

No Faith in Krishna.

FROM MISS KIRKPATRICK.

San Fernando, Trinidad, July 16, 1892.

I have only been in Trinidad a short time, yet at Mr. Grant's request I will endeavour to write to you. My personal experience in the work is, of course, limited, yet the fruits of other labourers is seen, even among those who are not as yet recognized as Christians. To illustrate this fact, let me relate an incident which came under our notice not long since. Rampersad, a bright intelligent boy of twelve years of age, but the son of a Brahmin, was one day speaking of baptism. On being asked why he was not baptized, he replied: "My father belongs to a big or high nation and will not allow me. I asked him once and he told me if I ever mentioned it again he would turn me out of the house."

The god of his father is Krishna, the eighth incarnation of Vishnu the preserver. His birthday is supposed to be the 8th of August, and on this day all believers in Krishna fast. The sixth day after his birth is also sacred, and the seventh is a day of great merry-making. The object of his coming into the world was to destroy the demon Kans, but as Rampersad expresses it, "He was too wicked, and then he can't do anything, as he is only made of earth. He is not *my* god; my god is the one in heaven."

Thus we see that his faith in his father's god is destroyed, and can only hope that his father may shortly see the uselessness of trying to force him to worship that in which he has not belief, and consent to his being openly acknowledged as a Christian.

It is pleasing to note, however, that whilst many parents are not willing to have the children baptized, yet they are desirous of having them attend the Mission School. One morning a venerable looking man might be seen entering the school yard

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