

that colony had, previous to the year 1883, made several attempts to begin mission work among these coolies, but these had failed, principally because Christian men suitable for the work could not be obtained in the colony. In that year their attention was directed to the work of our mission in Trinidad, and they requested that a missionary from Canada be sent to Demerara, promising to pay one-half of his salary and all expenses connected with schools and buildings.

In consequence of this appeal, the Rev. John Gibson, a graduate of Knox College, Toronto, was chosen for this new field, and after spending some time in Trinidad to acquire the language and some knowledge of the work, he arrived in Demerara in the spring of 1885. He laboured there with much diligence and increasing hope of usefulness for three and a-half years, when he was suddenly removed by death. No missionary was sent to succeed him, because the Presbyterian Mission Council of the colony resolved, owing to financial difficulties, to try to carry on the work by employing catechists to labour under the direction of their ministers, so that our Church has no longer any special connection with this colony. Our sketch of the mission to the East Indians flocking to our Western shores would, however, be incomplete without a brief mention of the faithful labours of Mr. and Mrs. Gibson.

Their work was carried on from three centres at each of which regular services and Sabbath schools were held each Lord's day, and also day schools at which religious instruction was carefully given. Eleven estates and twelve hospitals were visited from time to time for the purpose of teaching the way of salvation to all who would listen. Christian literature was freely distributed, the desire for it, and the demand for Bibles, both in Hindi and English, proving, beyond a doubt, that the good seed was being silently sown, which, according to God's promise, would not return to Him void.

Mr. Gibson's last report, received shortly before he was