

Our Foreign Missions.

God is offering us this year, opportunity, honor, privilege, more and greater than ever before, of sharing in the world's redemption. Shall His confidence in us be justified? From every field come urgent calls for more help and helpers to rescue the perishing. What shall be the response? Let the working and giving and praying for missions, during the coming winter, be our answer.

Our Indian missionaries have fellowship in sore trial. Not long since a little one was taken from Dr. Smith's family, and later, from the Jamieson's. Dr. Thompson, who but two years since went out with high hopes, had hemorrhage, was ordered home, and lies ill; and Mrs. Buchanan, D.D., has been ill in Toronto Hospital since early summer, and health is far from established. Pray for the homes made lonely and for the suffering workers laid aside.

DEMON POSSESSION IN HONAN.

To many it will be a surprise to learn that some missionaries who have lived long in China believe that demon possession, such as was common in Christ's time, still exists, and that many instances are given seemingly authentic, where, after prayer and the mention of the name of Jesus, such possession has disappeared. Others, missionaries of wide experience, hesitate to commit themselves to an opinion on the matter, but simply state facts for which it seems difficult to account. The people, as a rule, fully believe in demon possession, and the New Testament seems to them in this respect a familiar book.

Dr. Menzies, our missionary in Honan, says: "I only give the facts as they were brought before us this week."

"A man living about 25 li (8 miles) from here, and who is himself an inquirer, came a few days ago for some one to go to cast out a devil from a friend of his. The one possessed is over twenty years of age, and for over two weeks has been quite dumb. He is not violent, but lies like one in a trance.

The friend was quite sure that it was no sickness, but an affliction by an evil spirit. Following the example of the Apostles he read and prayed with the man, but the demon refused to depart. Mr. Hsiao went back with him from here, but the friends had called in a witch doctor and he could not be seen."

Another note of sorrow comes from Ujjain. The baby daughter, that for nearly a year had made bright the home of the Jamiesons, was taken away, 14 July, after a few days' illness, of dysentery. Here died Robert Murray and his wife after a few months in the mission field. Here the Buchanans mourned their dead. A "sacred" city to our Mission Band.

HOSPITAL OPENING AT DHAR.

A bright spot in the history of our mission in India has been the royal welcome and generous sympathy from the Maharajah in our newly opened station at Dhar. He gave land for the Hospital and Orphanage and for other mission buildings, and on Jubilee day the Hospital was opened and the corner stone of the Orphanage was laid.

His Highness the Marharajah, who was unable to be present, was worthily represented by his son, Prince Udaji Rao Powar, how worthily, the following address will show:

Ladies and Gentlemen,—The occasion for these universal rejoicings is so singularly delightful that the old must never have known anything like it, nor is there any possibility for the young to witness in their lifetime such a thing again.

This day Her Most Gracious Majesty, Queen Victoria, Empress of India, begins the sixty-first year of her ever memorable and glorious reign, a reign which has given peace to India, a thing perfectly unknown in the known history of this country. I need not say that that very peace again has brought in its train innumerable other blessings, and I am sure you will all heartily join me in praying God to spare us those blessings for a long time to come, and to grant to Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, Empress of India, and her children and grand-children, a very long and prosperous reign and life.

This most delightful epoch has naturally stirred up the most loyal feelings of Her Majesty's subjects, who, as they should, are vying with each other to demonstrate their loyalty in some tangible shape to the best of their abilities. In accord with this general outbreak of loyalty, our missionary friends here are going to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of the Empress of India by the establishment of a hospital of their own for the benefit of the female sufferers, and an orphanage at Dhar. These will supply the greatest want hitherto left unprovided for.

This is the cause of our assembling here to-day, and I am asked to preside at these opening and foundation ceremonies. I feel very sorry that my dear father, His Highness, could not personally grace this occa-