MISSION FIELD.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE S. P. G.

The Archbishop of Canterbury presided on Thursday at the annual meeting of the S.P.G., at St James' There was a very much poorer attendance than usual.

The report stated that the gross income of the Society for the past year had been £125 098 198 7d The cost of deputations exceeded that of last year. The Society has 646 or dained missionaries, of whom 124 are natives, 2,300 lay teachers 2 650 students in its colleges 38,000 child ren in mission schools in Asia and Africa The report mentions that the Rev. A. Maclaren, a clergyman with ten years experience of c lo nial life, had been sent as the first mi-sionary of our Church to New Guinea, and the consecration of Dr. Corfe as the Missiouary Bishop of New Corea. The report suggests that the se parts of Africa being col-onised by the Lake Companies is the next territory for the Courch to occupy, and the Bishop of Bloemfon tein has already drawn the Society s attention to the matter. Mission work was expanding greatly in India and Madagascar, while the work was developing greatly in Japan. The Soc ety had lest this year nine vice presidents-Bishops Lightfoot, Mackerness, Rawle, and Surgent, Lord Addengton, Canon Harvey; the Rev B Edwards, the patriarch of the English clergy; Mr Robert Pryor, and Mr. Loftus Wig ram. The committee express satis faction at the foundation of the Bishopric of Chota Nagpore, and give interesting details of the work being carried on in India. They bespeak the sympathy of the Cuurch for the afflicted widowed diocese of Zululand. The operations of the Society in Australia next come under review. The aged Bishop of Fred ericton reports tavorably of the wo k of the Church which has met him on all sides in his extended visitation, and after a survey of the foreign mission field in every part of the gl be the committee b. iefly summa ise the operations of the Society in connection with foreign chaplain.

Bishop Smythics gave some inter esting particulars as to h s work in He touched on the Portu-Africa. gueso difficulty, and said emphatically that it was untrue that Africans would not work if proporly treated

and paid. The Bishop of Corea made a straitforward statement as to his position. He had not yet found a beneficed clergyman to resign his living, any cloric with private means, or any Fellow of a college who would join him for nothing, but a med cal man offered to work with him gratuitously for two years. He had only secured a solitary deacon, and he was in doubt whether he ought to leave England at once, or still linger in the hope of securing a staff. He had hard work before him in learning two difficult languages, and merchants said that after forty-and he was considerably more - the acquiring of Chinese was a most arduous undertaking. He asked those present for BEST MEDIUM, FOR ADVERTISING their prayers.

The Rev. R Whitehead, Principal of B shop's College, Calcutta, spoke on the importance of education, and said that India would never be converted except by her own sons. While the present system of educat on was doing what hitherto it had taken centuries to accomplish, it was to be feared the people were being brought up as clever infidels. The Hindoes were, however, a religious people and he had seen in Ludia what he had never seen in England -a cabman saying his prayers in public He gave some details as to the progress and work of religious education in India. They had the germ of a complete system, but their schools needed to be increased in numbers and efficiency B shop s College, as an educational centre, would as time went on, be a tower of strength to the Indian Church. He said that converts were coming in as rap diy as it was desirable, and Christianity was making more way than Hindooism or Mohammedanism

The Rev. H M Joseph, a black priest from Autigua said that those who were the backbone of the West Indian Church were descendants of Africans, and he had, therefore, listened with pleasure to the defense of Africans by Bishop Smythies. The Caurch must work, wait, and pray, and not give way to despair. But at the same time, as in policies you must agita'e, agitate, agitate, if you would carry your measures. So you must in missionary work. The Church is a sell existing machine, a distinct Personality, no doubt a great mystery, but she has power to propagate herself. He gave some account of Church work in the West India Islands. The Rev. J E Marks, Princ pal of St John's, Ran goon followed.



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