

Young People's Department.



OUTDOOR TEACHING IN KAFFRARIA.

LUCY AND HER FAMILY.

A SCENE IN KAFFRARIA.

FROM S. P. G. REWARD BOOK.

THERE have been missionaries in Kaffraria for many years, and several natives have become Christians, while others who have not actually done so have left off some of the worst of their heathen ways, and learned to clothe themselves, and work at useful trades; but these seem but few compared to the thousands who are still ignorant of the true religion. One of the four oldest missionary stations is called St. Mark's, and the people of whom I am going to tell you lived near it; and at St. Augustine's, another station in the same country, but further to the north. The first whom I shall mention is Lucy Umto.

It is very many years since Lucy became a Christian. Not very long after her marriage she and her husband went to live on a Wesleyan mission station, and were baptized, when she received her name of Lucy. They do not seem to have learned many civilized habits there, and after a few years they—with a child who afterwards died young—left the station and moved to a kraal

(village) near the river Tine, under the chief, Umhlonhlo, where their eldest girl was born. When about sixteen months old she had a dangerous illness and was supposed to be dead. The Kafirs have so great a horror of having a dead body in the hut at night that they bury it at once, often digging the grave before the spirit has actually departed. In this case the child was wrapped up in what little clothing it had and carried to the grave, but just as they were about to put it in, the little thing moved, and when the men undid the grave-clothes, behold, she was alive. She was therefore taken home and received the name of Nosiyingi (a hole). Her parents do not seem to have sought baptism for their child, being probably too careless and ignorant to value the blessing.

Some time afterwards a war broke out between Umhlonhlo's tribe and another in the neighborhood called the Bacas. The quarrel began in this way. One night the horses belonging to the chief's uncle were found in the people's gardens with their manes and tails clipped. This was intended to act as a charm and make them weak in war. Great preparations were made for war, and the witch-doctor was sent for to give the people charms and