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## STRICT BAPTIST MISSION

## MAPS OF FIELDS

PRICE: ONE SHILLING

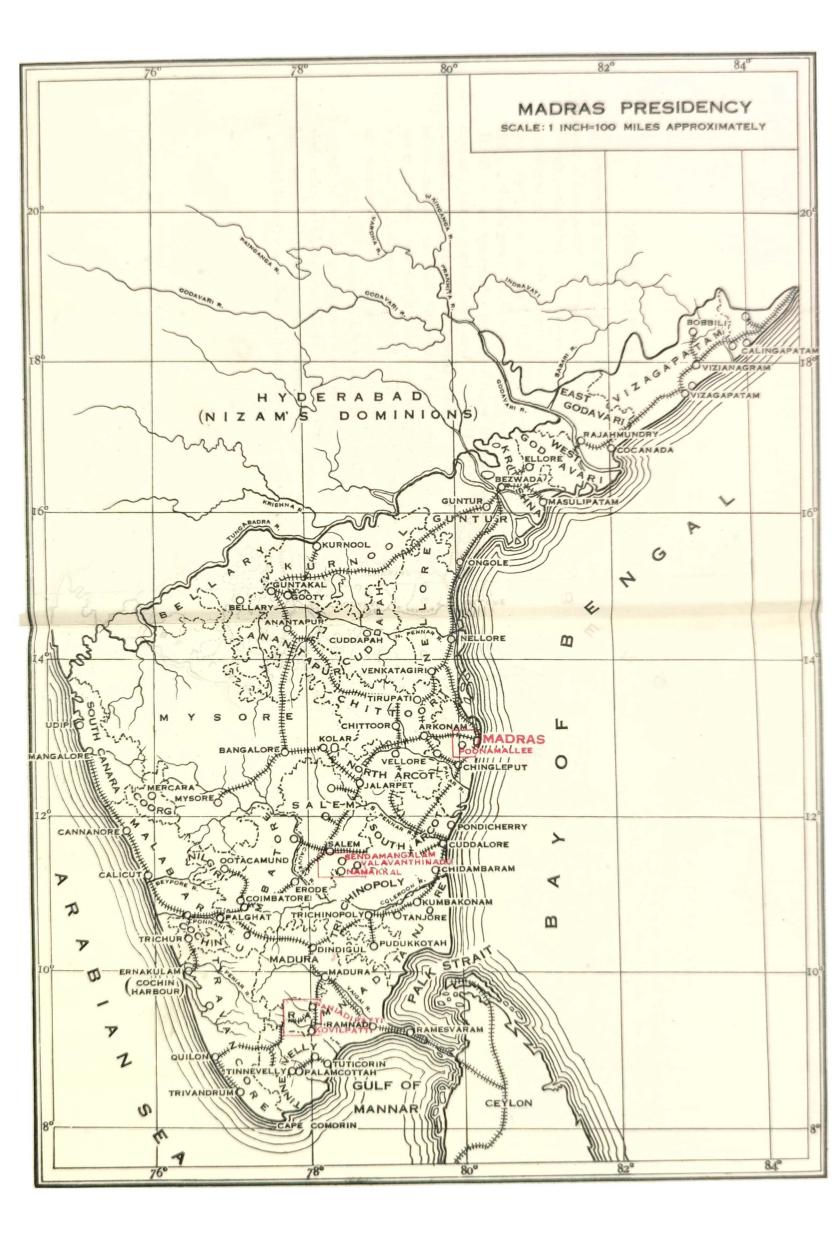
Names printed in red indicate places where the Mission has workers or where there are members of S.B.M. Churches.

The full amount received from the sale of this book will benefit the General Fund of the Strict Baptist Mission.

#### MADRAS PRESIDENCY

The work of the Strict Baptist Mission is carried on in the Madras, Salem and Tinnevelly Areas, and in these we have six missionary stations—one in the Madras, three in the Salem and two in the Tinnevelly Areas. The beginnings of Strict Baptist effort in Madras date from 1858, three years before the Strict Baptist Mission was founded. The earliest record we have found concerning our S. B. M. work in the Tinnevelly Area takes us back to 1883, though the individual Strict Baptist work goes back at least to 1840. In the Salem Area we laid our foundations at Sendamangalam in 1907, after which were opened up the adjacent Fields of Kolli Hills and Namakkal. There is a distance of a little more than 200 miles separating the Salem Area from each of the other two.

It will be seen by the accompanying map of the Madras Presidency that Salem and Tinnevelly Areas take their names from the Districts in which they are situated, and that the Tinnevelly District is southernmost in all India.



#### MADRAS AREA

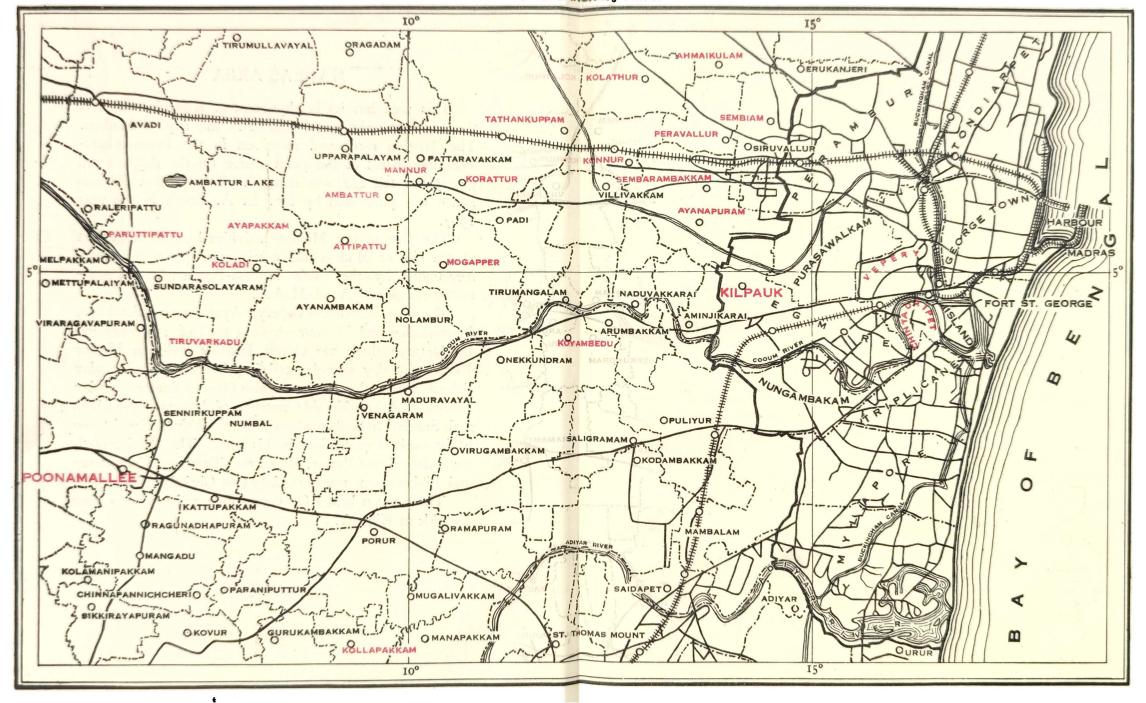
This area has its headquarters at Kilpauk, which is the most westerly postal district in the city of Madras. The Mission compound abuts on to the Pursawalkam-Perambur Road at the point where (in the days of toll gates) the toll bar was situated. The present Mission house was purchased by Mr. E. A. Booth in the year 1907.

The area of our Mission activities here includes part of the city of Madras and a triangular piece of country surrounded by the roads Madras-Poonamallee, Poonamallee-Avadi and Avadi-Madras.

The five churches—Vepery, Ayanapuram, Sembiam, Poonamallee and Mannur—have a total of 370 members. In the area there are eleven Primary and one Higher Elementary day schools, and in addition to the Sunday Schools held in these there are also fifteen voluntary Sunday Schools. A considerable number of honorary preachers and Sunday School workers render invaluable assistance in the work of evangelism in this area. The Mission staff, consisting of one Pastor, Preachers, Teachers, Colporteurs and Biblewomen, numbers sixty-two Christian workers.

There are a hostel for young men and a sewing class for girls at Kilpauk.

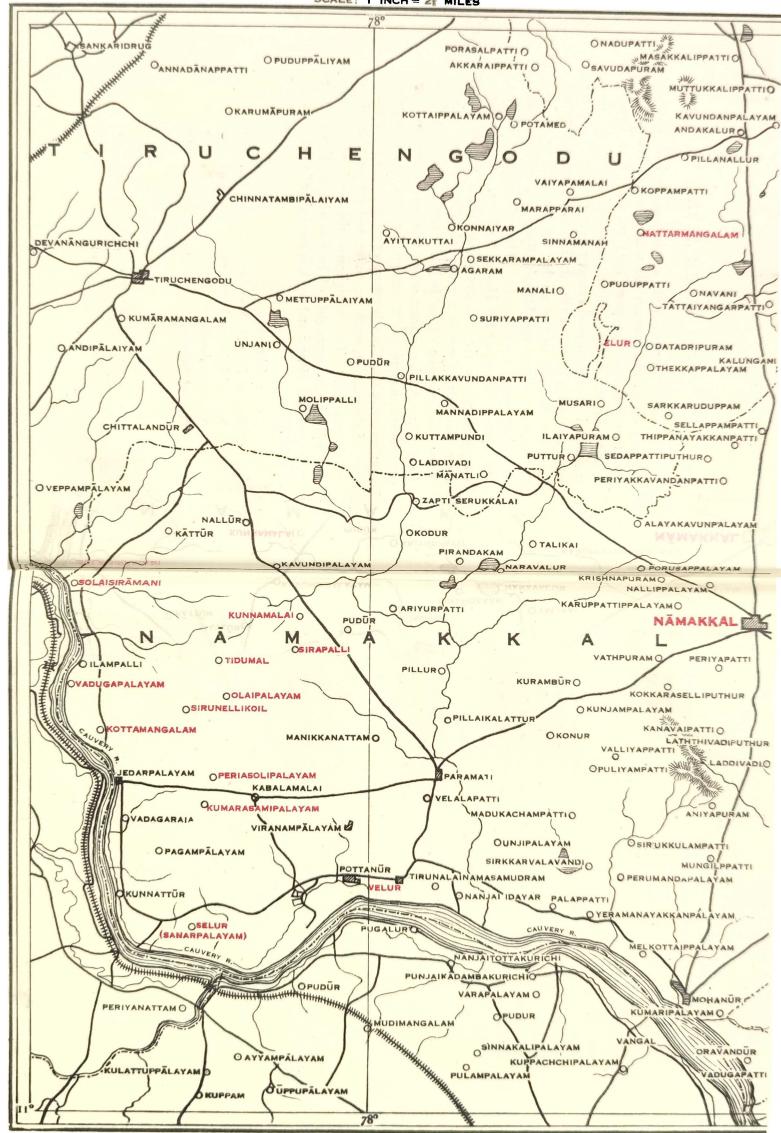
SCALE: 1 INCH=1 MILES



#### WEST SALEM AREA

This area, together with a substantially built church standing on an ideal site in the taluk town of Namakkal, was transferred in the year 1923 to the Strict Baptist Mission by the London Missionary Society. Namakkal is situated on a main road running from the city of Bangalore, 200 miles in the north, to Tinnevelly approximately the same distance to the south. In the year 1926 Mr. D. Morling erected the Mission Bungalow in Namakkal, the headquarters for this field. Here there are a Higher Elementary School and a Hostel for boys. On the eastern bank of the river Cauvery and about twenty miles from Namakkal there is a group of village congregations under the guidance of an Indian Pastor. Owing to the famine-like conditions from which this part suffers and the consequent unemployment among the agricultural population, many of our Church members go away for the greater part of the year to work on coffee and rubber plantations on distant hills. This complicates the work of evangelism and Church oversight. The following table will show how Christian witness and work is carried on in the Namakkal Field.

No. of	Churches	9
No. of	Church Members	 203
No. of	Mission Workers	39
No. of	Schools	9
No. of	Scholars	 417



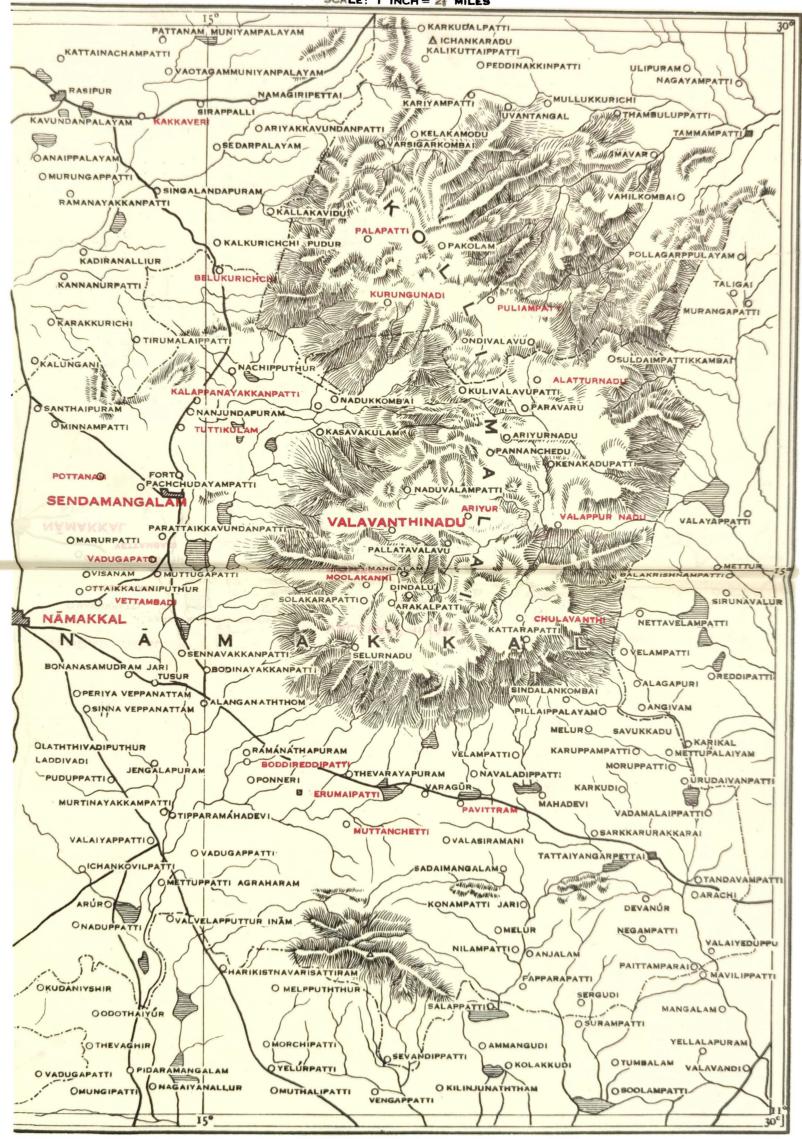
#### EAST SALEM AREA

This area is comprised of two Fields, one having its headquarters at Sendamangalam and the other at Valavanthinadu on the Kolli Hills plateau. Work was started by us in Sendamangalam in the year 1907 after the responsibility of evangelising this area was transferred to the Strict Baptist Mission by The London Missionary Society. Although Namakkal is the Taluk Town Sendamangalam has a population considerably larger. The Mission House was built by Mr. D. Morling soon after we assumed charge and at this time there were no Christians or Mission buildings in the vicinity. Now we have a Higher Elementary School for girls, a Hostel and a Dispensary; also medical work is conducted in the outlying districts by the aid of a well equipped Motor Dispensary.

No.	of	Churches		• • •	3
No.	of	Church I	Members		123
No.	of	Mission	Workers	• • •	37
No.	of	Schools	•••		6
No.	of	Scholars	•••		230

In the year 1913 the late Mr. J. M. Brand started work on the Kolli Hills range. The average altitude of this plateau is 3,500 feet above sea level and its highest peak is approximately 4,650 feet. The climate is cool and the hills are picturesque, but Malaria is extremely prevalent. The work is supervised from Valavanthinadu some two miles form the south-western edge of the hills. Here there are a Dispensary in the charge of a qualified Indian Christian doctor, and hostels for boys and girls.

No.	$\mathbf{of}$	Churches	s	•••	2
No.	$\mathbf{of}$	Church	Members	• • •	51
No.	of	Mission	Workers	• • •	24
No.	of	Schools	•••	•••	8
No.	of	Scholars	•••		186



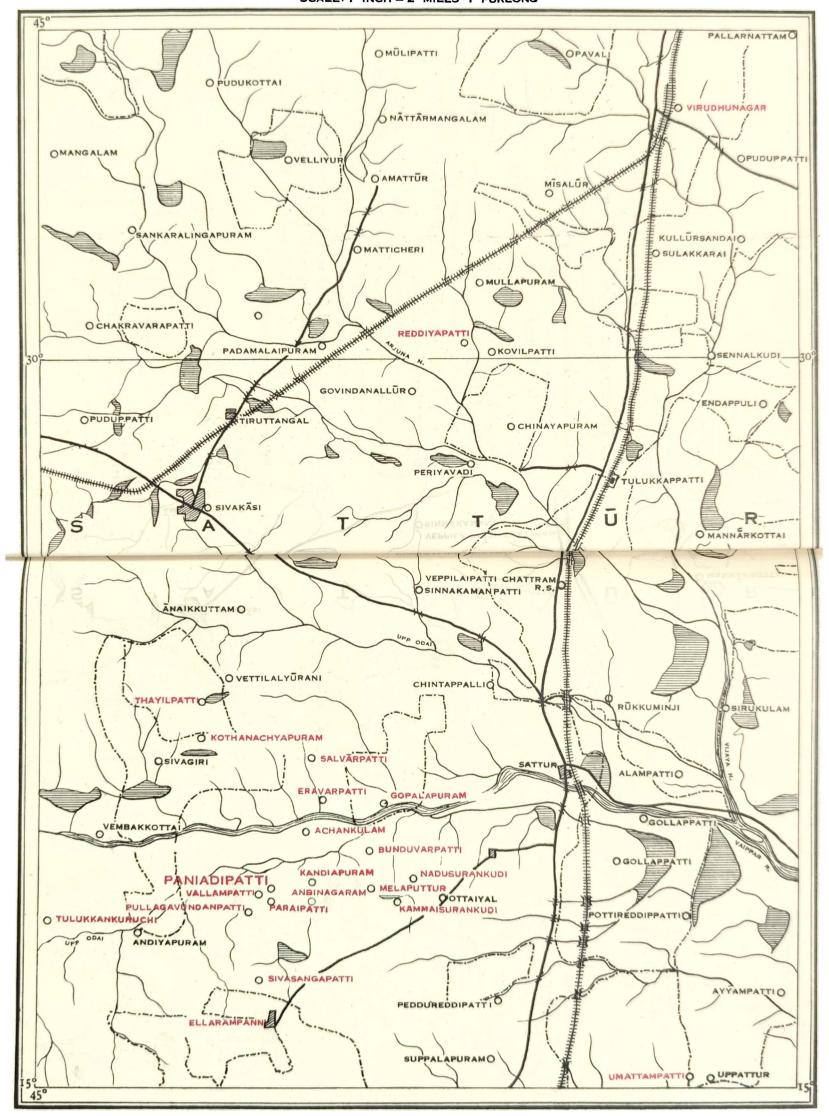
#### NORTH TINNEVELLY AREA

The map gives the positions of our outstations in the northern part of the Tinnevelly Area, much of which is in the Sattur Taluk and now lies in the Ramnad District.

The Paniadipatti Mission House has been the residence of L.Z.A. missionaries for the past thirteen years, and in our compound there we have a Girls' Hostel and Day School superintended by the ladies. Though the village of Paniadipatti is several miles from the railway and even from all roads (Ellarampanni being the nearest village on a road), it will be seen that it is a good centre for a number of outstations.

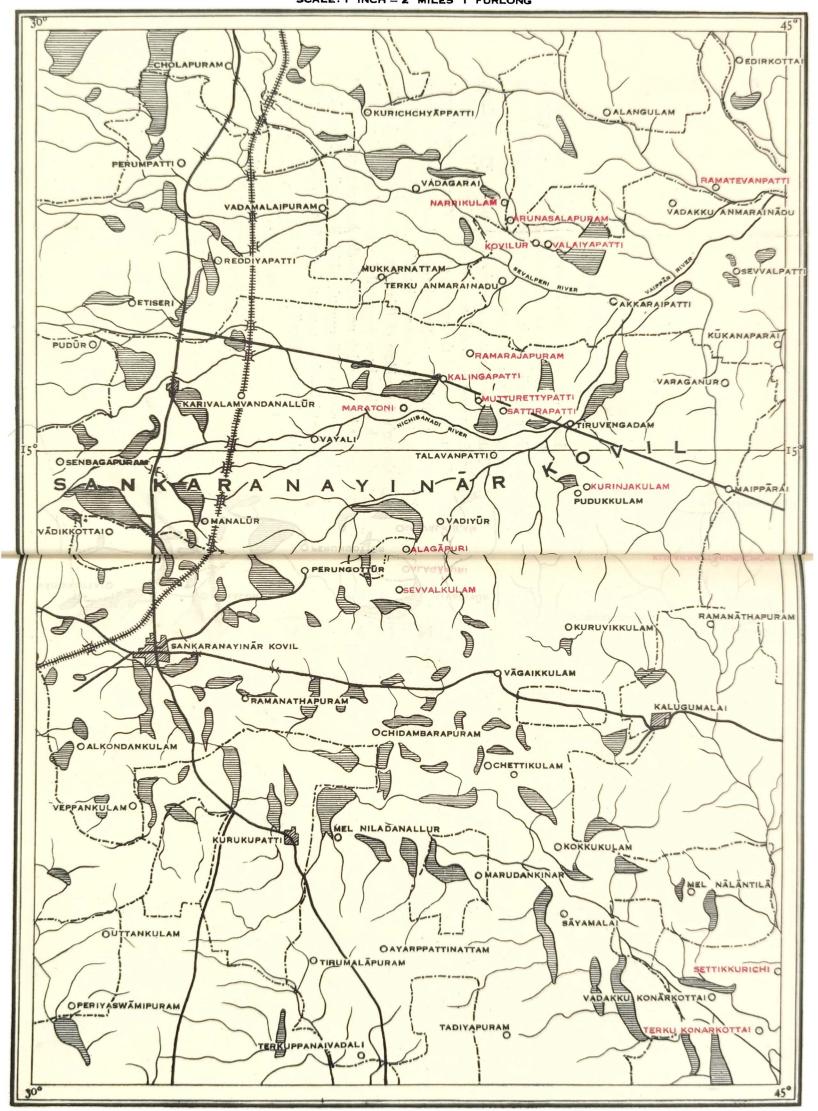
Shaded patches represent irrigation 'tanks' or lakes, which for most of the year are completely dry. Black clay (cotton soil) and the scarcity of roads throughout the Tinnevelly Area make travelling very difficult.

At present general field work here is under the direction of the missionary having his headquarters in Kovilpatti, ten miles south of Paniadipatti, as the crow flies; by road it is over twenty.



#### WEST TINNEVELLY AREA

Here we are in the Tinnevelly District proper, most of the map showing the Sankaran Kovil, or the Sankara Nayinar Kovil, Taluk. We are here only about twenty miles from the precipitous sides of the lofty Western Ghats, hence the large number of 'tanks'. The southerly road running east and west brings us from Kovilpatti, a few miles beyond the eastern edge. That passing through Kalingapatti, the centre of one of our Tinnevelly Pastorates, is a part of a road intended to run from Kovilpatti through the middle of this part of our field. Unhappily, though it has been prepared for several miles from each end, it has been left unmade in the central portion, so that the journey to Kalingapatti, which is 19 miles distant from Kovilpatti is often reached by a forty mile journey, via Sankara Nayinar Kovil!



#### EAST TINNEVELLY AREA

The whole of the men's work in the Tinnevelly Area is directed from Kovilpatti, capital of the Kovilpatti Taluk. The present Mission House there was erected by Mr. R. C. Strickson in 1900 and is situated on a high gravelly ridge. The town is about 35 miles from the nearest point on the eastern sea-coast and 40 miles from the port of Tuticorin.

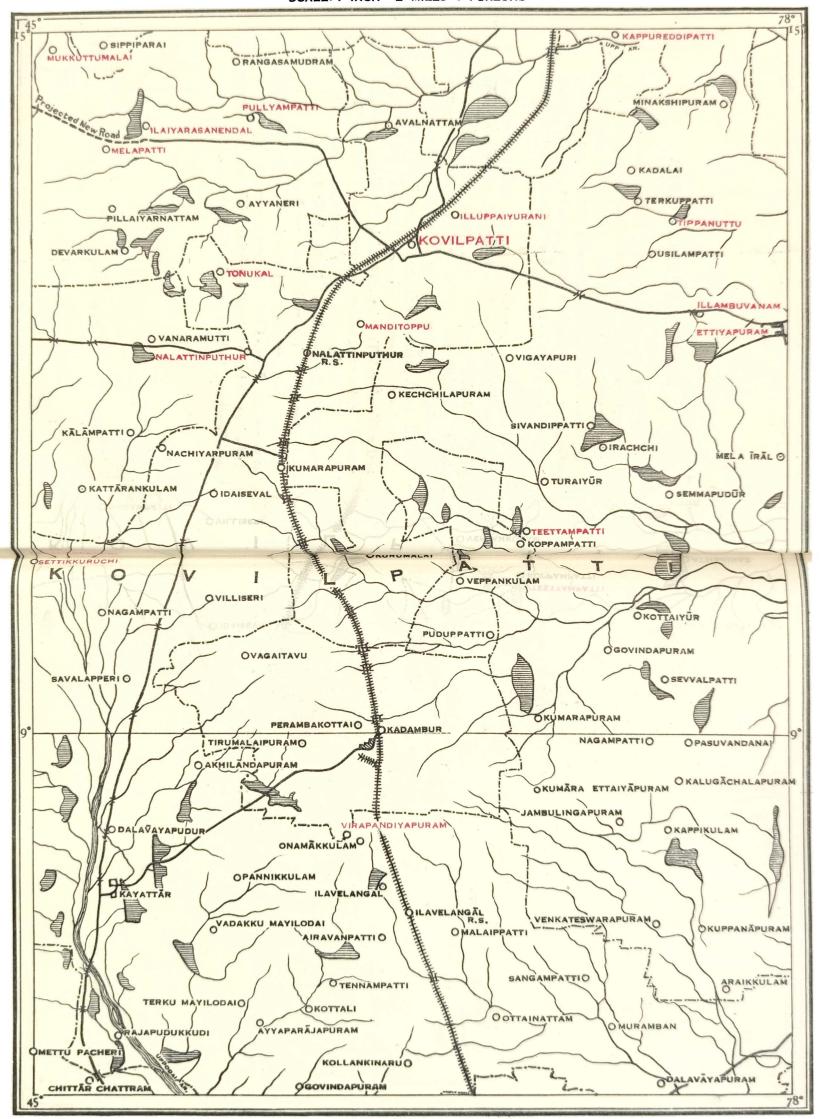
The road running roughly north and south through Kovilpatti joins the two District capitals of Madura in the north and Tinnevelly in the south. This missionary station, especially for a Taluk capital, is very poorly provided with roads, but happily it stands on the railway. Madras, by the nearest rail line, is 366 miles distant.

As the Government have established a High School and a Teachers' Training School in Kovilpatti, we have started, partly on a self-supporting basis, a Young Men's Hostel for students in those institutions. Our latest development here is the S. B. M. Bible Institute.

In the whole Tinnevelly Area we have in the S. B. Mission 37 congregations and 29 schools. The Gospel of salvation by Jesus Christ is being sounded forth by a staff of 74 Indian workers consisting of Pastors, Evangelists, Teachers, Colporteurs and Biblewomen.

### EAST TINNEVELLY AREA

SCALE: 1 INCH = 2 MILES 1 FURLONG



# $\begin{array}{c} & \text{printed in india} \\ \text{At the diocesan press, madras} \\ & 1938 \end{array}$