

gained through this one shilling. Your mission is not afflicted in this way. You do not receive triumphant reports. Whatever your missionaries say of their work and its fruits, you may be assured that it is always the minimum of that which they could say; but their work is none the less solid, founded on the rock. It does not strike the new, but is like the submarine piles sustaining the bridges of the Forth and of the Tay, which form the most necessary and most admirable part of those marvellous constructions. But the day will come when this work will emerge from the bosom of the deep waters, and its greatness and its vitality will appear by the magnificent fruits which it will bear."—Dr. James Johnston to the Committee of the Paris Society.

THE following extract from a letter received from one of our missionaries in the West is worthy of perusal. He writes: "A few days ago I visited a man who seldom attends church and is otherwise indifferent as to his life. In the course of our conversation I learned that he believed in the final salvation of all. On my way home, I mused as to the relation between his life and his belief. Seeing their close, their vital connection, I resolved anew to declare only what God has revealed, lest men should live heterodox lives as a consequence of my heterodox preaching."

THE Knox College Students' Missionary Society for the last five years has been successful in its missionary efforts in the township of Wilmet, Waterloo, and at New Dundee, Baden and New Hamburg through the energy and zeal of their students placed in the field from year to year. The work of two years was confined to New Dundee alone under the care of Messrs. Williamson and Edgar. In the third and fourth year at Baden under Messrs. H. S. McKittrick—now of Tarrus—and R. T. Cockburn. This year the field has extended to New Hamburg where the present missionary, A. F. Webster, also has found much encouragement and sympathy in the work. On Sabbath, Sept. 10th, Rev. T. S. Hardie (Mod.), of Ayr, dispensed the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper at New Dundee and Baden. At Baden twenty-six sat down at the table. Twenty of these form the nucleus of a congregation just organized and it is hoped they may soon be able to worship in a church of their own. New Hamburg gives great hopes of becoming organized in the near future and it is expected at no distant date these may form a strong charge of the Presbyterian Church.

IN spite of the vigilance of the officials in every district in India, the tendency of the superstitious people and self-seeking priests towards forbidden rites is ever showing itself. The government of the North-Western provinces is at present investigating the circumstances under which a human being has been offered in sacrifice to the black goddess Kali, in a village near Benares, in the very heart of a dense population long under our rule. The village priests incited a Brahmin family to give up their son, a boy of sixteen. Before a large crowd the lad was led forth to the temple, and after invocation to the hideous idol the chief priest cut the victim's throat and sprinkled the warm blood over Kali herself. The crime is said to have created a sensation in the district. The barbarity of hook-swinging has recently revived in several villages. It was put down by the police in 1867, up to which year it formed a part of every annual festival, and was often preceded by the ordeal of walking through the fire. In the latest case, which occurred within ten miles of Calcutta, a missionary stopped the orgie, and examined the back of the drugged victim, when he found that the hook had passed through the two great muscles, which were lacerated, although the man had been eased by the support of a waistband also. The villagers resented his interference.

AN interesting account has just appeared of some of the Protestant organizations which exist in Paris, and indeed throughout France, for the benefit of young women and girls who have to live alone. The International Union of the Friends of Young Women has founded in various towns of France

twenty-one homes where young women are fed and lodged very cheaply, and can enjoy many social pleasures. In Paris there is also the Christian Asylum for Female Domestic, where servants are lodged for one and a half francs, or fifteen pence, a day, and at the temporary Asylum for Protestant Women the fees amount to only half-a-crown a week. There is also a workshop for unemployed workwomen, where plain needlework is found and well paid for. Paris has a club for shopgirls, which is open every afternoon and evening, where lessons in English and music are given gratuitously. At this house the average daily attendance is between thirty and forty. There is also a Convalescent Home for Protestant young women near the Bois de Boulogne, where they are allowed to stay for three weeks at a time. With few exceptions these charitable institutions, though primarily intended for Protestants, are not exclusively sectarian.

THE annual meeting of Pictou Presbyterial W.F.M.S. was held at Stellarton. About fifty delegates were present, representing nearly all the societies in the Presbyterial. Owing to the removal of the president, Mrs. Harvey, the chair was occupied by the vice-president, Mrs. Dickson, of Pictou. After the usual devotional exercises, the delegates were kindly welcomed by Mrs. Joseph MacKay, of Stellarton. Mrs. Cairns, of Soosburn, making a suitable response. Mrs. Dickson then gave a very earnest address, which was followed by the reports of secretaries and treasurer. Secretary's report showed thirty-six auxiliaries, those of Springville, St. Paul's, East River, Ferrona and Poplar Hill having been added this year. The membership is 1,030; of these thirty-six are life members. Nearly all the auxiliaries report very encouragingly of increased interest and larger attendance at the monthly meetings. Miss Falconer, of Pictou, mission band secretary, reported sixteen bands, an increase of five. Mrs. Ives read the treasurer's report, which showed \$1,395.08 contributed up to date. Miss Taylor read a paper on "Refusals," Miss Carmichael, Mrs. Dickson and others gave short addresses on practical work in our societies. Everyone regretted the absence of our missionary, Mrs. K. J. Grant, of Trinidad, who was unable to be present. After votes of thanks to the ladies of Stellarton auxiliary for their kind reception of delegates, also to the railway companies for reduced fares, this meeting adjourned to the basement, where tea was provided and a very pleasant hour was spent in social intercourse. At 7.30 a public meeting was held, Rev. Mr. Falconer, of Pictou, in the chair. Interesting addresses were delivered by Mr. Rogers, of New Glasgow; Dr. Macleod, of Thornburn, and Mr. Falconer. Good music was furnished by the choir, and the collection added \$14.10 to the funds. The next meeting will be held at Durham, Pictou Co.

THE sixth annual meeting of the Bruce Presbyterial W. F. M. S. was held in Geneva church, Chesley. Delegates were present from Paisley, Walkerton and Tara. Only delegates were present at the morning meeting for business, but the attendance at both afternoon and evening meetings were good. Mrs. Johnstone, Paisley, presided, and was assisted in the devotional exercises by Mrs. Allan, Paisley; Miss James, Walkerton; Mrs. Ferguson and Mrs. Boyd, Chesley; Mrs. Watt, Tara; and Mrs. McLeod, Paisley. Mrs. Perry, Chesley, gave the address of welcome and Miss Smith, Tara, replied on behalf of the delegates. The Secretary and Treasurer's reports were encouraging. One auxiliary has been organized during the year—West Brant, making a total of eight auxiliaries, and three Mission Bands with a membership of fully 300. Total contributions for the year were \$589.52. Four boxes of clothing were also sent to Rev. Mr. Moore's school, Lakeside, N. W., valued at \$338.00. Admirable papers were read by Miss McCallum and Mrs. Allan, of Paisley, their respective subjects being: "Can we afford such an organization as the W. F. M. S.?" and "How to Interest the Indifferent." Miss L. Smiley and the Misses Waddell, Chesley, sang at both meetings and added not a little to the interest by their appropriate and well rendered selections. Some

time in the afternoon it was discovered that Miss Oliver, of Indore, India, was present. The announcement caused quite a pleasant flutter, and Mrs. Johnstone when inviting Miss Oliver to the platform said, "God had been specially kind, for we had desired to have Miss Oliver, but had refrained from asking her in obedience to the expressed wish of the Board that she might have so long a time to rest, and the time was not yet up." Miss Oliver kindly responded and gave a short and interesting address on our Christian woman in India. The following officers were elected for this year: Mrs. Johnstone, Paisley, president; Mrs. Gourlay, Port Elgin, 1st vice-president; Mrs. Perry, Chesley, 2nd vice-president; Miss Smith, Tara, 3rd vice-president; Mrs. H. Ferguson, Chesley, secretary; Mrs. Helen G. McLaren, Paisley, treasurer. Invitations for next place of meeting were presented by Paisley and Tara. The motion was put to the meeting when the majority voted in favour of Tara. At six o'clock the ladies adjourned to the vestry, where the Chesley friends had refreshments prepared in great abundance. Mr. Perrie presided at the evening meeting assisted by Rev. Mr. Johnstone, of Paisley. The speakers were Rev. Mr. Craigie and Rev. Dr. McTavish Toronto, who happened to be in town and very kindly took the place of Rev. Dr. James who was unable to be present. Both addresses were earnest, interesting and practical, and were listened to with close attention. After the customary vote of thanks Mr. Perrie pronounced the benediction, so closing meetings of much interest and profit.

ALLAHABAD Presbytery met in Allahabad in the 28th and 29th of July, with nine ministers and five elders present. One of the first items of business was the request of Rev. J. J. Caleb to be released from the pastoral charge of Katra church, which he has held for twenty-two years. He has done good work, and is worthy of all honour. He gave as the reasons for his request the weakness resulting from advancing years, and the ill-health that makes his visiting his people as much as should be done, impossible. After hearing the officers of the church, who earnestly urged against the acceptance of the resignation, the Presbytery still decided, in view of all the circumstances, to allow Mr. Caleb to give up the work. Mr. Forman was appointed to declare the pulpit vacant on the following Sabbath, and Mr. Alexander was appointed stated supply until such time as the church shall call another pastor. Two candidates under care of Presbytery who have been studying in the Saharanpur Theological Seminary came before Presbytery. After hearing the reports of their work it was decided that they should return to Saharanpur to read in the "Catechist course." Two young men were examined on personal religion and motives in wishing to be preachers. The examinations were sustained and it was resolved that they be recommended for admission to Saharanpur Seminary. In the matter of Union for all Hindustani-speaking Presbyterian churches a committee of two—of the stated clerk and Rev. Joel David—was appointed to confer with the committees of other Presbyteries. In connection with the request for the ordination of two licentiates, one as pastor, the other as evangelist, the whole question of ordaining licentiates was earnestly discussed. It was decided to answer the requests in the negative for the time being, as a question of general policy should be decided before the individual cases are dealt with. This a matter of extreme importance on which the Synod should give a deliverance in order to secure uniformity of action among its Presbyteries. A special element of doubt in the case of the call to the pastorate was that the members of the church could promise only Rs. 212-0 a month toward the support of the pastor. The subscriptions of the mission ladies in the station would add Rs. 10. But the question was when the members of the church itself can promise only Rs. 212-0, should they be encouraged to call a man whose salary is Rs. 20, the mission being asked for so large a balance? It must not be forgotten, however, that the offer of even this much indicates a real effort on the part of the people.