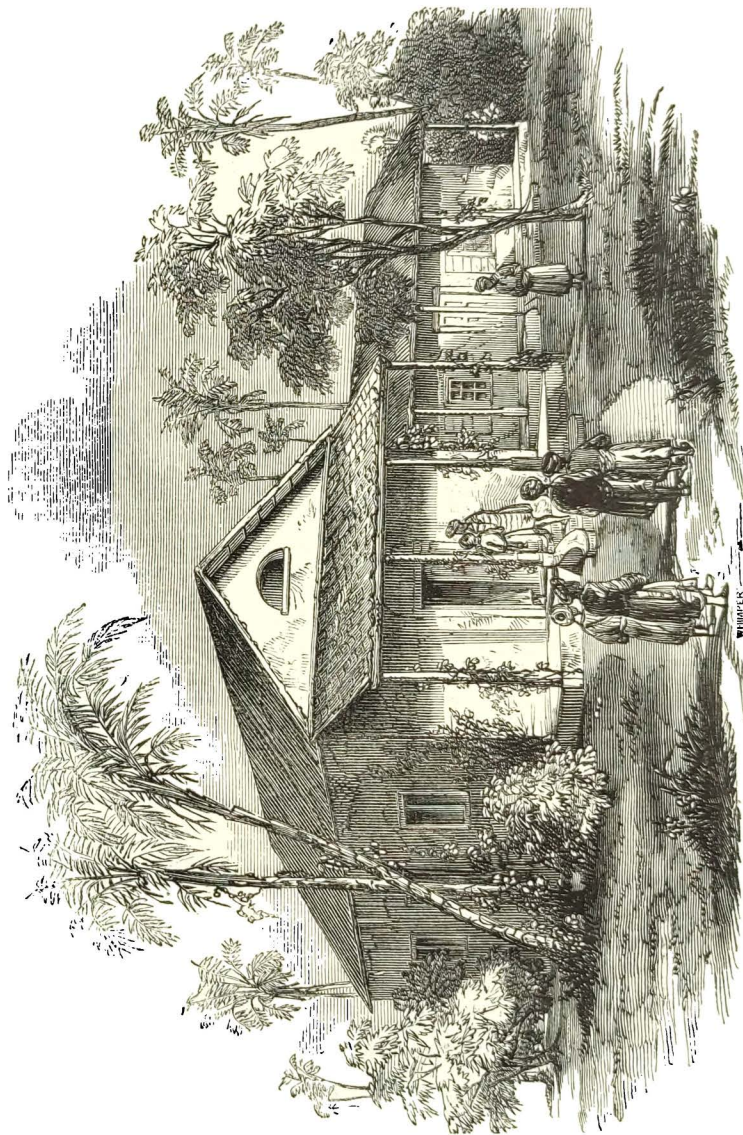


THE MISSIONARY HERALD.

The Missionary Herald (Sept. 1848).



CHAPEL AT BYAMVILLE, CEYLON.

ASIA.

CALCUTTA.

Our most recent intelligence from Calcutta bears the date of June 2nd. Mr. Thomas says, "We now want to hear how the Society stands with regard to its finances. I have had no little anxiety on this head. I have done all in my power to keep down the expenditure here, but it cannot be reduced without discharging agents, and this is terrible to think of when many stations are languishing for want of men. The intelligence from the stations is on the whole encouraging, but I cannot enter into particulars."

MONGHIR.

Accounts have been laid before our readers of visits paid by Mr. Lawrence to a mela, or fair, annually held at a place called Peerpointy, or Karagola, below Colgong. This year Mr. Parsons has been to scatter the precious seed among the thousands assembling there; accompanied by Mrs. Parsons and their child, whose health it was hoped would be benefited by the excursion. The following is our brother's narrative:—

We left Monghir on Tuesday, the 8th of February, accompanied by our junior native preacher, Soodeen, and as there was some time to spare before the expected time of the fair, we spent a few days at Bhagulpore, during which Soodeen and myself enjoyed various opportunities of preaching in the bazars. In doing this in Bhagulpore, we have, at least, this encouragement, that there are usually a good number of persons to hear, and fewer of them are disposed to interrupt and oppose us in our discourse than is commonly the case in Monghir. I regret exceedingly that I can say no more than this; but though there are a few in Bhagulpore, with whom our intercourse has exceeded the limits of a mere occasional meeting in the bazar, yet I do not know that any one of them exhibits the signs of a true penitent, or of one who is seeking for relief from the burden of a distressed conscience. How refreshing would it be to witness in the heathen any such apprehension of their state as offenders against a just and holy God! On this occasion I had a long conversation with a pundit, whom I believe I have mentioned to you before, whose mind appears to be in a measure convinced of the truth of Christianity. My object was especially to ascertain his real state of heart and feeling in regard to the gospel; and I was grieved to find that, though he manifests great friendship for Christians, he is very far from comprehending or appreciating the end and intention of the gospel. Our native brethren had formed the same judgment in regard to him, and natives are

often very acute in understanding each other. He was, as usual, very voluble in quoting and explaining heathen writings, particularly a book containing the substance of the Vedantic philosophy; and he wished to convince me that it contained the same truths virtually as the bible, only in another language and under other similitudes. And when I referred to the sacrifice of Christ as being entirely wanting in the books of his religion, instead of immediately acknowledging what a superiority that gave to the Christian above every other religion, he only began to compare the sufferings and self-denials said to have been endured by Hindoo sages and ascetics of olden days with those of the apostles—a plain proof how far he is from knowing or valuing that precious propitiation which constitutes the gist and core of the glorious gospel of the blessed God.

On the 14th we left Bhagulpore. On the morning of the following day we embraced the opportunity of preaching in the village of Colgong, and in the evening of the same day, arrived within sound of the instrument, a kind of drum, the perpetual noise of which intimated that that was to be the scene of the fair. At that time, however, but few, comparatively, had arrived, and those few were shopkeepers, who were too busy in erecting their booths to listen to the discourse of a missionary. Indeed, most of the men of business who attend this fair come from large stations, like Patna and Bhagulpore, and so are familiar with the sound of the gospel, and I should suppose are less at leisure and less

inclined to listen to it in the fair than at their own homes, so that I should not consider it expedient to visit such a place for their sakes. We had therefore little to do on the two days following our arrival, hut on the second day, viz., Thursday, we pitched our tent in the midst of the temporary bazar, in a situation which proved to be very suitable. On Thursday evening the stream of poor deluded souls, who were vainly hoping to wash away their sins by bathing in the stream they consider sacred, began to pour in from the surrounding country. Friday and Saturday were the bathing days, during which the vast assembly stretched for about three miles along the shore, comprising perhaps not less than one hundred thousand human beings, on the road to perdition, oh, heart-rending thought! with a lie in their right hand, while no more than two feeble, unworthy voices were lifted up to warn them of their delusion and point them to the Lamb of God! During those two days, from morning to sunset, except a short interval for a hasty meal, we were engaged in our honourable work, with no lack of hearers; and for two days afterwards also we continued our work, having fewer hearers, but still a great many. During these days we distributed also about 250 gospels and 100 tracts.

By Monday evening the attendance at our tent failed; on Thursday morning Soodeen and I traversed the long line of booths to try what opportunities we might find there of preaching, but seeing that the heat and dust, and want of a suitable place to stand, and earnestness of the people in hastening to complete their purchases, in order to return to their homes, shut up our opportunities of speaking with advantage, we left the fair about noon. Most of our hearers exhibited no more than the usual amount of interest, but there were some villagers who came again and again to our tent, and appeared very desirous of ascertaining the drift of what we preached, asked several questions, and seemed to set a high value on the books they received. They were disciples in one of the numerous sects which have been set up among the Hindoos, pretending to some superior knowledge in religious matters. These sectarians (that is, the disciples) seem to me objects of especial pity. I have met with several of them, who appeared to be simple and sincere men, wearing on their very countenances the traces of anxiety and concern. The doctrines they have embraced have unsettled their minds, and set them thinking, and yet supply them with no ground of satisfaction; because, instead of pointing out their real condition and wants, as sinners, and the method by which those wants may be supplied, they only deal in a confused jumble of metaphysical notions, which neither teachers nor disciples really understand. In the anxiety of their minds, they come and sit to hear our discourses and discussions with mute attention,

which might, at first, prompt us to cherish hope respecting them, and yet I have not seen reason to consider them more hopeful than others, for instead of hearing with the docility of children, they hold fast their preconceived notions, and when, after hearing us for a long time, they find our doctrines different from those of the leader of their sect, they at once reject them.

We left the fair on Tuesday the 22nd Feb., but the prevalence of the west wind rendered our homeward progress very tardy. We reached Bhagulpore on Saturday morning, and stayed over the Lord's day. Brother Hurter is building a bungalow there, with the purpose, *d.v.*, of settling to missionary work among the hill-men and Hindoos.

On our way home from Bhagulpore, we met with an incident which strongly illustrates the merciless character of Hindooism. We stopped one day about noon, at a sandbank, opposite the village of Sultangunge, for the boatmen to cook and eat their noonday meal; and were just going to proceed after they had done so, when Soodeen came to tell me there was a poor man lying on the bank in a very sick and wretched condition. I went to see him. He did not appear to me to have been prostrated so much by the violence of disease as by want and fatigue, and probably bowel-complaint brought on by eating crude, indigestible food while on pilgrimage. He had been, or was going, to Buyjnaut, and the baskets he had been carrying, according to custom, were lying near him. From what was told us by the persons near, we suppose that when he was too weak and exhausted to keep pace with his companions, they took every thing valuable that he had, and went on their way, leaving him to perish, without a friend to aid him, or any food or shelter from the dews of the night or the heat of the day. Such are the tender mercies of heathenism. But what could we do? We were travellers. I concluded it would be altogether out of the question to suppose that our boatmen would consent to his being put on our boat. All I could think of was to take him over to the village and inform the police authorities, who, I thought, would be obliged to provide some asylum for him. I went to the ferry-boat, but none of the ferrymen would touch him, lest their caste should be lost. After a consultation, my boatmen consented to take him across in a little boat they had with them, provided Soodeen and a Christian servant of mine would lift him in; so I got him taken across, and went to the police-station, but found there was no superior officer stationed at the village, and those who were there seemed very loath to have any thing to do with the poor man; so, after having administered a dose of medicine, I was obliged to leave him, so weak as to be scarcely able to utter a word, yet with hardly the least prospect that any attention would be paid to him. On the

evening of the day after, my boatmen were saying that some of their number had fallen ill, and conjecturing that an evil spirit must have seized them, on account of the sick man having been placed in their boat, or else their having sat near a dead man's bones.

The following letter from Mr. Parsons to the Rev. James Peggs, giving information on subjects connected collaterally with the progress of truth in India, may be introduced advantageously in this place:—

On the ninth of this month (May, 1848) my esteemed brother Lawrence and myself received a parcel from Calcutta containing, with other things, your very kind presents of pamphlets regarding *Opium* and *Government Connexion with Idolatry*, as well as your volume containing *The History of the Orissa Mission*, all comprised in parcels done up at different times, and enclosing letters dated May 28 and July 15, 1847. This circumstance will serve to explain to you why "our kindness to our friend" has not been more evinced.

These are, I think, the first favours I have received directly from you, and I will lose no time in returning my most cordial thanks to you for thus remembering me, though personally unknown, and specially for your valuable present of the *History of the Orissa Mission*. I am able to secure but very little time for reading English, and I have not therefore been able to go through your pamphlets regularly, but only to glance through their contents, with the earnest hope that the facts and opinions you have so industriously collected may be more than ever useful in awakening attention to the evils against which you contend. But in both cases we have to push on worldly men to the abandonment of that which very well suits the predilections of corrupt human nature, and especially in the matter of opium, to the relinquishment of that mammon, which is the worldling's god. No wonder, then, that the task should prove a heavy drag—like the progress of an Indian hackery through the sandy bed of a dry nullah. However, we must push forward. Yet I do not know that I am justified in saying *we*; for it is very, very little that we or our people can hope to accomplish in aid of the objects in view. Were

the case otherwise than appears in the replies of the missionaries to Mr. Groser's queries—were the pressure of the evil on the people by whom, or the land in which, opium is cultivated, then no one would have, perhaps, more right or reason in mooted the subject than the missionaries in *Monghir* and *Patna*; but as it is, the pressure of the evil is on China, whence you have wisely drawn illustrative facts. The centre of the iniquity of it lies, I suppose, in Leadenhall Street, in that while the British government profess to unite with the Chinese in suppressing smugglers, the chartered East India Company is growing an *immense*—and, I believe, *increasing*—quantity of the drug, for which no market could be found if the illicit sale in China were suppressed. So I think that if any measures in the way of petition or memorial be taken by Christians in India, they should be originated in Calcutta, and then let them send up paper for signatures to the Mofussil stations, as was done in the case of the marriage petitions. I was truly rejoiced to see in the last *Friend of India* that the East India Board had consented, by so large a majority, to the withdrawal of the grant to Juggernaut. This is encouraging, and may it have its due effect on the Court of Directors! The Lord, dear brother, prosper you and all who combine with you to seek the good of India!

We are plodding on in our missionary labours, sowing the seed in much weakness, and amidst much jesting, indifference, and opposition, and looking and longing earnestly for the early and the latter rain. I need not, I am assured, entreat your prayers, for I know your very soul longs for the spiritual welfare of India's numerous race, and that cannot but find expression in prayer.

CEYLON.

Mr. Davies of Colombo is sojourning at Kandy, whence he writes thus:—

Three weeks ago I thought I should have to tell you that all my cherished plans of usefulness among this people were abandoned, and my missionary labours about to end. For some time after my return from the interior, at the beginning of the year, I was exceedingly well, but the hot season came on

with great intensity, and while Mr. Dawson was in Colombo I wished to avail myself of the opportunity of visiting the villages in the jungle as much as possible, and in these excursions I was for several days obliged to walk considerable distances exposed to a fiercely hot sun, which brought on a very

severe affection of the chest. This continued to increase in spite of all remedies, and was of course a matter of very great anxiety. At last, after a very thorough examination, our friend Dr. Elliott gave it as his deliberate opinion that in all probability I should be compelled to return to England, but at the same time recommended a change for a few months as an experiment. I therefore proposed an exchange for a short time with Mr. Allen, who kindly consented to the plan, so that a week ago he went to Colombo and I came here.

For some days before I left Colombo I experienced a great improvement, so that on the day of our departure I felt tolerably well, and I continued improving until two days ago, when I had a relapse; but I am again much better, and have strong hopes that it is the will of our heavenly Father soon to re-establish my health. I naturally felt very much discouraged at the prospect of relinquishing so soon the plans and prospects of usefulness upon which my heart was set, but I was resigned to the sovereign will of Him whose thoughts are not as our thoughts, and whose ways are not as our ways. The season has been well fitted for self-scrutiny and humiliation; for serious reflection upon motives, actions, diligence, the value of time, and the final account of our stewardship; and I trust it will not pass away without some sanctified fruits.

The south-west monsoon had set in before we left Colombo, and with great fury. The thunder and lightning were most awful. On one occasion our house was literally wrapped on all sides in sheets of the most vivid lightning, which was instantly followed by such a tremendous crash as we can never forget. For a moment we were all completely stunned, the house shook, the doors swung, and the tiles rattled for several seconds as if an earthquake had passed beneath us. At a short distance a tree was struck and shattered to pieces, and a bullock that was near it was killed. On another, scarcely less terrible occasion, a cocoa-nut tree was struck in our own garden, close to the house. Not very far from us a house was struck, and a poor woman had one side completely burnt by the lightning. Near to one of our village stations a boy had his clothes set on fire by the same cause. At another of our stations two men and eleven bullocks were killed by one stroke. Since then we have had torrents of rain, which caused a great inundation. For several days the bridge of boats was impassible, and a great part of the country for many miles around Colombo completely under water. We were afraid for several days that in consequence of this inundation, we should not be able to proceed to Kandy at the appointed time. On the day of our departure, when the water had greatly subsided, it was discovered that on the Kandy

road, a few miles from Colombo, two embankments had been swept away, so as to render it impossible for a carriage to pass. When we arrived at the place we were obliged to have a raft constructed of canoes and boards, on which we and our bandy were floated a considerable distance over the paddy-fields, which were then like a vast lake. Our horse swam over, and so we managed to pass without any great difficulty or danger, as the day was calm.

The distress of the villagers was very great, for in addition to the destruction of their paddy-fields, their houses, which are built of mud and stick, were partially or totally destroyed. Their poultry and pigs, too, which form a considerable part of their small property, were carried away by the flood, with the exception of a few fowls which had taken refuge in the trees, but where they too must perish for want of food unless the waters should abate very speedily.

Before I left Colombo we had two baptisms. The first was at Kotigahawata, about the end of April, when seventeen persons, all Singhalese, were immersed. The service was altogether a very interesting one. Some of the candidates had been under instruction for two years; some of them were old men and women tottering on the brink of the grave, others of them were quite young. Some of them had been Budhists, some Roman catholics, others what are here called of the government religion, that is, persons who have been baptized in their infancy by the government catechists, and are registered as Christians, but who differ in no other respect from the Budhists. They were baptized in the chapel, and the congregation on the occasion was large. Before they were taken down into the water, I interrogated them publicly on the nature and import of the ordinance, and on all the leading doctrines and duties of Christianity. Their answers were ready and satisfactory. After brother Nadan, the pastor, had baptized them, I first preached to the congregation, and then administered the Lord's supper to the church. I was very ill at the time, and should not have ventured from home but from the fear that the people would be discouraged by my absence. I have since learned that some of the new members have suffered considerable annoyance from the Catholics on the one hand, and from the bishop's catechists on the other. The second baptism was in connexion with the native church at Grand Pass, in Colombo. On this occasion seven persons were baptized in the canal, a short distance from the chapel. The service was at six, A.M. The candidates and congregation first assembled in the chapel, where they were addressed. Then we all proceeded down to the water. We had been told that the relatives of some of the candidates intended to disturb us, but nothing of the kind occurred.

Mr. Allen writes from Colombo, June the 8th:—

You will probably learn from Mr. Davies the reason of my being here. Again this year he has been compelled by failure of health and strength to seek the higher country. The only available way was to exchange with me; but I fear the state of his health will for the present, at least, keep him from doing any thing. If he should be able to preach the English sermon on the sabbath evening, it will be as much as he ought to attempt. We hope, however, the change will prove beneficial. May the Father of mercies so order it. We made the journey in our own conveyances, for economy's sake, and met at the halfway rest-house. Mr. Davies looked very ill, debilitated, prostrate, but he says in his note to me that he felt better on his arrival, preached on the sabbath evening, and felt worse again on Monday. He should, I think, go yet higher, for Kandy itself is not a good locality. May he have wisdom given him to do that which shall prove for the best, and may the grace of the Most High rest upon him.

There has been a little encouragement of late in my district. A few weeks ago I baptized three persons, who I trust will be enabled to follow Christ, and to persevere in his ways even to the end. Their knowledge

was satisfactory, and their experience of a pleasing character. There are a few anxious souls at Kandy waiting to put on Christ by baptism, and they must continue to do so till I return. May the grace of Christ Jesus be given to them, and prove sufficient for them.

The great coffee bubble has burst at length. The colony is little better than bankrupt. Estates are being abandoned fast, and all who can are leaving the island for other places more promising. Failures are daily taking place, young men are wandering about without employment, and the prospect is melancholy indeed. It appears to me that Kandy is sinking down into a mere military station.

Our monsoon is nearly settled; we have had some terrific storms and weather, but at present it is fair. Roads and bridges have been swept away, and districts of paddy flooded and destroyed. On our journey we were obliged in one part of the main road, where the embankments were broken and washed away by the powerful element, to pass over on rafts, and swim our horses, but all is fair and calm again. We, as a family, are in excellent health, thanks to the Preserver of men. Health here is a blessing that should be specially prized.

WEST INDIES.

JAMAICA.

The Report of the Churches in connexion with the Baptist Western Union, for the year 1848, has just reached us, and on account of the condensed view which it gives of their state, will be interesting to many of our readers. Our brethren remark that it "is presented to the churches with mingled feelings of sorrow and joy,—of sorrow, inasmuch as it shows a large decrease in our numbers; of joy because it indicates the fact that the churches in connexion with the Union are faithful to their Great Head in separating from those whose conduct accords not with the word of God."

They add, "It is not at all surprising that in connexion with the large numbers that were received into our churches soon after freedom, there should have been some—many—who were deceivers or self-deceived; where there is gold there will be dross; where there is wheat there will be chaff; and in many cases a separation will not take place until the all-searching eye of the Great Judge shall sever the precious from the vile. While the Report shows that which should produce humility before God and engender a spirit of earnest importunate prayer, there is in it nothing to produce despondency, or lead to the supposition that God hath forgotten to be gracious. The prosperity of the churches is not always to be judged from their numbers; nor is their strength to oppose the prince of this

world always in proportion to their size. Purity and devotedness in any church must, sooner or later, tell powerfully against superstition, ignorance, and sin."

Annotta Bay, Metcalf, No. of Members . . .	350	Inquirers	109
Buff Bay, St. George's, ditto . . .	180	Ditto	19

THE REV. S. JONES, PASTOR.

Of these churches we have to report that during the greater portion of the past year they have been destitute of regular superintendence, but are now provided with a minister, who, whilst he cannot supply any	encouraging statement in reference to the churches generally, has the comfort of knowing that not a few persons appear to be diligently seeking the salvation of their souls.
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Port Maria, St. Mary's, No. of Members . . .	476	Inquirers	80
Oracabessa ditto . . .	383	Ditto	64

THE REV. DAVID DAY, PASTOR.

In these churches the reports contain much of a discouraging character. Many who once appeared to be in the way to the kingdom of heaven, have now become indifferent to the claims of the gospel, and a general	backsliding is but too apparent. No additions by baptism have been made to the church at Port Maria, but at Oracabessa seventy have been baptized and received into Christian fellowship.
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Mount Angus, St. Mary's, No. of Members . . .	383	Inquirers	70
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THE REV. W. TEALL, PASTOR.

The attendance on the means of grace here has continued good. Five only have	been baptized, while nineteen have been excluded.
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Mount Nebo, St. Thomas in the Vale, No. of Members	401	Inquirers	12
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THE REV. JAMES HUME, PASTOR.

The attendance at this station has also been encouraging, having somewhat improved.	Thirteen have been added to the church by baptism.
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Point Hill, St. John's, No. of Members . . .	353	Inquirers	26
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THE REV. JABEZ TUNLEY, PASTOR.

Here the attendance on the means of grace has been good, with an increased desire for the word of God. Many, however, evince but little continuous regard to the things which make for their peace. Nine individuals	have been baptized, ten restored, and eighty-five received: but no less than seventy-two have been excluded, fifty-three of them for their neglect of Christian obligation and the means of grace.
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Stacey Ville, Clarendon, No. of Members . . .	273	Inquirers	68
Coultart Grove, St. Ann's, ditto . . .	276	Ditto	57

THE REV. THOMAS GOULD, PASTOR.

At Stacey Ville the attendance has not declined, whilst at Coultart Grove it has been improving. In connexion with the two churches twenty-four have been baptized and	fifteen have been excluded. From the increasing zeal of many of the deacons and leaders of these stations, much satisfaction is felt, and happy results are expected.
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St. Ann's Bay, St. Ann's, No. of Members	. . . 356	Inquirers
Ocho Rios,	ditto . . . 455	Ditto 58

THE REV. B. MILLARD, PASTOR.

The congregations at both these stations continue good, and peace and harmony prevail in the churches. Whilst however at St. Ann's Bay fifty-three have publicly put on Christ, the exclusions and deaths have been more numerous than in any previous year. No fewer than thirty-three members have died, and seventy-three have been excluded. At Ocho-Rios twelve have been excluded, and thirty have been baptized, many of whom promise to be useful and active members of the church.

Sturge Town, St. Ann's, No. of Members	. . . 354	Inquirers 28
Salem,	ditto . . . 240	Ditto 4

THE REV. S. HODGES, PASTOR.

The numbers attending the house of God have been uniformly good, but whilst there are no particular indications of decline, there is yet much to lament in the apparent fruitlessness of the word preached. There have been no additions by baptism, but a clear decrease of twenty-seven in the two churches.

Brown's Town, St. Ann's, No. of Members	. . . 1053	Inquirers 80
Bethany	ditto . . . 510	Ditto 58

THE REV. J. CLARK, PASTOR.

In these churches there is much to lament in the want of religious energy, but the baptisms and restorations which have taken place, show that the work of the Lord has not ceased. The congregations have been large. A spirit of prayer and deep solicitude for the extension of the kingdom of Christ prevails in the hearts of many of the people. In the two churches twenty-nine have been baptized, while sixty-nine have been excluded.

Jericho, St. Thomas in the Vale, No. of Members	. 1443	Inquirers 163
Moneague, St. Ann's	ditto . . . 234	Ditto 12

THE REV. P. H. CORNFORD, PASTOR.

These churches have, during the greater part of the past year, been without a stated pastor, but the church at Jericho has been favoured with the occasional labours and oversight of the Rev. J. M. Phillippo of Spanish Town. Though there is a considerable diminution in the numbers of the church, yet the attendance on the means of grace has continued cheering. The former pastor of the church at Montego Bay has recently accepted the invitation of the united churches, with favourable prospects of usefulness. In the two churches there has been a nett decrease of forty-one members.

Stewart Town, Trelawny, No. of Members	. . . 739	Inquirers 50
New Birmingham	ditto . . . 217	

THE REV. B. B. DEXTER, PASTOR.

The expectations formerly cherished in reference to these churches have not been realized. Still, whilst there are occasions for mourning, there are none for despair. "The word is still preached to as large numbers as ever, while the attention paid to it is equal to that of any former period, and the hope is cherished that at these stations the prayer of the righteous will avail much." There have been no additions by baptism, but thirteen have been restored to the two churches.

Rio Bueno, Trelawny, No. of Members . . . 319 Inquirers 31

THE REV. J. TINSON, PASTOR.

At this station there has been a net de- | missions to other churches. The attendance
crease of fifty, arising principally from dis- | has continued good.

Refuge, Trelawny, No. of Members . . . 641 Inquirers 47
Ketering ditto . . . 170 Ditto 12

THE REV. R. GAY, PASTOR.

The attendance has continued large and steady throughout the year.

Waldensia, Trelawny, No. of Members . . . 753 Inquirers
Unity ditto . . . 330

THE REV. J. E. HENDERSON, PASTOR.

The church at Waldensia has enjoyed | At Unity things are not so pleasing, though
peace and prosperity. There has been a | a spirit of prayer for a revival of religion is
decided increase in the congregation; and | manifesting itself. At Waldensia there has
the attendance has been more regular, so that | been a clear increase of nineteen members,
the prospects of usefulness are encouraging. | and at Unity of four.

Bethtephil, St. James', No. of Members . . . 555 Inquirers 25
Hastings, Trelawny ditto . . . 200 Ditto 27

THE REV. THOMAS B. PICKTON, PASTOR.

Here the congregations have also continued | to maintain their purity. There has been
good, and the churches are evidently anxious | a small decrease in the number of members.

Salter's Hill, St. James', No. of Members . . . 1329 Inquirers 147

THE REV. W. DENDY, PASTOR.

In this church there is not much to report | required to continue building. At John's
of a cheering nature, and in the surrounding | Hall the corner stone of a small place of
district the spirit of hearing seems to have | worship was laid on the 29th of October.
declined, but at one of the stations the attend- | The church here has faithfully maintained
ance continues good. The chapel in course | its consistency, and at various times protested
of erection at Maldon gradually progresses. | against the union of church and state; and
The walls are levelled off, and the materials | has thus set an example worthy of the imita-
are ready for the roof. The sum of £660 | tion of dissenters generally.

has been expended, but additional funds are

Montego Bay, St. James', No. of Members . . . 1108 Inquirers 45

VACANT.

In the earlier part of the past year the | has peculiar claims on the sympathies and
attendance on the means of grace was con- | prayers of the people of God. Eighteen have
siderably augmented. But unhappy divisions | been baptized, eighteen restored, but thirty-
afterwards occasioned the removal of the | eight had been excluded, and a clear decrease
pastor, and the church is now left destitute. | of twelve had taken place up to the period
From the fact that it is torn by dissensions, it | when church discipline ceased.

Mount Carey, St. James', No. of Members	. . . 673	Inquirers	160
Shortwood ditto	. . . 469	Ditto	70
Bethel Town, Westmorland ditto	. . . 445	Ditto	79
Watford Hill, Hanover ditto	. . . 167	Ditto	33

THE REV. E. HEWETT, PASTOR.

At these stations the attendance has been usually good, and a small increase has taken place in the churches. There is a spirit of hearing which argues well. The chapel building has not been carried on; but the debts have been considerably diminished.

Gurney's Mount, Hanover, No. of Members	. . . 724	Inquirers	25
Fletcher's Grove ditto	. . . 173	Ditto	20

THE REV. C. ARMSTRONG, PASTOR.

These churches have enjoyed some measure of prosperity during the year. The chapel at each place is approaching completion. At these stations forty-six have been baptized and 127 excluded.

Lucea, Hanover, No. of Members	. . . 740	Inquirers	12
Green Island ditto	. . . 203	Ditto	5

THE REV. J. MAY, PASTOR.

At Lucea and its sub-station, Mount Moriah, there has been an improved attendance, and in the church a small increase of eight members; whilst in the church at Green Island there has been a small decrease in members, and also a somewhat diminished attendance on the means of grace.

Providence, St. Elizabeth's, No. of Members	. . . 167	Inquirers	37
Bethsalem ditto	. . . 170	Ditto	11

THE REV. G. R. HENDERSON, PASTOR.

The attendance on the means of grace at these stations is very promising; and strong hopes are cherished that the gospel of Christ will continue to prove the power of God unto the salvation of many. Though the cause here is weak, there is daily an evidence of its increasing in strength and extent. The report shows a clear increase of thirty-five at Providence, but a decrease at Bethsalem.

The preceding Report having been read at the Annual Meeting, the following resolutions were passed unanimously:—

I. That having prayerfully reviewed the state of the churches connected with the "Baptist Western Union," this board would record its solemn conviction that, inasmuch as there is manifestly prevalent a spirit of increasing ungodliness throughout the island, accompanied by fearful backsliding in the churches, an urgent necessity calls us to unite in humbling ourselves before the Lord, and entreating him to revive his work, and renew unto us the seasons of refreshing from his presence, by pouring out his Holy Spirit upon us.

II. That in connexion with the distressing facts furnished us in the several reports we have received, there yet remains a strong encouragement to believe that the Lord has

not cast off his people, in the fact that there prevails almost every where amongst us a spirit of hearing the divine word, and that in several instances the abounding iniquity is met by holy diligence in the officers, members, and sabbath school teachers, who labour with us.

III. That whilst the ministers composing this Board would urge the people under their care to more active and prayerful devotedness, and would encourage a steadfast faith in the divine promises, they would affectionately request that the first sabbath in April be observed throughout the churches as a day for humiliation and united prayer that the Lord would graciously revive and extend his work.

HAITI.

The accounts which have recently appeared in the public papers of insurrectionary movements in this island have naturally excited a prevalent anxiety respecting our friends there who are engaged in the work of Christ. The events which have rendered information desirable, have at the same time prevented its transmission; and it is not till now that we have been in a position to satisfy the inquiries of our readers. We will now present them, first, with extracts of a private letter from Miss Harris to a friend in Liverpool, the publication of which under the circumstances, the writer will excuse, it is hoped, as her correspondent suggests, "for the sake of many anxious friends, and for the sake especially of the intercessory supplications which such details must awaken."

If you could know what a harrassing life we have led, you would be assured that it was almost impossible for me to write. Bustle, sickness, sorrow, and alarm, have come over us like wave upon wave, and sometimes all together. My heart is almost broken, and my spirit as it were crushed, by these repeated trials. No doubt they are all necessary, and I am sure they are all deserved; but I cannot help fearing some of them are sent in anger. It seems as if God were frowning on the mission; the congregations from various causes have dwindled almost to nothing: our prospects are, at present, very gloomy. Mr. Webley is much depressed; I try to keep up before him, but often feel ready to ask, "are the Lord's mercies withdrawn for ever from this unhappy land; will he be favourable to Haiti no more?"

You will probably see by the papers that serious disturbances have again taken place at Port au Prince and other parts of the republic; perhaps they will give you more information on the subject than it is in our power to do. Many alarming reports have been spread, but we can place no dependence on the truth of them. One thing is clear, that much blood has been shed, and though there seems to be a little calm for the present, God only knows what will be the end of these things: it is his almighty power alone which can restore peace and prosperity to Haiti. Hitherto no outbreak has taken place at Jacmel, although great agitation has prevailed. Several times the danger has appeared to be imminent. Most distressing reports have been spread, and our feelings have been harrowed up for weeks by recitals of what had happened in other places, and fears that the same scenes of horror would be repeated here. It was not for ourselves that we greatly feared; I believe no harm would be intentionally done to us, but it was dreadful to think of many around being hurried into eternity unprepared. In the height of the consternation several people brought their children to our house to sleep; we were determined to receive all who might come, let what would be the consequence to ourselves. It was a fearful time I assure you,

Poor Madam R. was almost out of her senses; she was nearly a month without any tidings of her eldest son, then at Port au Prince; she feared he was amongst the slain, but happily he had escaped to the United States. We still know not what a day may bring forth, but as our heavenly Father has preserved us hitherto, we venture to hope he will still hear our prayers, and avert the horrors of bloodshed, at least from this part of the country. Oh, that the gospel of peace could be published through all the length and breadth of this lovely land, that the inhabitants might heat their swords into ploughshares, and learn the art of war no more!

On Sunday last we had the pleasure of receiving a letter from Miss Lake, one of the American missionaries at Port au Prince. A note of mine written nearly a month ago had not reached her until two days before she wrote. We had been very anxious about them, as well as for Mr. Bird, not having heard of or from any one of them for many weeks. They are all pretty well, but give no account of the late events, nor would it have been prudent to have done so. Miss Lake only says with reference to a girls' school established a short time since, "The dreadful calamity which has fallen upon us, or rather upon Port au Prince and upon all Haiti, has broken up our school for the present. The father of two of our scholars is among the slain." Our school at Jacmel was interrupted only one week, and that partly on account of its being Easter, though the attendance, since then, has not been so good as usual.

Mr. Webley enjoys very good health, but is apt to over exert himself. Poor Mrs. Webley has not been well since she came here. Miss Clark is seldom well many days together. Dear Miss Young* has been obliged to go home with no hope of ever returning to the missionary field—that must be the heaviest of all trials. I have unspeakable cause for thankfulness for the privilege of being still

* Of the American Baptist Mission, Port au Prince.

engaged in missionary work, and for the health with which I am favoured, besides many other undeserved mercies. There are

some happy moments when I can say, "It is the Lord, let him do as seemeth to him good; he hath done all things well."

A letter from Mr. Webley, written at Port au Prince, June 2nd, contains the following particulars:—

Port au Prince, June 2nd, contains the

By the date of my letter you perceive that I am not at Jacmel. I left it a few days ago to visit our beloved brethren here, who are in great distress, as well as to transact a little business. To-day I return home, but before doing so I wish to forward a letter to you by way of America, especially as I know from tolerably good authority that most of my letters are opened at Jacmel, and I am anxious to communicate things that I would not have known that I had stated to you. I said our brethren were in distress here. Yes, dear brother, we have just passed through one of the greatest trials here that could possibly have befallen us. You have possibly seen accounts of the late calamity that has transpired here, and perhaps know all; but lest you do not I will give you as short an account as possible. About two months ago the president and his ministers were assembled in the palace, as usual, upon the sabbath, for the transaction of their business. The president having called for one of them, charged him with having concerted a plan for the taking of his life, and ordered him to prison. In leaving the palace he was shot at, and the guards from without supposing that some one had fired upon the president, immediately commenced an awful attack upon the ministry assembled. Some escaped, but a dreadful slaughter ensued.

In the afternoon another dreadful outbreak took place near the sea shore, between the men of colour and the blacks. The number of slain on these occasions is unknown, as well as of the poor coloured people that were murdered in different parts of the city during the whole of the night. The awful scenes that our dear brethren witnessed are too inhuman and barbarous to be committed to paper, and show the great animosity that

exists on the part of the blacks towards the coloured people. But that which throws such a gloom over our minds is, that our little mission stations, that such a short time before assumed such an encouraging aspect, are now almost broken up without, humanly speaking, any prospect of brighter days. The brethren here in the midst of such scenes have suffered extremely. For six weeks Mr. Judd held no public service, and up till now Mr. Bird has held no evening services; whilst their congregations are dwindled down to a comparative few. At Jacmel we are in the same position, and toiling on almost in the depth of despair. Had it not been for the few baptized that I have joined together into church communion, your mission must have fallen to the ground, as no one would leave their houses, such has been the fear and the prospect of an outbreak.

What will be the end of these things our heavenly Father only knows. Out of these dreadful calamities good may come, and with him we leave all, wishing by simple faith to rely upon him as the sovereign Disposer of all events.

We are greatly afflicted too in our family, as my dear wife has been in doctors' hands for months past without any symptoms of recovery. Miss Clark's health, too, is still in a precarious state. For my own part I am tolerably well generally, though for a day or two past I have not been so well and strong as usual. You will excuse my writing such a hurried scrawl, as I am just about to journey nearly eighty miles on horseback to return for Sunday's services, and have only a day and a half for doing it. I am positively ashamed to send this letter, but know that, considering the few moments I have on hand, you will overlook all imperfections.

Miss Harris gives a few notices of the last days of Mrs. Francies, which cannot but be read, by many, with interest.

Poor dear Mrs. Francies! does it not seem very strange, very mournful, that she should not have been able at least to take her little ones home, and see her friends for a little while—or that, dying so very soon, she could not have remained here, to be laid, as was her earnest desire, beside her beloved husband? But God's ways are not our ways, and what he does must be best. I accompanied her on her last visit to his grave on the sabbath evening before she left Jacmel. The "Dove" had arrived the day before with Captain Millbourne and Mr. Oughton on board, and was

to leave on Tuesday. She was in an agony of grief, little thinking how soon they would be reunited never more to part. I could scarcely prevail on her to leave the spot; no doubt you have it before your mind's eye. She said, "Oh, if it were not for my poor children I would have a little but here, and never leave the place." When that sad scene was over, the bitterness of leaving appeared to be past, and she surprised us all by her energy. Captain Millbourne's great kindness, my having decided upon accompanying her to Jamaica, and the prospect of seeing

dear Mrs. Knibb, also, helped to reconcile her to going away. Many of the children of the schools, and several of our friends, went with us to the wharf, and we remarked at the time it was just like a funeral procession. We set sail as soon as the land breeze would permit, and after a fine passage arrived off Kingston on Thursday morning. Mr. Oughton went on shore in a pilot boat, and we proceeded round the western shore of the island to Falmouth, where we arrived on Sunday evening, Feb. 13. . . . We spent a delightful sabbath at Brown's Town—a well attended sabbath school and a large congregation. In the afternoon the ordinance was administered, when dear Mrs. Francies and I sat down together; for her it was the last time on earth.

On Tuesday, 29th, we were at last obliged to separate. No tongue can tell what we then suffered; she had clung to me so long, it seemed as if we could not live separately. I felt thankful, however, that I had been permitted to come with her thus far, and could leave her with kind friends, and now I

feel doubly so. That morning she said to me, "Life seems a long and dreary way, but we do not know: it may not be so long as we think."

Before leaving I received a very affectionate note from her, the last she ever wrote me. She did not then appear to be unwell. I went on board the steamer on Thursday afternoon, the 9th, grateful for the kind reception I had met with from the friends in Jamaica, but glad to find myself on my way to Jaemel. . . . I was anxiously expecting the packet from Jamaica, hoping to receive a letter from dear Mrs. Francies. There were two notes, one from Mrs. Oughton, which I opened first. It contained an incidental notice of Mrs. Francies' death, as if I had known it already. Judge, my dear sir, what a shock it was to us all, especially to me. It was then only that I knew how dear she was to me! The other note, from Miss Lavinia, confirmed the intelligence; she could give me no details except that Mrs. Francies had died at Falmouth, of fever, on the 17th, eleven days after the date of her last note to me.

TRINIDAD.

A letter from Mr. Cowen, dated May 20th, contains the following particulars:—

Since my last I have visited the stations at Savannah Grande, where I had some delightful meetings with the brethren after our long separation. But the weather was very wet, just such as we had during your visit, which made it very unpleasant travelling. Since my return I have had a slight attack of fever, brought on by getting wet on two or three occasions, but am now well again. You will be glad to hear that the people have all had their lands surveyed, and many of them have received their titles. But by far the greater number of them have not yet applied for their title through their inability to pay the expense—about £3 sterling to each—demanded by the government. Those of them who labour on the sugar plantations are not paid. Just as the West India Bank failed, the estates paid off old debts of this description with its worthless notes, which was a direct fraud practised on the poor labourers, for which they have no redress. Thus, between what they lost in this way, and what they are now losing through the non-payment of their wages, the labourers of the island generally are greatly impoverished. Many of the estates are dispensing with the emancipated and negro labourers generally, so far as they can, and supplying their place with the unfortunate Coolies, who, for a season at least, are more easily duped than those whom they have succeeded. Did the government open the crown land to the public at a

moderate price, the emancipated and other labourers could fall back upon it, and with their families settle down, instead of leading a vagrant and vicious life; but from this they are shut out most unjustly to gratify the planters. Were the people thus supplied with land at a moderate price, they could employ themselves in raising provisions, and thus benefit the public and themselves at the same time. Such is the gloom at present hanging over the affairs of the colony, that little is doing in a commercial way. Few merchants have the heart to import even provisions sufficient for the current consumption of the island, so that prices are exorbitantly high, while the articles sold are of the very worst description. What adds to our distress in this particular is the war now raging on the Spanish Main, from which our markets have been chiefly supplied hitherto, but since the commencement of these hostilities few vessels come in from that quarter. All things seem to conspire to thicken the gloom, but we can look through it, believing that all shall work together for good in God's own good time. He has a quarrel with many in this land who strengthened and hardened themselves in wickedness against him and his cause, and is visiting them for these things. Their haughty spirits are greatly humbled, and their power to persecute and annoy those who would instruct and elevate their down-trodden labourers greatly limited.

HOME PROCEEDINGS.

The Committee of the Baptist Missionary Society respectfully solicit the aid of the Friends of Missions, in supplying the deficiency in the income of last year, and the liquidation of the present debt of the Society.

Deficiency at the end of March, 1846	£5003
Surplus of income over expenditure in 1847	1292
	<hr/>
Deficiency in April, 1847	3711
Diminution of income from ordinary sources, in 1848	£2480
Diminution of income from legacies	2500
	<hr/>
	4980
Diminution of expenditure	3457
	<hr/>
Addition to Debt in the year	1523
	<hr/>
Present deficiency	5234
	<hr/>
Agents supported in 1837	85
Ditto ditto in 1847	225

The sum contributed, or promised, up to the present time is £3087 5s. 6d.

Further donations will be thankfully received by the Treasurers, W. B. Gurney, Esq., S. M. Peto, Esq., M.P.; or by the Secretary, Rev. J. Angus, M.A., 33, Moorgate Street.

August 18, 1848.

DESIGNATION OF A MISSIONARY.

On Wednesday, July 26th, Mr. John Sale was publicly set apart, at Wokingham, for missionary labour in India.

In the afternoon a large company assembled for tea in the British School Rooms, when the Rev. C. H. Harcourt presented Mr. Sale with a copy of Bagster's Hebrew and English Lexicon, Horne's Introduction to the Study of the Sacred Scriptures, and Dr. Pye Smith's Scripture Testimony to the Messiah, as a testimonial of the high esteem and sincere affection of his Christian friends. Mr. Sale briefly returned thanks for this expression of

his friends' kindness, and the meeting was addressed by the Revs. E. Carey, Dr. Acworth, and J. J. Brown.

In the evening the designation service was held in the baptist chapel. The Rev. J. J. Brown, of Reading, commenced it by reading the scriptures and prayer, the Rev. E. Carey described the nature and sphere of the missionary's labours, the Rev. C. H. Harcourt asked the usual questions, and offered the designation prayer; and the Rev. Dr. Acworth (Mr. Sale's tutor) delivered the charge to the missionary, founded on Galatians i. 15, 16.

FOREIGN LETTERS RECEIVED.

AFRICA.....	CLARENCE.....	Prince, G. K.....	May 19.
		GRAHAM'S TOWN.....	Hay, A.....
			May 19.
AMERICA	DRUMMONDVILLE	Cleghorn, A.....	July 22.

ASIA.....	AGRA	Dannenberg, J. C.	April 15.
	CALCUTTA	Lewis, C. B.	June 2.
		Thomas, J.	June 2.
	COLOMBO	Allen, J.	June 8.
	KANDY	Davies, J.	June 9.
	MONCHIR	Lawrence, J.	April 14.
	SEWRY	Williamson, J.	April 29.
BAHAMAS.....	GRAND CAY	Rycroft, W. K.	June 24.
	NASSAU	Capern, H., and } Littlewood, W. }	June 27.
		Capern, H.	June 28 and 29.
		Littlewood, W.	June 27.
FRANCE.....	PARIS	Monod, F.	August 14.
HAITI.....	PORT AU PRINCE.....	Webley, W. H.	June 2.
HONDURAS	BELIZÉ.....	Kingdon, J.	June 10 and 11.
JAMAICA	BROWN'S TOWN	Clark, J.	June 19, July 6.
	FULLER'S FIELD.....	Hutchins, J.	July 6.
	KINGSTON.....	Oughton, S.	July 8.
	ST. ANN'S BAY ..	Millard, B.	June 19.
	SALTER'S HILL	Dendy, W.	July 1 and 3.
TRINIDAD.....	PORT OF SPAIN.....	Law, J.	June 20.
		Cowen, G.	July 4.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

The thanks of the Committee are presented to the following—

Friends at Paradise Chapel, Chelsea, by Mrs. Archer and Miss Vines, for a parcel of clothing, for *Rev. J. Clarke, Western Africa* ;
 Mrs. Hassall, Clapham, for a parcel of magazines, reports, &c. ;
 Mr. Strong, for a parcel of nails, &c., for *Africa* ;
 Rev. J. Peggs, for parcels of books, for *India* ;
 The Religious Tract Society, for copies of the Annual Report, for *the Mission Stations* ;
 Mrs. Jolly, Hastings, for a box of useful articles, for *Mrs. Lawrence, Monghir* ;
 S. E. W., for a parcel of magazines, for *Haiti* ;
 Mr. J. Cox, for a parcel of magazines ;
 Miss Rose, Ilford, for a parcel of magazines ;
 Friends at Counterslip, Bristol, for a box of medicines, for *Muttra* ;
 British and Foreign School Society, for a case of school materials, for *Miss Harris's school, Haiti* ;
 Friends at Amersham, for a box of useful articles, for *Rev. J. Law, Trinidad*.

The thanks of the Committee are respectfully presented to George Ransom, Esq., of Leamington, for forty-three volumes and nine numbers of the *Edinburgh Review*. The following numbers are wanting to complete the set:—Nos. 113 and 114, 117 to 141 inclusive, and 162 to the present time.

Rev. W. H. Elliot, for his "Friends of the Spirit" and "Vital Christianity," for the Library.

CONTRIBUTIONS,

Received on account of the Baptist Missionary Society, during the month of July, 1848.

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
<i>Annual Subscriptions.</i>		Farrington, Rev. B.,		Pritchard, Rev. G.	1 1 0
Brewer, Rev. R., Leeds	1 0 0	Dumpton Hall	1 1 0	Weymouth, Mr. R. F.,	
Darkin, Rev. C., Ciron-		Katterns, Rev. D.,		Leatherhead	1 0 0
cester	2 0 0	Hackney	1 1 0	Wyatt, Mr. J.	0 10 6

Donations.		£	s.	d.	BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.		£	s.	d.	SOMERSETSHIRE.		£	s.	d.			
B. B., from a fund at his disposal for Religious Societies, &c.....	20	0	0	Amersham, on account	50	0	0	Bristol, on account	18	8	3						
Birrell, Rev. C. M., for <i>Haiti</i>	5	0	0	Do., do., for <i>Debt</i>	5	0	0										
Carey, Rev. E., and Mrs. C.	2	0	0	Gold Hill	1	11	6	SUFFOLK.									
Cox, Mr. J.	5	0	0	Olney—				SUFFOLK Society in aid of Missions, by S. Ray, Esq.									
Drer, Miss, collected by Elworthy, Messrs. W. & T., Wellington, for <i>Debt</i>	5	0	0	Collections.....	9	4	4										
Friends' Educational Society, for <i>Trinidad Schools</i>	40	0	0	Contributions	9	7	7										
Harris, Miss, Camden Town, collected by ...	0	10	6	Do., Sunday School	0	8	5										
Hill, Mr. John	10	0	0	Princes Risborough—													
Houghton, J., Esq., Liverpool, for <i>Debt</i>	25	0	0	Collection	3	9	6										
Irish, Mr. F.	3	0	0	Contributions	7	5	6										
Neild, Mr. Alderman, Manchester, for <i>Debt</i>	50	0	0	Speen	2	15	7										
Page, Mrs., Trowbridge, for <i>do.</i>	50	0	0	CAMBRIDGESHIRE.													
Piassent, Thomas, Esq., Newton, for <i>do.</i>	5	0	0	Cambridge, on account	120	0	0	DEVONSHIRE.									
Shelton, Mr. John, Nymphsfield, near Nailsworth, for <i>do.</i> ...	10	0	0					DURHAM.									
Simpson, J. A., Esq., Manchester, for <i>do.</i> ...	10	0	0	Gateshead—				ESSEX.									
Stovel, Rev. C., for <i>do.</i> ...	5	0	0	Sunday School, Garden Street	0	5	6	HERTFORDSHIRE.									
Sundries, by Rev. Dr. Hoby, for <i>do.</i>	5	10	0					KENT.									
W. B., for <i>do.</i>	5	0	0	Colchester	13	0	10	LONDON AND MIDDLESEX AUXILIARIES.									
				Thorp—				Kensington, Silver Street—									
				Collection	2	7	6	Collection									
				Contributions	2	2	8	Contributions									
				Do., for <i>Dove</i>	0	10	0	Shakspeare's Walk—									
								Collection									
				HERTFORDSHIRE.										SOUTH WALES.			
				Markyate Street—				Pembrokeshire—									
				Collection	2	12	3	Blaenfos —									
				Contributions	4	13	1	Collection									
				Do., Sunday School	0	2	7	SCOTLAND.									
				Mill End—				Elgin, Missionary Society.....									
				Collection	1	7	7	Irvine, additional.....									
				Watford, on account ...	20	0	0										
				KENT.													
				Canterbury—													
				Collections, King St. ...	13	10	0										

Subscriptions and Donations in aid of the Baptist Missionary Society will be thankfully received by William Brodie Gurney, Esq., and Samuel Morton Peto, Esq., M.P., Treasurers, or the Rev. Joseph Angus, M.A., Secretary, at the Mission House, 33, Moorgate Street, LONDON; in EDINBURGH, by the Rev. Christopher Anderson, the Rev. Jonathan Watson and John Macandrew, Esq.; in GLASGOW, by Robert Kettle, Esq.; in CALCUTTA, by the Rev. James Thomas, Baptist Mission Press; and at NEW YORK, United States, by W. Colgate, Esq. Contributions can also be paid in at the Bank of England to the account of "W. B. Gurney and others."