

desire is to bring within reach of Gospel influences, written and spoken, such of them as may be tempted to forget the claims of that religion which at home they more or less practiced. Committees exist in most of the large towns of Scotland as well as in India, and a great work is carried on by means of this society, which is worthy of the support of all who look for the coming of the kingdom of Christ.

In "Regions Beyond" Mr. H. Grattan Guinness continues to tell of the services of those who, under the auspices of East London Institute for Home and Foreign Missions, have devoted their lives to foreign work. Various articles of interest are contributed by workers and sympathizers, and reference is once more made to the Bombay conference in a short contribution on "Missionaries and Public Morals in India."

The report of the Free Church Mission Institution and Madras Christian College for the year 1892 is worthy of perusal. Everything relating to the staff, duties, finances, etc., for the mission is here detailed, and to all interested in foreign mission work in the Presidency, an idea, through reading this report, may be gained of the success of this institution at present as in the past.

ONE result of the Bombay Conference has been the inauguration of a magazine which, it is hoped, will act as a quarterly greeting from one worker to another of those who are engaged in service under the auspices of the Church of Scotland in India and Ceylon. It has been designated, appropriately, *Saint Andrew*, and the first number contains an interesting article by Dr. Herdman, Melrose, —his recollections of forty to fifty years ago when he was himself in India. His remarks on the "Sweep" of 1843 will be read with curiosity. The editor of this new venture does not aim at great things, but it would be a pity if a periodical such as this failed for lack of support. Rev. J. O. Graham, Kalimpong, is editor. — Christian Leader

The Foreign Mission Secretary, Rev. R. P. MacKay received a letter from Rev. Norman Russell, last week in which the necessities of his field are forcibly stated. He refers to the wholly inadequate accommodation, the inconveniences of which is especially felt in the hot weather; and to the need of additional help in carrying on the work. Mr. Russell presses the claims of his mission and makes a strong case. He reports all well.

A Hundred Missionaries in Council.

THE International Missionary Union held its tenth annual session at Clifton Springs, N. Y. This is an organization of returned Missionaries of all evangelical churches, whether at home temporarily or permanently, and seeks by this annual gathering to promote mutual sympathy and co-operation. They come from the ends of the earth, having a community of interest, although personally unknown to each other, and here they compare views, recount experiences, examine methods of work, discuss educational, evangelistic and benevolent plans, and seek to promote a deeper spirituality.

It boldly and unhesitatingly declares its convictions on any and all subjects pertaining to missionary work and policy in all lands. There are connected with the union about 500 members. These represent the American and Canadian societies, also the English Baptist, Wesleyan and China inland missions. This year there were present 105 from the following fields, viz.: Assam, Burma, India, China, Japan, Siam, Turkey, Syria, Persia, Bulgaria, Italy, Africa, Mexico, North American Indians, West Indies, Guatemala, Paraguay and Micronesia, a cosmopolitan company whose Christian service amounted to 1,159 years. While the union is international, it is also inter-denominational, and these 105 were from fifteen different mission boards, and so completely were all denominational lines lost during the seven days of meetings and discussions that a minister was heard to say: "I have made this meeting a careful study, and with all who have taken part I have failed to discover one reference that

would lead me to distinguish the denominational tendency of any speaker."

Three services were held each day, the first hour being devoted to a devotional service, while the remaining time was given to reading papers and discussing missionary theories, and the evenings to addresses of a more popular character. The first service was of a peculiar but intensely interesting nature known as the "Recognition" meeting, in which Missionaries give their names, their fields, years of service, class of work, and thus make an acquaintance with each other at the very outset of the week.

From the following subjects an idea can be had of important matters that came up for consideration, viz.: "The attitude of the Moslem mind toward Christianity," "The Church of Rome an obstacle to the Gospel in heathendom," "The duty of the British and United States governments to ward protection of missionary interests in Turkey," "Dervish Partheism," "Hindrances to missionary work in Japan," "The Chinese Exclusion bill and its bearings on missionary interests in China," "Bantu Superstitions," "Traces of pure religion in heathendom," etc. — Interior.

Canadian Foreign Missions.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee held last week a letter was read from Miss E. McWilliams, of India, who is now seeking health in the Himalayas, and her many friends will be delighted to read the following extracts:

"I feel much stronger and better. This holiday at the hills has been indeed a grateful one to us all, and I am sure we will go back stronger bodily, mentally, and spiritually, than when we came. During the past two weeks I seem to be getting stronger every day, and now feel more like my old Canadian self than I have for months."

"I feel I owe very much to the prayers of my brother and sister missionaries in the field. That week of which I speak was the last week of our Council meeting at Mhow, and not only were special prayers for my recovery offered, but the missionaries met in the evening for special prayer in my behalf."

"I cannot tell you how very kind they otherwise were through it all."

The following extracts from a letter from Rev. Norman Russell from Mhow, will be, on the other hand, read with a feeling of disappointment and sorrow:

"Three of my families have defected and gone over to the Roman Catholic Church."

"The Roman Catholic Church in India always hang around the other missions and buy up stragglers. One of my men was paid 60 rupees, another, I think, 50 rupees for becoming a Roman Catholic, I do not know how much the third is to get. Then one of our late converts they have been trying to get, but God is watching over him and though he is very poor he will not go."

"You can't imagine what weak material we have to deal with; they are like a band of children, and have to be watched and cared for as children."

"I only fear we will have a good deal of trouble in our future church through not giving them sufficient attention and training now. You must send us more men, what with the Roman Catholics to fight and Christians to train and our ordinary school and evangelistic work to undertake, we can't do it. I have not probably felt so weak since I came to India as I do now. I have had a hard summer with chaplaincy work added to my other work. I have had Bible classes all through the hottest part of the season and never a day free at any time. I am looking for word from you about the chaplaincy. If you can't send a man for the work I will have to give it up though I see no one else to take hold of it."

These extracts are taken from a letter that probably Mr. Russell did not intend for the public. But surely the Church ought to know the facts which are simply these, that our missionaries are under burdens that constantly tax their strength to the utmost, and that there is danger of some breakdown that will greatly increase the difficul-

ties of the situation. But this is not the worst. Read the following:

"I was pained the other day when Miss Jamieson took me to the place in old Ncemuch, where she has to carry on school work. It is open above; it stinks like a sewer, and it is poorly situated, and yet two or three thousand rupees (\$700 to \$1,000) would give a fairly passable building here."

"Dr. Buchanan's building in Nijain is a very unfit place for a European to work in, and our own school in Mhow is very poor."

These are then the conditions in which the great Presbyterian Church in Canada allows her missionaries to try and do their work. They are in some cases living and spending hours daily, teaching and dispensing, in such buildings as a respectable farmer would not think suitable for his cattle. It is simply deplorable that it should be so, and yet it is so to-day and has been so for years. It is neither economy, nor humanity, nor Christianity, to organize men and women of culture and refinement to meet the necessary difficulties of a tropical climate and squalid heathenism, without at least the ordinary comforts of suitable buildings in which to live and work. However, it must in fairness be said that the Church has not been acquainted with the facts. Wherever the blame lies, there is an impression abroad that our missionaries are luxuriating in oriental extravagancies. When the truth becomes known the evils will come to an end. Notwithstanding all this Mr. Russell adds: "If it came to a choice, I think I would prefer more men even to new buildings—in Mhow at least." These are surely the words of a man whose heart is in the work and places the salvation of souls first.

One quotation more, which gives a little of the brighter side.

"We have had six baptisms during the past two months, and another very interesting case is awaiting baptism—a Sadoo, holy man—who gives an excellent testimony."

The Rev. R. MacLennan is to be ordained by the Maitland Presbytery at Kincardine, on the 25th inst. Mr. MacLennan goes to Honan.

Mrs. Jessie Grier was designated to work in India, on the evening of the 20th inst., in Westminster Church, Toronto, of which she has been a member for eight years.

No appointment has yet been made to Alberni.

A communication was read from the Rev. P. M. Morrison, intimating the death of Mrs. McKenzie, of Fate, which occurred a few weeks after their return from Sydney—which is one of the saddest of the many sad afflictions that have fallen upon the New Hebrides' Mission in recent days. R. P. MACKAY.

ST. ANDREW'S Sunday school, Stratford, held their annual picnic in the Queen's Park, there being present about 200 scholars with teachers and friends, making about 400 in all. Young and old seemed happy enjoying themselves to the full, especially at the long tables which groaned under the good things provided by the ladies, along with cream and lemonade. The usual games were participated in, but not least among the enjoyments, was the transportation to and fro under the charge of Messrs. Caven and Yemmen, Hepburn & White giving their team free and Brothers & Farrow the waggon at the same rate.

The annual picnic under the auspices of the W. F. M. S. in connection with the Beechwood congregation was held in the church grounds on Monday, July 3rd, and proved to be a decided success. About 5 p. m. the people began to arrive, one carriage load after another came until there were about five hundred present. The ladies of the congregation served supper from 5.30 until eight and deserve the greatest credit both for the quantity and quality of the repast prepared. The entertainment was held in the church. Rev. Mr. Elliot, pastor of the congregation, occupied the chair, in his usual able manner. Addresses were delivered by Rev. Elliot and Messrs. Campbell and Waters. Readings by Rev. Elliot and Miss N. Anderson and music by Mrs. Elliot and Messrs. Tilden, Fuller and Lumby and Mr. Tilden. The proceeds amounted to the handsome sum of fifty-three dollars and seventy cents.