

THE MISSIONARY HERALD.



DIMBIA.

The Missionary Herald (Aug. 1850).

WESTERN AFRICA.

DECEASE OF REV. W. NEWBEGIN.

Our chronicle of missionary intelligence for this month is again afflictive. It has pleased the All-merciful to summon from his labours our esteemed brother, Mr. Newbegin. Recent letters from him had led us to the hope that he had well nigh surmounted the debilitating effects of the climate, and that there were before him some years of exertion in the cause of the Redeemer. Our hope is destroyed. Western Africa again mourns. The promising field is deprived of its husbandman. And our faith is again summoned to submission, and to say, The Lord's will be done. Our readers will look on the sketch of Bimbia with mournful interest as they read the details which are below.

It is with feelings of gratitude we refer to the kindness evinced to the bereaved widow by Governor Becroft and Mr. Lynslager, and to the prompt assistance rendered, both to Mrs. Newbegin and the church at Clarence, by the Rev. H. M. and Mrs. Waddell, of the United Presbyterian Church Mission at Calabar. The following letter from Mr. WADDELL, dated 4th of May, will put our readers in possession of what is known to us of this sorrowful event.

It is with feelings of poignant grief that I address you, as secretary of the Baptist Missionary Society, being here most unexpectedly and unhappily on the business of your Society. On the 26th ult. I received, at Old Calabar, by the "Dove," two notes, one from Governor Becroft, who had just returned to this island, and the other from Mr. McShane, surgeon of H. M. S. Phoenix, both dated 21st ult., and both on the same subject—namely, informing me of the death of your missionary, Dr. Newbegin, in circumstances of the most painful description, and of the very unhappy state of Mrs. Newbegin in consequence of her heavy affliction; and requesting, in urgent terms, that some of the ladies of our mission at Calabar might return with the "Dove," and aid in affording to our bereaved sister that Christian sympathy and aid which only those of her own sex and station could bestow. There being unhappily no missionary of either sex, nor any white lady remaining on the island, nor any nearer than our families, who could render the necessary assistance in this extremity, Mrs. Waddell and I did not hesitate to answer the call made on us, and on the day following left Calabar in the "Dove," and reached Clarence three days afterwards. I shall not describe the condition in which we found our dear unhappy sister. It was sufficiently deplorable. I must, however, state that every possible care had been taken of her, and every possible attention paid to her by Mr. Becroft, Mr. McShane, Mr. and Mrs. Lynslager, in whose house she was for the time staying, Mr. and Mrs. Matthews, as well as by the members of the church, all of whom showed the most lively concern for

her safe keeping, comfort, and welfare. Mr. Lynslager's house being necessarily too much frequented to admit of her having the quiet and retirement which was indispensable for her recovery, though no attention had been wanting on his part or that of his excellent wife, which it was possible for friendship, and respect, and benevolence to give, our first care was to have our widowed sister up to the mission house, where we were informed accommodation had been provided for us. This without much trouble we effected, and to our great satisfaction she enjoyed that night more repose than she had done for ten days or a fortnight before. Our hopes of her speedy recovery have not, however, been sustained by subsequent improvement, and I fear that her distressing malady cannot be effectually removed till she enjoys that care at home which in this country it is quite impossible to secure for her. It will be absolutely necessary to send her home to England by the first opportunity, which we hope will not be more distant than a month hence, when a ship from Calabar will be going home, having an excellent surgeon and master on board, and one of the ladies of our mission, Mrs. Edgerley, as a passenger, or by an earlier vessel if possible.

The following are the particulars that I have learned concerning the sickness and death of our late brother Newbegin. On the 21st March, ten days after Mr. and Mrs. Saker and Miss Vitou left this place for England in our Calabar mission schooner, Mr. Newbegin came over from Bimbia to Clarence to minister to the church here. On 2nd April he returned to Bimbia. On sab-

bath, 7th, he was sick, and could conduct only part of the public services. During the ensuing week his sickness increased. Tuesday, 16th, he was carried on board the "Dove," with the design of seeking medical advice. Accompanied by Mrs. Newbegin and the assistants Trusty, Williams, and Johnson, he reached Clarence Cove, but finding not the aid there which he required, the schooner, without coming to anchor, put to sea again, and directed its course towards Old Calabar, in the hope of obtaining the assistance which his case required from the ship surgeons there. In this hope all on board were doomed to the saddest disappointment. Scarcely had the "Dove" reached the mouth of the Calabar river, when our brother breathed his last. Of course the idea of proceeding up the river to the shipping station was abandoned, and once more the mission vessel was put to sea, and steered back again to Clarence. The second day thereafter, namely Friday, 19th ult., it was off the Cove, having the corpse on board, but being unable to get in, made a signal of distress to a steamer, which hove in sight, and approached the cove. This was H. M. S. Phoenix, having on board H. M. consul-general for these coasts, Mr. Becroft, which took the "Dove" in tow, and brought her into harbour. The same evening the body was respectfully interred amidst the unfeigned sorrows of the whole population. The exact nature of our late brother's complaint I have not ascertained. There was not much fever, but he vomited unceasingly, and his bowels could not be effectually moved by any means employed. He was sensible, however, to the last, and during the day before his death gave instructions to the assistants with him for the performance of their duties after his death, which he knew to be approaching.

Yesterday I held a meeting with the deacons of the church here and the teachers from Bimbia and Cameroons, to act as one of your own missionaries would do were there one spared in this emergency—to inquire

Some few additional facts are presented in the minutes of the church meeting.

Minutes of a meeting of teachers and deacons of the Baptist Mission on the west coast of Africa, Clarence. Held, Fernando Po, on Wednesday, 1st May, 1850.

Present the following:—

Joseph Wilson,	} Deacons of the church
William Smith,	
Thomas Richard,	} at Clarence, Fernando Po.
William Trusty,	
George Williams,	} Teachers of Bimbia
Thomas Horton Johnson,	
of Cameroons station,	

Hope M. Waddell, missionary of the

into their affairs, and give them such instructions and consolations as their circumstances required, for they seemed as sheep without a shepherd, and looked to me as to an elder brother or father, for sympathy and direction in their sadly bereaved condition. The minutes of our meeting, and another to be held to-night, will be copied out and sent to you.

In conclusion, my dear sir, I beg to express my earnest desires that your Society may very speedily be able to repair the desolations which have been made in your mission. It cannot long subsist in its present state. Every month's delay inflicts an injury which many months will hardly repair. I hope that Mr. and Mrs. Saker may soon return, and with them at least one or two more well prepared and well proved men, who, not alarmed by the ravages of sickness and death hitherto among your brethren in this field, will come out prepared for the worst yet hopeful of the best, and willing to live or die as may please God, if they may contribute in any degree to advance the interests of Messiah's kingdom in these regions of Satanic delusion and utter darkness.

It is not likely that Mrs. Waddell and myself can remain here over a week or two. The attention due to our own family and mission duties at Calabar require our return so soon as the state of Mrs. Newbegin and of your mission affairs admit thereof. Every aid in our power to both we shall gladly render, as an incumbent Christian duty.

I remain, my dear sir,

Most sincerely yours in Christian bonds,

HOPE M. WADDELL.

P.S. *May 4th.* I am happy to state before closing this letter, that a great improvement has taken place in Mrs. Newbegin's mind in the course of the last twenty-four hours. She has slept, and awoke refreshed and calm, though bewildered at the horrid dreams of the last two weeks. Her perfect recovery seems now certain and near.

United Presbyterian Church at Old Calabar, president.

This meeting has been held for the purpose of considering the present state of the mission on this coast, which it has pleased God to afflict by sundry painful providences.

Mr. Saker, missionary here, together with his wife and child, and accompanied by Miss Vitou, sailed from this port on the 12th March last, in the mission schooner "Jane," belonging to the Presbyterian Mission at Old Calabar, bound for England, the mission here being then left in charge of Dr. Newbegin, missionary, who took up abode at

Bimbia. On the 21st of said month Doctor Newbegin visited Clarence, where he remained, conducting the affairs of the church, till Tuesday, the 2nd day of the April, when he went back to Bimbia in the mission schooner "Dove," which he reached the day following. On sabbath thereafter, the 7th of the said month, at Bimbia he conducted part of the public services, but complained of being unwell. The "Dove," which had been sent on to Cameroons, was recalled on the sabbath of the 14th to Bimbia.

Doctor Newbegin continued so sick that he required to remove from Bimbia, in order to seek medical advice. For this purpose he, on the Tuesday following, was carried on board the "Dove," by the assistance of Messrs. W. Trusty, G. Williams, and Thos. Horton Johnson, being then unable to move himself. Mrs. Newbegin and the above-mentioned assistants accompanied him to Clarence Cove, which they arrived on Wednesday morning. No medical man being on the island, nor in any of the vessels in the Cove at the time, the party proceeded to Old Calabar to seek medical advice from the ship surgeons in those vessels. The schooner came to anchor off the mouth of the river same night at eleven o'clock. In one hour thereafter Doctor Newbegin died. His complaint was accompanied by slight fever and very much vomiting, with continued costiveness, the enema being used with but little effect. He was sensible to the last. As soon as he died, the vessel weighed anchor to return to Clarence. On the Friday following, the 19th instant, the "Dove" was off the Cove, but being unable to get in, made signal of distress to H. M. steam vessel Phoenix, which was making the Cove, and which, on learning the circumstances of the party on board, took the "Dove" in tow, and brought her into harbour. The captain and officers of the steamer, and Captain Becroft, H. M. consul-general for the coast, paid every attention which the distressed circumstances of the party on board the mission schooner required, and had the corpse respectfully interred on shore the same evening at five o'clock, the funeral being attended by all the inhabitants of Clarence, deeply sorrowing. During this time, and all the following day, the bereaved lady, Mrs. Newbegin, though greatly afflicted, was composed, and able to see the members of the church and other friends, who visited to condole with her, but on sabbath morning, before day, she awoke groaning heavily, and delirious. Surgeon McShane, of the steamer Phoenix, being immediately sent for, who attended and paid every attention which her distressed condition admitted of to alleviate her malady, but without success. It continued and increased.

That same day, sabbath, 21st April, the "Dove" was sent off with urgent letters from Governor Becroft and Dr. McShane to

the Rev. Mr. Waddell, at Old Calabar, making known the bereaved and most afflicted state of Mrs. Newbegin, and desiring that some members of the mission there, especially one or two of the ladies, would come to Clarence, and afford the aid their Christian sympathy and advice to their distressed sister, and to the mission, so heavily afflicted. On Friday, 26th, the "Dove" got to Calabar. On Saturday following sailed again, having on board Mrs. Waddell, and on Tuesday, 30th, got back to Clarence.

The meeting now held in consequence of the events narrated, is designed to consider what is best to be done for carrying on the affairs of the mission here, and at Cameroons and Bimbia, in present circumstances, and for the welfare of the dear and afflicted sister Mrs. Newbegin.

1st. At Clarence the deacons will keep the church meetings as they were directed by Dr. Newbegin, but not administer the sacrament unless one of the missionaries from Calabar, or Mr. Wilson from the Gaboon, should be present. The infant and sabbath schools will be kept as heretofore. At present there are no teachers for day schools.

2nd. At Bimbia, Mr. Trusty and Mr. Fuller will continue to keep the school and attend to the other duties at the mission, as they have been used to do in time past. Mr. Williams will take care of the stores and mission property, and of Dr. Newbegin's things, in the best manner, and will also pack up and send over to Clarence all the clothes and other things of Mrs. Newbegin as soon as possible. Mr. Christian, who is also there, will be expected to attend to the affairs of the mission there, and also to give assistance when it is required at Cameroons station.

3rd. At Cameroons, Mr. J. H. Johnson and Samuel Johnson, his assistant, will continue to keep the school and meetings as heretofore, and if either should be sick, or require more help in any way, Mr. Johnson can send for J. W. Christian from Bimbia to Cameroons, to come and help them.

4th. The mission schooner "Dove" will for the present continue under the charge of Mr. Hardur, who will employ the vessel in procuring mats and bamboos at Cameroons, and conveying them to Bimbia and Clarence for the roofing of the mission houses at these places, and in rendering such other services as the different stations may require; always making known to the governor, Mr. Becroft, or in his absence to the deputy-governor, Mr. Lynslager, when and where he is about to sail, and in any other matter not here provided, for receiving instructions from them.

These rules and regulations are of a temporary description, and hold good only for the present emergency, and will necessarily be superseded when a duly authorized missionary or missionaries come out with the orders or instructions of the Baptist Mission-

ary Society. With respect to Mrs. Newbegin, the deacons and members of the church at Clarence will continue to pay every attention in their power to her for her safety and comfort, and as soon as she may be able to

return to England, it is deemed advisable that she return thither, as essential when complete recovery from her present most afflictive condition.

It is proper to state that we have not corrected the style of the foregoing most touching and simple narrative. The orthography only has been put right. This will account for the peculiarities of expression which now and then occur.

The Committee are anxiously seeking for a passage for Mr. and Mrs. SAKER, as well as for another servant of Christ, to resume the work thus in God's providence so painfully interrupted. It is expected that Mr. SAKER will be able to sail in a few days to his destination, and he will doubtless bear with him many fervent prayers that his life may be spared, and that a work which has borne hitherto decisive marks of divine approbation in the conversion of many of Africa's degraded children, may be permitted to go on even in the midst of great afflictions and death. The views of our brother SAKER respecting the mission, and his devotion to this perilous service in the cause of our Redeemer, are expressed in the following passages from a letter addressed to the Committee on hearing of the decease of Mr. Newbegin.

I have a fear that some of you who wish well to Africa will be discouraged, and I think you ought not to be. Let us review some of the facts. Ten years since you commenced the work. You sent many labourers, and expended much treasure. Of those sent out, God has gathered to himself Thompson, Sturgeon, Fuller, Merrick, and Newbegin; Prince, and Clake have been driven from the field, and a small company of West Indians have fled, terrified with the toil and suffering. This suffering and loss of life shows that the sacrifice you have made is large. But ought we to have expected less? Bloodless victories are not common. In common life we do not expect results without corresponding labour and expense. Sometimes we have to wait long for the results we seek, but in this mission God in his providence permits us to look at something accomplished before this last affliction falls on us. Let me refer to these results. There are now living in Africa about one hundred souls hopefully converted to God. In nine years past forty may have died, leaving the pleasing testimony that they are gone to a better land. They are saved, instrumentally through you and your agents.

There are eight native teachers now engaged, more or less, in efforts for the salvation of souls. They are not all supported by you, but they *are* what they *are* through you.

The domestic comfort given by the gospel is not small. The education imparted is an immense benefit. In the colony of Clarence you have effected a transformation unspeakably valuable, and almost unprecedented.

Among the natives of the island impressions have been made that only need foster-

ing to result in the glorious and happy change you long to behold. On the continent it is difficult to say what has been done. Souls have been brought to God, churches formed, and actually now the wilderness is being transformed into the garden of the Lord.

And let me refer to the fact, that although the field is without an European, the work of the Lord goes on. H. Johnson, for two years alone has laboured at Cameroons. Fuller nobly stands at Bimbia, and at Clarence the natives maintain the ground we occupied.

All this stands against so much suffering and so many deaths; and will any say that the sacrifice equals the results?

And we must not forget that all who die are self-devoted, and God has accepted their offering, and by it wrought all that we see accomplished.

Brethren, I think you will feel with me that we must not be discouraged. God afflicts us; let us humble ourselves before him, and try to bring to his service purer and more devoted sacrifices.

I think that the past all tends to show us that we must not rely on European agency. At present it is impossible to do without it; but as you have sanctioned the principle of sustaining the mission by native agents, I shall go to Africa, and devote my remaining days to the preparation of natives for the work of the Lord.

I need hardly say that I think one missionary ought if possible to go with me.

You will doubtless conclude that I ought to return to Africa immediately; I can only say, I am ready.

In deep humility let then our trials be spread before the mercy-seat of God. Our brethren who thus give themselves over to death will surely have our warmest sympathy, our most affectionate remembrance, as well as our frequent appeals for their protection and blessing to Him who hath said, "Lo I am with you, even unto the end of the world."

The Committee are not without hope that help will soon be on the way to Africa, and that Mr. SAKER will have one, if not more, co-workers there.

Mr. SAKER wishes the following letter to be inserted. It will be useful to our friends generally in making up parcels for Africa, to know what articles are most useful.

Foot's Cray, July 16th, 1850.

MY DEAR SIR,—

I must not omit to acknowledge the kindness of the many and dear friends who take a deep interest in our labours and bereavements in Western Africa. Although it has pleased our heavenly Father to afflict us heavily, and to take to himself so many of our dear and valued brethren, he has nevertheless given so many and manifest indications of his presence and blessing, that our friends fail not to sympathize with us in all the mingled emotion of our hearts. They weep with us in our sorrows, and rejoice in the cheering prospects which animate us. That the sable sons of Ham are being subjected to the dominion of Jesus is to them most joyous; it is the consummation for which they have prayed.

Their sympathy in our suffering and bereavement is to me exceedingly encouraging. I am greatly comforted by the remembrance of their great affection and constant prayers to God for us. To all who are thus aiding us in our affliction and labour, I beg to offer the expression of warmest affection and gratitude.

With a grateful heart I acknowledge the kindness of the committee of the Religious Tract Society, in granting a donation of twenty-four reams of paper for printing our scripture tracts; also for a donation of books, value £5, for our library.

Also of Mrs. Goldsmith, for ten pounds' worth of bibles, and to the British and Foreign Bible Society, for doubling the quantity, by supplying the bibles at half price; the proceeds to be appropriated to the printing of the Isubu and Dualla scriptures.

Also of friends at Boro' Green, for book-binding materials, value £5. Also of the friends and sabbath schools at Eynsford and Foot's Cray, for contributions to purchase new type. Also of H. Woodfall, Esq., of Foot's Cray, for a valuable press screw and

nut. Also of a friend, by the Rev. B. W. Noel, for a few books to H. Johnson of Cameroons. Also of Mr. W. L. Smith, Denmark Hill, and Mr. Bossy of Woolwich, for personal favours.

Warmest thanks to the beloved friends who are preparing garments for the children in our schools, and adult females in our congregations. Many friends who have sought information, desire me to say that the articles of clothing most valuable are shaped cotton dresses (for Clarence), and long loose dressing gowns (for the continent). Neat shaped dresses for children, calico underclothes for women and children, neat plain clothing for infants, caps and bonnets, boys' clothing of all sorts, especially shirts. Tunic coats, and pinafores made of brown holland, are much valued; the latter formed with bands, to button round the neck and waist.

It is preferable to make all the common garments for the continent to button round the neck, and not draw and tie with a tape.

Many friends are inquiring what articles will be most valuable to us in Africa. The following are much needed.

Ironmongery of all sorts, especially carpenters' tools.

Locks, bolts, hinges, latches,

Axes, adzes, saws, nails.

Knives, hoes, shovels,

Pins and needles.

Paper, pens, ink.

Memorandum books.

Books for presents and rewards to the children of our schools.

Books for library.

School materials.

Some drawing paper, pencils, crayons, and colours will be very acceptable presents for our senior classes; also some drawings for copies.

Remaining, dear sir,

Yours affectionately,

A. SAKER.

INDIA.

BENARES.

From one scene of death we turn to another, having yet more fearful accompaniments, and spreading far wider its elements of sorrow. In the fearful catastrophe which took place at Benares on the evening of the 1st of May, our esteemed and long tried missionary, Mr. SMALL, was called to witness the sudden death of his beloved partner in life. Mr. SMALL, with our brother, Mr. SMITH, and his wife, were wonderfully preserved, though not without many bruises. By the kindness of Mr. THOMAS we are favoured with a copy of a letter from Mr. HEINIG, which gives lengthened and harrowing details of the terrible event. He writes from Benares, under date of May 7th.

I have no doubt you have heard reports of the awful calamity that has recently occurred at Rajghat. On Wednesday, the 1st May, afternoon, about three or four o'clock, a powder magazine fleet arrived at Rajghat, consisting of thirty-five boats, filled with 3000 barrels of powder, several guns, and other ammunition. The conductor had gone up with his wife and family to Secrole, to spend the rest of the day with his mother-in-law. We have for some time past appointed Wednesday evening for spiritual singing, when a great many of our Christian friends meet. Mr. Small had been spending the day with us, and Mrs. Small, together with Mr. and Mrs. Smith, joined us in the evening. We spent a very happy evening; the hymns that were chosen were very spiritual, and the tunes selected very harmonious. Mrs. Small made some appropriate remarks on the hymns that were sung, and seemed thoroughly to enjoy the meeting. After family worship as usual, at half-past nine we separated.

At about eleven o'clock we were roused from our sleep by a fearful noise, resembling eight or ten cannons fired at once, the force of which burst our doors open. A few minutes after another fearful report followed, but as it ceased, we composed ourselves again to rest. In about half an hour we received a letter, written by a friend at Rajghat, giving us the awful intelligence that Mr. Small was severely wounded, and Mrs. Small killed, and that we should send to the doctor immediately. The news completely stunned us. Mr. Shurman and I hastened to the spot, where a most appalling scene presented itself. Mr. Small met us near his house, and informed us that a powder magazine had exploded. He then led us into the house, and showed us the desolation that had taken place. He now narrated as follows: "About eleven o'clock the Punka people gave an alarm of fire, which roused them from their sleep. Mr. S. got up and looked through the jhilonil, and said to

Mrs. Small that there is a much larger fire on the river than there was two years ago; upon which she also got up, and came to look through the jhilonil. At this moment Mr. Small went to the bedside to put on some of his clothes, when a tremendous explosion took place, which threw Mr. Small down. He heard a dreadful noise over him; it sounded like the whole house falling down upon him. He got up, and hastened to find Mrs. Small, for they were in total darkness, the light in the adjacent room having been smashed to pieces. In going to the window he stumbled over Mrs. Small. He called her, but no answer. He put his hand to her face, and found it streaming with blood. The awful truth was then revealed to him, that her spirit had departed. At this moment the second explosion took place, which threw him under the bed, by which he was wounded on his eye and head. It is a great mercy that his sight is spared. His neighbour, Mr. Gordon, and Dr. Ballentine, sent to inquire about them, and when they heard of the awful calamity, they came and assisted Mr. Small in removing the corpse to their house.

The explosion shattered everything before it. The house is entirely destroyed, and there is scarcely an article of furniture left whole. The jhilonil door, where Mrs. Small was standing, as well as all the rest of the doors, were completely smashed to pieces, part of which door struck her on the head, broke the skull, and pressed the whole head quite flat. She had also received several other wounds on the body. The magistrate came to us, saying that the shore looked like a battle-field, strewed all over with dead bodies. After a few hours I returned to give directions about the funeral, and then hastened back to Mr. Small, when the daylight presented an awful scene of desolation and misery. The high shore at Rajghat has been destroyed a good way inland. On each corner were large, strong buildings, one belonging to a nawab, and two to a rajah, all

ruined. The beglum, her daughter, and son killed, and the rajah lost one arm; and all the houses on the shore, even beyond Mr. Smith's, have been completely destroyed. Lives have been lost to an awful extent. The real number will never be ascertained. It is computed to be 1200, and 400 wounded.

Our aged friends, poor Mr. and Mrs. Smith, have also suffered much, though through mercy their lives have been spared. It was most providential they had not gone to bed, but were sitting in the verandah, enjoying the breeze from the river, when the first explosion took place. They hastened through the house into the little compound at the back of the house, and while they were going through the second explosion took place. Mr. Smith has received several wounds on his hand, head, and other parts of the body, but we trust they are not of a serious nature. A large, thick splinter he has extracted from his leg. Mrs. Smith is also much bruized in different parts of her body. One little child belonging to a moonshee, was found buried under the ruins of one of their rooms. They deserve, indeed, our sympathy and prayers,

as this awful calamity happened at their advanced age. The destruction of native houses cannot be described. Damages have been done miles distant, and losses have been incurred to a fearful amount. A large, beautiful English hotel at Rajghat has been completely destroyed, and all who were in were buried under its ruins. Four hundred prisoners were employed for three days to dig out the dead. A merchant had also at the same time arrived at the Rajghat with goods to be sent to Cawnpore amounting to 50,000 rupees; all lost, his wife and child killed. He only escaped, but was for three days senseless.

Mrs. Small was interred on Thursday evening. All the missionaries of all denominations showed their last token of respect. Many officers, all the native Christians, and the children from our schools were also present. Her death was improved on sabbath evening by Mr. Buyers in our school-room at the Sadar. Mr. Small bears his loss with Christian fortitude and composure. May the Lord abundantly console him.

In a letter to the secretaries, dated 14th May, our bereaved brother exhibits all the Christian fortitude above referred to. Speaking of the divine consolations he has enjoyed, he says: "God has filled my soul already with abundant comfort. Grievous, as this loss is to me and the mission, and to a numerous circle of admiring friends, how infinitely greater is the gain to her. Should I then repine or complain? *I do not.* It is the doing of the Lord." May our brother continue to enjoy the comforts of the Holy Spirit, and in his remaining days of pilgrimage on earth gather in much fruit into the garner of the Lord.

HOORAH.

The remarks which follow, from the pen of our missionary, Mr. MORGAN, will convey to our readers some idea of the difficulties under which the preacher of the cross has to labour in proclaiming divine truth to the Hindoo. All experience proves that the poor everywhere most gladly welcome the gospel. Yet the obstacles in the way of reaching even the poor are in India manifold, and to some of these our brother strongly adverts, and at the same time raises a question of great interest as to the best mode of evangelizing the heathen.

I am at last in the possession of a native preacher, or rather a Portuguese preacher. Brother Makepeace brought him here. He is really a very worthy man, with about fifty per cent. more energy than our native brethren, at least in Bengal. I think after all that there are men for the work.

Six months ago I proposed two questions for investigation. Who? What? With regard to the first, I feel assured that it would be useless to spend any direct labour upon brahmins; their utter loathsomeness of character, and position in society, preclude the possibility of doing them good at present.

When addressed, they will first flatter, then quote Sanscrit verse, which neither they nor the people understand, and, like the man of Thessaly, look wondrous wise. When all that fails, they will argue. Such arguments! Every principle of religion, morality, justice, and decency are kicked off the platform, and in the countenance of the servant you can see the characteristics of the diabolical master.

I have therefore paid considerable attention to the lower classes. You will not infer that we can enter their houses; the very canaille would consider their houses polluted by our entrance. We approach their houses

with as much circumspection as your London urchins approach the great gate at Buckingham Palace, with the sentry before them. We find this class teachable, with a small stock of objections. Our first point is to gain their confidence, and to persuade them that the Gurus cannot curse the children, and the cow—the wife is nothing. I think that we have succeeded in demolishing the outer wall of the fort.

The next question is, What is the best method of convincing the Hindoos of the truth of Christianity? If we adduce miracles, they can do the same. The fulfilment of prophecy; the people know nothing of our geography and history. If we point to character, the Hindoos well know that the English are famous hands at machinery, handling a musket, eating beef. The latter, and drinking brandy, in the estimation of the natives generally, constitute the very essence of Christianity. Hence I have to tell them that these are national characteristics, and not the characteristics of Christianity. A native will tell sometimes, How can I be a Christian? I cannot eat beef. I think that our fort lies in what Dr. Chalmers denominates the subjective in man, and the objective in the gospel. I find the Doctor's

plan best. Showing the disease, then the remedy which the gospel provides. It is much easier and cheaper than the cumbrous and expensive remedy of Hindooism.

Last year I would have prevented swinging at the Chuweh Puga in one place, if the native police had not interfered, and seeing a good many Christians present to witness the inhuman exhibition, I wrote several letters to the public papers. This year, I am happy to inform you, there were no more than two or three present. I interfered again this year, and made them finish the swinging in fifteen minutes, instead of two hours. The brahmins abused, the chapmen complained of their loss of trade, and a native policeman insulted and ordered me about my business. I wrote to the magistrate, who, like a true Briton, gave the policeman a severe reprimand, and sent him to me with joined hands, in the true Asiatic style, to make the amende honorable. I think it an act of justice to the magistrate to mention this fact.

The legislative council has passed a most important act. No convert now can be deprived of his property. The Hindoos are furious, because their temples may fall into the hands of Christians, should the owner of the temples embrace Christianity.

CHITOURA.

In a brief note to the Secretaries, Mr. SMITH gives a cheering account of the native village and station he occupies. It will gratify our readers to know that his earnest request for aid is likely to be supplied by Mr. WILLIAMS of Agra.

Baptism.

Last Sunday I had the pleasure of baptizing a convert from Hindooism, a man of good caste and considerable information, and I trust a child of grace. Although we have had few additions this year, yet the cause has advanced in the neighbourhood considerably, and there are not a few about us who, convinced of the truth of Christianity, would at once join us, were it not for the fear of losing caste, and being cursed by all they count dear on earth. Caste is however much weakened in our neighbourhood, and the people treat us with more kindness than they used to do, and when I compare things now with what they were three years ago, I am constrained to bless God and take courage. My most sanguine expectations have been exceeded. The Lord has exceeded all my fears; mountains have been removed, and valleys filled up, and the way of the Lord has been made plain. Scoffers have been silenced, and enemies have been made friends, and some, I trust, have been brought out of darkness into light. Let it then be ours to go on, leaving results to Him who will not let his word return to him void.

Dr. Duff's visit.

Dr. Duff paid us a visit about a fortnight since. He appeared pleased with what he saw of our village. He thinks Chitoura should be strengthened by another missionary at least, and even thought it would be well to give up some other station rather than neglect a place where God has given some success. The very mention of a fellow labourer is cheering, and I am sure if there be a station in India where two are necessary, it is Chitoura. If brother Williams could be relieved from his English church, he would be glad to join me, as his health is so much better when he has a little moving about. Remember, dear brother, I have none to advise with in difficulties, and none to help in sickness. Two of us could encourage each other; but one is almost lost, what with schools, pastoral duties, and preaching to the heathen, and to some extent even superintending the temporal affairs of our people, who are not like Europeans, but require watching, encouraging, and checking like children.

Help required.

Do pray try to interest some self-deny-

ing individual for Chitoura. The fallow ground has been broken, the people all round us are willing to hear the gospel, a church is formed, and I have three good native helps; in short, every thing is in working order, and the prospects are as good or better than any station I know in India. Other missions are going forward when, alas, we are becoming almost extinct. We have laboured, and there is every appearance that when success appears at the door, others are

to come and enter into our labours. The presbyterians and episcopalians are thickening around us, and our missions are becoming weaker and weaker. These are matters of deep concern to us, and occasion much anxious thought as to what they will lead to. Is there no possibility of the tide being turned back? "Return, O Lord, how long, and let it repent thee concerning thy servants."

WEST INDIES.

TRINIDAD.

MOUNT ELVEN.

Mr. INNISS, a native brother engaged by Mr. COWEN, has favoured us with the following interesting account of the mission in which he is engaged, and of the nature of the work which occupies his time.

In January last year, at Mr. Cowen's request, I returned hither, and resuscitated the school at "Sherring Ville," or Montserrat, and helped in the sabbath exercises at the other stations; but since Mr. Cowen deems it more desirable, I have removed with my family further in the interior, to this place, where I have been for the last six weeks raising a day-school for the many children around us who are growing up in ignorance, making known the unsearchable riches of Christ, and teaching those who believe how they ought to walk and please God.

Peculiarities of the work.

It lies mostly among a series of villages settled along the limits of the plantations in the borders of these truly deep woods, the inhabitants of which are Africans or their children, who have been rescued from the grasp of slavery some thirty-three years ago in the United States of America, a few of whom may have been Christians, but left to themselves, without the advantage even of reading the scriptures, they have degenerated so as scarcely to be known as the good seed of the kingdom, and have contracted ideas and habits contrary to the gospel. These form a barrier to the spread of light and truth among them. But if this be their position, in an evangelical way, they form quite a contrast in a moral way with the surrounding inhabitants. Here the dissipating fêtes of the popish establishment do not excite the giddy multitudes, neither do the barbarous drums accompany nightly revels, as they do in other parts.

Hindrances.

Our work, however, is still aggressive.

There is much ignorance, superstition, and prejudice to be overcome, so as to sow the seed with advantage, we of this island being perhaps a century behind some of the neighbouring colonies in point of civilization. Many of these obstacles are out of the reach of your agents, and when we think of the immense importance of sowing the seed, we are induced to sow with all these disadvantages, looking to the God of all grace, that in due time he will water the seed sown, and that some fruit will proceed to his glory.

Thank God we have been permitted to continue our efforts regularly, but from the scattered state of the population, we only manage to reach two stations each, each sabbath. On those occasions we first attend to the children, by teaching them to read, sing, &c., and after addressing them on their best interests, they almost invariably go home (as these villagers will not have all the family out at the same time). Then we repeat the blowing of a cow's horn, the sound of which is wafted through the woods, perhaps as far and wide as that of a large bell. The people being gathered, we set forth the practical principles and elements of the gospel of our Lord. Here we have no need of peculiarities, however much we esteem them.

Promising school.

Last Lord's day I found thirty-six or thirty-eight clean, attentive children at Sherring Ville, under the instruction of Mr. Day, a patient and persevering young man whom I recommended to Mr. Cowen. Half of their number read the scriptures. I have begun the same at this place, and the one at Mr. Cowen's house is thriving.

With regard to our day-schools, we sti

have to lament the want of interest on the part of the parents. A complete change from one extreme to the other seems to have taken place in this respect during the scenes of the apprenticeship, and two or three years following, so ardent were they for education, that it was difficult to get a boy to some business; but were the education of the mass to be left to themselves now, not more than one in every two dozen would ever read English.

We find it very salutary to require something as fees, but the people set their faces against it like flints. I have, however, always succeeded in realizing steady payments in this way, and although I am withstood in my present position, yet I do not fear accomplishing it soon. I have seventeen scholars at present, but trust to have many more in time.

When we look on similar things around us, we are constrained to be thankful for the measure of encouragement we receive from the Father of mercies, amidst the many obstacles there are to missionary work. The first half of the year is the most favourable time for such efforts, being the dry season; but at this season, as in most tropical countries, there are virulent epidemics raging. At present the small pox has visited most of the families in these places. At this season, too, the strongest people are working from home on the sugar plantations. Then the latter half of the year the rains descend in torrents, literally filling the numerous ravines which intersect the roads, with water, which, with the absence of bridges, and a deep alluvial soil, make it truly difficult to keep up a regular attendance either at school or otherwise.

The immigrants.

There is another class of people, in whom

Mr. Cowen and myself feel much interest. They are the newly imported immigrants, Coolies and Africans. The former are shy, and vain in their heathenism, but the latter will learn. At present, Sunday is the only time they may be instructed, as I have attempted now and again on two plantations. But I am in a different place almost every Sunday, and therefore cannot be regular with them. But during the wet season, when the crops have been disposed of, these immigrants may be met in the afternoon of any day for instruction; but unfortunately this cannot be done without a horse or mule. Then I might visit three plantations in rotation in course of a week.

These people are located in numbers of forty, fifty, or sixty, and continue to speak their own tongue, which makes it difficult to instruct them. To teach them requires much variety and adaptation. I have felt the want of something to teach with, and have been obliged to use chalk lessons. A few large sheets of monosyllable lessons on the senses, members of the body, God, &c., in large type, would be a delightful present for these poor creatures.

The thought of these people returning to their own land in a few years in the same darkness, after having had them in such a favourable position, would induce me to benefit them in any way.

In the midst of this work and labour of love, next to the divine promises made to us in the person of the Saviour, nothing sustains us more than the sympathy of our dear friends in England, and particularly to yourselves, gentlemen, we feel very grateful for the interest you take in the Lord's work in this island. May it be turned to good account in that great day.

FRANCE.

MORLAIX.

Under date of May 25th our brother JENKINS gives us the following interesting details of two excursions he has been permitted to make in the service of the gospel.

I have to give some account of two excursions I have made for preaching in the country since I wrote to you last. The first I took last month. I left home on Thursday the 4th of April, and returned on the following Wednesday, after having travelled at least thirty-three leagues, or about ninety miles. I preached four times in the usual places, and read and explained the scripture in families twice. The attendance at the meetings was as usual, and the hearing such

as gave us pleasure and encouragement, trusting the divine Spirit of life and holiness will bless the glad tidings of salvation. The peculiar feature of this journey is, that I went to Pontrieux, a small town six leagues north-east of Belle-Isle-en-Terre. I had never visited this place before, though for some time I had a desire to go so far, thinking some good could be done there, as I knew there was at least one native in the place well disposed to receive the word of

God. Our good friend Mr. Le Tiec, who lives two leagues from this town, gave me the names of three respectable persons to call upon. This I did, and one of them, a member of the Council Generale of the department, very kindly invited me to remain at his house during my stay in the place. I accepted of his kind offer. I had much religious conversation with this gentleman, and found him to be a man seeking after truth, and having so far abandoned Romanism that he did not believe in the pope, in the real presence, nor in several other errors of the church of Rome; yet he is no infidel, but a man of religious conviction and sentiment. He told me his religious communion with the church of Rome was broken, and that his religion was consequently confined to himself. As to prayer, he said his only one is the Lord's prayer, which he addresses to God while alone, and with much reflection. He acknowledged the want of more gospel light for himself and the people in general, and remarked I was perhaps called to bring them that light; and he expressed the opinion that probably the Lord had permitted infidelity and indifference in religion to prevail among his countrymen in order to deliver the mind from the bondage of popery, and enable it to hear and receive the truth of God without prejudice and obstinacy. With all this he acknowledged his weakness to confess openly the truth, and to stand openly and zealously for it. "I have not so much zeal as Mr. Le Tiec," said he. On this point of duty, and some others, we had, I trust, much useful conversation. This gentleman is a friend of Mr. Le Tiec, in speaking of whom he observed, he was a good scholar, and that he had written several articles respecting religion to the papers; and told me that in the first place Mr. Le Tiec was a religious man in the church of Rome, but on finding he was deceived by her ministers, he abandoned her communion, and was not content with breaking off from that church, but set on the work of exposing her errors. It was about this time he brought from Paris about 100 French New Testaments for distribution in his neighbourhood. This aroused the priests to war against him, "for," remarked this gentleman, "it is well known the priests will live on good terms even with infidels provided they do not dispute openly against them, but the moment a man opposes them then they become his enemies. Therefore Mr. Le Tiec was not to be spared, and because he is a studious man, and fond of retirement, they tried to prejudice the people against him by reporting he was an astrologer, &c.

One of the first merchants in this place expressed to me his desire to see the people enlightened in religion, and said he would be able to give me a place to preach in a church in the town which he has in his possession,

and which he now makes use of as a warehouse.

I called here on a Dutch protestant woman, a widow, about eighty years of age, and very ill in bed, not likely to live long, and so weak that I could not understand her speaking. She had married a native of Brittany, who had distinguished himself as a seaman under Napoleon, and who, though a catholic, had brought up his children as protestants; but after his death, and when grown up, the children became catholics, in order, as they told me, to be able to have bread. They were very glad to see me, and it appeared truly remarkable that I should arrive, as they had written to me a day or two before, respecting the mother's illness, but not in time for me to receive the letter before my departure. I had thus an opportunity to read the word and pray with the aged sick and three of her children. I have been informed since that she is better.

I found in this town an interesting native, a shoemaker, who had bought a bible, and is fully convinced the church of Rome is greatly in error. He desired me to procure him Roussel's famous tracts against Romanism. I trust there is good in this man.

Such, dear brother, are the favourable dispositions I found at Pontreux, and I hope the Lord will enable us to preach there before long.

My second preaching excursion was undertaken on the 11th instant. I preached three times in Belle Isle and the neighbourhood. I visited, with Omnes, a part of the country where I had not been before. We met with some expressing a desire to hear the preaching of the gospel. We called on one family where the New Testament is often read and valued, and its cause often pleaded by the husband. He was not at home, but he has since sent to tell me that when I visit that part of the country again, he will gladly stay a day at home in order to have a good occasion to speak with me.

I preached again at old Morvan's house. He is rather a labourer than a farmer, as he has only a small plot of ground behind his humble dwelling. I greatly esteem Morvan, though he is not yet an enlightened Christian in many things. He is, I think, about seventy-three years of age; a strong built man, with a venerable face and a hoary head. He is of an upright heart, firm in his tone, unflinching in disapproving what is wrong, and yet kind and good, and very shrewd in his answers. He appears to be a man without guile. He shows much attachment to the gospel, and approves of my preaching because he finds it good and right. This is the hold our work has on his mind and that of his wife, and not so much from a knowledge of the errors of Rome. However, these errors come now under consideration, for the last time we talked a good deal about

the real presence, the mass, the sign of the cross, &c. Not long ago his son died, and he had to go and settle with the priest for the burial service. The priest told him the sum due was *seven francs*, of which *two francs* were for the *silver cross*. In explaining, the priest said that they had three different crosses—the silver, brass, and wooden ones, and that the silver one for each funeral cost two francs, the brass one less, and the wooden one gratis, being for the poor. The old man replied, “You ought to have told me that, for I am a poor man, and the wooden cross would have done quite as well, and as the silver one has done no better service, I will pay nothing for it; here are the five francs.” The priest was dumb, and would not look at the old man, from contempt and angry feeling, for he was moreover very much displeased because he receives me to preach in his house.

Morvan does not go to confess, but his wife goes up to the present. She gave me a long account of her last confession. The priest did nothing but inveigh against our religion, and against receiving me to preach in her house. He asked her how many times and where she had heard me. The first time

was at Omnes's house, the colporteur. This made him pronounce Omnes a perverted man, whose eternal perdition is most sure. To all this the old woman replied, “She had never heard but what is good; that he himself could not say better things; and she thought she would have been a better woman had she heard me more.” He did his utmost to persuade her to shut her house against me. Once he told her, in case I should enter her house again, to go out of the house, or to bed, and another time he told her to spit at me, and shut the door in my face. It appears he was very violent, but could not succeed. At last he said he thought he could not give her absolution. She replied “he could do as he liked, as she was quite easy respecting it; that she never had such a confession as this.” Nevertheless he concluded by giving her absolution. Persons have been refused absolution for simply coming to hear me. I was received last time as kindly as ever by Morven and his wife. This will show the difficulties we have to contend with in beginning to preach the gospel in this country, and how the Lord opens the way before us. Our trust is in him.

HOME PROCEEDINGS.

At the Quarterly Meeting, held June 26th, the report of the Sub-committee appointed to consider the state of the Mission in Africa was read, and after consideration, its recommendations adopted as those of the Committee. They were to the following effect. 1. That Mr. SAKER resume the charge of the station at Clarence until another missionary be appointed, and that he be instructed to train a member of the native church at Clarence for the re-establishment of the British school, and to continue to carry on the infant school by means of the native teacher who has it now in charge. 2. That the services of a suitable Christian brother be engaged for the station at Clarence, and when this is accomplished, Mr. SAKER remove to Cameroons, to take charge of that station, and to prosecute the work of translations. 3. That Mr. NEWBEGIN occupy the station at Bimbia in conjunction with J. FULLER. 4. That H. JOHNSON, WILLIAMS, and S. FULLER continue to be engaged by the brethren. And, lastly, that the brethren SAKER and NEWBEGIN have their attention specially called to the necessity of training, from among the converts, suitable men to aid them in evangelizing the benighted population among whom they labour.

The lamented decease of our dear brother NEWBEGIN will place many of these proposals in abeyance for the present; but should the Committee be enabled to send out help to Mr. SAKER, the plan proposed may, in due time, be steadily pursued.

The Sub-committee on the deputation to India also presented their report, recommending the names of the following gentlemen, viz., MESSRS. LEECHMAN, G. H. DAVIS, and C. STOVEL, on which a ballot was taken, when the choice ultimately fell on Rev. J. LEECHMAN, as a colleague to the Rev. J. RUSSELL, who had been invited by the Committee, at their meeting of June 11th. We have now the satisfaction of stating that both these esteemed brethren have felt it to

be their duty to accept this invitation, and they will probably sail on the 20th of next month.

It is but due to S. M. Peto, Esq., to state, when the decision of the Committee was known, that he at once offered, with his accustomed liberality, to bear one half of the expenses of our brethren in their visit to India.

A resolution was also passed declaratory of the necessity of sending more help to Ceylon, and that *steps should be immediately taken* to secure the services of a brother to co-operate with Mr. ALLEN in sustaining the mission in that island.

The proposed alterations in the constitution of the Society were referred to the following Sub-committee: Revs. Dr. COX, HINTON, MURSELL, ROBINSON, STOVEL, WEBB, and Messrs. ALLEN, WATSON, and Secretaries, to consider and report thereon.

It was also resolved, and this information will be useful to the members of the Committee who reside in the country, that the next quarterly meetings be held on Wednesday, the 9th of October, 1850, and the 8th of January, 1851.

A resolution expressive of the deep sense which the Committee entertained of the services rendered by the late J. PENNY, Esq., to the Mission, and other denominational societies, and their affectionate regard for his memory, was directed to be sent to his son, Rev. J. PENNY of Coleford.

At the meeting of the Committee, July 9th, the afflictive intelligence from Africa was read, on which the chairman suggested that Dr. Cox should engage in prayer. Resolutions were then passed expressing the cordial thanks of the Committee to Governor BECROFT, and W. LINSLAGER, Esq., H. M. Consul, and Vice-Consul at Fernando Po, to the captain, surgeon, and officers of H. M. S. Phœnix, and to the Rev. H. M. and Mrs. WADDELL, for their kind services to Mrs. NEWBEGIN in this season of deep affliction. These resolutions are to be forwarded to the respective parties, and will be taken out by Mr. SAKER, who will sail, we hope, early in August.

Resolutions of condolence were unanimously adopted and directed to be sent to Mr. and Mrs. NEWBEGIN of Norwich, and to Mrs. TAYLOR, Mrs. NEWBEGIN's mother, of Worstead. All the documents mentioned in the previous lines would have been printed if we had room, but as we have not, a brief abstract of the business is all we can find space for. The following resolution is, however, one which cannot be omitted.

Resolved,—That in recording the decease of their beloved friend and missionary brother, WILLIAM NEWBEGIN, the Committee bear willing testimony to the disinterested zeal and devotedness with which he gave himself to the work of God. Educated for the medical profession, and having studied with diligence and success, he cheerfully relinquished his professional prospects for the sake of the African race. He became an early labourer in the Mission which this Society established on the coast of Africa, and he was not diverted from his self-denying toil by either personal or domestic affliction. The Committee thankfully adore the grace of God in their departed brother, and while they bow submissively to the painful bereavement which the African Mission has suffered in his removal, they earnestly pray that the Lord of the harvest will yet thrust forth labourers into his harvest.

The Committee of the Young Men's Missionary Association are making preparations for the winter course of lectures in the Library. They have requested its use for the 1st and 8th of October, and the 3rd Wednesday evening in October, November, December, January, February, and March. With this request the Committee have cheerfully complied, and we sincerely hope the efforts of our young friends will be crowned with increasing success.

FOREIGN LETTERS RECEIVED.

AFRICA	CLARENCE.....	Waddell, H. M.....	May 2.
	GRAHAM'S TOWN	Nelson, T., & Hay, A.....	April 26 & 27.
AMERICA	QUEBEC	Marsh, D.....	June 29.
ASIA	BARISAL.....	Sale, J.....	April 27.
	BENARES	Small, G.....	May 14.
	CALCUTTA.....	Thomas, J.....	May 3 and 13.
		Wenger, J.....	May 3.
	COLOMBO	Allen, J.....	May 9.
	HOWRAH.....	Morgan, T.....	April 29.
	MONGHIR	Lawrence, J.....	April 29.
	SEWRY	Williamson, J.....	April 26.
AUSTRALIA	LAUNCESTON.....	Dowling, H.....	February 17.
BAHAMAS	NASSAU	Capern, H.....	May 28.
		Littlewood, W.....	May 1.
JAMAICA	CALABAR	Tinson, J.....	May 13.
	MOUNT ELVEN	Innes, A.....	May 1.
	ST. ANN'S BAY	Millard, B.....	June 5 and 6.
	STEWART TOWN	Dexter, B. B.....	May 21.
	STURGE TOWN	Hodges, S.....	May 17.
TRINIDAD.....	SAVANNA GRANDE	Cowen, G.....	May 2, 13 and 15.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

The thanks of the Committee are presented to Mr. Baker, Albany Road, and to Mrs. Davies, Walthamstow, for parcels of magazines.

CONTRIBUTIONS,

Received on account of the Baptist Missionary Society, during the month of June, 1850.

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