

## MISSION STUDIES.

### Beginning of the Indore Mission.

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*(Third Paper.)*

Immediately after their arrival in India, the attention of our lady missionaries was called to Indore as being an excellent opening for the establishment of an independent mission should our Church feel able to undertake one, and both they and the American missionaries, in their letters to the Foreign Mission Committee, described it as a most inviting field for missionary labour. In consequence, as soon as satisfactory arrangements could be made for commencing so important a mission, it was decided to do so. Of this mission I propose to give you some account, entering most fully upon its early history, with which most of the young people belonging to our Society are probably unacquainted; but first I must tell you a little about the country and its inhabitants.

The ancient kingdom of Malwa, better known as the Mahratta country, is that part of Central India lying to the south-west of the valley of the Ganges, and east of the northern part of the province of Bombay. It is now divided into several semi-independent states, each having its own ruler and laws, but under British protection and supervision. Indore is one of the most important of these states. The Vindhya mountains cross it from east to west, and so does the Nerbudda river, which flows through a very fertile valley, which is one of the finest wheat-growing districts of the Empire. Indore is also the name of the chief city, in which the Maharaja Holkar and the British Agent Governor-General reside. It is a fine city, with from 70,000 to 80,000 inhabitants. The houses are mostly built of wood, two storeys high, the upper storey projecting and resting on pillars