigorous faith in Him who leads us under the blood-stained banner; yes, in Him who leads us to victory. Let us do our duty, even as earnestness and common sense would dictate. God, our God will do His part. Then let us pray, and do our best, waiting for the salvation of our God. April 6th. All quiet at Tamsui; no more plundering. Our two houses at Tamsui, Oxford College, Girls' School, and Hospital, remain untouched.... The French occupy the Mission house on Palm Island.... Now I trust that the Church will give the right ring when the way is opened for our return to Formosa. For God's sake, let there not be even a whisper about discouragement.... I am now recovered. I am ready again by God's grace and help for counting bricks, for weighing lime, for erecting chapels, for travelling over mountain and valley, for preaching and teaching, as in the past.... Let us stand true as the everlasting hills in trying times. Never let it be said that we work and toil and give only when all is smooth. Now is the time to stand by and for the Lord's work. All well here now...." In a letter of earlier date Dr. Mackay says: "I am still trying to get back on board of a French man-of-war. If I could, no one would go at present by myself. I am not waiting for either peace or war, but only for an opportunity of returning to beloved Formosa. Mr. and Mrs. Jamieson are busy studying the language, which they can do better here than they could at Tamsui in existing circumstances.... I am drilling two students here every day, and am strong again. It is trying to be away from the dear converts; but God reigns."

Since these communications were received, a telegram from Dr. Mackay lets us know that he has had the desire of his heart granted him in being enabled to return to Formosa: "Tamsui, April 21. Got back. Converts faithful. Don't send missionary." [A later telegram received while the General Assembly was in session conveyed the joyful intelligence,—*"Five hundred more converts: ordained two native pastors!"*]

The names of Dr. Mackay's 34 preaching stations where chapels have been erected were given in the *Record* for January. At every one of these places a native preacher or teacher has been labouring; and your Committee cherish the hope that, when full intelligence is received,

it will be found that, in the most of them, the work has been going on even during the war.

### III. CENTRAL INDIA.

Rev. J. Fraser Campbell, Mhow, who has been in charge of the Mission at Mhow for seven years, is still in Canada on furlough. He and Mrs. Campbell have, since their return to Canada, visited many churches in all parts of the Dominion; and, from the attention with which their addresses have been heard in congregations, W. P. M. Societies, and Sabbath schools, it is confidently hoped that the interest in Foreign Missions may be extended and deepened throughout our land.

The Mission staff at Mhow consists of Rev. Messrs. Campbell, Builder and Wilson; Mr. Thomas Middleton, Schoolmaster and preacher, Miss Stockbridge, Miss Minnie Stockbridge, Miss Katie Stockbridge and seven native assistants. It is probable that ere this time Mr. Builder has removed to Indore to take part in the work there, leaving Mr. Wilson in charge of the mission at Mhow. "In reviewing the work of the past year," says Mr. Builder, "for the purpose of estimating its progress, there is a feeling of disappointment at the actual results, though this is greatly relieved by the many hopeful signs that have been observed. Some slight opposition on two occasions has been experienced from Brahmin officials, but this has been by no means the usual reception accorded to the preaching of the Word in the villages round about. Wherever the workers have gone they have been, as a rule, kindly received, and in many cases have been invited to come again and explain further the things concerning Christ. Several have come as earnest inquirers; some seeking the loaves and fishes; others for the purpose of disputation, usually asking the question, 'What is religion and what is not religion?' and still others more or less sincere, who shrink, principally on account of family ties, from the open confession of Christ. Concerning this latter class, Mr. Middleton, preacher, says: 'There are in Mhow many Hindoos and Mohammedans who are willing to be secretly baptized.' He even ventured to say there are a hundred such persons. However this may be, such willingness on the part of some, though unsatisfactory, is an indication of struggling towards the light, and we can only hope that their groping may issue in their finding Him who is not far from every one of us."

"In connection with school work also the outlook is hopeful, but we are very much in need of efficient teachers. In two villages the Fatels or head men give houses free of rent for school purposes, and other places are ready to receive us as kindly. Had we only a sufficient number of competent Christian teachers, we could very largely control the education of the youth in the villages at least. Public opinion is also growing in favor of female education. A short time ago the people in a village about one mile from Mhow asked that a girl's school