

## Our Foreign Missions.

**Letters from the Field.** The letters this month are all interesting. Mr. MacKenzie's from the New Hebrides, the extract of Mr. Annand's report, the letters of Messrs. Goforth and Slimmon from China, and of Miss Fraser from India, will all repay careful perusal. The snake worship of the Chinese as described by Mr. Goforth will be news to many. There is another letter, on page 233, by the United States Minister to China, which is of special importance as showing the views of a statesman who has been twenty years in China and has had unusual facilities for knowing whereof he writes.

**Chinese.** The Chinese work in B.C. is **work in B.C.** being vigorously pushed by Messrs. Winchester and Colman. In accordance with the request of the Synod of B.C., Mr. Colman will in future reside in the mainland. Mr. Winchester and his native helper remain in Victoria.

**A Happy Change.** Not many years ago the Maharajah of Indore, and showed that hostility in many ways. At a recent meeting, the F. M. Committee in Toronto instructed its Secretary to write to His Highness, expressing the thanks of the Committee, and of the Church in Canada, for his decided interference on behalf of the persecuted Christians at Indore, which has put an end to the persecutions for the time being.

**New Centre in Kudli.** For more than ten years our mission in India has been wrought from five centres, Mhow, Indore, Ujjain, Rutlam, and Neemuch. The F. M. Committee has decided to take a forward step and settle a missionary at Dhar, an important centre of population which has been visited for some time by our missionaries. Rev. N. H. Russell and wife, and Margaret O'Hara, M.D., will occupy the new station.

**Off to China.** On Monday, 12th August, Mrs. Goforth, Miss McKenzie and Rev. Mr. Mitchell, who was recently ordained to the work, left Toronto for our mission field in North Honan. Mrs. Goforth returns to a labor in which she has been well proved. Miss McKenzie goes as a helper with Mrs. Goforth. Mr. Mitchell after earning a good degree in Home Mission Fields, goes to undertake work among the heathen. Dr. and Mrs. McClure will join them in Minneapolis, and once more there will be a strong band in Honan. If only a kind Providence were to restore Dr. Smith and Mrs. McVicar to complete health and enable these tried workers once more to take up their loved task; but they have given themselves in laying the foundations of a work

which has proved more successful, in the short time, than most of Chinese Missions. They have not labored in vain, and if now they cannot join in it as they would like, God knows best. The work is His.

**The Mission Steamer.** Rev. J. Lawrie, Missionary of the Free Church to Anceyrum, writes as follows to the *Australian Witness* :—

"One of the oldest missionaries in the group, during the recent debate in the Mission Synod, characterized the whole scheme as a 'sinful waste of the Lord's money,' and when we remember that the Maritime service at present doing the work of the mission, at a cost within our income, was originated for the most part by Presbyterian laymen in answer to missionary appeals against French annexation, we would do well to consider twice before we turn our backs on those who, while establishing their Company on a commercial basis, helped us in our time of need. The condition of affairs in the New Hebrides has altered so much since a mission steamer was first mooted that the Mission Synod recommended the reconsideration of the whole question."

The opinion of Rev. J. W. MacKenzie, our own missionary, is given in his letter in this issue.

**St. Lucia.** Rev. W. L. Macrae of Trinidad, writes to Mr. Morrison from St. Lucia, where he had been for a few days looking after the work there: "I brought Paul Bhukhan with me to see the place, with the hope that he might see his way clear to take charge of the work here for a time. We have now been round the whole field, and today he has promised me definitely to come for a limited period. I shall therefore on my return to Trinidad recommend to the Mission Council that he be ordained and placed over the work in St. Lucia for one year."

Since our arrival fourteen days ago, we have wrought hard in order to overtake the whole field in St. Lucia and all the schools. We came in from the country to-day, one meeting to-night will complete our work, and we leave in the morning for Trinidad. Since coming I baptized about fifty persons and married one couple.

In our largest cities there are about twelve saloons to every church. The marvel is that one church, running three hours per week, so nearly counteracts twelve saloons running 126 hours per week, as to make church-going respectable and saloon-going vicious. The ratio in hours of work is as 3 to 882, or 1 to 294, with human hearts naturally in sympathy with the 294. When grace can take the side of the 1 and overmatch the formidable hostile forces, what might the Church accomplish if it would only rise up in its strength and double its energy.—*Church at Home and Abroad.*