

## MISSION FIELD.

## S. P. G. NOTES FOR OCTOBER

Hampshire has had some more of its successful garden meetings. One was held by the invitation of Sir William and Lady Parker, of Blackbrook House, which was marred somewhat by bad weather. Another was held at Malshanger on the invitation of Mrs. Wyndham Portal, which was addressed by Sir Charles Turner, K.C.L.E., late Chief Justice of Madras, who begged his hearers to recollect how big India was.

"It was as large as Europe, excepting Russia, and the population was 200 000 000 under British rule, and 50 000 under native rule. Down near Bengal and the Ganges the population was 750 per square mile, being the densest rural population of any country in the world. Sir Charles proceeded to give a sketch of the origin of Aryan race and an account of their principal religious notions, from which it appeared that they had a system of natural religion, which was afterwards corrupted by their priests. A conspicuous feature of Hindoo society was the strong family ties which bound them together, and these ties constituted a difficulty which the Missionary had to deal with."

The Hon. Egerton Hubbard, M. P., who has since succeeded to the peerage on the lamented death of his father, as Lord Addington, said:—

"I think everybody will allow that the object of all philosophy and all religion is happiness, and that every person of sense and feeling ought to try and share his happiness with other people. If we care for a thing, we are willing to pay in purse or person for it. We boast of our Christianity; but do we pay in purse or person for it? In 1887 the income of this Society was £109 000. Last year it was £138 000, but the increase was due to the fact that one person gave £25 000 and another £2 500. We are face to face with the sad conclusion that among a population of 38 000 000 we do not raise for this purpose a shilling per family all the year round. One man won £60 000 last year in stakes in horse racing alone, and the exports of beer and spirits alone amounted to £2 200 000, which was sent to Africa and India and other parts of the world, where the use of spirits was known to drive the people nearly mad, while only £130 000 was sent to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel for the purpose of teaching these poor creatures to be sober and temperate. There are other societies doing the same work. This Society is in want of £25 000 a year more."

On August 19th another meeting was held at the Wakes, Selborne, on the invitation of General and Mrs. W. Chas. Parr. The Earl of Selborne presided. His lordship spoke of the duty incumbent upon all to take their share in the conversion of the heathen.

"Everyone should be a Mission-

ary, at least in will, and should do all that is possible to promote the cause of Missions by prayer and almsgiving if in no other way. It was a Divine command to preach the Gospel to every creature. The only power that can make good men, good women, and good children too, was the power of Christianity." His lordship then reviewed the progress of the Missions of the Church, showing that by them the United States of America, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand were, at any rate in profession, Christian. He spoke of the Mission work in the Islands of the Pacific, and of the late Bishop Selwyn's wise method of preaching the Gospel.

"Japan and even China are breaking through the old traditions of hostility to Europeans, and thus openings exist in those countries for teaching the Faith, and opportunities are afforded us now which we ought not to be slow to seize. By helping with our prayers and our alms the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel we shall be doing much to carry on the work of the Church and to bring the nations of the world to the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."

## INDIA.

The ten days' Mission at Poona, at the end of last August was a great success.

On August 21st, the Bishop of Lahore held a Confirmation in Christ Church, Simla. There were 25 candidates presented by the Archdeacon, and four by the Chaplain of Jutogh, making total of 29 in all—thirteen males and sixteen females.

On Sunday, August 25th, the Bishop of Lahore held a Confirmation in the School Chapel of Bishop Cotton's School, at Simla, when 23 of the boys (including nine of the choir) were presented.

The Bishop of Lahore left Simla on August 30th, arriving at Sabah on the following day. His Lordship held a Confirmation there on September 1st (11th Sunday after Trinity), and left early in the week for Lahore, en route for Murree, returning thence to Lahore on September 14th.

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