

MHOW.

A large military cantonment is not regarded as usually a very hopeful field for missionary effort in India. The character of the camp-followers, and of the majority of Europeans, is found to exert a very unfavourable influence. Rev. J. F. Campbell has during the year had to labour on where these malign influences have had full opportunity to make themselves felt. He has not, however, been left without a measure of encouragement in his work. There have been a number of applications for baptism, but while several of them have inspired hope, Mr. Campbell has not seen his way to admit any of them into the fellowship of the Church. The only baptisms he reports are those of the child and grandchild of his catechist.

In October last, Mr. Campbell was happy in securing, through the kindness of Rev. Narayan Sheshadri, an excellent catechist who has proved a great comfort to him in his work. A school for boys with an average attendance of 31½ has been kept up, and Christian instruction has been imparted daily. Some of the boys have learnt the Scripture lessons with great accuracy, and the hope is cherished that in due time God's truth will exert its saving power in their hearts. A school for girls has also been sustained, but details concerning it have not been supplied. A Sabbath school, with an attendance ranging from 30 to 130, has also been kept up. A service in the vernacular has been conducted by Mr. Campbell and his catechists. The natives have evinced considerable interest in these services, and the attendance has ranged from twenty to seventy. Street preaching, itinerating through the surrounding villages and circulating portions of the Scripture are among the means which Mr. Campbell has employed to reach the people. Mr. Campbell calls attention to the necessity there is for more suitable mission buildings at Mhow. It is to be hoped that the liberality of the Church will supply the means at an early day to enable your Committee to provide buildings both at Indore and Mhow.

ZENANA WORK.

The ladies engaged in this department of work have found ready access to the homes of their heathen sisters. There does not appear to be any difficulty in finding more homes ready to welcome the ladies than they are able to visit regularly. Some indeed appear to be closed against them after a time, but more than they can overtake fully are still ready to receive them. Miss Fairweather reports that she has thirty-eight zenanas which are open to her. Miss McGregor reports the number which she visits as forty-nine. At Mhow, Miss Rodger visits thirty zenanas. In these one hundred and seventeen zenanas the average in each is four or five, but Miss McGregor remarks, "the average in each refers only to the members of the household, whereas it must be remembered that the dwellings are situated so very near one another, that the women from the zenanas gather in one house, making the average number of those who receive instruction weekly in each house from fifteen to twenty persons." These ladies have also all done more or less in teaching, Miss Fairweather conducting a boarding school with nine pupils at Indore, and Miss Rodger teaching the girls' school at Mhow. They have also visited a large number of villages and have had many opportunities of making known the way of salvation both to men and women who have come to converse with them.

Miss Forrester devoted herself chiefly to the acquisition of the Hindustani, but she was able to aid both in the boys' and girls' school, and also in various ways to assist Miss Rodger in her work. Your Committee have learned with much pleasure that on the 22nd February Miss Forrester was married to Rev. J. F. Campbell, and they feel assured that in her new sphere she will render not less important service to the mission cause than she would had she continued one of the regularly recognized members of the mission staff.

Your Committee had hoped to have sent during the present summer another zenana worker to Central India in the person of Miss A. Montgomery, of Charlottetown, P. E. I. This young lady having offered herself for service in India, the Committee last year, having received the highest testimony to her qualifications, very cordially agreed to accept her offer, provided suitable arrangements could be made for her employment and accommodation in India. This condition has been found more difficult to fulfil than was anticipated. Correspondence with the missionaries has failed, partly on account of the lack of suitable house accommodations to secure an opening for her immediate employment. This your Committee much regret, as it may deprive the Church of the services of one whom there is every reason to regard as specially fitted for usefulness in this department.

The following statement of the receipts and expenditure for the year deserves special attention. The prayer meeting is said to be the thermometer of the Church. Perhaps the finances of the Church's mission schemes supply a measure scarcely less accurate of the spiritual temperature.

FOREIGN MISSION, 1878-79.

RECEIPTS.

Received from Congregations, Sabbath Schools, etc	Legacies and donations,
including \$100 from Rev. G. L. McKay	\$17,051 62
Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of Presbyterian Church, (Western Section).	3,000 00