

amount having but three or four small schools in the place, in which the veriest elements only are taught. There are also a few schools supported by native enterprise, but these are irregular and of non-descript character. The people are intensely conservative, wedded to their own customs, and very difficult to reach. The lower classes are so poor and so driven in the struggle for existence, that it is difficult for their thoughts to rise beyond their immediate material wants, while the others stand aloof through pride, ignorance, and superstition. They are unacquainted with the truth, strangers to God, and dead—dead—dead in sin, and buried fathoms deep under false systems, rites, and ceremonies. Can these souls live?

## MISSION WORK.

Mission work in Samulcotta was first started by Mr. Finpamy, who secured a plot of ground, and constructed a school and dwelling house, the former being used also as a chapel. The work opened auspiciously and promised great things, but unfortunately the preacher in charge proved untrue, and wrecked the work almost beyond recovery. Since that disaster, the work has been prosecuted perseveringly, and not without result, but yet nothing in comparison with what might have been. There is now a small church numbering twenty-five, some three Sunday schools, and a day school. The Lutherans also have a small school and a few followers. Since the opening of the seminary, Samulcotta and a few other villages have been worked from that centre. A few have thus been quickened into life and are, we may trust, an earnest of a multitude soon to follow. May all the workers receive that special endowment that is absolutely indispensable to successful work!

## SAMULCOTTA SEMINARY.

To reach the seminary, the traveller, in case he sets out from Cocanada, has to pass through the long, dusty, narrow main street, when he turns to the left and follows the road that runs in that direction for about one-fourth of a mile when the seminary appears directly upon the right. The compound, or rather compounds, for there are two of them, are thus just outside the village boundaries, a distance sufficient for health, and yet near enough to be within easy reach of the town. In the compound nearest the highway stands the seminary class-rooms and the missionary's bungalow, while in the compound beyond are the teachers', boarding boys', and married students' quarters, there being accommodation for five teachers, sixty boarding boys, and twenty-four families.

## MISSIONARIES.

*Rev. John McLaurin, D.D.*—Mr. McLaurin, who was the first principal opened the seminary, in October, 1882, now more than 12 years ago. Mr. McLaurin had spent

a previous term in India, so that he brought to the work just that experience needed in establishing such a school. Upon appointment he proceeded to Samulcotta, where he found nothing but a pile of ruins supposed to represent a bungalow presented by the Rajah of Pithapuram. With characteristic energy he soon had a building up which, during his time, had to serve as both dwelling house for the missionary and class rooms for recitation. He opened the seminary with nineteen students and one native assistant. These numbers increased year by year, and the seminary advanced in efficiency until Mr. McLaurin's resignation in Feb. 1887, when continued ill-health forced him to quit the country. He is now engaged in literary work at Bangalore under the auspices of the A. B. M. U.

*Rev. J. R. Stillwell, B.A.*—Upon Mr. McLaurin's resignation, Mr. Stillwell, who had been associated with him in the work during his last year, was appointed principal, and re-opened the school in July, 1888. He continued in charge until April, 1894, when he was granted furlough, and is now in Canada seeking a restoration of strength. He and family expect to return during the present year, and will resume charge upon arrival in India. During his term, the seminary continued its growth until it numbered 100 students and had 8 native teachers on the teaching staff. The seminary was also re-organized, and now consists of literary and theological departments. Several classes have been graduated from the seminary and the various graduates are now employed in evangelistic and pastoral work under the superintendence of the field missionaries.

*Miss S. I. Hatch.*—Miss Hatch was appointed to Samulcotta, and began work there in February, 1889. Her principal work in the seminary was teaching the Bible, but she by no means confined herself to this one department. She organized and superintended a Sunday school in Samulcotta village, also Bible women's work, and had charge of the correspondence with Circles and Bands, besides giving efficient help in many other ways. She has been recently in Canada on furlough, but is now again in India.

*Rev. J. E. Davis, B.A.*—Mr. Davis is the Cocanada missionary, but during Mr. Stillwell's absence has charge of the seminary and other work at Samulcotta. He has recently opened an industrial department.

## NATIVE TEACHERS.

*Rev. M. Jagganaikatu.*—Mr. Jagganaikatu entered the seminary during Mr. McLaurin's last year and has continued in the work until the present time. He has proved himself a good preacher, an able teacher and a safe counsellor.

*Mr. B. Subbarayudu.*—Mr. Subbarayudu has been engaged in the work for nearly two years, during which