

I choose him. He is greater than all men, who are only his children."

Makahlule followed: "At first we cared nothing for the missionary's words, but we soon learned that business, and now we will not leave them. Why did we do so at first? Because of our foolishness. Now I love the king and all his ways. I had a friend at Makodweni; he went to Natal, and God showed him his sins; and he scared him with a view of Hades in one of his dreams. Then he was converted and came to Inhambane, and is now preaching for Mr. Agnew at his station. His name is Tom, and he told me all about his dream, when we were down there with our Mfundisi."

Charlano is a woman who confessed Christ two years ago. She is seventy years old and always on hand for every religious service, both daily and weekly. Her husband is usually present with her, and accepts the same religion. She said: "God is my father and my mother, I shall not want. He has saved me, and I love him. I thank him much."

DARK SCENES IN INDIA.

British rule in India is not the blessing that it should be. Much has been done to put a stop to the cruelties of heathenism, but much remains yet to do.

"Papers from India give a sad report of what we must call the complicity of the English government with the debasing ceremonies of Hinduism. During a *mela*, or religious festival, at the junction of the Ganges and Jumna, on two different occasions, four hundred fakirs, entirely naked, marched in procession to the bathing-place, while thousands of Hindus, men and women, lined the road to see them, and even to worship them.

It is bad enough that such a performance should be permitted, but it is worse to be obliged to say that an English officer on an elephant headed the procession. Doubtless it would be claimed that this was for the purpose of keeping order; but surely the government, instead of seeking to make such a procession orderly, should have suppressed it. Educated Hindus are ashamed of such proceedings; and though it might cost the government a good deal, these public sources of corruption should be suppressed, as the suttee has been suppressed, by the strong arm of the law."

THE CHILD. AT THE FAMILY ALTAR.

1. Every Christian household should be gathered daily at family worship. We might say, here is the most important means of Christian culture. It is the every-day church. The effect of this chain of influences on a child's life is impossible to estimate. However little he realizes what is going on, he is learning. Thousands owe their salvation directly to it. We forget the vividness with which after days will bring all this back. The sound of the voice, the picture of the complete family always there, the touching recollection how one by one there came the vacant chairs, the scraps of what was read, catching the attention for a moment—all this makes up the most precious of the soul's memories. Every day it comes; even the toddling youngster of a year expects it.

2. But let us make it as cheerful and as pleasant as possible. Family worship should be adapted to the child, not the parent. If the parent shall "become as a little child," in prayer, through this service, he himself will "enter the kingdom of heaven." Of course it should not be of tedious length. Do not have a chapter of eighty verses read. Food is a good thing, but we do not, therefore, need to cram it down long after they have had all they can possibly digest.

Anything should be introduced as auxiliary which may make the Bible an intensely interesting book. A father once told me that, beginning the Old Testament, he purchased a large map, pasted it on a card-board, and hung it in the dining-room. Every day at the hour of worship the places were pointed out. The children followed Abraham to Haran, to Canaan, to Egypt, and back again. When the book of Esther had been completed, they begged their father to begin over again. Thus the Holy Land became a home land to each—its valleys and lakes and rivers and places as familiar as their own country.

Let the prayer be brief and simple, and yet grandly broad. I think my own great interest in missions began in the hearing my father pray for the missionaries. Then every morning we children were mentioned. We knew how ardent was the longing for our salvation. The children carry these things in mind. Be simple. Use the words that they can under-