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EDITORIAL.

The early days of our Mission in India were days of stress and suspense, as pioneering days must always be. So much depends on the beginning. Our pioneer missionaries as they toiled at the foundations and looked into the future, saw great opportunities and possibilities before them, which, if rightly and promptly met, meant glorious expansion and growth. They carried great responsibilities,—and there were so few of them to share it—everything depended on the foundations, and how they were laid.

At home here a loyal band were holding the ropes. And it is of one of this band, a woman, Jane (Mrs. T. J.) Claxton, that we would speak now. She was for many years the leader of the Baptist women of Eastern Ontario and Quebec in their foreign missionary enterprise, and her name, with that of her husband, is ineffably woven in with the history of our work in India. They were of those who "wholly followed the Lord," and more, methinks, one could not say, for by means of their interests, their prayers, their ceaseless efforts and gifts they went out into the world at the command, "Go ye."

The new Mission in Cocanada was their darling child, and until the day she obeyed the call to higher service Mrs. Claxton carried on her heart the work and workers in India. The writer has before her some old correspondence, which bears testimony to the part which Mrs. Claxton and "the Montreal ladies" bore in the anxiety and responsibility of the pioneering days in India. At one crisis, their timely remittance saved the missionaries in Cocanada from

severe financial embarrassment owing to lack of funds from the General Board here at home.

Nor did this elect lady's interests confine themselves to our own small field. Here is a long letter from Lady Dufferin herself, from the Vice-regal Lodge in Simla, India, to Mrs. Claxton, discussing the interests of the women of India, for whose benefit Lady Dufferin had established a "National Association for Supplying Female Medical Aid." Mrs. Claxton, upon hearing of this organization, had written concerning its aim, and it shows how alert she was when good work was forward. The letter is dated 1887.

A letter from Queen Alexandra's equerry, dated 1910, replying to a resolution of sympathy sent by the Board of which Mrs. Claxton was president at the time of the late King's death, testifies to the wide range of her very human sympathies. Warm-hearted and true-hearted, broad-minded and, what is more rare, single-minded—she was, indeed, one of a thousand. Her sympathies were quick and genuine. From personal contact with her, the writer soon learned to love and deeply respect one whose name had been a household word since earliest memories. Can she ever forget those huge boxes that used to come to the Mission House in Cocanada from Montreal, or the entrancing smell of her first gay little box of chocolates, which came in one of those great cases? And never came one without the Claxtons' contributions.

It always seemed to her that Mrs. Claxton loved the missionaries somewhat as she did her own children, though she never heard her say so, nor perhaps would she. But her interest in