

MISSION FIELD.

TINNEVELLY MISSION.

BISHOP SARGENT'S JUBILEE.

(Continued.)

In 1856 a training institution was commenced, which is still in operation, and has produced some of the best village schoolmasters in Tinnevelly; and in 1860 the Sarah Tucker Seminary for school-mistresses was opened, which has prospered greatly up to the present time. The years that followed were marked by the decease of several much respected missionaries, the ordination of more native pastors, and the establishment of District Church Councils in the eight districts into which the Mission is divided. On December 10, 1874, the first Provincial Council was convened, in which matters of general interest to the Mission were discussed. On March 11, 1877, Dr. Sargent was consecrated Bishop of the Tinnevelly Missions of the C. M. S. From 1835 to 1885 he has witnessed the rise, progress and development of the Native Church, and his practical wisdom and ability in organising and governing it are obtaining general recognition. The results of missionary operations in Tinnevelly are remarkable. Apart from the spiritual benefits, a variety of lesser temporal advantages have also been gained. The Gospel has raised the moral tone of its recipients, has diminished crime, and checked a great many evils. It has raised the oppressed and degraded Hindu woman, has placed her by the side of man, and has thus prepared her to be a powerful instrument of social regeneration in the future. The Brahminical system has lost much of its hold upon the people. The wise advice of missionaries, and their interference on behalf of the oppressed, has secured in many cases the rights of converts in temporal matters. Villages have been formed, and houses built in regular streets; dispensaries have been opened for the benefit of Christian and heathen people. Funds are provided for the maintenance of widows of native mission agents.

A variety of books have been printed in the native languages. Boarding-schools, a high school and a college have been established for children and young men, several of whom have now risen to be graduates of the Madras University. A further proof of the working of the Gospel in the minds of the people is seen in the abandonment of idols by thousands of worshippers, who have been brought to adore the one true God, through the mediation of the God-man. The superstition of the Hindu is gradually declining under the influence of English education, and some who were its supporters have been sanctified in the name of the Lord Jesus by the renewing power of the Holy Spirit, when the Gospel has been brought home to their hearts. There has also been an increasing care for the heathens among the converts. Men of intelligence among the laity preach to them, and try

to turn them from the error of their ways. Substantial churches and prayer-houses have been built in many places, and the Lord's Day is more generally observed than in former times. Prayer-meetings are reverently conducted in many villages, and many read the Bible privately in their families. The faith of the Church in Tinnevelly is of sufficient depth to supply not a few martyrs, who would testify, should occasion arise, by their lives laid down for the Master's sake. Encouraged by such a review of the past, and anticipating the universal triumph of the truth, when the kingdoms of this world shall become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of His Christ, we are constrained to say, "Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us; but unto Thy Name be the praise, for thy loving mercy, and for Thy truth's sake."

ZULULAND.

As there is good reason to hope that the long night of discouragement and difficulty that has hung over Mission work in Zululand and Swaziland is preparing to make way for a dawn of better things, we present our readers with the following description, which may enable them to follow the changes for the better which we earnestly hope, in God's good providence, are about to take place.

The present boundary of Zululand to the south is the Tugela River, which, since the proclamation of British sovereignty over Natal in 1843, has proved a tolerably sufficient barrier to the incursions of the Zulus in that direction, as it was in former times the scene of some of their fiercest battles. To the north of Zululand, next the Indian Ocean, we have Tongaland, a thickly wooded and in some parts marshy country, inhabited by a race much inferior to the Zulus, and consequently despised by them, especially as they prefer a peaceful life to the glories of war. Owing to their aversion to fighting and consequent unwillingness to invite attack, probably, they keep but few cattle, and rear goats principally. Till our war with the Zulus, Tongaland was a dependency of Ketchwayo's, and they were little given to venturing out of their own territory; but now they pass more freely into the labor-fields of Natal, under the protection of Chief John Dunn, who has erected one or two stations on their route where they may rest in safety and get some food. To the north-west, Zululand borders on Swaziland, the abode of another interesting race, inferior in character to the Zulus, as they are greatly addicted both to lying and stealing. But though the men are inferior to the Zulu men, the women are superior to the Zulu women, and noted for their beauty in South Africa, possibly because they have less heavy work to do.

(To be continued.)

Turning sunshine into night, and making misery gratis when we are not miserable, is anything but Christian; though some good people sometimes make a merit of it.

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NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned and endorsed "Tender for the Welland Canal," will be received at this office until the arrival of the Eastern and Western mails on MONDAY, the 25th day of JANUARY next, (1886), for raising the walls of the locks, weirs, &c., and increasing the height of the banks of that part of the Welland Canal between Port Dalhousie and Thorold, and for deepening the Summit Level between Thorold and Ramey's Bend, near Humberston. The works, throughout, will be let in Sections.

Maps of the several localities, together with plans and descriptive specifications, can be seen at this office on and after MONDAY, the 11th day of JANUARY next, (1886), where printed forms of tender can be obtained. A like class of information relative to the works north of Allanburg will be furnished at the Resident Engineer's Office, Thorold; and for works south of Allanburg, plans, specifications, &c., may be seen at the Resident Engineer's Office, Welland.

Contractors are requested to bear in mind that tenders will not be considered unless made strictly in accordance with the printed forms, and, in the case of firms, except there are attached the actual signatures, the nature of the occupation and place of residence of each member of the same; and further, an accepted bank cheque for the sum of Two Thousand Dollars or more—according to the work on the section—must accompany the respective tenders, which sum shall be forfeited if the party tendering declines entering into contract for the works, at the rates stated in the offer submitted.

The amount required in each case will be stated on the form of tender. The cheque or money thus sent in will be returned to the respective parties whose tenders are not accepted.

This Department does not, however, bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

By order, A. P. BRADLEY, Secretary. Department of Railways and Canals, Ottawa, 9th December, 1885. 28-5

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