

already assumed. This is the first time for years the Board has felt itself unable to undertake new work; and there is now work in abundance that we should be glad to undertake if funds permitted. If we do not mean to falter in the great work we have undertaken for Christ we must raise at least one thousand dollars more this year than we did last. This means that each member of our Circles should give more liberally, and seek to get others to give more liberally. It means that new Circles shall be organized where there are none at present, that languishing Circles shall be revived, that even our most active Circles shall be increased in numbers and in efficiency. The idea that \$1.00 a year is a proper contribution for a well-to-do woman must be got rid of. Giving must be more in proportion to means.

It is just possible that some may have been led to relax their efforts by the fact that our treasurer has been able to report a considerable balance in the treasury. It has been the policy of the Board to have a balance on hand sufficient to pay for the following quarter or half year, with a view to keeping as far removed as possible from financial embarrassment. We are inclined to think that the balance has some times been larger than should have been carried. But if a mistake has been made in this matter it was a mistake on the safe side; and there is little danger of its repetition in the near future.

Foreign Mission Notes.

AN INCIDENT.

Some weeks ago, while visiting a church in Eastern Ontario, I was staying all night with a worthy couple who were the parents of three young boys. Sitting in the parlor, I was rehearsing the history of the China Inland Mission. The father and mother were sitting together on a sofa, while one of the boys, about ten years of age, stood in the doorway. As I began the story, the mother called the boy, put her arm about him and drawing him closely, said in an aside, "I wish him to hear." Then paid the closest attention to the close. Next day, when leaving, I put my hand on the boy's head and said to the mother, "So this is the one you would give to Foreign Missions." She said, "Oh, how gladly I would give the three, if He would only accept them."

MUSA BHAI IN WOODSTOCK.

Tuesday evening, I had the opportunity of hearing the now famous Hindu Salvationist. The Hindu service began by what came perilously near being a South of India devil dance. It is a question how far some semi-barbarous customs may be imported into the religion of Jesus with impunity, but it seems to me there should be no question about copying the frenzied antics of half-drunken, heathen priests.

Musa Bhai is evidently a Tamil and may be a Brahman. He speaks English very well, and is a good speaker. His address was, in the main, that given in Toronto, and reported in the *Globe*. He has profited by the Press criticism of that address, and has toned down several of his assertions considerably. I suppose it is difficult for an old Indian to criticise him dispassionately, because he at once thinks of the scores of adventurers he has met, who have run the gauntlet of all the religions, and all the denominations in India, and who so much resemble the man who harbored the seven devils. Musa Bhai gave the impression that the Hindus were a highly civilized,

intellectual and cultured people, who were fully able to hold their own in a controversy with any D.D. who might be sent out. Everybody who has lived in India, knows that this is a piece of thread-bare clap-trap. At the last census five per cent. could read. The vast mass of these are boys and girls in school. What about the millions of Pariahs, one in a thousand of whom cannot read? What about millions of cultivators who are in the same condition, to say nothing of millions of hill tribesmen, who are barbarous enough? The men in India who are willing to engage much lessor lights than D.D.s in discussions are very few, and those who are capable of doing so are much fewer.

Again, Musa Bhai left the impression that a seeker after Jesus could not find Him among Protestant missionaries. He said that their lives did not agree with their teaching, etc. He spoke of the devotion of the Salvation Army people in contrast, and how he was led to Christ by the spectacle of this self-sacrificing devotion on their part.

Now, I confess to a great admiration for the men and women who are going out to India in connection with this Army, and for their devotion and self-sacrifice. All honor to them for it. Still, I think that sitting on a grass mat, eating curry and rice with the fingers, or carrying a begging bowl from door to door, are poor tests of either knowledge of Christ or devotion to Him.

There is plenty of room for self-sacrifice, even on the part of missionaries, both in modes of living and modes of work, but it is easy to go to extremes on either side. It is just as true on the one side as on the other that the Kingdom of God is *not meat nor drink*, etc.

It is quite probable that the Army can teach us a lesson in work and devotion, and we should be prepared to learn it; yet it remains to be seen what permanent success a Gospel without doctrines, without ordinances, and without the "teaching them all things" of the Commission will have in India. Meanwhile, let us remember that the Lord has not given a monopoly of self-sacrifice to the officers of the Army, or the missionaries of the Board. The people may indulge in the luxury too.

NORTH COCANADA.

Bro. Stillwell works hopefully; 40 additions during the year, with a loss of 13, makes the present membership 101, which is a gain of 40 per cent. for the year.

SEMINARY.

Sixty-three students in the Seminary. Bro. S., who teaches six classes a day, is preparing a class-book in Theology and Exegesis, and has charge of North Cocanada Tuni fields. There are nine students in theology. Miss Hatch expects to remove to Samulcolta at Christmas.

AKIDU.

Missionary and all hopeful, prospects bright for a good year. Baptisms for the year, 184; members, 1,464. Pray for the one missionary on this large field.

COCANADA.

Only 19 baptisms on the South Cocanada field, but then there has been a missionary there only part of the year. Miss Hatch has been working hard on a kind of work which gives little tangible result, and yet is full of promise for the future. Both Davis and Laflamme are just getting the use of their Telugu tongues, and with the prayers of God's people, we expect much next year. Indeed, there is a noise and a shaking already.

TUNI

has a missionary of its own at last. God bless our latest couple who have gone farthest afield. Tuni reports nine