

deck a Christian triumph. What all the artillery power of Great Britain would not dare to drag from a Hindu temple, hands which had ministered at those very altars, and afterward been lifted up in holy adoration to the risen Christ, brought now to indicate the thralldom which had been left behind forever. There were Indian Christians in that hall who had bowed before just such images. While looking at the large image of Ram, his victorious bow and arrows in his hand, the writer was thrilled by the words of a woman who said as she came and stood before the idol: 'So here you are, old Ram—here's where I find you? What power do you claim now?' This was said in the vernacular, and to the question, 'Did you use to worship this?' the woman said: 'I have been a Christian many years, but when a child of seven or eight years I often was taken by my parents to join

in the worship of this idol.' Truly such are the places the anti-missionary tourist should visit.

"In addition to the idols there were among the trophies all manner of discarded fetishes and objects of superstitious veneration—rosaries and necklaces; begging bowls and sacred tridents, the emblem of Hinduism; flags with mystic devices which had flapped in the breeze over thousands of fanatical heads; vessels which for generations, perhaps, had done service in temple rites and ceremonies; great mats of artificial hair, worn as a distinctive badge by religious devotees; amulets and charms and instruments of self-torture; baskets borne by Hindu pilgrims for the purpose of carrying sacred water from the Ganges; all these and many more, too numerous to mention here, met the eye of the visitor. Nearly everything of interest was labeled, so that those who desired information could readily get it."

Prize Examinations in the Bible

A Novel Method of Evangelization in India

BY REV. F. H. LEVERING.

SOMEWHAT more than a year ago a native Christian, a member of the Methodist Episcopal Mission in India, conceived the idea of inducing non-Christians of the Hyderabad State to study the Scriptures. He raised a considerable sum of money, organized a managing committee, consisting of missionaries and Christian gentlemen of the vicinity, and laid his plan before them. I am a member of the committee. His proposals were approved, except that the committee decided that more money be raised and separate prizes be given to native Christians. The prizes were in Mahaboop Sica Rupees (as the Nizam's new coinage is named) and amounted to Rs. 570. To non-Christians they

made excuse and did not come; he went and secured others; when he read the parable of the great supper, he saw the Bible to be for all.

The result of the first year's work has been more than we dared hope. The plans for the coming year provide for prizes totaling Rs. 675; sixteen are offered to non-Christians, and eleven to Christians. The subjects for examination are to be chosen from both the Old and the New Testaments, and there are also passages to be memorized. The examinations are to be conducted in English, Urdu, Telugu, Canarese, Marathi and Tamil, and will be held in all the mission stations within the Nizam's Dominions. If they desire, can-

were to be awarded as follows: one prize of Rs. 100, one of Rs. 75, two of Rs. 50, two of Rs. 25, and four of Rs. 15; to Christians, two prizes of Rs. 75, and two of Rs. 12.8. The offer resulted in a spirited competition in which a number of contestants took part.

When the plan was inaugurated, what the result would be, other than inducing a number of persons to study the Bible, could not be foreseen, but our hopes were large. Mr. Paul has sent me a printed report, from which I gather some interesting facts.

1. The Hindu papers denounced the plan as a scheme to induce non-Christians to study the Bible; that the prizes never would be paid; etc.

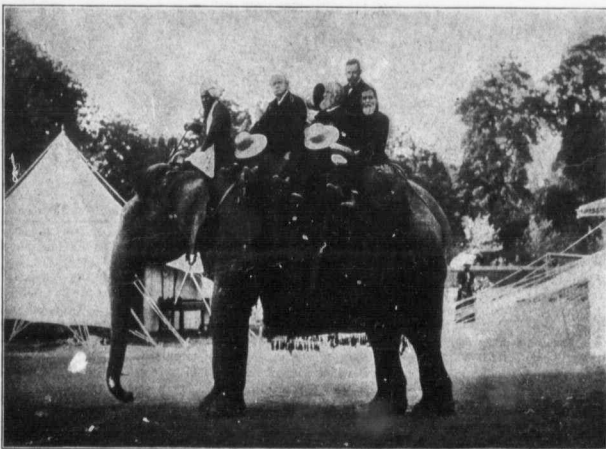
2. The four highest marks were obtained by non-Christians.

3. Before the results were announced, two examinees (young men) were baptized, and are active Christians.

4. Five others have become interested in Bible study and have joined an English Sunday School. Two gave up caste marks and idol worship. Their parents withdrew them from the study class in which they were preparing for the examination, but they are still studying.

5. The father of one Mohammedan student for the examination began to read the Bible his son was using, became interested and bought one for his own use.

6. Another man said he had always believed the Bible to be an American or European production; that some time before, he had made a feast and invited his friends; they all



Travelling in India

didates will be prepared for the examinations free of charge, at any mission station, by the missionary of the place. It is a most interesting experiment, and one which has already proved its value.—*Secunderabad, South India.*

THERE is a great need for medical mission work in India. It is estimated by Sir William Moore that not five per cent. of the population is reached by the present system of medical aid. Even in the great cities, where there are hospitals and dispensaries more than half the people die unattended in sickness, either by educated doctor or native quack. What must be the condition in the 566,000 villages without even a native doctor?