

WESTERN AFRICA.

The map prefixed to our present number will illustrate the interesting communications of Mr. Clarke and Dr. Prince, and give a general view of the district in which it is most probable that our missionary operations in Western Africa will be carried on. It delineates a line of coast from the Volta to the Bight of Biafra, a distance of about six hundred miles, including the numerous mouths of the river Niger or Kawàra, many other streams of considerable magnitude, and the island of Fernando Po.

At the south-eastern angle of the map is the river Cameroons, whence letters were dated which appeared in our number for July, containing an account of the interviews of our brethren with king Bell and king Agua. In returning from that district they visited Bimbia, on the coast.

On the Saturday, (says Mr. Clarke,) we were ready to sail. We got down the river at night, and about midday anchored at Bimbia, where king William, another notorious slave-dealer, lives. Here we found the steamer again, on her way for Clarence Cove. We had a good meeting, and spoke until long after dark in the open yard to about 300 people. A Portuguese, said to be on the look out for a cargo of slaves, was living on shore; and king William did not ask us to sleep in his house for the night, so we returned to our hard bed in our little boat. We got under weigh, and by the light of the moon got with great difficulty out of the harbour. We had now a high swell, a stormy looking night, the helmsman crying out continually, "What matter wid de boat? heigh! boat won't answer helm," "Me don't know what de matter wid boat," some wishing to put back, our captain affirming it too dangerous an entrance to attempt at night without being dashed upon the rocks. The sea was wetting the deck, but we hoped to get off from the shore, and into smoother water. Amidst all this danger and turmoil I fell into a sound sleep, and obtained refreshment and repose; but too soon the rain poured down, and with few intermissions continued until morning. We sat up and drew around us our blankets, cloaks, and cots, and rested upon our pillows to keep us from the wet

deck; but ere morning all was insufficient; the rain ran in streams from each drop of our umbrellas, washed from side to side of the deck; blanket, cloak, all, were saturated, except the inner garments about the body. The rain abated towards break of day. It was cold and chilly; many a delightful thought I had had during the night, and a few of a more sombre description; but now, damp and cold, I thought the symptoms of ague were approaching, and I forced myself below to keep warm, if possible, until day-light enabled me to put aside my wet clothes, and supply their place with dry ones, if such could be found. Day-light came, and with it an approaching water-spout; a gun was fired, and it immediately gave way, the upper part for some time retaining its spiral form, ere it rose to be lost in its nimbus cloud; another appeared at a distance, but did not fully form itself, and gave us no concern for our safety. From the time the light of day broke forth our eyes were strained to catch a sight of the steamer; she appeared, but soon was again lost among the creeks and islands of the Amboises. About 8 o'clock a. m., she emerged from a cluster of these beauteous spots, and coming up took us in tow, and carried us rapidly onward through the deep. About noon we came to an anchor in the Cove.

Fernando Po has, however, occupied the greatest part of the attention of our brethren, it being, in their judgment, the spot on which it is desirable to commence operations. The situation of the island, in relation to the mouths of the Niger, and of other great rivers, the intercourse carried on between it and England, the readiness of the natives to listen to instruction, the facilities it affords for the acquisition of African languages, and the comparative salubrity of its climate, have recommended it to them as the spot where a station should first be formed, which may be a stepping-stone to other stations, and a general rendezvous from different parts of the main land. Here, they say, "the field is white already to harvest." They have made some essays, and the results are encouraging.

It appears to us (writes Mr. Clarke, March 3rd) to be no longer a doubtful question whether Africa be open to the preaching of the gospel. We think we have already had enough to convince us that the set time to favour her is come, and that the Baptist Missionary Society may, without fear, send forth its agents in as large numbers as its resources will admit.

They should be zealous, devoted, and energetic men of God. They should be married men, with prudent, pious partners, as full of love to Africa as are their husbands. Both should enter upon their work in the spirit of cheerful faith; not afraid of a speedy dismissal to glory, but willing to live, while God shall please, to promote his glory in the

salvation of souls. As many as can be obtained from Jamaica of our black and coloured brethren and sisters there should be cheerfully employed; but great care should be exercised in their selection by the missionary brethren on the spot.

As to learning, we want as much of it as we can get, along with the more indispensable qualifications of deep-toned piety, real humility, burning zeal, strong faith, persevering diligence, sound good sense, a knowledge of human nature, a good constitution, a preparedness to die, a willingness to live, to labour, to suffer hardship, privation, trial, and all that God may allow to come upon his servants in the prosecution of their arduous and self-denying work.

In our last communication from Mr. Clarke, dated April 29th, he writes as follows:—

Our engagements in this place are similar to what they have been since their commencement. The sabbath attendance is good, and much that encourages our hearts appears. Two evenings in the week we give our encouragement to a school for adults; Tuesday evenings we hold a prayer-meeting, and several of our inquirers engage in prayer in a manner deeply interesting; on Wednesdays we have the inquirers in two classes, and meet them for prayer, instruction, and examination; on Thursdays we have a lecture, and on each Saturday evening we hold a prayer-meeting. We do hope that a small church will be formed here before we leave the place, and we pray that the importance of watching over it, and feeding it, may appear so great, that, without delay, missionaries may be sent over to water what we have been privileged to see planted by the Spirit; and be the instruments of planting other churches among the interesting natives, and on the adjacent continent.

We have paid several visits to the interior of the island, and have purchased a large tract of land of, I should think, 50 acres at least, from one of the aboriginal inhabitants; we are assured by many of the old inhabitants of Clarence, that the Western African Company have no claim to this land; and being close to Clarence, separated only by a brook, it will answer well for all the purposes of the mission here. On the 27th we left our residence here at four o'clock, p. m., and proceeded through the woods to Bassipoo. The road was very bad, grown up with grass, slippery, and fatiguing; and over one of the three rivers we had to be carried on the backs of our guides, yet we reached the house of the king in two hours, and found a kind welcome. He said he was very glad to see us; if we came for trade we must tell him; if for hold palaver tell him. We reminded him of our former visit, and requested him to call his people on the morning that they might hear us speak about the great God who made them. He said he would call his people. He then said,

'I don't know what white man (Im-pot-to) eats, so that I do not know what to give you,' we said we had food for the night, but would thank him to sell us yams and a fowl on the coming day. We put on dry clothes, slung our coats, so that they might rest on the floor, for fear of bringing down the house: got into them as the only clean spot; got a little rice; held conversation with the natives; engaged in prayer, and lay down to sleep. But Dr. Prince, having put off his clothes, was tormented by the sand flies. I kept mine on, and did not suffer so much; indeed, I care nothing for these annoyances, their bites are only to me like the sting of a nettle, and soon the painful itching has gone; but with Dr. Prince it is far different; his hands are in the morning covered with inflamed spots, and his face is red and swollen. Music and dancing were kept up at a distance, until past midnight, but being tired, I slept soundly, and enjoyed a dream of home. On the morning we talked to the people at some length, but being badly suited with an interpreter, I fear they did not comprehend all we said to them. About eight o'clock a good interpreter from towa came, according to promise, to assist us in the purchase of land; we went with due authority and attendants from the king, an hour's walk up the mountain. The day was threatening, and the rain fell, but not heavily; we reached a delightful spot, I suppose from 2,000 feet to 3,000 above the level of the sea (for Bassipoo itself stands high, and overlooks Clarence and the sea). Here we were told to choose; I chose the highest and most open part; Dr. Prince thought a spot below, with bird's eye peeps of the sea, and included in the same lot, was more picturesque as a spot for a residence. In the town we chose a spot for a school-house, &c., and returned to the king. He sat down by the side of a road, with twelve of his counsellors of state; ourselves, our interpreter, and his two Adeeyah attendants, made the company eighteen. All who approached were directed over a fence to pass

by at a distance, and the conversation was long and interesting; we were directed to wait at the house of the king until a further palaver was held over a dinner made for the king by one of his head men. Our interpreter attended, being a person well known to them all.

About 3 o'clock, p. m., we sent to say we wished to go; the king soon came, and said all we wished for we should have, and he should make no charge; but we might give him what we thought good; we mentioned what "*Glorio*" had got for land at Clarence, and with a similar acknowledgment, he said he would be quite satisfied. But added, we should like you to build house in town first, then we send our children, and we look upon you, and see how you do; for we do not wish to have our children beaten, or ill-used in any way, but if you live beside us we will get acquainted with you, and then none will be afraid to send their children to learn to read book. I highly approved of this; and next week we hope to pitch our tent at Basipoo, if the weather will allow us, and remain there for some time. We left at half-past 4 o'clock, p. m., and, walking rather fast, and it being down hill, we reached home in one hour and three quarters: we both attended to the classes, and I feel all the better for the exercise. A little boy started off with us, and carried a small box all the way; and at Clarence, said he had come to stop with us to learn to read book! I found he had arranged all beforehand with his parents, that they approved of his going with us; so I have tied a cloth around his loins, and taught him some of his letters, and may keep him until we return, in order to get him acquainted at least with the alphabet, that he may help us

with his companions, and give them a good report of our usage of him. Adeeyahs cannot bear to be punished with the rod: the strange practice is, for the parent to take a knife, and give the child a cut; then, when this heals and the boy again acts offensively, the father points to the scar, and reminds the boy of that for which it was made, and the danger he is in of having made on his body another token of his naughtiness.

Now, my dear sir, we have been able to procure all the land we at present require on this side of the island, but when you send us missionaries and schoolmasters, we hope to have a chapel and school at every town; and that soon the Adeeyahs will wash off the oil, clay, and paint from their bodies, cover their nakedness, and sit at the feet of Jesus, to learn his word. Polygamy, and belief in Jujus, seem the greatest barriers in the way: the last will soon fall, but the first, with the kings and head men, has a firm hold; not too firm, however, for the gospel to destroy.

I advise that all missionaries sent here be married men; and that their wives be as much missionaries, and as devoted to the work, as they are themselves. They must be men of fine feeling, as to modesty. I tremble while I think of the mischief one imprudent man might do here to the cause of God. I advise too, that your missionaries should not be of a niggardly mind, the African is disgusted with this; and the trifle freely bestowed for any favour, or service done, is always repaid by the spirit it infuses into the person rewarded; and no loss arises to the society, from prudently following such a course.

Respecting the purchase at Clarence, Dr. Prince writes, April 23rd. :—

The eastern extremity of the lot terminates in Goderich Bay, between the smaller bays, in which the wrecks of the Quorra and Alburkah are respectively perishing. Towards the south west the land is bounded by a mountain stream that affords good water throughout the dryest seasons, and directly south a beautiful little river, that empties into the sea where the Alburkah is stranded, hems that border of our newly effected purchase. The land is well covered with timber, which will serve various purposes; some of it is applicable to building. You need not be apprehensive of being called upon to honour a heavy bill for the payment. A boubie, called Cut-throat, or Glorio Bo-jo-bo, disposed of it, and has received a bonus *beyond* his demand; the total cost will be under 3l. sterling, the *specie* given in liquidation of Glorio's demand has been a musket, two pounds and a half of powder, six pounds of tobacco, and an I. O. U. for a ewe goat!!

By this measure we have secured ample space

for buildings, pasturage, provision and garden ground *without* the jurisdiction of the West African company's agent.

I have prepared a census of the inhabitants of Clarence by visiting and inquiring at every house for the number of inmates, and have grouped them into their several nations, &c. I beg to offer to your attention the following analytic summary :—number of houses, 178; of adult males, 460; adult females, 155; number of male children (i. e. of or under the age of 15), 149; of female children, 109: total, 873. There are 108 examples of avowed concubinage, or about one-third of the women thus disgraced; deduct from the men 152 Krous, who appear to live singly, and it will leave one in every five men guilty of open fornication. There are fourteen married black couples, of whom eight have been united by brother Clarke, only one twenty-fifth of the adults is married, thus there are nine examples of illicit to every one of lawful connexion. Of

the total inhabitants, 2 are from Atta or Iddah, 5 Appa, 18 Aku, or Eyeo, 3 British Accra, 25 Bimbia, 1 Bidjie, 1 Brass, 115 Boubies, 53 Cameroons, 46 Calabar, 26 Congo, 8 Cape Coast, 6 Cape Luhou, 5 England, 93 Eboe, 1 Gouru, 1 Germany, 18 Gaboon, 8 Houssa,

2 Jaloffe, 192 Krous, 4 Cape Palmas (Liberia), 1 Mandingo, 29 Moco, 1 Nyffe, 158 natives (not Boubies), 5 Otano, 1 Popo, 9 Princes' Isle, 6 River Danger, or Mooney, 2 Rio Pongo, 1 Scotland, 18 Sierra Leone, 2 St. Thomas' Isle, 6 United States, 1 Vy.

In a letter addressed to Dr. Murch, Dr. Prince continues his narrative to the 30th of April.

Three days since my colleague and I started in the afternoon for the Boubie village named Bassapou, where we had formerly been received with kindly encouragement, and had taken our first night's lodging in a Boubie hut. Our walk was fatiguing through woods and high grass which hides the narrow pathway and the holes in it, as well as the tree-roots and branches which frequently cross it; moreover the rains had made it very slippery, and the narrow ruts in it jammed our feet; however we arrived in two hours, just as the sun was setting, and, because of the lateness of the hour and of our fatigue, contented ourselves with an exchange of short compliments with Bo-e-de-ba, the Cook-ra-coo, or head man. He surrendered his house to us for the night, and we secured our hammocks so as not to bring it to the ground by our unsupported weight.

Before going away he promised to summon his people to hear us on the morning following. The sand-flies conspired with other vermin and insects to preclude me from the refreshment of repose, but the morning air, and the enterprise on which we had come, of purchasing from the king a portion of his land for the erection of missionary premises, and the promising manner in which the bare proposition was replied to, gave me a fresh impetus. Our interpreter, a respectable native of Nyffe, resident at Clarence, assured us that we might have our choice as to situation and extent; and, as conveying the declaration of our entertainer, he said, "Boubies are not greedy of ground, no occasion for any palaver about it, as it is God business you can go look upon what you want and it shall be yours." Perhaps this readiness of mind explains the disinclination Bo-e-de-ba manifested to take the trouble to accompany us through the survey of his village domain; he would not go, but gave us a conductor, one of his "gentlemen," as the noblesse are styled. After a gradual but considerable ascent continued from the upper part of the village, which is itself upon the highlands, for about three quarters of an hour, we reached a beautiful and extensive slope, bounded on either side by mountain streams, clear from under-wood, bearing groups of the palm-tree, through which, and beneath their waving tops, the cool air was blowing from off the sea: of this we also had a view as well as of the town and sea-board of Clarence. It appeared to me a

most inviting spot, away from, but within an easy reach of the village, having good natural boundaries on two sides, sufficiently shaded from sun and screened from the blast of the tornado, and having excellent water within a very few minutes' command. As we were, however, at liberty to choose, we continued to climb; the way became rather more abruptly acclivous; in about twenty minutes we arrived at a height that commands a more extensive sea view, yet not so much to my taste because the reflected glare, which "a bird's-eye" position is always accompanied by in tropical scenery, distresses the senses and does not prove so cool and refreshing a location as where the sun's rays are mitigated by umbrageous trees, that are not growing so densely as to preclude the breezes: water is not so accessible from this, as at the lower site. Brother C.'s taste did not coincide with mine, so we agreed to ask for a grant that should comprehend the two preferred spots, and let the missionary who shall occupy the ground determine for himself whereabouts to erect his habitation.

We also selected a piece of ground prettily situate by a four-path-cross, and near to Bassapou, on which to construct a school-house, convenient for the children of that village, as well as of the villages Ribola and Bassilli, to and from which two of the cross paths conduct. We consider our more mountainous choice too remote for the school-house, and desired rather to be so near to the dwellings of the children as to admit of visits from their parents and neighbours, our motive being to inspire and extend that confidence these willing people seem to manifest.

Having descended we found the king and his gentlemen congregated and habited in their staterobes, that is, bedaubed all over with an unusual quantity of diverse coloured clays, mixed with palm oil, and ornamented with an extraordinary number of gre-gres, and filthy portions of the offals of wild animals. Like more accomplished and cultivated counsellors they retired to debate their subject over an ample repast. We becomingly retired after having made a full exposition through our interpreter, and by roughly tracing upon the ground the lots of our choosing, and we awaited the decision at the Cook-ra-coo house. In about two hours and a half Bo-e-de-ba reappeared with those who had climbed the hill with us, said we were welcome to his confirmation of

our measures, and though he would not *demand* any thing, he would take what we liked to offer, and was completely satisfied to receive such as we lately handed to his countryman, Cut-throat, or Glorio, on the occasion of a similar transaction.

We left Bassapou at 4 o'clock p.m., very thankful for the preventing and sustaining grace of God, which had evidently opened our intercourse with these interesting creatures, and had disposed them to receive us as the servants of a God whom they know not, yet are willing to learn of. I certainly expect that *our* God will have respect to this willing mind.

We hope his majesty Bo-e-de-ba will come to Clarence to-morrow for the stipulated price, and that we, together with a few of the more intelligent and promising of our inquirers, shall make an excursion in the course of the coming week to mark out the boundaries of the purchase, and to witness to the form of signing, sealing, and delivering, as we shall be instructed to prepare. We have not guessed at the admeasurement of the land—I shall not be surprised if it is thought to amount to that obtained from Glorio. These interesting arrangements concluded, there will then be secured to our successors lands whereupon to erect town and country premises, each advantageously situated for the purposes of their mission, and for their personal comfort, the one presenting a salubrious and refreshing retirement from the other lower field of labour.

When we go next week to Bassapou we intend to pitch our tent, and to open school: we have for sometime been giving a few of the villagers A B C lessons at our dwelling here, and find them to be ready learners.

P. S. *Saturday, 1st May.*—From all that we have noticed and heard amongst the inhabitants of this island, whether foreigners or aborigines, is afforded the clearest evidence to our judgments that no people uninformed of their obligations to the true God, and of the way of restoration to his favour, can be found more disposed to instruction, nor can any untried ground present fewer obstacles. This is saying too little, it should not be written

negatively, but the phrase should be, that the facilities presenting here for intercourse with the aborigines and for settlement amongst them, as manifested in the simplicity, sincerity, and kindness of their welcome, have seldom greeted and gladdened the Christian explorer of foreign realms of heathen darkness. There is nothing to fear from the natives of Fernando Po; they submit their judgments and wills with remarkable readiness to the white man whom they believe friendly; they have said of us "that we are not like other white man, they like us, we be friend to them, because when we talk to them they *see our teeth*," which being construed means, we look pleasantly and smile upon them. We are now generally known, and our errand also, to the Boubies living within a day's journey of Clarence; the consequences are, they seldom take to flight when we are approaching their towns, and numbers visiting this, come to call on us.

Of course we experience much inconvenience by our ignorance of their language. Mr. Clarke has been most diligent in preparatory measures for acquiring this desideratum, and our purpose is to apply ourselves to the acquisition: this will be most facilitated by our taking residence in the vicinity of the people. The steps we have lately taken to secure a footing adjoining this and the country town already quoted will, I trust, inspire the settlers of this with a confidence that the cause of God and of their blessed peace will not be deserted, though we should depart hence before any other heralds of the truth and shepherds of the flock shall arrive. Our convictions and feelings, however, are adverse to such a trial of their steadfastness; they have had to put up with sneers, threatenings, and unkindness on the occasion of deserting empty forms of godliness for a supply of more hallowed means, and they naturally dread a forsaking by their new teachers, the absence of whom would likely expose them to petty persecution, and favour the malice of their spiritual foe in his subtle ways of bringing to nothing the seed already scattered.

It cannot be necessary to apologise for the length of these extracts, or for the extent to which we have allowed Western Africa to occupy the pages of this number. The measures which our brethren have adopted will be approved, we doubt not, by the friends of the Society at large, as they are by the Committee; and the publication of these details may incline some readers whom God has qualified for the work, to consecrate themselves to the arduous but honourable enterprize. It is desirable that it should be known that applications from persons of piety and talent will now be cordially welcomed; and we beg to add that devoted Christians who have some acquaintance with agriculture, especially the agriculture of the tropics, and with the useful arts in general, would be deemed peculiarly suitable.

EAST INDIES.

CALCUTTA.

In a letter, dated May 8, 1841, Mr. Thomas communicates the following interesting information :—

You will be pleased to hear that brother Yates and Mrs. Pearce were last Tuesday afternoon, the 3rd instant, united in marriage by brother Evans, in the Circular Road Chapel. Thus, by amalgamation, the wrecks of two families have been absorbed, and one entire family is the result. May the union prove very lasting, and productive of much happiness and increased usefulness. Both of these dear friends have experienced the sadness of a state of widowhood in this country, and the remembrance of the past will increase

the joy of the present. A letter I received yesterday from our esteemed brother, John Parsons, mentions the health of his sister, Mrs. G. Parsons, as rather infirm. He also says that she proposes to return to England when the rains come on. She has had to drink of the bitter cup of affliction, but I think has been wonderfully supported. Still her widowed heart must often bleed, and I wonder not at her resolving to return, as Naomi did, to her native land.

Mr. W. W. Evans writes thus, April 17th :—

I am privileged again to address you from this land of disease and death, in the possession of a grateful degree of health and strength. My former communications would acquaint you with the circumstances of our arrival in Calcutta, and of our location in regard to missionary labour. I assure you I have been *most jolly occupied* in the constant discharge of ministerial and pastoral duties, and the active and onerous duty of superintending the benevolent institution. The church in Lál Bazar is still united and happy. Some few additions have been made to our number, and others are now anticipated. I have much to encourage me in the activity and zeal of such of our number as have ability and opportunity in diffusing around the truth as it is in Jesus; and all the members are, I trust, walking together in the enjoyment of the ordinances of the Lord, and in affection to each other. After the present repairs and alterations in the chapel are completed a general and strenuous effort will be made to support their pastor to the fullest extent of their ability. I need not add that this will afford me real pleasure. The benevolent institution requires and has much of my attention. The numbers in attendance are constantly increasing. There are now 330 boys, and 110 girls, belonging to the institution. I wish I could write encouragingly of the state of the funds: I labour in hope, and God is my witness how ardently I desire to render myself useful in the religious education of those confided to

my care. There are eight teachers and assistants in both departments, exclusive of myself.

Dr. Yates is just returned from his tour. He looks better, and is again at his beloved work of translation. Mr. Thomas and Mr. Wenger are in tolerable health. Mr. W. now lives with brother Thomas at the mission house. Mr. Ellis, since the departure of his wife, has been often unwell. The state of his health will, we fear, render his return to Europe necessary. Mr. and Mrs. Small are pretty well. Mr. Morgan is actively engaged at Howrah, and is quite well. His constitution appears to agree with the climate, but poor Mrs. Morgan is a constant sufferer from this cause. I visited him a few weeks ago and preached to his people. He has recently baptized five. Our house is situated in Bow-Bazar, (No. 29,) three doors from the Benevolent Institution, and about forty or fifty from the Lál Bazar Chapel, but between them. This renders it a desirable abode for me, more particularly for the hot season, now commencing. Whilst I am writing the thermometer is at 92 in my study, and I am bathed in perspiration. To-morrow is the sabbath, and I have work before me. This must be my apology for not writing at greater length. Present our united regards to all our dear friends, and accept the same yourself. We often talk of you and them. Pray let us hear from some of you. Not a letter has reached us yet, except one from dear George Pearce, for which thank him heartily.

On the same day Mr. Ellis wrote thus from Entally :

Our dear friends Mr. and Mrs. Small reside here, or rather I reside with them here. He has taken charge of the Native Institution, while on myself devolves the care of the Native Christian Institution and Theological De-

partment, (as I fully feel conducted with much weakness and imperfection) both in its educational and domestic duties, since it is impossible without some knowledge of the language to attend to the latter. I am sorry also

to say that my own health is very infirm, and but little prospect of its being much improved. A chronic disease of the lungs, caused by a good deal of speaking labour and the impure atmosphere of Bengal, quite prevents my preaching; but I have voice enough for the class-room, and what God gives me I desire to use for his glory. Two medical men, our attendant and another I have consulted, give me no hope of its being better in this climate. Their fear is that it will change to acute inflammation, and whenever this may be I expect to be ordered immediately to leave. To God I commit myself; and if it be his will to spare my life and my health (poor as it now is), I am pledged to our dear native students of the senior theological class, not to leave at least for four years, the remaining time of a course of study which, with the Divine blessing, will

fit them for stations of important usefulness. To the Lord, however, I leave all future events and arrangements: I am his servant, and let him do with me as seemeth good in his sight. From these prospects I do trust the committee will feel the immediate necessity of strengthening the mission here. It is some two or three years before a brother can take up some departments of labour, and hence the urgent necessity of having brethren preparing for it. I am very sorry further to say, that the Native Christian Institution is now nearly 1,500 rupees in debt. And without help, bitterly reluctant as we are, nothing appears but a large reduction in the present number of boys and young men. On Thursday last we had the annual meeting of the Calcutta Auxiliary, Dr. Duff in the chair. It was an interesting and well attended meeting.

MONGHYR.

A letter addressed to Mr. Dyer, by Mr. John Parsons, who it will be remembered was his nephew, and the junior brother of the late Mr. George Parsons, dated April 7, contains the following passages:—

Our voyage up the river was a quick and on the whole a pleasant one. It was not attended with any remarkable events. Only once, viz. at Rajmahal, did dear Mr. Moore and myself distribute a few tracts. At Bhagulpore, which we reached on Christmas day, dear Sophia was too much affected to visit the scene of her lamented George's last illness, and dear Jane staid with her in the boat, but Mr. Moore and myself went to the judge's, the hospitable Christian friend with whom dearest George staid, and there I had my first interview with brother Leslie. After our arrival, Mr. Leslie soon made up his mind to leave. I am happy if my coming, by having afforded him this opportunity of leaving for a while, shall be the means of prolonging a life so truly useful. His sterling, decisive, prudent character has procured for him here, in every quarter, the highest esteem and almost unbounded influence, besides the love borne to him peculiarly as a pious and faithful minister. We have not heard of his progress since he embarked, but prayer is made of the church

for him continually. We earnestly hope his health may be permanently restored, and his soul greatly invigorated by this visit. Meanwhile, I think the church have reason to be especially grateful (I feel I have) that such a substitute as dear brother Lawrence has been sent to supply his place in his absence. He is a lovely, persevering labourer; and to us, as friends, both Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence have become very dear.

I desire to be truly grateful for the measure of health my dearest Jane and myself have enjoyed. I have been, I think, with no exception worth mentioning, as well as in England. I cannot say quite as much as this of my dear Jane. She has, perhaps, a greater tendency to bilious affections than at home, and her strength is somewhat less. Still she has suffered no alarming illness, and has had no fever. She has just recovered from a severe pinch of rheumatism in her face, which affected her general health considerably the week before last. She is now well.

Mr. Lawrence writes as follows:—

Monghyr, May 31st.

It will be a satisfaction to hear that we are pursuing our course here with the same unanimity, peace, and comfort, which have so long and so happily prevailed. God has graciously preserved all our little society here stedfast in their adherence to his word and doctrine, and in a constant attendance to the means of grace. Our congregations have kept

up remarkably well since dear brother Leslie's departure. We have lost some by removals from the station, but we have gained others, and all the regular residents continue to attend as formerly. And I do hope that the word is not preached in vain. One person who, when he came into the station two years ago, knew nothing more about religion than the name, has lately come forward and declared

that his mind has been deeply affected for a long time past with a sense of his own sinfulness; he can find no rest but in looking to Christ, and earnestly desires to cast in his lot with the people of God. We have great hopes that he is a true penitent.

There is, however, a disposition to listen to the preaching of the gospel. This is not a new thing here, and therefore cannot be supposed to proceed from mere curiosity with all, if it be the case with some. The fixed attention, and apparently great concern, with which not a few on some occasions listen to the preaching, would lead you to hope that their hearts are not unaffected with what they hear. Would that we could hear some of them crying out, "Men and brethren, what must we do?" Surely the time is not far distant when this anxious inquiry will greet our ears more frequently than has been the case hitherto. There are not wanting indications that the truth, though silently and slowly, yet is surely prevailing in this land of ancient and deep-

rooted idolatry. And every year brings fresh proofs that this idolatry is on the wane. Nothing can be more certain than that it must fall; and if the church of Christ awake to a sense of her responsibility, and put forth all her energies in a right spirit and with right aims, the kingdom of righteousness and peace must *speedily* be established upon its ruins.

About the close of last month the cholera prevailed much among the natives of the station, and many died. It visited our little band of native Christians, and took from them one of their number, who not long ago appeared the most healthy. The disorder seized him at first mildly, but afterwards very violently; and though the violence of the symptoms was arrested, yet he gradually sunk, till at last his spirit fled, we hope, to the presence of his Redeemer. The painful event has deeply affected our little church; they seem to regard it as a voice saying to them, "Be ye also ready." Oh, may the Spirit of God enable us all to profit by these solemn lessons.

CEYLON.

Our number for April will have prepared our readers for the return of Mr. Daniel from Hanwella to Colombo. He dates from Colombo, March 10th, a letter which contains the following paragraphs:—

Since Mr. Harris's removal to Kandy, I am come to Colombo to occupy this station, and superintend all the other missionary stations which are contiguous to us, viz. Hanwella, Byanville, Kottigabavatta, Hendela, and Calang. Mr. Harris takes Kandy, Matelle, and the other stations he may be the means of forming. We have agreed that he shall keep his pecuniary accounts with the society, and I will do the same, so that we shall not interfere with each other.

I visit Hanwella once a week, and send them help once a month; so that I hope things will not deteriorate there. I find the state of missionary labour, in and about Colombo, less

favourable than I had expected before my return. Some places have a favourable, and others a discouraging aspect. But we must go on through difficulties and discouragements till we are called home. I baptized and received to the church six natives on the last Lord's day. Mr. M'Carthy expects to receive four new Portuguese members next Lord's supper day. We have begun a new place of worship at Kottigabavatta; it will cost about 105*l*. I hope 60*l*. will be raised here; for the remainder we must look to friends in England, who I hope will aid us to erect a house of God as well as furnish a missionary.

Mr. Harris writes from Kandy, April 16th:—

The signs of success are becoming more and more apparent, and a wide field is extending to our view, about the duty of occupying which, there cannot, I conceive, be two opinions. Since I wrote to you last, I have received intelligence of a fresh interest having sprung up at Matura, almost at the southern extremity of the island, and distant from here about 200 miles. The circumstances are briefly these:—Mr. Silva, our native missionary at Matelle, having married from Matura, has had communications from time to time with different people there; and after repeated requests for help, at last sent down a person, previously employed by himself, to see what success might be obtained in further-

ance of the great object. As Matura was the man's native place, he entered upon his task with some energy; and the last report states, that twenty or thirty candidates are waiting to receive baptism; that about 50*l*. has already been subscribed towards building a place of worship, and that our presence is requested to establish this interest upon a solid and permanent foundation. I have, therefore, partially pledged myself, at the beginning of June, to go so far, if I can safely leave for a fortnight, relying upon your supposed conceptions and approval of my plans, and especially upon the arrival of another competent European missionary, to take this place into his charge. The plan I mentioned to you some months

ago seems to meet with the divine approbation, by the unexpected opening thus made. Galle, which is 25 miles from Matura, is the town of next importance after Kandy; and a location *there*, upon the same footing as that here and at Colombo, will tend to bring towards perfection a system which, I am persuaded, will multiply good to a mighty extent, and lead to the erection of such imperishable buildings as neither time nor eternity shall be able to shake. The arrival of Mr. Dawson, and the operations of the press, are only stronger inducements towards a completion of our organization, and I shall wait to receive some official recognition of the course I am adopting.

If your committee were to withhold this necessary link in the chain of operations, I design to establish here, yet it is the province and prerogative of Deity to say for how long! Momentarily, with the rod of his love, he could smite your hearts in the period of deliberation, and the tide of benevolence would bear down every opposition, and carry away, by its irresistible vehemence, every supposed difficulty. If, therefore, I should succeed in my ultimate arrangements, I shall adore that inscrutable Power as the energetic cause, and love *you* as the willing agents which he took delight in setting in motion. Where must be, then, the Christian's faith, if he can doubt under such circumstances? Great things will the Lord our God show unto us, if, without reservation, we cast ourselves, and *the whole world*, into his arms! The Christian's burden is no less than the intellectual universe! The whole creation of *men* groans and is in pain. Put forth your moral power, and I shall perhaps live to paint in glowing colours the loveliness of that spiritual transformation to which you will have been contributors.

Another point around which I have begun to move is, the foundation of an English school, irrespective of attaching the annual expenditure to the society. From intelligence conveyed to me, and deliberations held, unanimous opinions as to the expediency and success of such an establishment prevail. It would materially advance the literary and

moral culture of the colony, and strengthen the bands by which our society is now becoming more extensively and yet more closely united. The difficulties from superabundance in England, render this proposition rather favourable to the minds of impartial observers than otherwise. I do think it worth even an advertisement in the Baptist Magazine, or a public appeal of some kind. The academy should be fixed here, and for boarders, it is said, between 30*l.* and 40*l.* per annum will be paid.

We have got already a pleasing little church: about thirty communicants assembled the last time we broke bread. I was at Matelle last Lord's day, and baptized six persons. The marriage laws here are a great obstacle to our course: Mr. Oakley, the church missionary, refused to marry a person, because of his being baptized by us, calling him an anabaptist. We have no means of redress in this instance without lodging a complaint against him through the archdeacon to the "bishop" at Madras, and then it would all be labour in vain. The present system of ecclesiastical monopoly on this head, as on others, is a premium upon irregularity and disorder. Many pious people cannot any how get married. If unbaptized, marriage is refused, and this if it be the case with only one person out of the two. We are obliged, therefore, to point to the intrinsic sanctity of the marriage tie, apart from human laws of ratification, and on this footing admit our converts to the fellowship of the church. I have just drawn up a petition for signature, which will be signed by some hundreds, and shall publish our oppression in "The Investigator," to which we have got upwards of 200 subscribers already. We have to struggle through great difficulties. In consequence of the arbitrary proceedings about marriage, many are afraid to venture wholly upon us. It is a serious thing to reputable young men to have this obstacle to social happiness lying in the way. So again, a corpse, unless it obtain ecclesiastical favour, must be buried in the jungle. I have no other churchyard for my children should they die.

WEST INDIES.

JAMAICA.

From Mr. May, Falmouth, June 21.

For three weeks or a month past, I have been seeking for that invaluable blessing health, and have, I hope, through the blessing of God, succeeded in obtaining as large a measure of it as I enjoyed previous to the attack. My sickness, which was a bilious af-

fection, attended with great lassitude, was, I believe, the result of over-exertion, and exposure to the sun; but the Father of all mercies has blessed the means resorted to, and I hope to return to my dear people by the latter end of next week; nor could I have absented my-

self so long from them, but for kind and brotherly assistance. My health upon the whole is I think, in general, quite equal to that which fell to my lot in my native land, notwithstanding my work here is far more arduous than it was there; but multiplied labours are calling for greater demands upon my strength, which threaten, if assistance be not procured, to undermine my constitution and lay me prostrate; God, however, can give strength equal to the day, and hitherto I have been wonderfully supported. Nor is the preaching of the gospel unattended with a blessing; almost every week persons recently awakened come enquiring about the things of heaven; whilst those who have put on Christ by baptism are, as far as we can ascertain, walking consistently. In visiting the stations of my honoured brethren I have been much pleased and edified by the faithfulness they evince in the discharge of their numerous and important duties, and by the piety, and zeal, and increasing intelligence of the people committed to their care.

From Mr. Williams, Mandeville, June 28.

It affords me much pleasure from this distant country to bear testimony of the progress of the gospel, and the triumphs of the Saviour. I can scarcely imagine a more interesting sphere of labour than the one in which I have the honour to be employed. Such is the prospect of the mission in the parish of Manchester, as to afford abundant encouragement for laborious effort; and I gratefully acknowledge the kind providence which has directed and conducted me hither. People every where are desirous of receiving Christian instruction, and great anxiety is manifested by multitudes for the salvation of their souls. Sorry I am that I am not able fully to answer every call for help. Both our stations, Vale Lionel and Mandeville, are of so interesting a character as wholly to engage my sabbaths at present. Both the congregations are very large, and require particular attention. I hope after a little time, when I am well supplied with schoolmasters to be able to divide my time more equally between the various stations in the parish. But well can it be said that in Manchester, "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few." O that the Lord would send more labourers into this harvest. You will be delighted no doubt to receive an account of our first baptism in the parish of Manchester, by a Baptist missionary. On Lord's-day, June 20th, 1841, I had the pleasure of baptizing 123 persons in the river at Vale Lionel, on a profession of their repentance towards God and faith in Christ Jesus our Lord. The place chosen for the administration of the ordinance was very suitable, beautifully shaded by trees; and the stillness of the morning gave peculiar solemnity to the event. The whole of the Saturday night previous was spent by a great number of people in prayer and praise; and as the day broke an immense

crowd of people assembled at the river's side. At a quarter past five o'clock, we commenced service; and, including the singing, prayer, address, and baptizing the 123 persons, the whole was closed in three quarters of an hour. Oh, it was a solemn service. Many shed tears on the occasion, and some who had never before witnessed such a service left the spot, saying they had never seen such a solemn scene before. I feared that, as it would be a novelty to many, we should have interruption, but I was happily disappointed. All were serious, while some seemed astonished. Some, that were strangers to these sights, said their ministers told them immersion could not be the right mode, for the 3,000 on the day of Pentecost could not have been immersed in so short a time as one day, but at the rate the minister baptized this morning they saw no difficulty in it. During the previous week, numbers of men and women were busily employed in enlarging the class house, in which we purpose worshipping till our new chapel is finished. In this place, immediately after baptism, a great number assembled for prayer. At eleven, I preached from Luke xv. 10, to a very large congregation, after which I gave the right hand of fellowship to the newly baptized, and administered the Lord's supper. Happy day! A day never to be forgotten by numbers in the parish of Manchester. You may think me premature perhaps in baptizing these persons, as I have not been long settled amongst them; but it must be remembered they have long been under instruction; a schoolmaster has been with them for some time, and members from other churches, who have settled in the township, have taken the lead amongst them; and I have carefully examined them all previous to baptizing them.

TABULAR VIEW OF SCHOOLS IN CONNEXION WITH THE "JAMAICA EDUCATION SOCIETY," FOR 1840.

SCHOOLS. In what Parish and County situate.	When commenced, No. admitted, since D. S. com.	DAY SCHOOLS.				Evening.	Sunday.	Names of Masters and Teachers.	Inspectors.
		Boys.	Girls.	Infants.	Total.				
COUNTY OF SURREY.									
Rede Castle, St. Thomas in the East	1834	35	40	15	90	4	126	Mrs. Kingdon, and Miss Davis	Rev. J. Kingdon
Kingston, East Queen Street	1816				393		641	Mr. G. Rouse, and Miss Simpson	Rev. S. Oughton
Stanley Hill, St. Andrew's					42		67	Mr. W. Spraggs	Ditto
Kingston, Hanover Street	1838	194	66		56		60	Mrs. Nicholson, and Miss Nicholson	Rev. J. Tinson
Knight's Ville St. David	1838	229	67	30	168		92	Mr. and Mrs. Rae	Ditto
COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX.									
St. Ann's Bay, St. Ann's	1840		27		27		450	Miss Clack	Rev. T. F. Abbott, and B. Millard
Ocho Rios, ditto	1838						200		
Coullart Grove, ditto	1837				80		100	Mr. J. Higgin	Ditto
Nichols' Mount, ditto	1837							Mr. J. Ellis	Ditto
Stacey Ville, Clarendon	1838				36		50	Mr. H. Beckford	Ditto
Brown's Town, St. Ann's	1836						750	Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong, and Miss Drayton	Rev. J. Clark
Sturge Town, ditto	1839				130		473	Mr. and Mrs. Gabbidon	Ditto
Buxton, ditto	1838				134		320	Mr. R. Brown, and Mrs. McInnes	Rev. H. J. Dutton
Bethany, ditto	1838						468	Mr. J. Johnson	Ditto
Clarkson Ville, ditto	1839				180				Ditto
Stepney, ditto						40	100	Mr. T. Henry	Ditto
Mount Zion, Clarendon	1838						70	Mr. B. C. Barrett, & Mrs. Williams	Rev. D. Day
Port Maria, St. Mary's	1838	165					60	Mr. W. Higgins	Ditto
Oracabessa, ditto	1839						64	J. O'Meally, E. Carr, M. M'Vicar, and E. Robinson	Rev. J. M. Phillippe
Spanish Town, St. Catherine's	1825	2100	160	176	104	442	38		
Passage Fort, ditto	1836	620	53	62	105	32	135	Mr. and Mrs. Harriot	Ditto
Sligo Town, St. Thomas in the Vale	1836	235	59	68	127	16	165	Mr. and Mrs. Ogborne	Ditto
Sturge Town, St. Catherine's	1837	231	32	49	81	9		Margaret Lawrence	Ditto
Kitson Town, St. John's	1838	55	20	22	42	4	20	Mr. and Mrs. Ennes	Ditto
Rock River, St. Thomas in the Vale	1838	16	6	3	9	3	12	Agnes Anderson	Ditto
Dawkin's Caymanas, St. Catherine's	1838	123	65	31	86	22	16	Mr. and Mrs. Archer	Ditto
Clarkson Town, ditto	1838						7	Edward O'Meally and others	Ditto
Vale Royal, Manchester	1840	120	62	68	120	6	135	Mr. and Mrs. P. O'Meally	Ditto
Victoria Township, ditto								Mr. and Mrs. Roden	Ditto
Old Harbour, St. Dorothy	1835		76	68	133		133	Mr. J. Walker	Rev. H. C. Taylor
New Lionel, Vere	1840							Vacant	Ditto
Mount Freedom, Clarendon	1840	2	12	6	20			Mr. J. Weston and Sons	
Jericho, St. Thomas in the Vale	1834		59	51	110		110	Messrs. S. and D. Merrick	Rev. J. Merrick
Mount Hermon, ditto	1838	176	76	69	145		172	Miss C. M' Tavish	Ditto
Lucker Valley, ditto	1837		21	62	60		120	O'Meally	Ditto
Mount Nebo, ditto	1840		11	6	19		91	R. Watson	Ditto
Smyrna, St. Ann	1839		67	24	91		90	C. Lewin	Ditto
COUNTY OF CORNWALL.									
Rio Bueno, Trelawny	1837		62	65	127		165	Mr. and Mrs. Innes	Rev. P. H. Cornford
Stewart Town, ditto	1837		73	37	110		240	Rev. B. B. Dexter (pro tem.)	B. B. Dexter
New Birmingham, ditto	1839		3	20	50		150	Miss Thomas	Ditto
Falmouth, ditto	1836	577	71	38	165		448	Misses Troop, and Johnson	Rev. W. Knibb
Refuge, ditto	1835		114	96	116	326	252	T. Knibb, Misses Poplewell, and Clark	Ditto
Camberwell, ditto	1837		74	63	127		220	J. Wallace	Ditto
Tharp's ditto	1838		27	26	63		63	A. Stephenson	Ditto
Green Park, ditto	1839		30	22	52		52	J. Whittaker	Ditto
Waldensia, ditto	1837		65	47	112		150	T. M'Laughlin	Rev. J. E. Henderson
Montego Bay, St. James's	1835				271		610	Mr. J. Tunley	Rev. T. Burchell
Shiertwood, ditto	1836				101		225	B. Smith	Ditto
Mount Carey, ditto	1836				309		780	J. C. Hayes, and Mary Morris	Ditto
Bethel Hill, Westmoreland	1837				159		270	Misses Reid and Plummer	Ditto
Jottenham, St. James's	1838				90		124	Mr. and Mrs. Vaughan	Ditto
Ryland's Vale, ditto					17		410	Mr. J. Scott	Ditto
Salters' Hill, St. James's	1837	368	132	68	198		235	Mr. T. Fickton	Rev. W. Dendy
Betterphill, ditto	1837	290	70	66	136		235	Mrs. Baylis	Ditto
Maiden	1837	79	25	30	65		71	James Lovemore	Ditto
Sudbur, ditto	1840	93	62	33	85			W. P. Russell	Ditto
Bethlehem, St. Elizabeth's	1840	38	26	5	31		61	James Aljor	Rev. J. May
Savanna-la-Mar, Westmoreland	1838				63		62	Miss Hutchins, Miss Vanhorne, and Miss Lake	J. Hutchins
Fuller's Field, ditto	1838		76	64	130		106	Mr. James Valentine	Ditto
Bayan's Mount, ditto	1840				32		43	Mr. R. L. M'Murdoch	Ditto
Luca, Hanover	1840	40		40	40		170		Rev. E. J. Francis
Green Island, ditto	1838		45	45	93		150		Ditto
Gurney's Mount, ditto	1837		52	45	97		105	A. D. Campbell, & Miss Chambers	Rev. E. Woolley
Bamboe, ditto	1840	30			30			Edward Mirey	Ditto
County of Cornwall					3059		5248		
County of Middlesex					3170	403	5667		
County of Surrey					734	4	960		
Total					6961	407	11,875		

The fourth report of the "Jamaica Education Society," of which Mr. Tinson is Treasurer, and Mr. Knibb, Secretary, has just been received. In addition to the tabular view on the preceding page, we subjoin an extract illustrative of the state and prospects of this useful auxiliary to direct missionary operations.

The committee of this society in presenting its fourth annual report has to rejoice in the increase to the number of children in their schools, and the additional support they have received from England; though, at the same time, it is to them a matter of deep regret to know that the scanty nature of their means prevents them from enlarging, as they wish, the field of their operations.

By reference to the tabular view it will be seen that there are between 17 and 18,000 children under instruction, but the committee feel confident that the present numbers could be easily doubled if they were furnished with the means to set in operation more extensive machinery.

The instruction of youth is now considered of the greatest importance by all parties, but if there be one part of the world where its importance is felt, and where it is needed more than another it is the interesting field of mission labour—Jamaica.

From causes well known to our friends in England, the mass here, though evidently paying attention to religion, is unable to read, and, consequently, cannot appreciate the advantages of education; it is not therefore surprising to find children who ought to be in the school-room, in the field or provision ground. While, however, this evil is daily decreasing, we feel that it will not be *entirely* destroyed, unless the access to the school-room is made easy, both as it regards terms and distance. The children of the peasantry of Jamaica must, at present, have all difficulties taken out of their way—they are not yet in a condition to surmount them.

Your committee would not, however, have you suppose that the children under their care are not progressing—their progress is, indeed, surprising, and their anxiety to improve, in many instances, exceedingly pleasing. Your committee are not willing to allow, that the attainments of the children here are at all inferior to those at home who enjoy treble the advantages. Nor is that disposition on the part of the parents, of which we have spoken,

to keep their children at work and therefore from school, at all on the increase, but most visibly on the decline, and as the results of instruction display themselves will be entirely destroyed.

It is a matter for deep consideration that the prosperity and final success of the African mission must depend, in a great measure, upon the instructions imparted to the children of Jamaica. Those who feel most, and who will ever take the deepest interest in Africa, are her sons and daughters here. Those whose constitutions are most fitted for her climate are to be found here. But they require other qualifications besides sympathy and physical fitness; they must be brought under instruction—mental and religious cultivation, before they will be properly qualified to enter the field of superstition, of treachery, and blood—Africa. Let the children of Jamaica be *well* educated and their minds early stored with the truths of the gospel of Jesus Christ and, with God's blessing, men will always be found ready to carry the glad tidings of mercy to that land which has so long been deluged with the blood of its inhabitants, but whose woes and lamentations could never reach the iron-hearted manstealer, which tidings shall not merely overthrow the infernal system of slavery, but impart unto the children of Ham that freedom which has been purchased by the blood of the Son of God.

Your committee in closing this report beg leave to state that their treasurer the Rev. J. Tinson, and the Rev. W. Dendy, one of the members of the committee, are about to visit England, and have been requested to state the claims of, and press for additional support to this society. We trust that their statements and appeals will be attended to. Let the blessings which must accrue to the people *here*, from education—let the blessings which must flow from there to Africa—let the overthrow of the accursed slave-trade—let the salvation of souls—the promotion of God's glory, force upon you the claim of this Institution.

PASSAGE FORT.

The ordinance of baptism was administered at Passage Fort by the Rev. James M. Phillippo, on the 13th ult. to 28 individuals who had, for some time previously, given evidence of "repentance towards God, and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ."

Among the number was Mrs. Hume, (wife of the Rev. William Hume, of Spanish-Town) whose views, with regard to the subjects and mode of baptism, underwent the change which she now publicly avowed, for a considerable time before she devoted herself to missionary

work, but owing to circumstances, it was thus delayed until after her arrival in Jamaica.

The solemn ceremony was performed in the sea, near the mouth of the River Cobre, in the midst of a great number of spectators. Some hundreds crowded the beach, and multitudes were in canoes, which formed a semicircle by the place of baptism.

The candidates were at the water's edge at the early hour of five. The morning was beautifully fine; the sea calm and peaceful; reflecting, as it were, in its glassy bosom, the mountains rising in all their grandeur before us, whilst the behaviour of the spectators was solemn, in unison with the feelings of the candidates, and suited to the occasion.

In a subsequent part of the day our friends were received into fellowship with the church, and partook of the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. All the services of the day were

deeply interesting. May they prove highly profitable to all who attended them, and to God shall be all the glory.

BAZAAR.

The sale of useful and fancy articles at Passage Fort, took place on the 27th of April last, under the active superintendence of the Rev. J. M. Phillippo, Mrs. Phillippo, and friends. The commodities, which were chiefly of the useful kind, were furnished by benevolent ladies in England, in aid of the schools under the direction of Mr. Phillippo. On the present occasion, all circumstances considered, the proceeds were considerably greater than was anticipated, amounting to full 59*l.* sterling; thus reflecting the highest credit upon the inhabitants of the district in general.

HONDURAS.

Mr. and Mrs. Hosken, who arrived at Belize on the 20th of March, have removed thence to New York. They had both been ill, and Mr. Hosken considered it to be their duty to remove to a climate more congenial with their constitutions.

HOME PROCEEDINGS.

DEATH OF THE REV. JOHN DYER.

The last Missionary Herald was prepared for the press by the diligent and amiable servant of Christ with whom the publication originated, and who occasionally referred with pleasure to the fact that he had been enabled to attend to the editing of every successive number. The work, however, now devolves on other hands, Mr. Dyer having ceased from his labours on the 22nd of July.

At a full meeting of the committee, which was held on the 29th, the following resolution was passed unanimously:—

“Resolved,

“That this committee, in recording on their minutes the decease of their invaluable coadjutor and beloved friend, the Rev. John Dyer, desire, with humility and profound submission to the will of God, to bow to the inscrutable and heart-rending providence by which the society has been deprived of its senior secretary, and his family bereft of an affectionate and revered parent. They call to mind, with feelings of mournful satisfaction, the numerous and important services which

he was enabled to render in the promotion of the Redeemer's kingdom, both at home and abroad, by the singular abilities and endowments which it had pleased God to confer upon him; and, with devout thankfulness, they reflect upon the Christian virtues which adorned his blameless life, and on the unimpaired integrity and uniform consistency of his personal character and official conduct down to the period of his deeply lamented affliction and death. Under the distressing circumstances amidst which that event has taken

place, they feel it a duty which they owe to his memory, to his sorrowing widow and family, and to the constituents of the society, to pay their public and unanimous tribute of respect and Christian love, to his moral worth, his dignified and amiable deportment, his entire consecration to God; and to the accuracy, punctuality, and uprightness, which characterized to the last, and through the preceding period of twenty-three years, the performance of the onerous and responsible duties of his office."

It was thought desirable that, before the management of the accounts was transferred to other hands, they should be investigated by the official auditors. The auditors therefore met, and having examined them to the 13th of July, the last day on which they were under Mr. Dyer's care, they reported that they found them correct; and that there was at that date cash in the Bank, 41*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.*, and in the cash-box, 541*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.*, making together 955*l.* 14*s.* 5*d.*, there being a balance due to Mr. Dyer of 7*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.*

This proof of the accuracy with which the pecuniary concerns of the society were conducted by our late revered secretary to the last, is gratifying; but while it is published, in justice to his memory, it is necessary to add, that the balance in hand must not be taken as a criterion of our financial state, as the committee has been compelled, during the last few months, to borrow considerable sums, which are at present unpaid.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE OF MISSIONARIES.

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie, with their two children, and Mrs. Ellis and family arrived from Calcutta on the 23rd of July. The voyage has been so beneficial to Mr. Leslie that he is now in perfect health; we regret to have to add that Mrs. Ellis continues to be in a very debilitated state.

Mr. Tinson and family arrived from Jamaica on the 14th ultimo. Mr. Tinson's health is partially recruited.

A letter has been received from Mr. Bon-tem's, announcing that he and Mr. and Mrs. Littlewood had arrived safely at the island of St. Thomas, on their way to the Bahamas. It is dated July 1st. They expected to remain on the island about a week, and hoped that in about a week more they should reach Nassau.

Mr. Gibson, whose designation took place at Watford on the 6th ult., has left London for Portsmouth, there to embark for Calcutta in the Vernon, Captain Gimblet.

Mr. Dendy requests us to state that as he expects to leave England for Jamaica, either

at the latter part of October or the beginning of November, he will feel thankful to any friends who may have boxes of articles prepared for Jamaica, to be sold for the benefit of the schools, to forward them in good time to the Mission House, at Fen-court, specifying the particular schools for which they are intended. He adds, that several teachers are ready to accompany him to Jamaica, to occupy important stations in that highly interesting island, but the number must depend upon the contributions of friends for their outfit and passage. He therefore appeals to those who feel an interest in the welfare of the children of the negro race, to assist in this undertaking, the future condition of the island depending upon the means that are now employed to educate and train the rising generation. Friends desirous of assisting in this work will oblige Mr. Dendy by giving him an early notice of their intention, that time may be given to those who are willing to embark in this important enterprise to secure a passage, and prepare for their voyage.

LETTERS RECEIVED FROM MISSIONARIES.

EAST INDIES.—Calcutta, Rev. A. Leslie, 3 March, 1841; Rev. J. Thomas, 8 May; Rev. J. Lawrence, 31 May.

WEST INDIES.

JAMAICA.—Kingston, Rev. J. Tinson, 25

May; Rev. J. Kingdon, 17 June; Rev. S. Oughton, 17 June.—Port Maria, Rev. D. Day, 15 June.—Mandeville, Rev. J. Williams, 28 June.—Anotta Bay, Rev. J. Dalwell, 12 and 27 May.—Montego Bay, Rev. T. Burchell, 25 May, 8 June.—Falmouth, Rev. W.

Knibb, 4, 21, and 29 June; Rev. J. May, 21 June; Rev. J. E. Henderson, 20 May.—Manchioneel, Rev. J. Kingdon, 28 May.—Lucea, Rev. E. J. Francies, 12 June.—Brown's Town, Rev. J. Clark, 28 May.—St. Ann's Bay, Rev. T. F. Abbott, 2 June.—Stewart Town, Rev. B. B. Dexter, 10, 14, and 19 May.

passage out at St. Thomas's, 1 July.—Nassau, Rev. H. Capern, 7 June.

HONDURAS.—Rev. C. H. Hosken, 13 May; at New York, 2 July.

WESTERN AFRICA.—Fernando Po, Rev. J. Clarke, 26 April; Dr. Prince, 23 April.

BAHAMAS.—Mr. W. Bontems, on his

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

The Committee beg thankfully to acknowledge the following:—a box of useful articles for Mr. Henderson, of Belize, from Mrs. Clements and Miss Sargent, of Laytonstone; two parcels of magazines, &c., from Mr. Lomax, of Nottingham; a small paper parcel for Mr. Dawson, of Ceylon; two boxes of clothing and haberdashery from Watford, for Mr. Burchell; a box of fancy articles for Mr. Phillippo, from Mrs. Grey, Jersey; a parcel from Mrs. Nelham, for Africa; a large case of magazines and pamphlets from the Misses Keene, of Hampton; a box for Mr. Dallewell, from Sunderland; a box for Mr. Henderson, Belize, from Waterford.

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