

letters from Miss Blackadder, of Tacarigua, are in our hands. Miss Blackadder has laboured long and faithfully in Trinidad ; she has been feeling for some time the effects of the prolonged strain, and at present her work is pressing heavily upon her. She speaks particularly of the toil of gathering in the children day by day to be taught. Monitors assist in this work, but they too "are growing weary of it; two have given it up, and the others want to go into secular employment where they will not have the daily trouble and annoyance of running in rain and heat after the children, besides getting abuse and bad names from the foolish, ignorant parents."

The whole question of education in the island "is in a transition state ; some want free education and a compulsory clause, others insist upon school fees. The great mass of the Indian people are poor and careless about the matter. Others are opposed to educating the children at all. Besides these things we have other Churches taking away, when they can get them, children from our schools and converts from our churches."

At the date of writing, the schools were enjoying a vacation of two weeks, which we can well believe "is far too short for needed rest in the hot month of August," but, as Miss Blackadder says : "if the coolie children once get away from school it is hard to get them back." Our correspondent is strongly of opinion that a compulsory law is needed, and says : "I have not found that those who have had what is called 'higher education' are any more useful members of the church, or better members of society than those who have had a common school education and have gone into business or trades."

Miss Blackadder touches lightly upon the subject of missionary life as seen from the standpoint of the casual visitor as contrasted with its real difficulties, as follows . "Visitors come out and of course all is made as pleasant as possible for them ; they do not, or will not see under the surface, so when the coolies