

Buddhist papers, the *Reis and Rayyat*, of Calcutta, scores Mrs. Besant, the theosophist, saying: "It behooves every well-wisher of the country to tell her plainly that sensible men do not want her eloquence for gilding what is rotten."

—For some time there has been a remarkable movement of Dherd families in and around Anand toward Christianity in connection with the Irish Presbyterian mission. At the end of last year there were 64 families on the roll of new adherents, after some doubtful cases had been deducted. At a more recent date 34 adults and 23 children were baptized, coming from 11 villages. It is especially difficult, however, for the women to break off heathen customs. "Indeed, the winning of the women to Christ is the solution of the problem before us. Last Sabbath our church here was crowded on the men's side, while the women's side, containing only a third of the space of the other, was far from full. The great desideratum here just now is trustworthy native women workers, under the control and guidance of European lady missionaries."

—The Travancore *Diocesan Record* has the following graphic description of the condition of the Pulayans, one of the depressed classes in Travancore: "The women become prematurely old from working in the water under a tropical sun; the weeding and transplanting of paddy in low-lying fields is their work, besides the harrowing of the fields after ploughing. They may be called, literally, human harrows, for under a burning sun they may be seen sitting in rows, up to their necks in the muddy water, which has been stirred up by the plough and the feet of the buffaloes, pulling out with their fingers and toes the weeds, particularly a troublesome, massy-looking weed, which breaks into pieces under the plough, and heaping them into little islands in the water or dragging the long, shiny things into the banks. The reaping

also is often carried on in knee-deep water. They glean the fallen ears with their toes and fingers out of the muddy waters and catch fish in creels, wading up to their waists in the same waters frequented by the alligator and buffalo.

"The men's work is as dirty and degrading as that of the women; following the plough up to their waists in muddy water is not so hard or filthy as that of mending the banks of the fields when the floods go down. They bring boat-loads of boughs from the jungles; these are laid on the banks, and a thick layer of mud is thrown on the top. The mud has to be taken out of the bottom of the canals and rivers; the men dive down and bring it to the surface in their arms, resting it against their naked bodies; it is black and semi-liquid, being the decayed vegetable mold brought down by the rivers, and has a peculiar, disgusting smell. They have also to dive under water to find the holes made in the banks by the alligators in which they lay their eggs. Their tools for this work are made from the iron-like wood of the palm, shaped somewhat like the oar of an outrigger; with this they slice down to the holes and build up the bank again in layers of brushwood and mud. As the black mud dries on their bodies the men look like their scaly brothers the alligators. To have to pass a boat-load of men returning from work is an infliction to any one possessed of an ordinary nose for smelling, for they seldom if ever wash, and even if they did, the water has the same disagreeable odor. The pores of their skins become permanently impregnated with this same smell of mud in which they work and on which their hovels, made of mud, leaves, and sticks, are put up."

—So far as known, the American Mission High School in Bombay is the only high school in India where co-education exists. By taking so many of the pupils while very young, Mr. and Mrs. Hume have succeeded in creating a public sentiment which, with