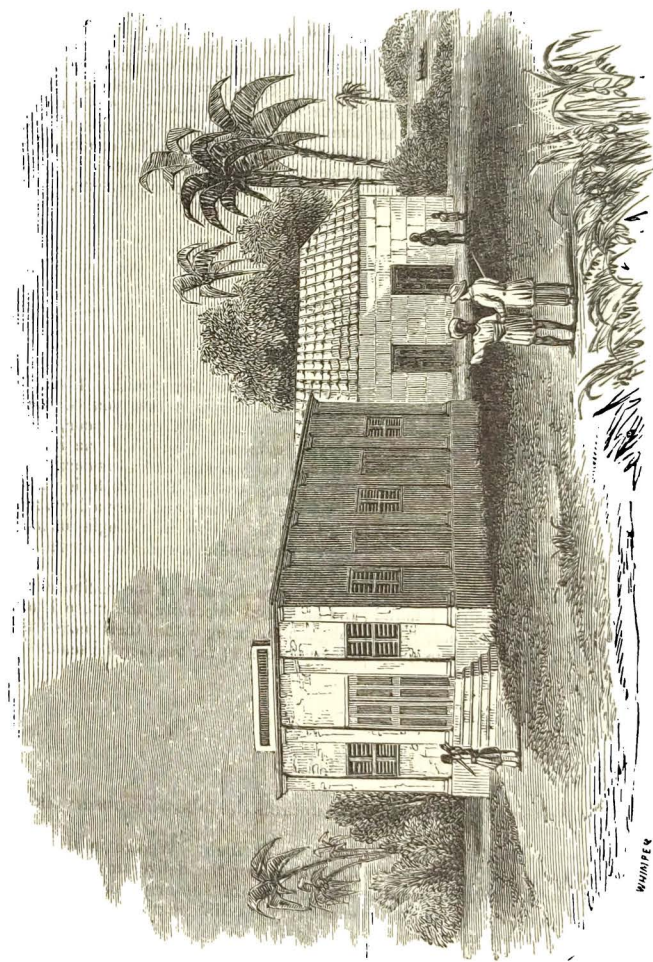


THE MISSIONARY HERALD.

The Missionary Herald (Aug. 1844).



W. H. P. & C.

NEW CHAPEL AT COOLEY BAZAR, CALCUTTA,
Opened for Divine Worship, November 2, 1848.

ASIA.

CALCUTTA.

At the time of our most recent advices from Calcutta, the lives of all our missionaries had been preserved, in the midst of prevailing pestilence. Cholera and small pox had been raging, and great numbers of Europeans, as well as natives, had fallen. The police returns of deaths in Calcutta alone, for February and March, were more than 20,000! Mr. Leslie writes thus, May 14th:—

This has been an awful year for cholera. Blessed be God, however, that all the missionaries have hitherto been preserved. Truly it is not the least part of a missionary's trials to be living in a place where he is perpetually seeing his fellow-creatures smitten down before him in a moment, and where he cannot help fearing that the next dart that flies may strike himself down, or some other that may be near and dear to him. It is believed that not less than between forty and fifty thousand died in Calcutta alone during the months of April and March,—among whom were many of our countrymen. We have lost one or two most valuable members of our baptist community. All the missionaries are pretty well, excepting Dr. Yates, who is at present laid down on his couch. I hope, however, that he is not seriously ill. He has often similar attacks to the present.

HAURAH.

Mr. Morgan writes as follows:—

Since the commencement of the present year, I have baptized three persons, two of whom are natives, and the third a respectable English lad, only fourteen years of age, who has attended the bible class for about two years.

I cannot refrain from mentioning an instance of maternal cruelty that came under my notice: late on a certain evening, while I was going to invite children to school from house to house, I saw something wrapped in a cloth under a tree. Upon inquiry, I found that it was a child about a week old. The mother said, It will die: I am too ill to nurse

it, and too poor to buy it milk. I said to the neighbours, How is it that you do not help her? They said, We are all poor, and it is not our business. I supplied the immediate wants of the woman, and afterwards saw the child doing well. The truth is this, the woman is a widow, and they all wished the child to die. This is a single instance of what I am afraid is a common occurrence in this country.

The more I know of the native character and its fearful depravity, the more I feel my obligation to bring within their reach the only effectual remedy for the moral disease of man.

DINAGEPORE.

A letter from Mr. Smylie, dated April 23rd, contains the following observations:—

God is silently but surely working the death of the idols of India. I cannot mention the time when I saw a brahman, pundit, or Hindu of any caste foolhardy enough to step forward and attempt to defend a stock or a stone. So far the victory appears to be our God's; we are nevertheless awfully humbled to see that the Holy Spirit is not yet poured

out from on high. We are in the valley of dry bones; but the deliverance of man from the bondage of sin may come just as unexpectedly as did that of the Jews from Babylon.

The Hindus have seldom any thing to say; they receive books, and many of them read them. Several persons, both Hindus and

Musalms, have called at our house, wishing to be admitted; but as I do not see in them the spirit I could wish, I have advised them to consider what they are doing, and not to deceive themselves. The man that would say India is what it was ten years ago, must either have lost all recollection or all reason.

The Musalms evidently feel the dying pangs of a sinking cause. They have begun to have meetings in the town of Dinagepore twice a week. I am told at those meetings they are taught some kinds of prayer, and above all to beware of *viafar padires*. This might be expected, because they have nothing to fear from Hinduism.

They have now begun to print and sell books, several of which I have seen. They are not the kind the people need. They are not calculated to inform the mind in any thing that is good or useful. They are well adapted to irritate and provoke the mind to a contempt for every thing which is really holy. One of them now before me shows their contempt for Christianity and love for their own way. They try to defend themselves in the following manner:—the prophets had more than one woman, so may we. To this I have told them, that the prophets were mere instruments through whom the word of God was handed to us. We do not make saviours of them in any one way; we are not to copy their infirmities, but their good actions. Moses did not choose more than one companion; why not follow him in this thing? But without going to the prophets, your own consciences condemn you in many things, and if you do not find a Saviour before death, God will surely justify that condemnation. In another place they say that the Jews demanded a miracle of our Lord, but as he could not produce one, he answered, "As

Jonah was three days and three nights in the whale's belly, so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth." They say this passage proves that Christ could not work a miracle, while it actually contains a revelation of the greatest of all miracles. They go on to say, Christians are as bad as we. They keep women; and if they do not eat opium, they drink. If they have not dancing women, they have a theatre, which is the same thing. They have taken our lands from us, and what more can they do? Go teach them before you come to us. All this has been answered, but the more clear the evidences against them are, the more furious they become. We do teach our own countrymen, and the Saviour we offer to you, we offer to them; and if you will sin together, you must go to hell together. Sin is sin, whether in you or them. Their name will not save them, nor will your being called the followers of the faithful, and true believers, save you. A Saviour and Mediator you must have, and that Saviour and Mediator must be holy in all things. He must be able not only to redeem you from Satan's power and dominion, but to make you holy; not only to make you holy, but to reconcile you to God from whom man has fallen. We are altogether gone from God's likeness, and have chosen the likeness of Satan. But act like men; go to those with whom you find fault; tell them your minds as you tell it me, but do it in a proper spirit, not in wrath and abuse. Ridicule and abuse are no argument; it is no evidence of a thing being true. When I first heard these arguments I was not aware they had appeared in print; I however told the man who used them, they were not his, nor of Musalman origin, but taught by some European.

JESSORE.

The following account of a tour in this populous district, which lies to the east of Calcutta, is from Mr. Parry:—

Through mercy we returned yesterday after an absence of about seven weeks, the greater part of which period we spent in visiting the churches to the south. I went out beyond my usual route to preach the gospel to the heathens at Gopál-ganj, situated about sixty miles to the N. E. of this place. I spent two days in the above named place, and preached there on a market day to a large number of auditors, and distributed with some exertion about three hundred tracts and gospels. I found the people unusually eager to obtain books. I was occupied fully for three hours in supplying the applicants with tracts. With a few exceptions, all who took

tracts could read, and I hope some who were incapable of reading, will learn the contents of the tracts they took, by getting their friends to read them, and listening to the instructions which the tracts contain. I was glad to find both Hindus and Muhammadans quiet and attentive to my message. I endeavoured to spread the light of the gospel amongst the inhabitants of the villages near Gopál-ganj. Some of them appeared rather shy, as they had never seen a person of my description traversing through the villages. But when I entered into a familiar conversation with one or two persons, others took courage and approached me, and I had the satisfaction of

instructing a good number. I was addressing a few auditors by the side of a road, and some proposed to me to sit down and they would do the same, but another person invited me to go over to his house. I complied with his polite invitation, and all my hearers followed me. I was conducted to a small house which is used for accommodating visitors. The house was soon filled with young and old men, who all seemed very desirous to hear what I had to say. I spoke for about an hour, and all listened with great attention to my exhortation; and some said that I spoke the truth, and others, that I gave very good instructions. I observed a feeling of approbation pervading all my auditors. After leaving Gopál-ganj I stopped near the village of Suchidaha for a day, and preached for about four hours in the village, and for about two hours in the market on the opposite side of the river. In both places I had the pleasure of teaching a great many poor blind heathens who perhaps had never heard of Jesus Christ before. In itinerating in this village I found the inhabitants, though not shy as those near Gopál-ganj, yet surprised to see me going about the village, and anxious to know the object of my visit. They soon found out, when I commenced conversing with some who approached me, that I had come for the purpose of instructing them. I found the people in general attentive, while I addressed them. Some seemed to think that what I said was very good, while others thought that my instructions were contrary to their own faith, and therefore they could not approve of them. The natives in these parts are all of the Chárál caste, and Muhammadans; and I am sorry to say very ignorant, much more so than the natives of other parts of the district. I found very few who could read. I inquired, and learnt that there was not a single school in these parts. In the market I could not distribute more than forty or fifty tracts. Had the generality of people been able to read, I could have distributed in such a large market as it was, a thousand tracts in a few hours. I met in the market and in the village only about four or five bráhmans. One of them appeared to be intelligent, and pretty free from bigotry; and he seemed to approve sincerely of the divine truths I inculcated. He was quite delighted with a copy of the Pentateuch which I gave him; he prized it so much that when a Chárál (a disciple of his I suppose) wished to have a sight of the precious volume, he was afraid to let him take it into his hands, telling him that he was too ignorant to know the value of such a book. I also met with another intelligent bráhmán, who after listening to my instructions with attention, accepted of a copy of the New Testament.

With respect to the churches in the south, I am happy to say that all the members and

native teachers seem to be desirous of maintaining their profession. I wish heartily that the Christians would be more diligent and regular in their attendance on the public means of grace on the week days. Their want of spirituality of mind, great poverty, and old habits, operate to the injury of their spiritual interests, inasmuch as they are hindered from the above causes from feeding daily on the milk of the word, whereby they might be nourished and strengthened to serve and glorify the Lord. Most of the members, however, I am happy to add, maintain family worship every evening. In all the churches the number out of communion is not more than seven or eight. I have every hope of their repenting of their sins. One of the churches, I am happy to state, has had a large increase. Three sabbaths ago I administered the ordinance of baptism to twelve converts. Three of them are the children of the members of the church who were converted some years ago. One was a Muhammadan who forsook his old faith about three years ago. Another is a young lad of about eleven, who was some time ago in the Intally institution. It is delightful to find piety in such tender plants. Another of his school-fellows has also been baptized, who is about two years older than himself. The rest I need not particularize, but it may suffice to say that they have all been living amongst Christians (not less than about a year, and several for nearly two and three years), and have received sufficient instruction, both in a public and in a private way, from myself and the pastor of the church. Last July, when I spent a month with them, they appeared as candidates. Since then, to the period of my late visit, three months had elapsed, and during this period I was glad to learn that all the candidates had been walking in the fear of God. I have no cause to doubt the sincerity of these believers in Christ. I pray that they may daily grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

I am sorry to state that John, a native preacher, while proceeding in a small boat with three native Christians to preach the gospel in a large melf, which is annually visited by some of us, was attacked by dacoits who beat one of our poor Christian friends rather severely, and plundered them of all their money, including the five rupees I advanced them for expenses, clothes, and provisions. They returned to me in a destitute state. I immediately informed the magistrate of the accident, and at the same time desired the brethren to proceed to the darogah and represent the case to him. The joint-magistrate happening to be then at Khulná, he very kindly took their depositions himself, and promptly depatched the thanah jemadar to endeavour to trace and seize the offenders.

PATNA.

Mr. Beddy gives the following account of scenes which have recently come before him, and of his itinerant exertions.

Left home on Tuesday Morning, the 13th of February, in order to attend the melá Shri Játrí, at Beahtah, about eighteen miles south-west of Patna, having with me four native believers, and a supply of tracts, gospels, &c. Our first day's encampment was in the vicinity of a large and populous village called Munir, which must have been of importance some years ago, as in its suburbs there are some remaining marks of former grandeur, such as costly Muhammadan sepulchres, a splendid and extensive tank, now much fallen to decay, cased with large stones, and a very superb mausoleum, which, notwithstanding its decayed state, bears evident tokens of having been erected at an immense expense and labour. Many inscriptions are cut in the framework of the different entrances in Persian characters. No stones being to be obtained within the distance of several miles, the cost in bringing them either from Chunar or the Rotas Hills must have been considerable. Yet a few more years, and what now remains will be sought in vain. Many mosques and Hindu temples continue to be erected in different places; but of a very different description, and of very different materials, to those formerly erected—a proof of the poverty of the people, or of their supineness in religious matters. Little indeed of an enduring character is to be found about these new erections now.

In the afternoon I went to the village with two of our brethren; but there being no regular bazar, we were not able to obtain a great many visitors as hearers. Yet there were some to whom the glad tidings of sinners were communicated, but alas! there did not appear much of those feelings that appreciate the glad sound.

On the following morning, the 14th, we arrived at Beahtah about ten o'clock, and having selected a desirable spot, sat down to await the arrival of our tent. Close to the spot we had selected for erecting our Jomicile was a beautiful well, I mean with regard to water; I never drank better. While sitting and viewing two females drawing water, I thought of Abraham's servant and his journey in search of a wife for his master's son; but I looked in vain for any resemblance either in appearance or conduct to Rebecca. There were two women in filthy garments drawing water; to test the extent of their hospitality, I asked one of them if she would

give me a drink of water, to which she gave the freezing monosyllable, No! Knowing their prejudices, I then said, well! may I help myself out of the vessel (a common earthen one of the value of the tenth part of a pice)? To this she also replied, No! However, I told her I would pay her for the vessel. When getting payment, she demurred, but subsequently took one pice.

When within about a mile or two of Beahtah, we were joined by two or three natives, with whom we entered into conversation, stating the object of our coming to the melá, and then declared unto them the whole plan of salvation, bringing forward proofs in support of what we advanced, and showing also the inutility, and absurdity, and sinfulness of idolatry, and the assembling of the people from year to year to worship a stone.

As I had intentionally come before the time of the people's assembling, I took the opportunity of visiting a large market held on the 15th, at this village. We had a pleasing opportunity of delivering our message. Afterwards I walked through the village, or rather town, for it is very extensive, and if I may judge from the excitement I caused, no European was ever there before; indeed some of the people said so, and I do not doubt the truth of the assertion. The whole of Thursday afternoon and Friday were spent at the melá, and our opportunity for speaking and giving away tracts and gospels, was as pleasing and extensive as could be desired. I fancy we must have given away nearly 5000 tracts and single gospels, with some copies of the Psalms and gospels in Sanskrit.

Progress of the Orphan Refuge.

We have had an addition of one destitute girl since I last wrote, though our expected increase of five or six orphans (emancipated slaves) has not yet been received.

The girls that have attained some proficiency in needle-work are occasionally employed in plain work sent by some ladies to the Refuge, and although it is but a small sum, yet it is very gratifying to see them thus contributing to their own support, young as they are, and as the institution is. You would, I have no doubt, feel much pleased at hearing some of them read, and at hearing two or three of them *pray!* especially when knowing that it was the effort of the heart and not of the tongue only, as their conduct proves.

CEYLON.

The state of our affairs in this island is sketched by Mr. Daniel, in a letter dated Colombo, May 18th, of which the following is an extract :—

As I have obtained no intelligence of the embarkation of Mr. and Mrs. Davies, I suppose the event had not taken place when the last overland left you. It seems very desirable they should be here as quickly as possible, since brother Dawson's various occupations render missionary aid peculiarly desirable in that part of the world. This is likely in a short time to be still more necessary on two specific and trying accounts. The one is the failing state of the health of sister Birt. Mr. Dawson thus writes me: "Mrs. Birt is very unwell. She continues up, and attends to the school, but her health has been declining for several months. She intends embracing Mrs. Elliott's invitation, and spending the vacation at her house. And in consequence of her ill health, the school will close earlier than otherwise for a month's recess. Mrs. Birt will go down to Colombo about the beginning of the next month. I hope she will derive benefit from Dr. Elliott's skill; if not, I fear she must return to England." If Mrs. Davies should be here by the end of June, she can for a season take her place, and afford her a longer recreation. The other circumstance is, that it is very probable that the member of our church who supplies the Portuguese congregation at Kandy, will be removed to Colombo. It will then be necessary that either Mr. Dawson or Mr. Davies learn that language, to minister to the necessities of that part of the flock. I believe Mr. Dawson has already that acquaintance with it that he would soon, by giving up a large portion of time to it, which Mr. Davies's arrival will enable him to do, be able to preach in it.

Since I have entered on the work of the academy, my labours are much more monotonous than formerly, as I am with my students about six hours in the day. I am generally obliged to limit my direct missionary exertions to Colombo, and the villages contiguous to it, after academical business has closed. But as they all preach on Wednesday afternoons, as well as Lord's days, we have by their exertions, as well as my own, rather more missionary work done around us than before these labours commenced; while a body of, I hope, useful men are training up to spread the

knowledge of Christ in every part of the land. I have reason to be satisfied with most of them, but it requires great patience and perseverance to manage them. Not that I have to complain of any thing like insubordination, but there is a want of vigour the native character displays, to wrestle with.

I am obliged to send now some of the ordained missionaries around me to visit the stations I used to inspect myself, and to seize vacation seasons for itinerances. At Christmas I specified I visited Kattar Kandy and Ruaswella, in each of which places a new missionary station is forming. At Easter I went to our Hanwella and Weilgama stations, proceeding at the same time to Dadigama, Dalinatoogewa, and Hewagama. I lately went to the opening of a native place of worship at Gonawella, connected with the Kottigahawatta station, built by the people themselves. Our Tamil mission in Colombo is now got under weigh, and has been two months in operation. I shall send you the journals of the missionary as I have opportunity. He has laborious services to perform, and meets with many difficulties; but I hope fruit will at length appear. Mr. Spaulding, an American missionary, who strongly recommended the labourer to me as the very best fitted for the work that he knew, will probably call on you by the time you receive this. Give my very Christian regards to him. You will be pleased to be informed that the plantation mission near Kandy, among the Tamils, is bringing fruit to the glory of God. Five persons are coming before the church in Kandy this evening, who promise to be the first-fruits of an abundant harvest. Brother Meldor, of Byamwella, writes me that he has lately baptized five Singhalese, and united them to the church in the distant part of his station. At Kottigahawatta brother Nader is labouring much, with great opposition. The Buddhists have issued a tract against Christianity, to which he has prepared a reply. Brother McCarthy has been challenged to a dispute by a popish priest here, which will lead to a discussion that, like the one in Colombo some years ago, will I trust be productive of spiritual good.

AFRICA.

FERNANDO PO.

The native Christians at Clarence, to whom Mr. Sturgeon has ministered from the time of his arrival on the island, having, with the concurrence of the other missionaries, invited him to become their pastor, his acceptance of that office was solemnly recognized on the last Lord's day in March. Messrs. Clarke, Saker, Merrick, and Dr. Prince conducted the service; and during the four hours that it occupied, deep interest pervaded the assembly. Dr. Prince, in giving an account of it, says, "The prayer and fasting which had preceded the observance, had been graciously accepted in heaven, and faith, hope, and peace were multiplied to us." He adds,

To speak my own opinion, and I believe it harmonizes with those held by my brethren, the church and people have been much improved since Clarke and I took leave of them in 1842.

It is very gratifying to witness the self-denying labours of brother Sturgeon; though often indisposed in body he does not at all confer with his flesh, nor spare himself on behalf of those he affectionately tends; and they evince a strong attachment to him.

Brother Merrick is to journey to Bimbia to-morrow, and will pass two to four weeks there. He will explore part of the high lands, and besides giving instruction in letters, and commending the grace of God to the sinful inhabitants on the heights and in the plains, he will busy himself to collate the dialects with those spoken at Camaroons, where he was very diligently employed in acquainting himself with the Diwalla language, and furnished himself with a copious vocabulary. Since then he has so improved upon and systematized his acquirements, that he has purposed putting the printing-press into operation.

Wednesday, April 10th. You will be happy to receive a first specimen of brother Merrick's perseverance with his press. I enclose you one struck off this morning. He is now under weigh for Bimbia. His returns are like those of the foraging bee, he comes laden with spoil.

The Jamaica friends have all sickened, one only (I think) excepted. The sicknesses are commonly of a mild, tractable nature—nothing so alarming as those of the West Indies. One of the new comers, Mr. Bundy, was a dispenser five years to a Kingston doctor, and will therefore be a valuable man at one of the projected continental stations. Brother Clarke distributes with a liberal hand the garments to the Bo-eh-bas, and makes a good calcula-

tion that some will be disposed to continue to wear them when kept in countenance by numbers. Some play him tricks, and come for a second suit, having disposed of the first to a settler. Many of the garments were destroyed by the ants, which abound here, and will devour so much of a trunk full in one night as to render what they leave of no use. Brother Clarke is busy preparing an improved vocabulary of their language for the press. Two or more of the villages nearest to us are visited every sabbath, and it is evident the people are regarding us with increasing confidence and good will.

It was a good thing that brother Clarke brought some ready framed houses from Jamaica: it is a work of two or three years to get a commodious one wholly prepared and erected here, that is if it is to be situated in the mountains. Would not iron houses answer? The question is answered by Eyamba, at Calabar, who has a large one; but it ought to be double plated, in order to be cool. If there be any invention for splitting shingles, such a machine would be of incalculable service here, for the bamboo leaf is a most worthless covering, and because so very perishable and insecure, it subjects one to that inconvenience which attends a demand for manual labourers.

I had no idea our Jamaica friends would suffer so speedily and generally from the climate. Fuller has married an old friend, that the "Chilmark" brought; and two other individuals will marry as soon as the doctor gives them a bill of health.

Can we not have more frequent communications, or even newspapers, from England? We may say that as yet we have heard but once since the "Marys" sailed in June last.

The readiest way is for friends to pay the eight pence chargeable upon ship letters directed to foreign stations, and then to com-

mit them to the London General Post Office. It seems that information is sent thither from the trading ports of ships about to sail to Africa. No way could, I suppose, be devised for our communications being delivered in England exempt from ship letter duty.

Mrs. Prince and I have suffered as little as any of our missionary company. We are

only now convalescent from a febrile attack, but so slight a one is followed by a disproportionate debility and dyspepsia, that a day or two's fever has always heavy consequences. Our afflicted child suffers very much in this climate. If providence presented a conveyance I should probably be called to the self-denial of parting with her, and with Mrs. Prince, as her guardian.

The following, dated Clarence, April 10th, is from Mr. Clarke:—

Mr. Merrick and brother Duckett have sailed for Bimbia and its mountain tribes. The sloop which bears them is still in sight, and lies becalmed off Point William. She left this morning about seven o'clock. It is now five o'clock, P. M., and very little progress has been made. Brother Merrick was up late last night, in order to print a few lesson sheets for the Diwallas. These he has taken, and hopes to use them ere he returns. I send one as a specimen. This is indeed one reason why, tired and weak as I am, I write. The printing is not clear from the want of a spirit level. It was ordered, but has not come. We hope to remedy the great

evil a little, but it is difficult to do it without the level. I believe Mr. Merrick has particularly written respecting one.

Our friends are all, I hope, recovering. Miss Cooper alone is in a dangerous state. The day school goes on exceedingly well, and the female school is very encouraging. Clothing is in demand daily: with my own hands I must have put clothing upon the bodies of 400 persons. Many cut off their ornaments of clay before us; and most are clean in their bodies before they ask for clothing. Clothing is breaking down a great barrier, and making us universally known over the island as the friends of the inhabitants.

WEST INDIES.

JAMAICA.

CALABAR.

A member of the committee has recently received a letter from Mr. Tinson containing the following passages:—

Of my late affliction you have heard, and of its merciful termination. I am now in excellent health, for me; I have not been better for years: and though my labours are heavy, they are such as I like, and it is no small matter to be engaged in employment that is agreeable to one's feelings. What continued cause for gratitude should we have, were we sufficiently mindful of God's benefits. I know not how to thank him enough for his manifold mercies to me. It is true I have had personal and relative afflictions during my twenty-two years of missionary life. I have given up children who have, I hope,

gone to heaven before us; and I have not been without those anxieties and cares attendant on missionary toil; but strength has been afforded equal to the day, and He who sent the trials stayed his rough wind in the day of the east wind. Could I go back and number all the cloudy days, and compare them with the sunny, how few would the former appear!

It is likely that you hear sad accounts of Jamaica now. Should such be the case, you must take them, as some of the flattering representations ought to have been taken, with limitations and caution. Certainly the pre-

sent aspect of affairs is not the most cheering, but the blame must not be attributed to the peoples' unwillingness to work, as some foolishly assert. The people are not without their faults—and who would be so weak as to expect them to be faultless—but as a whole, I say without fear of contradiction, that they are exceedingly well behaved and industrious people. As for emigration, it is perfectly useless, as far as the planters or the cultivation of the soil is concerned, while it inflicts a heavy expense on the country. The people are willing to work, but many hundreds, if not thousands, can get no employment, though they ask but 1s. 6d. a day; and very many are now working for one shilling. There is still a great deal of bad management, where estates are entrusted to men who take little or no interest in their welfare, and continue to sigh for their former power, which can never return.

The great cause, however, of Jamaica's present depression, is the long and severe drought we have suffered, almost, if not entirely without precedent in the history of the country. Our missionaries are feeling keenly the pecuniary difficulties of the people, embarrassed as many of them are with chapel and other debts. Many of the schools I fear will be given up, or continued with incompetent masters, for want of funds.

Very much has been said about the willingness and ability of the people to raise money, some of which, perhaps, might as well never have been said, as false impressions have been made, from which anticipations have arisen, that are not likely to be realized. Yet there has been much to admire and praise in the people of Jamaica. They have given nobly, and I believe that very many of them would still give willingly if they were able. Some, no doubt, are beginning to feel an increased attachment to money, as a means of gratifying their artificial wants—wants which they have been taught to cherish as a stimulation to industry. Should their proficiency be greater than their teachers desire, we need not be greatly surprised; it is difficult to pursue a good in this world without some admixture of evil. Many thousands, since freedom, have purchased small lots of land, most of whom have either built houses, or are now building them; and this has involved great numbers in pecuniary embarrass-

ment. No question but they anticipated an abundance of labour, the result of which would be means sufficient to accomplish their purposes. In this they have been disappointed. Many have now to work for four or five shillings a week, and where they have no house or ground of their own, they have to pay two shillings a week for rent; and if their provision grounds be in the low lands, during the dry weather they yield nothing. In such cases there can be little money for religious or benevolent objects. In the year 1841-2, when our missionaries declared their independence, the churches did more than they had previously done; and I suppose the brethren anticipated a similar continuation of supply. In this, however, they have been grievously disappointed; and what some of them will do I know not.

You will like to know something about the Institution at this place. I am happy to say that hitherto we have cause to be very thankful. Every thing has gone on well. The conduct of all the students has been very consistent, and given me great satisfaction. They had every thing to learn, and this has rendered my labours heavy, both from the elementary nature of the instruction I have to give and the frequency with which it is necessary to impart it. I usually have the whole of them four times a day, so that it keeps me pretty closely confined. Three of them have commenced Latin, and bid fair to get on. I have a young Englishman, our schoolmaster at Rio Bueno, who comes once a week to teach some of the students arithmetic, as a remuneration for which I am teaching him to read his Greek Testament. Then I have another pupil, a young lad of colour, an inquirer in the congregation, who comes several times a week for Latin; so that with these things, helping my daughter a little with Hebrew, cultivating a garden, and working a little as a mechanic, I have no time for complaint, if I had any thing to complain of, but I really have not. I have not been in better health for years. We are all well and as happy as we ought to be in this world. All that I want is to feel more entire devotion to God, and if I might have a wish, it would be to live to see some able men go hence to Africa and elsewhere, as ambassadors of Christ.

BAHAMAS.

Our brethren in these islands are in deep affliction. During the last two or three years the hostility of some of the official persons of the colony towards them has manifested itself in various ways, and subjected them to many annoyances ; but recently, proceedings have been adopted which must be ascribed either to extreme ignorance of the law, or to a persuasion that the poor people in these secluded isles have no friends in Britain to vindicate their rights.

We have had a station in the island of Exuma about ten years ; and a chapel was erected there in which our missionaries have preached, and great good has been done. This small island is about 180 miles distant from Nassau, the seat of government ; and its twelve hundred inhabitants have not been accustomed to receive any other instruction than that given them by our agents. About four months ago, however, a clergyman, sent by "The Bahama Church Aid Society," landed, and became a resident in the house of the stipendiary magistrate. He has determined to obtain possession of the place of worship ; and finding on the first Lord's day in May, that the native teacher appointed by our missionaries to occupy it, and the assembled congregation, were determined to carry on service as usual, he availed himself of the aid of constables brought for the purpose, and committed the coloured preacher to custody. He was, however, released, and the following morning embarked for Nassau ; but, in the course of the week, several of the congregation were brought before the magistrate. They were accused of assembling unlawfully to disturb the peace, assaulting the constables, and rescuing themselves from custody ! Several men of good character were sentenced to hard labour at rock-cutting, for two months, and one received, as a preparation for this, thirty-nine lashes. Three females were heavily fined ; one, a poor widow, was sent to prison.

The same spirit is manifested by functionaries at Nassau. We refrain, however, from publishing at present, occurrences which have taken place there, and many aggravating circumstances connected with the proceedings in Exuma. A narrative has been laid before the Secretary of the Colonial Office ; and an investigation will doubtless be instituted. The outrages committed have been so gross, and so manifestly illegal, that we cannot imagine that any British statesman will think it right to pass them over in silence.

HONDURAS.

Mr. Henderson writes thus from Belize, May 9th :—

I trust you have received my letter sent by last packet, wherein I endeavoured to show how necessary a printing press would be to carry out our translation operations. I shall, however, do nothing relative to setting up the press until I hear from you. Should the work which I stated was to be done, be such as to justify you in sending out a printer, I

can only repeat that he will have a neat house to dwell in, and a hearty welcome awaiting him.

Since the date of my last, I have made a journey to Crooked Tree, where John Warner has lately been stationed; some particulars relative to the place, and our prospects of usefulness, I now proceed to give you.

Crooked Tree is the name of an island in the midst of a lagoon, or lake, called Northern Lagoon, between forty and fifty miles from Belize, in a north-westerly direction. In this lagoon a creek takes its rise, called Black Creek, which empties itself into the Belize river about twenty-five miles from the sea.

On the morning of the 29th of April, after providing ourselves with hands and provisions for five days, we set out in the mission craft, a boat made out of the hollowed trunk of a cedar-tree, with awning in the midst to defend us from the scorching rays of the sun, our progress being at the rate of about three miles an hour. About the middle of the day we rested at the bank of a few Wesleyan friends, and had worship. Slept at Baker's, which we reached time enough to give an opportunity for a very pleasing meeting of about thirty persons.

Started early on the morning of the 30th. Before entering Black Creek mouth we had to cross a run of the river called Little Falls, where every year considerable damage is sustained by the overturning of crafts as they pass, sometimes with loss of life. At the very time we were passing, four men, with two dories, were employed in diving up logwood, the fruits of some previous disaster of this kind.

With an eye to the future prosperity of the station, I took occasion to examine the state of this rapid, and what means were necessary to remove the evil; when it appeared that all might be removed, and a safe channel opened, at an expense of about £150; but how long generations to come are to go on as those before them, it is not for me to determine. Our passage was, by the good hand of our God, safe both going up and coming down.

Having entered Black Creek, we found the trees to diminish in height, until they entirely disappeared, and left us about ten miles from its mouth in an open country. This was the first time since my arrival I had obtained such a view, for from the sea coast to a considerable distance backwards, this country is distressingly low and swampy, only interspersed with ridges of higher ground, covered with pine or mahogany, according to the quality of the soil. Grateful as was the sight, the pleasure was soon checked by the reflection that it was all but lost to man. The alligator below, and stork, tiel, and wilk-hawk above, had their undisturbed domain. But oh, this must not always be; the increasing

population will in due time, like the Dutch and Chinese, turn its swamps and ridges into fruitful fields and open canals, and the glorious summer's sun, with which this climate is favoured, shall draw forth its abundance for the comfort of man and the glory of the great Creator.

To the left our eye caught a view of the island of Crooked Tree, with its lake in front; that is to say, on the east side, and open to the sea breeze. We arrived about five in the evening. It is sufficiently plain that this spot was anciently an Indian settlement; the remains of the pottery and implements of war and husbandry which are continually being dug up are proofs. One was shown me among many others; it was called an Indian chissel, but though small, I am persuaded it had been used by these simple people, amongst whom the use of iron was unknown, as an axe. It is nearly in the shape of the famous American tuba. So hard is the stone of which it is made, that when applied to a piece of glass, it cut it. I have preserved it for you as a memorial of the place.

The settlement at this place consists at present of about twenty houses. William Tillet, Esq., brother of our friend at Baker's, resides here, with a family of fifteen children, two of whom were previously married, and two more entered that state on the occasion of my visit. I was requested to lay out a plan of a town, and give it a name; with the sense of Mr. Tillet's kindness, and the numerous inhabitants of that name, you will not be surprised when informed that I named the place "Tilletton."

At Tilletton two of our members already have their residence, two more have houses in which they occasionally reside, and four from Spanish Creek, about ten miles off, speak of removing thither. Two families, the elder branches of whom had been seriously impressed under the means of grace at Bakers, have lately taken up their residence at Tilletton. Things, therefore, carry a prospect of church order being established amongst them.

That I might know the progress the children in the school had made during the period it had been open, I released brother Warner from it for one day, and took charge of it. I found it encouraging; all were beginners, but some gave promise of ability. The number present, about thirty boys and girls. It is kept in the meeting-house. This is of such materials as the place affords, and with the exception of windows and jealousies, was erected at the expense of the people. It is capable of holding about one hundred persons, and was well filled during my stay. It is not expected long to be large enough. The spirit of hearing is good, and being open to settlers, it is expected to increase.

NORTH AMERICA.

CANADA.

Mr. Cramp and his family arrived at Montreal in safety on the 29th of May, and received a cordial welcome. It will be seen by the following extract from a letter written June 12th, that the impressions made by his first view of the scene of his future labours were pleasing.

Mr. Girdwood and Mr. Fyfe left Montreal the day after our arrival, to visit the churches in the upper province, and attend the annual meeting of the Canada Baptist Union. Mr. Bosworth is now on his way to join them. I cannot, therefore, give you by this mail any additional information. I can only say, generally, that the intercourse I have already had with the members of the committee has been very pleasant and satisfactory. They are Christian men of the right sort, and perseveringly active on behalf of the Society.

Mr. Bosworth appears to be a very amiable,

excellent man, and well qualified for his post. I have every reason to believe that our co-operation will be entirely harmonious.

The vacation has taken place this year a month earlier than usual. In consequence, I have scarcely seen the students, as they separated the day after my arrival. Two have just finished their studies, and there are two candidates for their vacant places.

I have to supply Mr. Girdwood's pulpit during his absence. The *Register* will also now come under my management.

HOME PROCEEDINGS.

COLCHESTER.

On Monday, July 8th, the Colchester Auxiliary held its thirty-second anniversary meeting, when Mr. Brock, of Norwich, and the Secretary of the Parent Society addressed the assembly. Two sermons were preached by Mr. Angus the day before. The collections were about the same as those of the preceding year, and we are happy to say that the donations and annual subscriptions, as well as the cards and mission-

ary boxes, show a considerable increase. It is very desirable that some well organized plan should be adopted in this county to form auxiliary societies in every district, and to unite those that are formed into a county auxiliary. This would not only considerably augment the amount of regular subscriptions, but greatly reduce the expense of collecting them.

A GOOD EXAMPLE.

The church at Counterslip, Bristol, under the pastoral care of the Rev. Thomas Winter, have just engaged to support a native preacher in

India, the contributions to this object to be in addition to their usual contributions to the Society.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Secretary of the Baptist Missionary Society.

July 13th, 1844.

MY DEAR SIR,

You are aware that I have recently travelled, on behalf of the Mission, through Shortwood, Stroud, and other adjacent parts of Gloucestershire. Will you permit me to publish in the *Herald* a few remarks in relation to that journey, and on some other subjects suggested by it. First of all, warmest thanks are presented to those who entertained the deputation with such cheerful and unbounded hospitality. If the adornments of grace and the beauties of nature have charms for my brethren, they will, when invited to visit this district, not only accept, but seize the opportunity. Honourable mention must next be made of the ready and harmonious co-operation of the ministers, both in sustaining the public meetings and preaching in different places for the society on the sabbath. In the former they avoided the extremes of prolixity and silence, and by the latter they saved expense, gained, at least, as large collections as a stranger could have done, and promoted their own missionary zeal. Lastly, I must not forget the increased liberality exercised towards the cause. In nearly every place the contributions were increased; in Stroud and Kingstanley very considerably, and in Shortwood almost doubled. In the last instance much resulted from the exertions of a lady, nameless here, who has so long stirred up the zeal of others, and cherished her own, as to render perseverance not only easy but inevitable. It would be invidious to name any where all did so well. May God encourage their efforts, and, in a better world, reward them.

The lack of efficient organization for missionary purposes is not peculiar to this district. In many places it is perceived and deplored. The aid of the parent society is requested; and perhaps it would be well if some one were appointed to organize and start efficient auxiliary or branch societies. But even this may be overrated and misplaced. The most perfect machinery will stand still if the motive power is deficient or ill applied. On the other hand, life is sure to find embodiment and expression.

Some good friends seem to imagine that organization is every thing. What really is wanted is, that one or two warm-hearted and energetic persons in each congregation, should make the mission the great object of their life. Let such feel that they have a divine vocation to collect, speak, and pray for it, and then neither plans nor success will be long wanting. The cause needs and deserves this consecration, and in prospect of the judgment may not be refused.

Our arrangement for deputations needs some revision. Is it not best for the several auxiliaries to select their own? Thus responsibility is divided, labour diminished, confusion and complaints are prevented; while local prejudices and predilections are provided for. Are not our deputations ordinarily too numerous? The recorded experience of our Liverpool friends is not singular. It would in most cases be found that one is more efficient than two: more than two can never really be required. With a numerous deputation one of two evils must ensue. If the ministers of the district take an active part, some members of the deputation are stinted for time, or speak late, or in the midst of confusion, or not at all. With such uncertainty there is no encouragement to prepare for the meeting, nor possibility of doing justice to it. If, however, local advocacy is silenced, far greater evils are produced. The ministers are deprived of the most certain stimulus of their missionary zeal, are prevented from giving their public pledges of consecration to the cause, and insensibly learn to regard it as a suspicious foreign mendicant, who must be cross-examined or admonished, or even censured. Lastly, economy would be promoted if neighbouring districts were united to receive the continued services of the same deputation. A little consultation and concession would suffice to accommodate all parties. The travelling expenses would be nearly the same for a fortnight as a week. To save expense is at once to augment the funds of the society and to discharge a most sacred duty toward the church and the world.

Yours most truly,

J. ALDIS.

LETTERS RECEIVED FROM MISSIONARIES.

AFRICA.....	CLARENCE	Clarke, J.....	April 8 and 10.
		Saker, A.....	April 10.
		Sturgeon, T.....	April 10.
AMERICA.....	MONTREAL	Cramp, J. M.....	June 12 and 27.
		Thomson, J.....	June 25.
	TUSCARORA VILLAGE	Landon, W. H.....	June —.
ASIA.....	CALCUTTA	Evans, W. W.....	May 13.
		Leslie, A.....	May 14.
		Thomas, J.....	May 14.
		Wenger, J.....	May 14.
	COLOMBO	Daniel, E.....	May 18.
	ENTALLY	Pearce, G.....	April 19.
	KANDY	Dawson, C. C.....	May 3.
BAHAMAS.....	NASSAU	Capern, H.....	June 11 and 12.
BRITTANY.....	MORLAIX.....	Jenkins, J.....	June 18.
	QUIMPER	Jenkins, J.....	July 8.
HONDURAS.....	BELIZE	Henderson, A.....	May 9.
JAMAICA	ANNOTTA BAY.....	Henry, R., & anor.	May 21.
		Lloyd, W.....	May 20.
	BARRIFFE HALL.....	Teall, W.....	May 25.
	BETHANY	Dutton, H. J.....	May 27.
	BETHSHEPHIL.....	Pickton, T. B.....	May 9.
	BROWN'S TOWN	Clark, J.....	May 17, June 3.
	CALABAR.....	Tinson, J.....	May 29.
	CLARENDON... ..	Shaw, W., & ors.	May 24.
	FALMOUTH	Knibb, W.....	June 3.
	FULLER'S FIELD.....	Hume, W.....	May 13.
	GURNEY'S MOUNT.....	Woolley, E.....	May 20.
	GUY'S HILL.....	Armstrong, C.....	May 18.
	KETTERING.....	Knibb, W.....	April 29, one letter, no date (received June 24), June 5.
	LUCEA.....	Francies, E. J.....	May 31.
	MORTEGO BAY.....	Cornford, P. H.....	May 20.
	MOUNT CAREY.....	Burchell, T.....	May 6 and 20 (two letters) and 27, June 5.
	MOUNT HERMON.....	Hume, J.....	May 17.
	OCHO RIOS.....	Millard, B.....	May 14.
	PORT MARIA.....	Day, D.....	May 20.
	PROVIDENCE	May, J.....	June 3.
	ST. ANN'S BAY	Abbott, T. F.....	May 20.
	SLIGOVILLE.....	Phillippo, J. M.....	May 20.
	SPANISH TOWN	Dowson, T.....	May 24.
		Hewett, E.....	June 7.
		Knibb, W.....	May 26.
	SPRINGFIELD	Merrick, R.....	May 23.
	STEWART TOWN.....	Dexter, B. B.....	May 19.
	WALDENSLA.....	Henderson, J. E.....	May 15.
TRINIDAD.....	PORT OF SPAIN.....	Cowen, G.....	May 21.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

The secretary of the Baptist Missionary Society begs to acknowledge the receipt of the following works (in addition to those previously acknowledged) for the Denominational Library. He will have much pleasure in handing them over to the trustees.

From *R. B. Sherring, Esq.* (through Dr. Steane), busts of Rev. Robert Hall and Rev. John Foster.

Also from *R. B. Sherring, Esq.*, the complete works of John Milton, royal 8vo. and 4to., and two volumes from the library of the late Samuel Coleridge.

From *Mr. Samuel Beddome*, of Camberwell, the complete works of Andrew Fuller, 1 vol. royal 8vo.

From *Mr. John Chandler*, Scott's Commentary on the Holy Scriptures.

From *C. C. Tauchnitz, Esq.*, of Leipzig, a complete set of his Classical and Biblical Publications, 136 vols.

From *Sharon Turner, Esq.*, his History, and Sacred History.

From *John L. Angas, Esq.*, of Newcastle, a package of books and papers in Dutch, French, &c., from the library of the late Rev. W. H. Angas.

From *Miss Wills*, of London, Dr. Gill's Exposition of the Bible, 10 vols. 4to., russia.

He has also received for the Mission Library :

Reports of the Christian Instruction Society.

From the Wesleyan Missionary Society, Hoole's Missions in Madras, Freeman's Visit to Ashantee, and Beecham's Ashantee and the Gold Coast.

Similar contributions will be of great service to the Society. They can be forwarded to 33, Moorgate Street.

The thanks of the Committee are presented to the following friends—

Mrs. E. V. Tennant, Hammersmith, for a box of clothing, &c., for *Africa* ;

Mr. R. Collett, Condictote, for a parcel of Magazines ;

Miss Hopper, Finsbury Circus, for a piece of flannel, for *Africa* ;

M. E., for pieces of printed cotton, for *Africa* ;

Friends, at Maidstone, for a box of apparel and haberdashery, for *Africa* ;

Friends, at Luton, for a package of Magazines, for *Rev. E. Daniel, Colombo* ;

Mr. John Town, Keighley, for fifty reams of foolscap paper.

W. Lloyd, of Annatto Bay, begs to return his sincere thanks to Mrs. Price, and the ladies of Pontypool, for a box of useful and fancy articles.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Received on account of the Baptist Missionary Society, during the month of June, 1844.

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