

another sample of East Coast weather, and for ten days or so, they felt much as Noah and his family must have felt when they were shut in the ark, and "the windows of heaven were opened," never in New Zealand had we seen such rain. Ten inches in twenty-four hours, and six inches in twelve hours, which were some of the Waipiro records, give but a faint idea of the rainfall, for it continued steadily teaming for nine or ten days. Roads, before knee deep in mud, now became, in many cases, impassable. Roads, bridges, culverts, disappeared for chains. Short cuts, through fences that had slipped away became the order of the day. On meeting a traveller the invariable question was "what is the road like to such and such a place," then followed a detailed description of how to avoid some death trap in the shape of a slip or a wash-out. One consolation—we have seen it at its worst—its very worst. However, the end of ones' journey was with it all. One had heard much of the hospitality of East Coasters, but nothing could prepare one for the warmth of the welcome that awaited one everywhere. From station owners and managers, who dispense their hospitality as only English gentlemen know how, from brave ladies who, cut off from their fellows by miles and miles of mud, and impassable tracks, and who, in many a native school, stick to their task of training the Maoris in many more things than the three "R's." In the writer's opinion no braver missionary work is being done in any mission than in the native schools on this coast, from shepherds and bush hands who, in all kinds of out-of-the-way places, in all kinds of unostentatious ways, put themselves to no small inconvenience to "help the parson," or "to show the parson the track"—everywhere, and from everyone, the kindness one has received is far beyond thanks, beyond one's powers to express.

And then the services, they lack many things which are desirable adjuncts to Divine Worship, but they do not lack the one essential, the spirit of worship, and they do not lack numbers. At most of the stations and townships all hands attended the services, whether it be on a Sunday or a week night. At one township, at a week-night service, we had three or four more persons than the total adult population of the township. The three or four extras were visitors passing through the township. It would surprise some town worshippers to see

ladies in some bush townships wading to church, through wind, and rain, in gum boots, almost up to their knees in liquid mud. Happily now all this is a thing of the past, we hope for many months. As one canters over spots, a few weeks since girth deep in mud, the hardships of the winter are forgotten in the perfection of the spring.

Such then are some of one's impressions of the East Coast. The predominant feeling being one of thankfulness that one's lot is cast amongst a community where the services of our most Holy Church, oftentimes administered amidst difficulties almost insurmountable, are most eagerly welcomed, and of which almost the whole community heartily avails themselves.

## News from other Dioceses.

### CHRISTCHURCH.

THE GENERAL MISSION is of course the centre of interest. When we think of Wellington, Auckland, and Waiapu, we cannot help hoping very great things indeed, even the most pessimistic of us. By the time this issue of the GAZETTE is out, the Missioners will have left Christchurch, or be on the point of doing so. But though the men will have gone, their influence will be with us. God grant that that influence may long abide with us to the edifying of the Body of Christ and so to the glory of God.

C.E.M.S.—The Mission is a veritable God-send to the C.E.M.S.—just what was wanted and just at the right time, to demonstrate its object. All our branches have been hard at work distributing literature, visiting, etc., and there's more to be done: 50,000 "railway" tickets are being printed for distribution, advertising the preparatory and the dinner-hour services for men and for women.

DIOCESAN CHORAL FESTIVAL.—This year, as the outcome of a suggestion made by your Bishop in his sermon at last year's festival, a garden party was held in place of the usual high tea. It was a great improvement from every point of view, particularly the social. Sixteen choirs took part, the total number of voices being over four hundred.

"A soldier may make the General or Captain as his great model, and yet be often animated with fresh zeal and courage by the example of a comrade in the ranks."

## The Mission Field.

The Waiapu Diocese will have the honour this month of sending out to India one of her clergy—the Rev. F. C. Long,—and, moreover, Mr Long will be the first of the clergy of New Zealand to go out to the front under the auspices of the Church Missionary Association.

And we rejoice to note, also, that the Diocese of Auckland, a month ago sent out to China the first missionary doctor on the staff of our C.M.A. Dr. Strange was an Auckland boy, who left years ago for England, and in course of time became M.R.C.S. and L.R.C.P. (London). Before offering for the mission field he was House Surgeon of St. George's Hospital, Hyde Park Corner, London.

On his return to Auckland this year, Dr. Strange told his friends of his wish to go out to the front, whereupon a committee was formed; three well-known doctors and the same number of clergy combined in an appeal for medical missionary work, and with others made themselves financially responsible for Dr. Strange's work. The C.M.A., with the consent of the C.M.S., has accepted Dr. Strange to be a helper to Dr. Duncan Main, in his splendid work in the hospital of Hang Chow, said to be the largest and most up-to-date Mission Hospital in the world.

Yet again, an offer has been received by the C.M.A. from another clergyman holding a cure in New Zealand. He has already been a missionary, and knows an Indian language "like a native," to use the phrase employed by one who was conversant with his Indian career.

But to send him out the committee of the C.M.A. need £100 per annum guaranteed for three or four years, besides £50 towards passage money. Who will help? If we cannot go ourselves, the next best thing is to send out our representative!

### Medical Missions.

The growth of Medical Missions during the last few years has been very marked.

There are now 641 men and 341 women with full medical qualifications working in 550 hospitals and 1024 dispensaries.

The in-patients admitted to these hospitals during last year numbered 164,245; "dispensary treatments" during the same period amounted to 4,231,635; visits paid to outside patients were 144,701, the total individual patients numbering 4,272,468,