

Missionary Herald.

BAPTIST MISSION.

Home Proceedings.

WELLINGTON, SOMERSET.

ON Wednesday, July 30, a Missionary Meeting was held at Wellington, Somersetshire. — The services were commenced by a sermon on the preceding evening from Matthew ix. 38, by Mr. Viney of Bridgewater; in which the figurative representation of the scene of Missionary labour, as "the harvest"—the propriety which the Almighty has in it, as being "the Lord of the harvest"—the character of those who are employed by him in its services, as being "labourers"—the inadequacy of those who are thus engaged, in proportion to the magnitude of the work—and the consequent duty on the part of christians to pray for large accessions to their numbers were points urged in the sermon with force and ability.—Mr. Gabriel of Stogumber commenced, and Mr. Clarke of Taunton closed the service with prayer.

On the following morning the services were commenced with reading the scriptures and prayer by Mr. Dyer, Secretary to the Parent Society. Prayer was then offered by Mr. Toms of Chard; after which Mr. Singleton of Tiverton preached from Job xix. 25, 26; in which the preacher took a luminous view of the interesting object of the pious believer's contemplation—his devotional application of this object to himself,—and the animating supports which these views afforded in the immediate prospect of immortality. From the happy situation of the true christian in his approach to death and the grave, arising from the distant but delightful view of a triumphant resur-

rection to glory and felicity, the preacher made a striking transition to the miserable condition of the Heathen world, as ignorant of the Redeemer, and consequently strangers to the hopes and prospects unfolded by the Gospel; and hence took occasion to press upon the attention of his audience the necessity of active and energetic efforts on behalf of millions of our fellow-creatures, perishing in ignorance and sin. The service was closed by Mr. Cuff, Independent minister in the town.

In the afternoon a sermon was preached by Mr. Hatch, (student from Stepney,) supplying Watchett and Williton.

In the evening a public meeting was held, for the purpose of forming a Missionary Association for Wellington and its neighbourhood, in connection with the Western Auxiliary, at which William Cadbury, Esq. presided; when Mr. Dyer communicated the most recent intelligence respecting the Mission, among which was the mournful tidings of Mr. Ward's death; to whose memory a tribute of affectionate respect was paid by several of the speakers in the course of the evening. The Meeting was also addressed by Messrs. Clarke, Toms, Gabriel, R. Horsey, Baynes, Viney, Singleton, Humphrey, and by Wm. Cadbury, Esq. the Chairman.

Thus closed the services of a day which will not soon be forgotten by those who had the happiness of sharing in them. And most earnestly is it hoped, that the impulse then given to Missionary ardour and zeal will not soon subside—that this Missionary Association will prove an efficient instrument of strengthening our Western Auxiliary, and that others may be stirred up, to form similar Societies, till there shall not be a town or village in our native island without them. That thus the means may be furnished of sending the gospel into every part

of the heathen world, and the time be hastened on when "All nations shall be blessed in our Redeemer, and shall call him blessed." Hasten it in thine own time, O Lord! Amen.

J. B.

Foreign Intelligence.

SERAMPORE.

No farther accounts relative to the mournful event at this station, announced in our last Number, have yet reached us. From a letter, addressed by Dr. Carey to Dr. Ryland, dated January 30, we learn that his own health was seriously impaired during the preceding month, but that, at the time of writing, he was "nearly as well as before." In the same communication, after adverting, in a feeling manner, to the numerous instances of mortality which had previously taken place among Missionaries, he proceeds to observe;

"The success within the last year has been very considerable. The additions at Dinapore, at Beerbhoom, (formerly reckoned a part of Cutwa, though sixty miles distant at least, but forming a separate church, under the care of Brother Hampden, and promising fair to be two churches within a short time,) and at Chittagong, have been greatest. Brother Thompson has baptized a pundit at Delhi, and writes that the principal Mahometan ecclesiastics, and those of the most learning, indignant at seeing Christianity assume, or rather claim, a higher place than Moosulmanism, have begun to examine the scriptures closely. They read the Arabic Bible, and frequently meet Brother Thompson to argue upon disputed points, especially the Divinity of our Lord Jesus Christ.

"The attempts at Female Education by Miss Cooke, in Calcutta, have been successful beyond all previous calculation; and education in general makes great progress. The last examination of the students in Serampore College was highly gratifying. We were, two or three years ago, obliged to desist from several of the Translations for want of funds, and I fear shall

be obliged to decrease the number still more from the same cause.* After all reduction, the labour of reading proof sheets, and examining the versions in the press, keeps me as fully employed as I can wish to be. I hope another year will get me through my Dictionary, which will be a considerable relief, as that occupies two days every week.

"I have lately read with great interest the life of dear Mr. Scott.† So many scenes to which I was a witness, and so many circumstances, which, at the time, were of great importance to me, were thereby brought to my recollection, that I have not for a long time felt so much pleasure in reading a work as I have that. I feel deeply the disparity between him and myself, and am humbled thereat. What a life! What a death!"

WE extract the following particulars from a letter, addressed by our lamented brother Ward to Mr. Dyer, dated February 27, only eight days before his decease.

"The annual examination of the students of Serampore College took place on the 9th of January, in the College-hall, at which His Excellency Colonel Krafting presided, when various exercises were exhibited in the Sungskrit, the Bengalee, and the Persian languages. The head student in the Sungskrit gave in a translation into the Bengalee of the *Dushu-koomar*, a Sungskrit poem. Several students of the Jyotish gave accounts of the books they had studied, and the progress they had made: and it appeared that most of the young people had been studying a system of Geography, and delineating Maps of Hindoosthan. At the close of the examination, His Excellency Colonel Krafting, in the most condescending manner, distributed the rewards to the different students. The exhibition was truly gratifying. We have received news of the expected baptism of two other Christian students of the College now in Beerh-

* Intelligence of the late liberal grants by the British and Foreign Bible Society had not then reached Serampore.—Ed.

† The late venerable Rector of Aston Sandford.—Ed.

hoom, in addition to the one baptized a month or two ago.

"On the 23d December, the Marchioness of Hastings, accompanied by Lady Harriet Paget, and several other ladies and gentlemen, condescendingly paid a farewell visit to the Mission family at Serampore. Her Ladyship went over the premises, visiting the Botanic Garden, the Printing Office, the Steam Engine, and the College. The students were assembled to receive her Ladyship in the College-hall, with whose appearance the Marchioness expressed herself much gratified. The peculiar interest which Lady Hastings has taken in the improvement of India, renders her departure a subject of deep regret.

"Mrs. Mack, assisted by Mr. Ward's eldest daughter, holds meetings with the native Christian females at Serampore twice a week. They are learning to read, and to use the needle, and appear pleased with their new engagements, from which we hope much good will result. They sing a hymn in Bengalee, and one of the native females offers up a prayer before they break up.

"In the month of January, a bama-charee, (calling himself a bruhma-charee, a brahman, called at Serampore, and staid two or three days, having a boat and palanqueen in attendance upon him. This man drank brandy and eat biscuit without the least hesitation, and could scarcely be prevented from drinking to excess. An orthodox Hindoo, on the contrary, holds spirits and food cooked by others in utter abhorrence: nay, the reception of such food involves the loss of cast, bringing on the offender indescribable misery. Yet this bama-charee preserves his cast and his honour undiminished. Such are the extremes into which a people go who are led by custom, without investigating the causes and consequences of things.

"Mr. William Carey, of Cutwa, has recently paid a visit to his father, accompanied by two native preachers, whose appearance, conversation, and prayers were very gratifying. They speak of their congregations around Cutwa as listening to the gospel with an attention which affords the hope that they feel a considerable interest in it, though they have not courage to avow it by taking up their cross, (the loss of cast may properly be compared to a crucifixion,) and following the Redeemer.

"The native converts at Serampore, whose knowledge of the gospel, and practical exemplification of it, encourage their teachers to send them out as itinerants, spend part of each Lord's-day in the neighbouring towns and villages, scattering the good seed. On the Monday evening, at a meeting for prayer, they give accounts of their discourses with the heathen; and these accounts supply matter for prayer and further exertions; and are finally embodied in the quarterly reports of the Hindoo Missionary Society established at Serampore.

"On Lord's-day, the 26th January, a young man of the name of Richards, from the artillery at Dum-Dum, and also a widow, were baptized at the Lall-Bazar chapel at Calcutta, by brother C. C. Aratoon."

DUM-DUM.

THE pious soldiers at this place have obtained a piece of ground on the borders of the cantonments, and have removed the native school to the new ground, and are collecting on it the bricks for their new chapel. The attendance on preaching at the new school-house is encouraging: on the 12th it was filled with attentive persons. The old thatched chapel was so decayed, that the first storm would no doubt have blown it down: they have therefore taken the materials to build this new school-room. The journal of Subroo, the native preacher, is drawn up monthly by Mr. May. In the month of December, Subroo could not itinerate to any great extent, as, besides his having to engage in morning and evening public worship with the members of the church, and the superintendance of the school, he had in that month to take charge of the erection of the school-room, &c. He visited, however, several villages, and conversed with a number on the way of salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ.

JESSORE.

OUT of thirty families of which the village of Anundanugur in Jessore is composed, we are informed that twenty-five wish to embrace the gospel. On the 19th December, three persons of the names of Gunesh, Nityaee, and Junuka, belonging to these friends, vi-

sited Mr. Thomas in Jessore; staid two or three days, receiving instruction, and promised to return, and be baptized, if accepted, on the 2d of February. Ganesh is the leader of this band of inquirers. Mr. Thomas also informs us, that he has engaged Ketabdec as an assistant in the branches of this church meeting at Vusipore, Badpookur, and Gourenatpore. In December nineteen members sat down to the Lord's Supper at Christianpore, another branch of the Jessore church. The four native preachers have itinerated as usual.

CHITTAGONG.

Mr. Fink thus writes under date 31st December. "A few days ago I was visited again by a Burman, with whom I used to converse about religion, and when we were conversing with him, and teaching him how to adore God, especially in prayer, he lifted up his eyes, and said, 'Have mercy on me, O God of these gentlemen.'—This man is now become humble, and has encouraged us to go with him to his village, and to preach the word to his family and others, which we have promised to do." Mr. Jobannes, superintendent of the Benevolent Institution at Chittagong, writes, "The number of children now on the list is 140. The progress of the highest class, as was observed by the visitors at the last examination, is as follows: Worked double rule of three; answered questions in grammar; repeated select parts from Natural Philosophy, such as Q. What is religion? A. That worship or homage due to God, considered as Creator, Preserver, and (by Christians) as the Redeemer of the world. How many religions are there in the world? Four, the Christian, the Jewish, the Pagan, and the Mahometan. These boys read the Bible, and repeat catechisms and hymns by heart. As to their conduct at home, many appear very orderly now: they read their Bengalee Testaments to their parents, and often meet together to converse on religion. Once careless and indifferent to learning, they now value it, considering it as that which will not only make them wise unto salvation, but make them useful members in society. When I consider my own case, as once in the broad road to destruction, and that I was snatched from ruin, I cannot but hope that there will be some

in this Institution who will have cause to bless God with their latest breath. It is highly necessary that the boys should be taught to read the Bengalee, that they may enlighten the minds of their parents, who are little better than their heathen neighbours. I had some months ago devoted an hour or two after the English, in teaching the monitors Bengalee, and succeeded so far as to bring them to read the New Testament, but other things interfering I was painfully obliged to give up this part of my work."

MIDNAPORE.

Mr. De Cruz of this station thus writes: At Munccebgur, Purtabpore, Tuinlook, and Gavakhalee, road tracts and the gospels, and distributed among the villagers about twelve hundred Orissa and Bengalee books. The inhabitants formerly were afraid to receive books lest they should be apprehended, but in visiting these places at this time they came and earnestly begged books. Many of them said they wanted information. They did not know before, but now they were convinced that we wished only to diffuse heavenly knowledge. The native preacher, Mudun, in a letter dated 20th December, mentions his having met with six persons at Gavakhalee, where he was itinerating, who intreated to go with him to Midnapore to be instructed and baptized.

DINAGEPORE.

"*Victory to the Lord.*—The petition of Shree Ram-Nidhee, christian. With the highest respect I send numerous salutations. Through the goodness of God, the body is in health. I always pray for your prosperity, and hope that I am enjoying the benefit of your prayers. Mr. Fernandez has erected a house at Beergunj, about eighteen miles from Dinagepore, where, from the 18th to the 26th November, I itinerated to the extent of three or four miles, publishing the glad tidings: many persons heard, and accepted of religious books. Persons of education received the books, and conversed with me on their contents, and appeared pleased.—I have regularly itinerated from Sadamahul to the distance of three or four miles all around. We

have also at Sadamahā worship every day, when nearly one hundred persons attend. I rejoice to see that these converted worshippers are humble, and that they are filled with comfort while they sing the praises of God. I go annually to the fair at Nekmornd, where nearly 50,000 people assemble, and stay there five or six days, making known the gospel, and giving tracts to those who ask for them. You will receive the particulars respecting the state of the church from Mr. Fernandez. The salutation of all the members to the brethren at Serampore."—Mr. Fernandez has favoured us with a letter, in which he says he has at present not less than *twelve candidates for baptism*.

BENARES.

Mr. Smith thus writes in January: Shiva-das, rajpoot, called on me the last month, with a Hindee Testament and a hymn book; he is very anxious to join the church. He was formerly with me for instruction several months, but went away, and served as a sepoy; but he did not leave off reading the Testament in his leisure hours, notwithstanding the opposition he met with from his countrymen; but when they were very much against him, he left his situation and came to me.—On the 6th Dec. 1822, I went to Shiva-pore melah,* six miles from Benares, where crowds of people heard the gospel, and gladly accepted thirty Hindee gospels with some tracts. On the 12th, a melah took place at Puchasmocbun, where I went, and spent a considerable time, reading and expounding the scriptures to crowds of attentive Hindoos, and gave away twenty-eight copies of Hindee Gospels. On the 13th, went to Chowkaghat melah, in company with Mr. Adlington and Mr. Bowley.

After speaking, we gave away many copies of the scriptures. I am going to leave Benares to-morrow morning for Allababad fair with Shiva-das. I expect Mr. Bowley will go with me.—I have twenty-seven children in the native school, some of whom can read pretty well.

* Or fair.—Ed.

FUTTYGHUR.

Mr. Richards, in a letter to Serampore, dated 10th of January, says, that he has at present a viragee under instruction, who has shaken off the chain of the cast, and has declared before all the people that for seven years he has practised the superstitions of a viragee without the least benefit, and has now rejected them. Mr. Richards has also hopes of a brahmun learned in Sanskrit, who has read one of the gospels through, and has commenced another: he declares that the Lord Jesus Christ is the *niskalunker ucutar*, the spotless incarnation. He has forsaken his idols, and given his images away, as fit companions for the moles and the bats in the lumber room.—Mr. Richards, in his journal, says, that some Musulmans were very angry with him one day because he affirmed that Christians worshipped the living, while the Mahometans worshipped the dead. But they acknowledged that he was correct, after he had reminded them, that the koran admitted that Christ was in the fourth heaven.

KINGSTON.

It will be seen by the following extract of a letter from Mr. Knibb, at Kingston, to a friend in Bristol, that further assistance is greatly needed there. We have the pleasure to add, that two Missionaries, at least, are expected to take their departure for that port in the Ocean some time in the course of next month.

Kingston, May 3, 1823.

LONG before this reaches you, you will have heard of our safe arrival at this place. Kingston is our destination at present, and will probably continue so, should life and health be spared. Here is much for all of us to do. I have had a great deal on my hands of late, particularly while Mr. Coultart was at Annatto Bay. I think that I have attended nearly fifty funerals since I have been here, so that you will perceive that though we have much increase, we have almost

a proportionate decrease. Notwithstanding we are very particular in the admission of members, too many turn aside and walk no more with us. Their understandings are very limited, exceedingly so with respect to field Negroes, so that we find the greatest difficulty in understanding what they mean. I begin to understand them a little better now, but when I came first, I could no more understand many of them than if they conversed in Sungskrit or Hindostance.

Our church is conducted somewhat on the Methodist plan. It is divided into classes, under their respective leaders. These classes meet several times a week, in different parts of the city, for reading, prayer, &c. Before a member is received into the church he must attend class as a follower, till such time as he shall be thought a fit subject for baptism. Sometimes they attend class for more than a year, or even two, before they are admitted, and many are not admitted at all. When a follower is proposed as a candidate for baptism, the leader must express his approbation of the measure, and make enquiries into his character in the circle in which he moves; a meeting is then appointed to hear his experience, at which the pastor and leaders preside. If the account given be satisfactory, he is admitted; if not, rejected.

A very pleasing prospect for the spread of the gospel has presented itself in the neighbourhood of Annatto Bay. A Missionary that might be stationed there would have a cheering prospect of usefulness. That part of the island is comparatively cool, not near so hot as Kingston. The people flocked in hundreds to hear Mr. Coultart preach, and shed tears when he left them. They appear particularly desirous of hearing the gospel, and to have one sent who will preach to them the unsearchable riches of Christ.

There are many persons who profess to be teachers, who are as ignorant of the gospel as a Hindoo or Hottentot. They preach to, and live upon the people, and tell them tales that are as ridiculous as they are irreligious. One woman in the above neighbourhood is looked up to with the greatest reverence. She calls herself MAMMY FAITH! She pretends to forgive sins to all she pleases, and many of the negroes are so weak, as to fall down before her to obtain pardon. These people cry aloud for help. Some of the black people go about the

island *preaching and baptizing*. They generally have a book to preach out of, but sometimes mistake a spelling-book or a dictionary, for a Testament, and sometimes preach with it upside down!

One of them stole (or borrowed, as they would term it) Burn's Justice, which he mistook for a Bible, to preach out of! One of the people at the place where Mr. Coultart preached, prayed thus—"Lord div me sumting man no take from me, and me will set up tree plantane suckers for a mark:" as an *Ebenezer*, I suppose.

There are several stations in Jamaica that call earnestly for supplies. They are dying by thousands every year, and have not a single christian to direct them to the Lamb of God, that taketh away the sins of the world. A few thousand pounds expended here, would, through the blessing of God, soon be the means of the salvation of thousands. The people are eagerly looking towards the "Buckra country" for assistance. We beg our interest in your prayers both for yourselves, and the perishing thousands that encircle us on every side.

SPANISH TOWN.

OUR friend Mr. Godden, the Missionary at this station, has long been seriously indisposed, in consequence of having been overtaken by a shower, as he returned from preaching at Passage Fort, a village about six miles distant from Spanish Town. We are happy to learn by a recent letter, dated the 8th of May, that he was then so much better as to be able to resume his labours.

AMERICA.

Extract of a Letter from Dr. Staughton to Mr. Dyer, dated

Philadelphia, July 4, 1823.

OUR convention of the Baptist denomination which occurred at the close of April and the beginning of May, was pleasant beyond any thing I before had witnessed. The repre-

sentation was large, the talents of the members quite superior. It was a divine association of piety and wisdom, of solicitude for the moral prostration of our species, and of ardour for the revelation of the glory of the Lord. The Father of mercies presided over our session, and "every heart and every voice was joy."

On Lord's-day, the 22nd of last month, Mrs. Judson sailed from Boston, in the *Edward Newton*, for Calcutta. She was accompanied by a brother and sister of the name of Wade. Brother Wade was a student in the Hamilton Academy of New York State. I have not had the pleasure of seeing him, but, from all I can learn, he is a man of precisely the right stamp, *pious, prudent, amiable, zealous*. God grant that he may prove an instrument in his hands for diffusing blessings to thousands. It was expected that a brother of the name of Boardman, who has for some time past been a classical tutor in the college at Waterville, would have sailed at the same time, but it has been thought best, that he spend a year at Andover, Mass. He is a good Latin and Greek scholar, but, as he will probably be called to assist in translating the scriptures, it has been thought desirable that he should make himself master of the Hebrew.

Our missions among the natives of our forests, particularly the stations in the Cherokee, Putowattomic, and Creek nations, are acquiring strength every day. I trust the wilderness and solitary place will be glad for them, and the desert blossom as the rose.

Church Missionary Society.

Within the last few weeks, very painful intelligence has been received, by the Committee of the Church Mis-

sionary Society, from Sierra Leone. A malignant fever has been raging in that colony, by which a great proportion of the European population has been removed, and among them both the Chaplains—men of piety and zeal—and three Missionaries in connexion with the Society. In this number, we are deeply concerned to add, is included the Rev. W. Johnson, whose pious labours among the poor negroes have been crowned with such remarkable success. The number of communicants at Regent's town, at the time of his death, was about 450, all of whom had given credible evidence of a change of heart previous to their admission, and been called to the fellowship of the gospel by his instrumentality.

Bereavements like these, however, ought not for a moment to discourage the friends of the heathen, but rather to quicken their diligence, and impart new energy to their prayers. When such men as Ward, or Johnson, bid farewell to their native land, and resign themselves to the arduous employ of preaching among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, we know that they are mortal—that the period is fixed, in the counsels of infinite wisdom, at which they are to retire from their labours, and enter into the joy of their Lord: and surely, while mourning their loss, we must not forget to thank the Father of mercies for his goodness in rendering them so efficient. With the same ease he can raise up others, and thrust them forth into his harvest. So far from cherishing the unworthy suspicion, that his means are exhausted, or his resources impaired, it becomes us rather to expect, from what he has already done, that much more will certainly be accomplished: for it is written, *He shall not fail or be discouraged till he have set judgment in the earth, and the isles shall wait for his law.*

Contributions received by the Treasurer of the Baptist Missionary Society, from July 20, to August 20, 1823, not including Individual Subscriptions.

FOR THE MISSION.

	£	s.	d.
Arnsby, Collection, by Rev. J. James, by Mr. Carter.....	23	0	0
Hemel Hempsted, Female Auxiliary, Half-year's Collection..	12	11	0
Boxmoor, Missionary Box at Mrs. Hobson's	0	13	8
Market Harborough, Missionary Society, by Mr. Nunnely ...	10	0	0
St. Alban's, Auxiliary Society, by Rev. W. Upton	10	0	0

	£	s.	d.
Oakingham, Datchet, and Windsor, by Rev. John Smith.....	17	1	1
Blackburn, collected by Mr. Boardman	8	7	1
Wotton-under-Edge, Collection, by John Dyer	3	0	0
Sunday-School Children	2	0	10
	5	0	10
Plymouth & Dock, Subscriptions and Collections, by Mr. Dyer	34	14	2
South Milton, collected by Mr. John Nicholson, jun.	1	1	0
Honiton, Penny Society, by Mr. Lush	2	0	0
Martham, Baptist Church, by Rev. W. Davey	1	0	0
Burton-street Chapel, Female Friends, by Mrs. Abberley....	2	0	0
Maulden, Friends at, by Rev. Eben. Daniel	9	0	0
West Riding (York) Auxiliary, by M. Thackrey, Esq.—			
Bramley	3	0	0
Bridge House	41	2	10
Oxenhope	1	1	0
Spring Head.....	4	4	0
	49	7	10
Westbury Leigh, Collection and Subscriptions, by Rev. W.			
Winterbotham	14	14	0
Sundries by Ditto	47	18	0
East Lothian Society for propagating the Gospel, by Mr. Hunter	35	10	6
Lewes, Auxiliary Society, by Mr. Dicker	6	2	7
Little Wild-street, Sunday School Children, by Rev. J. Hargreaves	3	0	0
Derby, Penny Society, by Rev. C. E. Birt.....	11	2	0
John Ware, Esq. by Mr. Dyer..... Donation	10	0	0
E. T. Dicey, Esq. by Mr. James Cort..... Ditto	5	5	0
C. H. Mackinnon, Esq. by Rev. Joseph Hughes..... Ditto	5	5	0

TRANSLATIONS.

Bristol and Bath, Auxiliary Society, by Mr. John Daniell	51	15	3
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SCHOOLS.

Bristol and Bath, Auxiliary Society, by Mr. John Daniell.....	31	14	10
Lyme School, Half Year, by Ditto	7	10	0

FEMALE EDUCATION.

Two Years' Subscription for the Broadmead Female School, under the Superintendance of Miss Pearce, at Calcutta,....	37	17	0
Leeds, Female Branch Society, by Michael Thackrey, Esq. ..	18	8	5
Monmouthshire, Female School Society, by Mrs. Conway.....	35	0	0