

## The Woman's Missionary Society.

[This Department is in the interests of the W. M. Society. All communications for it should be addressed to Mrs. Jos. McLeod, Fredericton.]

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### RUTNIE SING.

Miss Barnes writes in the *Helper* of Rutnie Sing, one of the Bible women at Balasore, India:

"Rutnie Mousie' is what the children in Sinclair Orphanage and others call her, or Aunt Rutnie. Her name means precious stone, jewel, gem, and in many ways she is a jewel. I have been so closely connected with her for nearly eight years that we have become well acquainted. Like every one of us she has some failings, but God has taught her many lessons which have greatly beautified her character. She is sensible and kind and very helpful, and believes that kindness to the sick is one of the first duties of a Christian, and is always ready to do what she can. She loves her Bible and her work as a Bible woman very much. Many good preachers do not excel her in telling the Bible stories and teaching the spiritual lessons from them. Over and over again have I heard her tell them to both large and small companies of her heathen sisters, and always with much freshness and earnestness. One of the proofs that God has used her in this work is, that when they become ill or are nearing the end of this life, they have sent for her to tell them more about the way of eternal life,—even those who are supposed to be 'pucca' or orthodox Hindus. Pray for her and all Bible women in India, that they may be used more and more; and that God will make them very earnest and faithful in this beautiful work for their countrywomen."

### A CHILD WORSHIPPER IN INDIA.

It was with keen expectation that I left the missionary compound and walked with a party of friends past the great elephant stone in the city of Madura, one shining morning, for was not the temple of Minatchi (one of the finest in all India), with its mysterious quadrangle and towering gateways, still to be explored?

Passing through the great carved gateway under the tower, I saw before me a little boy walking by his father's side. The slim, lithe little fellow had a scant bit of white cloth draped about his waist, and a little black, braided queue standing up on his crown. With one hand clasping his father's, he held in the other a long wreath of pink oleander flowers, strung upon a thread.

With eager interest I followed him on through the large vestibule where were kept the elephants that are so imposing in the great festival processions, and still through the "Temple Bazaar," from which no Master has ever driven the

money-makers with a whip of small cords.

Coming into the hall of the gods, he stood reverently before a colossal image of Puliar with the elephant's head. The gross clumsy body of dark stone was sitting cross-legged upon its pedestal. The four clumsy hands were outstretched. Into the oil of the offerings poured over it, the dust of a torrid city had settled. It was repulsive in the extreme.

A Brahmin stepped forward, took the flowers, delicate, fragrant, a fit emblem of a child's worship, and, reaching up, he threw them over the neck of Puliar! Then the little brown hands were clasped against the wee lad's forehead, and he cast himself at all his length before the hideous thing!

That was the best ideal that father had to set before his child!

As I turned away from the sight, I came face to face, for the first time, with Kali. She, too, stood upon her pedestal of stone; the human victim was under her feet, the string of skulls was about her neck; drops of blood from her victim were painted as if they had fallen from her mouth upon her breast.

I must have been standing near the spot where, in the darker days, before the hand of Christian England guarded the lives of the lowly, the appeasing human victim was offered to Kali during outbreaks of cholera.

The bonnie little boy could not go out without looking at this fierce, vengeful idol. Could he see it without a chill of fear? Did not the shadows of a dark superstition haunt his soul forevermore? Did not these debased ideals enter into the stream of his life and pollute it at its source?

### WORTH REMEMBERING.

Those who talk about the failure of the work of missions should bear in mind that Christianity began with 120 persons in an upper room. Now it holds the allegiance of one-third of the race. The bulk of the wealth and intelligence of the world belongs to those who recognize Jesus Christ as Lord.

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MRS. OWEN GREENE.

—The heroic spirit of the missionaries of the early ages has not departed. In all the recent troubles the missionaries have stood at their posts. Christ does not require his servants to waste their lives, but his spirit was seen in the missionaries at the time of the Armenian massacres, during the whole of the Boxer rebellion in China, and at the present time in Macedonia and neighboring countries. The record of heroic service is a strong testimony to the grace received in Christ.

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### MISSION NEWS AND NOTES.

—The Conference of Missions planned to be held in Korea in 1904 has been postponed on account of the Russo-Japanese War. Due notice will be given when events make it possible to hold the conference.

—Japan has now taken its place among missionary nations. The first Japanese Christian missionary to Korea lately arrived in Seoul, with two assistants. They are sent forth by the Methodist Episcopal Society of Japan.

—In an English missionary school in British New Guinea the scholars were lately asked how many of them had ever tasted human flesh. Only one could deny the accusation. A mission in such surroundings is like a forlorn hope in warfare; when it attains success the result is worth the long and terrible struggle.

—In the Congo Baptist Mission are 135 schools with 4,517 pupils. Thirty new village schools with 1,100 scholars were started the past year. "As the state demands a tax of two hundred sacks of peanuts from each district, women, young and old, must work hard to grow peanuts enough for the tax and family use, so they can attend school part of the year."

—Uganda, at one time regarded as almost hopeless mission territory, last year reported 10,000 candidates for baptism, with 21,000 children under religious instruction. A new hospital is being erected at one of the stations, largely by native labor. Just now the missionary's greatest triumphs are being won in the darkest and least hopeful fields, looked at from our poor faithless point of view.

—The ministerial force of the Protestant Episcopal Mission in Liberia is being steadily recruited from the native Africans. Two young men of the Gredebo tribe have lately been ordained deacons, after faithful service as lay-readers. One sometimes forgets the profound meaning, as regards the progress of the kingdom, latent in such transfers of men from the forces against to the forces working for Christianity.

—Sir Charles Warren, conspicuous in South African affairs, presiding at a meeting in Exeter Hall recently, gave it as his opinion that the civil and military authorities in South Africa could do little without the aid of the missionaries. His opinion of the Boer was not the highest. He said the Boer hated the missionary with a perfect hatred, because he saved the native from slavery. His testimony in both directions cannot be far from the truth.

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—It is reported that the conversion to Christianity of two well known Brahmins in the city of Jaipur, India, the one a sub-judge and the other a lady doctor, has created much excitement in the Hindu community, and a resolution has been passed that the children are not to be sent to missionary schools, and that zenanas are to be closed against lady missionaries. One of the Hindu papers, referring to education under Christian influence, say "it does not end with their social life, but sticks to them throughout their lives.—*Christian Work.*"

Commenting on the Slocum horror, a valued contemporary says that "a submissive spirit, a spirit resigned to its Father's will can pray that petition, 'Thy will be done' everywhere and at all times, in the sweet hope of peace and rest at last." True, as concerns the believer's looking to God for help in times of trouble. But there are many things that are done not at all according to God's will; and in our view, the Slocum horror was one of them.—*Chris. Work.*

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