

Nicholson, and the Rev. Mr. Ferguson taking part. Miss Johns sailed from London for Madras, via the Suez Canal, on the 27th October, and arrived in Madras on 1st December.

This is a bare narration of facts. There are two points connected with them which are peculiarly significant and deserve a special note.

1. *The circumstances attending the "call" and the qualifications of the person called.*—We may, without presumption, fully believe that this young lady has verily been "called of Jesus" unto this work, and her gifts and qualifications are of no ordinary kind.

As regards the latter, in addition to strong will and clear intellect, she has had large experience in influencing and educating the minds of others. At the time of her offer of service she was Lady Principal of a seminary in Halifax, and was in receipt of an income in excess of the salary she will receive in her present position. Because she believed that God needed her more in a heathen than in a Christian land, that wherever she was *most needed* there she was *called*, and that where she was called there she ought to go;—because she believed this, she stepped forward and made her offer: "Here am I; send me,—wherever those who know better than I see the greatest need, there send me." And hers was no hasty purpose, no sudden flare out of the fire of a zeal that might again go out leaving only ashes behind, but a calm, resolute, and *tested* consecration. For a long time the resolve had been growing in heart and mind, till it had come to fill and absorb her whole being. In one of his letters to his brother, Mr. Grant wrote: "For two years past—ever since I preached from 'The Lord is able to give thee much more than these'—she has felt that she should devote herself to Foreign Mission work;

. . . and I have not in the congregation her equal for such work." But it was not till the path of duty became very clearly opened before her, and God's call unmistakable, that she ventured to come forward and tell others of the purpose that had all the while been forming itself within her. Not till she had long counselled with the Church's Head did she offer herself to the Church. And now, three years after the call first

came to her, she goes forth, with proved armour, and strong in a tried faith.

2. *The circumstances attending the acceptance of the offer.*—It seems to us that St. Matthew's congregation met Miss Johns' offer in the spirit becoming a Christian congregation, and we give no more praise than that, for we have none higher to give. They speak of feeling "honoured" that one of their number whom they knew so well and trusted so much, should be the means of enabling them to take the responsibility upon them. A burden "taken up" in this spirit is no burden; it is an honour: no weight; it is a glory. The congregation was right; they are the "honoured."

Have we not here an example set us by this Colonial congregation? Though large and flourishing, it is not more wealthy than a great many in our midst, and not nearly as wealthy as some; and this is only *one* of its Foreign Mission responsibilities. We are sanguine enough to look forward to a day when each of our large congregations shall have its own mission and missionary, and each *group* of smaller congregations likewise—each, of course, under the Church's superintendence, yet drawing out local interest, effort and enthusiasm.

May we not hope that there may be a congregation or two amongst us prepared at once "to follow in the train?" Aberdeen has moved in that direction, for, as will be seen by another paper, the ladies there have sent a lady to superintend the Zenana Mission at Poona. "Still there's room." We long and look for "more to follow." The Master's call sounds to the Church, to congregations and to individuals: "Go work *to-day* in my Vineyard."

THE FRENCH AODIAN MISSION.

LAST month we gave the substance of Rev. Mr. Paradis' Report regarding the progress of his mission, which was very gratifying. We now give a couple of incidents showing the kind of work Mr. Paradis has to engage in occasionally:—

"One morning a Protestant called upon me, and said he was strictly enjoined by a Frenchman to tell me that he (the French-