

meets you in most unexpected ways.— One day I stopped my carriage to inquire after some place I could not find. A young Hindu came forward, dressed like others, but having an intelligent look; he spoke English; I took him with me to find the place, and we got into conversation. He had been educated at one of the institutions, but had left it unconverted, and was now a merchant in one of the bazaars. I got his name and address, and felt here is a mine opened up, for there must be many such scattered about. I endeavoured to get hold of a few of them, and had an experimental meeting on Thursday night. Perhaps twenty came, mostly young educated unconverted Hindus, and a few East Indians, all of them either attending institutions, or engaged in the public or mercantile offices. I got their names and addresses, had a short Bible lesson, and then we fairly discussed our plans. They were very grateful to me for thinking of them. We settled that we should take up Romans for our Bible lesson; the last volume of D'Aubigne—the English Reformation—for our reading lesson. And one of them suggested that if we had a few spare moments I might read a few sentences of Young's "Night Thoughts;" another thought Milton might be better, but we agreed to give Young a little trial, and then turn to Milton. I found some at the Institution and of Cowper. On Monday night we had our first meeting, and the room I have taken for my classroom was crowded, so that I saw it would not do, and we determined after this to meet in the church. I gave away twenty-five Bibles, which Mr. Milne had got for me from the Bible Society. One young man, of whom I heard when I was visiting one of my people at the Treasury, is, I think, a hopeful case. He had been educated at our Institution, but had left it, like so many others, unchanged, and entered into business. I was told that he was such, so I wrote his name upon a little book, "Come to Jesus," and sent it to him. About a fortnight after, two young men came with a note of introduction, and it was my young friend and one of his companions. Since then he has been several times with me; I have got him a Reference Bible, and he has begun to read from the commencement. I trust he will ere long make an intelligent profession. He is living with his father, but could support himself with his salary independently. I should like to see more converts of this kind,

who might be a help to us and not a burden.

The following extract is from the letter of Mr Mackay to Dr Tweedie, dated Calcutta, 16th July 1853:—

You will, I am sure rejoice to learn that another convert has been added to our little flock. His name is Mudhu Suddan Singh. He belongs to the first school class, and is about twenty-one years old. He ascribes his conversion mainly to the ordinary class-reading of the New Testament under Mr Ewart; and, though deficient in the knowledge of English, and not in any way distinguished as a student, there was an evident sincerity about him, and he gave such a satisfactory account of his spiritual and mental exercises for the last two or three months, and of his felt need of the Saviour as quite to satisfy Mr Milne, Mr Ewart, and myself; and he was accordingly baptized by Mr Milne in the Free Church, on Wednesday evening, July 6—an evening which had been previously set apart for special social prayer in behalf of the Calcutta mission; and you may well imagine that our prayers were not the less fervent in the face of this token of the Lord's mercy and favour.

The young man is very respectably connected. He is a nephew of Rajah Radakent Deb—the head of the orthodox or bigoted Hindu party, and not only a wealthy man, but perhaps the most influential advocate of Hinduism in Calcutta. He is a man of considerable learning, and has published a native encyclopedia in six vols. 4 to—quite a mine of Hindu thought and knowledge.

The unprecedented number of baptisms—no less than nine since the beginning of this year, and all from our own institutions—is very encouraging; and the more, that the conduct and deportment of every one of them since their baptism has been such as to confirm us in the belief that they have been converted to the Lord.

NAGPUR.

The following interesting statements were made by three young converts from Hinduism on application for admission into the Church:—

STATEMENT OF PAIRAH SINGH.

I was by caste a Rajput, and was born in the district of Lanji (about eighty miles E.N.E. of Nagpur), where my father's elder brothers are Zamindars. Through