

be welcomed, and may render important service.

ENGLAND.—We have before us a circular issued, on behalf of our college, to the friends in England, by the Principal and Secretary, Drs. Stevenson and Cornish, and endorsed by the Secretaries of the English Union and Colonial Missionary Society, Dr. Hannay and Mr. Fielden. The Principal and Secretary are in England as we write. Their efforts to interest the English friends, we trust, will be successful, and we hope on their return to hear some words of information and of cheer.

THE Weekly Health Bulletin continues to give the summary of Provincial health. The summer has been abnormally cool, the nights especially so. On the whole we have been free from serious epidemics. A few cases of Cholera Morbus are reported, with decreasing percentage as the month passes. The great rain-fall threatens, should the current month (August) and the following be dry and hot, serious consequences unless sanitary measures, which really mean cleanliness, are attended to. Intermittent fever is the prevailing trouble along the lake Erie shores; Diarrhoea among the nine inland counties. Thus far, August has been cool, and the dreaded effects of the long continued early rains not much felt.

A POINTED QUESTION.

Saul, his eyes cleared of their three days' blindness, is looking into the face of Ananias, and Ananias is marking out for him his life-work. "The God of our fathers hath chosen thee, that thou shouldst know His will, and see that Just One, and shouldst hear the voice of His mouth. For thou shalt be His witness unto all men of what thou hast seen and heard." Then comes the pointed question: "And now why tarriest thou?"

The significance of that question we can, perhaps, better appreciate than the one who asked it. We who have before our eyes the story of Paul's magnificent life are in a better position than was Ananias to understand how much poorer the world would have been for Paul's delay. Some men's Christianity is so rich and full, so penetrated by a thrilling,

throbbing vitality, that mankind grows richer with every day they live.

"Better fifty years of Europe than a cycle of Cathay," says Tennyson, when contrasting the life of the vigorous Western world with that of the sluggish East. Better *one* year of Paul than a cycle of the lazy, luxurious self-content in which much of our Christianity allows itself to bask. In the light of subsequent history, the whole world, from London to Japan, might stand with Ananias in front of that little Jew in Damascus, asking the question, "And now why tarriest thou?"

This question is not out of season yet. It is Christ's interrogation to every one, whether professed Christian or not, in whom there are possibilities of usefulness as yet undeveloped. "Why tarriest thou?"

Do you wait for opportunity? Men sometimes have to wait for their work. The young doctor has to wait. He has finished his studies. His degree flames at the end of his name. He has chosen his field. He has filled his phials and sharpened his instruments. He has put in his advertisement, and put out his sign. And now he must wait—wait for his first patient, wait for his work. The settler on the prairie has often to wait. He has broken his land and sown his wheat, and that is all he can do now. He may be in sore need of the money his crop will bring. His children may find the bread growing scarcer and scarcer. But he must wait—wait till the harvest moon shines and the grain is ready.

Is there need of waiting in the world's great spiritual harvest field? What says our Lord Himself? "Say not ye, There are four months and then cometh harvest? Behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes and look on the fields, for they are white already to harvest." Here the harvest is always ready. The need is not work for the men, but men for the work; not opportunity to labour, but men earnest enough and brave enough to grasp the opportunities that throng us on every side. Of all the mischievous ideas which Satan uses to paralyze the work of Christ's kingdom, none is more mischievous than that which deceives men into regarding their life-work as a dream of the future rather than as a fact of the present. Waiting for opportunity! By your side sits an unconverted person. Is there not an opportunity there? Working in the same shop