

MISSION FIELD.

INDIA.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER AT KARACHI.—A most successful mission here was brought to a close on the evening of Easter day. The Missioner was the Rev. G. A. Laffroy, of the Cambridge mission at Delhi. The congregations at all the services were very good, notwithstanding that there was but a short time for preparation, and that the idea of a mission was quite novel to the majority of the congregation. One difficulty which we have to face out here is that services at this time of the year can only be held early in the morning or in the evening.

The mission began on Palm Sunday with sermons from the Missioner at matins (Parade Service) and evensong, the latter being followed by an After-meeting. Each day during Holy Week, except Good Friday, there was a celebration of the Holy Communion, with a devotional address at 7 a.m., the numbers both of attendants and communicants increasing each day. On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings, there were Special Mission Services and Addresses at 6.30, followed by After-meetings for instruction on prayer and Bible-reading. The service consisted of Hymn, Creed, Lord's Prayer, Collects, 2nd Lesson, Hymn, Address, 'Story of the Cross' (sung kneeling), Blessing; the Missioner then unvested and proceeded with the After-meeting. On Thursday evening at seven there was, instead of the usual mission service and address one for men only, which was very well attended. From 6 p.m. on Thursday to the evening of Good Friday there was, for the first time here, and we believe in the diocese, a prayer-watch kept in the church by volunteers from the congregation for prayer, meditation, and intercession; the thirty watchers taking in succession hourly or half hourly turns. The services on Good Friday were:—Matins, 6.15 a.m.; Litany and first part of the Communion Service, 7 a.m.; meditations on the seven last words, 12 to 3 p.m.; evensong and mission address, followed by an after-meeting for instruction on Holy Communion, 6 p.m.

After the celebration and address on Saturday morning the workers were busy engaged decorating, and when the congregation gathered for the first evensong of Easter the contrast which the church presented to its mournful appearance during the week must have been striking. Of course, the central and chief point of the decorations was the altar and robedos, but the font and rest of the church was not neglected. A mission address was given after evensong, and then, instead of the After-meeting, a service for the solemn renewal of Baptismal Vows, taken from the *Priest's Prayer-book*, was held. The services on Easter day were:—Matins and sermon at 7 a.m.; celebrations of the Holy Communion at 8 a.m. and 11 a.m.; evensong and sermon at 6 p.m. Before the Blessing at

evensong the *Te Deum* was sung as an act of thanksgiving for Easter and the Mission. After the Blessing, memorial cards of the Mission, signed by the applicant and countersigned by the Missioner, were distributed. The communicants on Easter Day and during its octave amount to over ninety; last year's number being sixty-seven. The Missioner, after a farewell Communion on Monday, left for Delhi, having secured the hearty thanks of many souls in Karachi. There were also two special meetings for soldiers during the week in their own barracks.

From Burmah we learn that the Buddhist Archbishop has sent his three nephews to the S. P. G. College, Mandalay, reopened by the Rev. J. Colbeck. The Bishop of Rangoon writes of his visit to that place and to Bhamo:—I have seen much to awaken sympathy, to cause anxiety, and to excite hope. I feel more and more what a vast addition has been made to my responsibilities by the annexation of Upper Burmah. I inspected the premises at Mandalay. Though they have suffered very little from ill-treatment, and though the white parts have been considerable, still the process of decay which necessarily goes on in all buildings of wood, has, in the case of these buildings, been going on, and at least 2,000 rupees are required to put them into thorough repair. The Rev. J. A. Colbeck has commenced work; the schools is very much needed, and I hope we will be able to secure the children of nearly all the influential inhabitants. I should like to associate another missionary with Mr. Colbeck, and I propose to send the first new arrival to him. . . . I took Mr. Colbeck with me to Bhamo. The further north we went, the fewer pagodas were to be seen; the villages were few in number, there were very few boats on the river, and everywhere there were signs of a sparse and even uneducated population. Bhamo itself is very interesting. For many years it has been a centre of trade between Burmah and China, and it has suffered greatly from raids made upon it by Kacheens, Chinese, Burmese, and Shans. In spite of all it has retained its vitality. We ought to place two missionaries there to work, not so much amongst the Burmese the Kacheens and the Chinese-Shans.

EAST AFRICA.

Another Christian missionary has fallen in the interior; according to a telegram from Zanzibar, Mr. Houghton and his wife of the Methodist Society have been murdered by Masais on the river Tanna, near Lamoo.

With regard to Bishop Hannington's death, it is stated on behalf of the British Government that the distance of the Nyanza Lake from the coast would make it extremely difficult to exact reparation for the slaughter of a British subject.

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