

# THE MISSIONARY HERALD.

## A WORD IN SEASON.

It is scarcely possible for the most careless person to pass over the boundary which separates one year from another, without some thought and emotion suited to the event. But far more surely will the coming-in of the New Year suggest, to the devout and humble Christian, topics for deep and serious reflection, and awaken desires and resolves in regard to the future, which may, under God, be productive of lasting good. To them time is of such vast importance, when viewed in relation to eternity and the great work to be done in the present life, that they cannot see any portion of it gliding away into the past, without feeling that its disappearance gives a deeper emphasis to the words of holy writ—*Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with all thy might.*

Perchance, amidst these thoughts and feelings, our beloved and honoured Mission may have a place. The fields of labour are so rapidly widening in all parts of the world, and the calls for more helpers are so loud and incessant, that indifference is not possible to any; while the thoughtful and zealous cannot but be roused to fresh resolve and action. It seems, therefore, seasonable and proper to state a few facts, setting forth some of the claims which press most heavily on the Committee.

The letters which have been recently inserted in the HERALD from the brethren, Smith of Delhi, and Gregson of Agra, have excited much interest. From them we learn that an eager spirit of hearing, which is most remarkable, is manifested by the people inhabiting those parts of India where the mutiny was most formidable, and its atrocities the most revolting and cruel. On those spots where the martyr's blood was shed, the missionary now has his largest and most attentive congregations!

While these brethren gratefully record the blessing which God is graciously bestowing on their labours, they are continually crying, "Send us more help, for we are fainting beneath our burdens." Already Mr. Smith's health has materially suffered; and, unless he be relieved of some of his engagements, the consequences may be serious. Mr. Broadway has been moved up, Mr. Gregson generously and warmly urging his going, though it greatly diminishes the agency at Agra. But this is by no means adequate help. Two more men, at least, are needed; and then Agra needs also fresh accessions of strength; while Chitoura, the centre of a vast number of densely peopled villages within easy reach of the missionary, is yet unoccupied; and not less than two should be sent there at once. The removal of the Government offices to Allahabad opens a station for an English preacher, to take the oversight of our brethren who composed the church at Agra, and who will gladly support a pastor, as

they did formerly, provided the Committee will engage and send one out.

It is very sad to be compelled to state that, at present, the Committee have no prospect of meeting these urgent demands. Mr. J. Williams, who sailed in June, arrived safely in Calcutta on the 25th of October, and is, ere this, settled at Muttra as fellow-helper to Mr. Evans, who has been long labouring there alone. But this is no actual increase of the Mission band in the North-West; for he only just fills the vacancy occasioned by the return of Mr. R. Williams, who is compelled by broken health to abandon missionary toil in India. Mr. Comfort, recently accepted for service, and who will pursue his studies in Regent's Park College until the proper season for his departure arrives, is the only one to whom the Committee can at present look to occupy any of these inviting and important spheres of labour.

But let it be remembered that we have not yet said a word about the wants of Bengal. Mr. Anderson is alone in Jessore, a large district where ten active men might find ample work; and very soon the responsibilities of Backergunge will wholly fall on Mr. Martin, as Mr. Page is obliged to seek repose and strength by a voyage to England. The great metropolis of India has not, as yet, any missionaries devoted to labour among the native population, and four or six would not be too many. Chittagong, Comillah, and Mymensing, Cutwa and Dinagepore, also in Bengal, the first sphere of our Mission, and almost exclusively assigned to it in the course of Divine Providence, are not in any sense occupied; and if much be done in them, it can only be done by detaching labour from the important district of Dacca. To this immense field of labour the yet vaster one of China is added. Most solemnly do we assure our readers, that if the Committee had, at this moment, twenty efficient preachers, and an income larger by one-half than they have had to expend for some years past, they could only then just fill up the stations already so long occupied, without touching any new sphere whatever.

If we turn for a moment to the West Indies, the cry for more labourers is beginning to be heard there likewise. Mr. Underhill has visited Trinidad and Hayti. He strongly urges increased expenditure in both these missions, especially in Jacmel, where Mr. Webley has too long worked alone, and where the revival of the school, once so ably conducted by Miss Harris, is imperatively called for. It may, therefore, be expected that, as the brethren of the deputation advance in their journey, further augmented demands will be made on the Committee for the enlargement of the Society's operations in the West.

The conclusion is plain. The Society needs many more faithful men to go forth to preach the Gospel to the heathen, and greatly augmented funds. What, then, is to be done? This question must become a truly *personal* one—one which the individual consciences of the members of the Society must seriously weigh, if any lasting benefit is to arise out of its discussion. Our Auxiliary Societies are admirable organisations for uniting the scattered energies of the people, and directing them to one grand object. But they need both revival and extension. By the zealous co-operation of pastors with the District Agents, this work will be done. The results, however, cannot be seen very soon, though we believe they will be gathered in due time. But it is to be feared that a mere subscription to an auxiliary, which often bears no proportion to the means of the party giving it, or the claims of the cause upon his

property, and which is too often the same in amount from year to year, takes the place of personal effort; and silences too effectually the inquiry, "*Am I doing what I can, and what I ought?*"

It cannot be denied that the material wealth of the country has marvellously increased of late years. Christians have had their share of this temporal prosperity. Home claims and efforts have doubtless greatly increased also, and, for the most part, they have been generously met. It is, however, not equally true that the funds of the Mission have proportionably increased. Now, we want its friends to ask *why?* Not to ask others the question, but to ask themselves. The inquiry could never be put more opportunely. The revival of religion which has taken place in some parts of the kingdom; the large number of recent conversions in Ireland, Wales, and Scotland; the spirit of prayer which is silently, but rapidly, spreading through the Church of God; indicate the coming of better days. It is therefore a duty, obviously suggested by the movements of the Divine Hand, to press the wants of the Mission. Let the need of men and of funds be but generally *felt*, and those whose consciences have been again impressed with a sense of their individual responsibility, and whose hearts are moved with pity for the countless myriads of perishing heathen, will carry this burden to a throne of grace. It will become their own; and they will not be relieved of it till, in answer to believing prayer, a spirit of enlarged liberality has been poured out on each sincere suppliant, and a quenchless desire kindled in the hearts of many pastors of our churches, and students in our colleges, to obey the Saviour's command, *Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature.*

Not many days since, we received a circular, signed "H.," entitled "THE REV. J. A. JAMES: AN APPEAL TO ALL." The purport of it will be gathered from the following sentence:—"It is usual, upon the death of a great man, to erect a public monument to his memory; cannot the same be done in the present instance? I do not refer to a monument of stone or other perishable material; but a monument that will live for ever in glory, when this world and the fashion of it passeth away." The monument proposed to be raised is, for each society to augment its agents and its funds, especially in regard to China.

Now, we have no sympathy with the spirit which would glorify man. Christianity has no place for hero-worship. But we may hold up the virtues of distinguished Christian men for imitation. Mr. James was eminent for his liberality and zeal in the cause of missions. In him were combined an enlargement of feeling and purpose which embraced the world, and a considerate thoughtfulness for objects of lesser magnitude near at hand, and particularly for his brethren in the ministry, many of whom he knew were maintaining their position at the cost of a severe and prolonged struggle. This combination is only seen in those who are largely imbued with the Spirit of the Gospel. His last work was a stirring appeal on behalf of China. His last act, almost, was a contribution to the memoirs of the devoted missionary, KNILL! His service in the cause of missions is closed. But let not the vacancy in the ranks be left open. Rather let us seek to be imbued with his spirit, that we may more than supply what has thus been withdrawn from the church below. In this manner let the memory of the just be blessed; and earth, as well as heaven, will be enriched by the removal of this eminent servant of God from his place of service among us.

## FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

## INDIA.

## CALCUTTA.

With great pleasure we communicate the tidings of the safe arrival of the Rev. J. Williams on the shores of his future home. His letter expresses his feelings during his long voyage—and on board he was the only passenger—as well as his views in relation to his work. There is something very interesting in looking on any one just entering on an important work. Much more ought we to be interested in a missionary's spirit and principles, when about to engage in the most solemn of all undertakings. We trust Mr. Williams will be able to maintain the determination and patience which he so modestly avows. By this time Mr. Evans will have had the great pleasure of welcoming his future colleague at Muttra.

"I have the pleasure to inform you in this letter of my safe arrival at Calcutta on the 25th inst.

"I have been troubled for about five or six weeks by sea-sickness, yet, by the mercy of God, I have been thoroughly recovered, and I feel my health now as strong as ever. Thanks be unto God for his loving-kindness and protection. We have met with two or three storms, which at the time greatly alarmed me, but I tried to console myself with the idea that Christ Jesus, the Lord, had all power in his hands, and that he could calm the storms of the Atlantic and Indian Oceans as easily as he did calm the storm on the sea of Galilee. I am very happy to inform you that Capt. Grant has treated me kindly, and did his best to make me comfortable. We have had many divine services on board, and I have had the pleasure to preach Christ to them nine times, and the crew seemed to relish the truths proclaimed. May the Lord bless his word to do their souls good, by disposing them to love and receive the Saviour. Mr.

Lewis, of Calcutta, came to meet me, and, having reached his home, gave me a kind accommodation. I have received your letter at the *Baptist Mission Press*, and felt myself satisfied with the arrangement made respecting my future destination. I will go up to Muttra as soon as possible, and I hope God will come with me.

"My principal work now is to acquire the language, and all my mental energies should be confined to that. The only pity now is, that I did not commence learning the *Hindi* instead of the *Hindustani*, which I am now able to read, and to a certain degree able also to translate. While on sea I bestowed much labour on this language. I have paid a visit to three or four of the brethren here, and they are very kind to me. There is an active and laborious life before me. I hope the Spirit of the Almighty will bless my labours, and that I shall prove to be a faithful missionary of the 'Cross.' May the grace of God be with you all."

## MONGHYR.

Among other letters one has been received from the Rev. J. Gelson Gregson, who left England for India last year. He is stationed at Monghyr, where he has been learning the language, and in other ways giving himself to initiatory work. Under the date of October 3rd he writes:—

## FIRST PREACHING TOUR.

"I hope to go out next month with one of our native preachers on my first missionary tour, and trust that, by God's blessing, I shall be able to acquire more Hindi in one month than in three by remaining in the station. I feel like one who has been reading how to swim, and who has made an attempt, and longs to plunge out of his depth and try his skill; it is just so with me. I long to get away and hear nothing but Hindi, and speak nothing but Hindi. I always speak Hindi every morning with

Ludeen, my teacher; but there is a great difference between speaking a few broken sentences and being able to preach. I begin this week with Urdu; a moonshee will instruct me in the early morning, before I begin with Ludeen. The language which is spoken here is half Urdu and half Hindi, so that, though I don't know the Arabic or Persian characters, I know several Urdu words. How thankful I shall be when I have thoroughly mastered both languages, and able to speak as fluently as in my own tongue."

## NORTHERN INDIA.

AGRA.

Mr. Gregson's letters, received during the last month, contain, besides encouraging information respecting the European part of his own station, a very interesting report of his visit to Delhi. While our readers will sympathise in the holy-joy and thankfulness of our missionaries, they cannot hear without real concern that the unremitting labours of Mr. Smith have begun to tell seriously on his health.

Of Agra Mr. Gregson writes, under the date of Sept. 15th :—

## BIBLE-CLASS—HOSPITAL VISITS.

"My Fort Bible-class affords me much encouragement. One man belonging to it, I hope, will shortly be baptized, and in the city we are always encouraged by large and attentive audiences.

"But at present I am most encouraged by the results of my visits to the hospitals, and our labours among the soldiers. Four are to be baptized this month, and, unless appearances deceive me, these will quickly be followed by others. Only this week, six more men of the 89th Regt. have been to me to request me to write to their commanding officer for permission to attend our chapel. The numbers at the Bible-class, at the daily prayer-meetings, and at my house on Monday evenings, are steadily increasing; and there is an earnestness and depth of feeling about many of them that give me much hope. We have an united meeting for prayer every Friday evening, conducted alternately by a Church missionary and myself. Its special object is prayer for a revival of religion. All this English work cannot but interfere with native work, but what are we to do? My

heart is in native work. I love to stand in the public thoroughfares, and, gathering a crowd around me, to tell them the source of all their misery is sin, and that the only medium of peace and pardon is a crucified Redeemer; and seldom does a day pass in which I am not able to do this—often twice in a day. Still, I could do more among the natives by neglecting the hospitals and Europeans. But, in the first place, the former is so dreary—one talks to such senseless, unfeeling souls, and meets with so little to cheer, that really it is a pleasing change to dwell upon these same themes to other and more susceptible audiences; and I do feel intensely grateful for the encouragement furnished in hospital and by the soldiers. But further, this English work is not all lost, even upon our native work. It does our own hearts good, and so fits us to speak more feelingly to them; and, by improving Europeans, we increase the amount of Christian influence brought to bear upon the natives, and remove some of the most powerful stumbling-blocks out of their way."

A month later Mr. Gregson makes the following communication :—

"I was at Delhi when your last, of Sept. 2nd, arrived, and I returned just two days after the English mail had left. I spent a very pleasant week in Delhi, and was delighted and amazed at what I witnessed. But, before giving an account of that visit, two or three little items are to be despatched."

## THE CHURCH INCREASED.

"First, the evening before I left for Delhi, viz., Sunday, Sept. 25th, I had the pleasure of baptizing three soldiers; one other, who should have been baptized with them, was on duty, and prevented from being present; but on the following Wednesday evening, Sept. 28th, he, with two natives, was baptized by Mr. Broadway. These make a total of fourteen natives, and six Europeans, baptized by us in Agra this year, i.e., since January last. One other, a young lady, is waiting for baptism, and many others, both Europeans and natives, give us hope that before long we shall have to baptize again. These

additions give us devout and unfeigned cause for gratitude to the Father of all mercies, and humbly yet sincerely do I trust, that in the abounding riches of his mercy he has still greater blessings for us in reserve.

"In reference to Delhi, I think it is desirable the Committee should be fully informed as to the state of matters there; and, in the hope of increasing their interest in Delhi in particular, and the north-west generally, I state my own impressions."

## THINGS TO BE NOTED.

"The first thing that struck me was the largeness of the congregations, which can at any time and any where be gathered together to listen to the missionary. In the city, night after night, the people assemble at the end of the Chandae Choule. I was at some pains to ascertain the numbers present, and when I was present they never fell short of 200, and never exceeded 300, and this is the number which, with

very trifling variations, continues present from the commencement of the service to the end. In the city our morning congregations were nearly, if not quite, as large, whilst outside the city, at Pahor Gunge, and another place, the name of which I forget, an equal number was present. Again, in our visits to more private localities, we could usually gather from 50 to 100 men, women, and children, who would quietly sit around us and listen to what we had to say.

"The next thing that appeared remarkable was the steadiness of these assemblages: that is to say, those who came at the beginning staid till the close—large numbers certainly remaining present during the entire service.

"A third marked feature is found in Mr. Smith's so-called inquirers' or prayer-meetings; every evening one of these meetings is held—the attendance ranges from 50 to 100. The place of meeting is a house or room rented by Mr. Smith, and the service consists of reading the Scriptures, singing, exhortation, and prayers, the congregation remaining throughout the entire service. Now, these three features are very striking and hopeful, and present boundless scope for labour and encouragement. The great difficulty here is to get a settled congregation, to whom we can, time after time, expound the words of eternal life. This Mr. Smith has in Delhi on a very large scale, and our utmost efforts should be put forth to turn this advantage to good account. A considerable number of educated young natives have had their attention called to the Christian religion, and appear to be hopeful inquirers; whilst considerable numbers have become well known to Mr. Smith by repeated visits or conversations on religious subjects. As to actual results, Mr. S. has baptized twelve, and formed a church of twenty-three members.

"At present, Delhi appears to me in a most hopeful, but, at the same time, critical state. The facilities for preaching the gospel can scarcely ever have been surpassed in the history of missions, and multitudes appear to be halting betwixt two opinions. But a reaction has taken place. Many who once visited Mr. Smith do so no longer, and vigorous efforts are being put forth by the gurus, or teachers

of the people, to check the missionary influence. Still, many appear to me like a flock of sheep waiting one for another. Let the way once be shown—let a number come boldly forward and declare for Christianity, and hundreds and thousands might perhaps follow. Hitherto Mr. Smith's labours and success have been almost confined to the lowest caste and the poorest people. On Mr. Broadway's going, I hope they may be able to bring more of the educated and better class of natives under their influence.

"Mr. Broadway and family left yesterday, the 18th, for Delhi. I sincerely trust he may be largely useful. He does possess some very superior qualifications for missionary usefulness: a perfect command of language, both Hindi and Urdu; a good knowledge of the native character, and considerable tact in dealing with natives. In these respects he will admirably supplement Mr. Smith.

"Mr. Smith has secured a large amount of respect from both Europeans and natives. He has, it appears to me, most wisely adapted his efforts to the field around; and especially in the selection of a dwelling, and the choice of localities for meetings, etc., has displayed great judgment. His house is commodious, and, I should think, for Delhi, healthy; whilst, at the same time, it is the very centre of his labours, every corner of the city being accessible from it on foot. This single circumstance enables him to double his labours. He is accessible to all who may wish to see him, and has only to walk out of his own door, and is in the centre of his work."

#### A CRY FOR HELP.

"One other point, and I must close. I think the Committee would do well to send another man to Delhi without delay. In the first place, there is ample scope—may, need—for more missionaries there; and a young missionary might at once raise an interesting and important Bible class for educated natives in English, and, whilst studying the language, find an inviting field for usefulness. In the second place, I very much fear Mr. Smith may not hold out much longer. His old complaint is troubling him much, and he fears another hot season may be more than he can endure."

## A F R I C A.

### VICTORIA.

A letter from Mr. Diboll, of the date of July 18th, gives us some insight into the obstructions of missionary work during the rainy season, and of the anxieties to which our missionaries are subject owing to the uncertainty of their

daily supplies. Almost every thing in the way of provision has to be sent out from England.

#### WORK STOPPED.

"I am glad to receive a letter from you. It is like seeing the face of a friend who has been long absent. You say you would like to drop in upon us all, and see how we practically exhibit the truth of the text, that 'Godliness is profitable for the life that now is, and for that which is to come.' Of all the times in the calendar, I should least like you to 'drop in' just now. It has been raining almost a deluge most of the day. The depth of water that has fallen within the last week is about three feet. It fell seventeen inches in one night; and this kind of thing has been going on, with more or less of energy, for more than three months, and there are yet more than two months of rainy season before us. Of course there will be some intervals, and we do not expect to see it as violent as it is now, except in the tornado month. I need not tell you that all our low ground is under water.

"Such has been the state of the weather that there have been no communications with Cameroons since the last mail, till last Saturday a canoe was sent with materials to thatch with. In this we thought we saw the hand of the Lord, as we received some articles of provision which we much needed. Mr. Saker sent us five Kroo men, and a promise of four more; these will be a great help to us, at least I hope so; as at every 'furl in the storm' we all try to do something.

"Yesterday was a good day to us; we were able to get the usual religious services of the day. There was no rain! But during the past week we were obliged to forego the daily services, and to relinquish the school; these will be resumed as soon as the rain abates.

"You will see by what I have written how very little of real missionary work I am able to do at present; I have not yet been able to visit any of the natives; I earnestly wish to do so, and shall embrace the first opportunity; I pray that God will glorify his Son in the salvation of the heathen around us."

#### FREE PASSAGE A NULLITY.

"I am glad that you speak of the benefit the church at Clarence will derive from the 'offer of free passage.' Of course the knowledge of our having such an offer satisfies the friends at home. But here it is a mockery of our fondest hopes. A vessel goes into Clarence Cove, and the captain sends word on shore that in four hours he shall start for Victoria. A free passage is offered to all who are ready.

This intelligence is not fairly circulated before, true to his promise, the captain and his vessel are gone, and the dear people are weeping over the cruelty of such an 'offer.'

"The commodore goes in on Sunday afternoon, and informs the consul that he leaves that place for Victoria the next morning at six. A free passage is offered to all who are ready to go. The consul uses his own leisure in communicating the intelligence. The 'by-law' is always acted on, which forbids the removal of goods from the shore to the sea between the hours of six at night and six in the morning. The commodore was punctual, and was gone at six o'clock. These are the only two instances in which the people of Clarence have had the gracious offer. I doubt if the offer will ever be again repeated. The dear people are still hoping that, in the good providence of God, a way will be opened for them. The number of soldiers and convicts is rapidly increasing, and our people are ill at ease in their vicinity.

"Many of the residents, as well as our own people, are inquiring if her Britannic Majesty accepts the sovereignty of the place, imagining that, should her Majesty decline, the Spaniards would show themselves more prominently than is desirable."

#### PROGRESS.

"Aug. 6.—Unable to send by last mail. Mr. Saker has come to us, and we are glad to see him. But my stores are not come, and I wonder why? How much we need them!

"Aug. 16.—When Mr. Saker came last he brought me other four Kroo men, who, with the five who came before, are to be engaged in the bush. We have already begun to cut heavy timber. But, oh! the rain! We rejoice, however, to say that our worship on *Lord's days* has never been interrupted. They are mostly *sunny days*.

"We have had one native head man at our worship two *Lord's days*, and he appears interested.

"Sept. 5.—This day the Lord was pleased to use me instrumentally in saving five persons from being drowned. This afforded us an opportunity to speak to them of the mercy of God, in sending his people to live in their neighbourhood. We have had some other opportunities of speaking to small companies of Jesus and his salvation.

"A man is here who some time since

had his mind impressed under the ministry of Brother Fuller at Bimbia. He has been living here twelve months, and, I hope, growing in grace; his life is consistent; I have seen his readiness to speak of Christ to those around us. Him I think to take with me as an interpreter as soon as I can get among the natives.

"Sept. 20.—Our religious services are increasing in interest. Our week evening services are resumed, and next week we purpose (D.V.) to recommence the school. In the bush we are cutting down the heaviest timber I ever saw. Near my house we are constructing a road up an abrupt incline; this is a work of great

labour, involving the necessity of conveying a great many tons of stone by hand; and on the beach we are constructing a boat-house—which is to serve other purposes as well—fifty-three feet by nineteen; and I have no doubt that before you receive this, the two last-named works will be finished.

"Sept. 21.—Yesterday our good Brother Saker came. He made the passage in less than fourteen hours. We never heard of so short a passage. He brought with him a few pounds of flour. Judge of our thankfulness; our last handful of flour had been baked the day before."

#### CAMEROONS.

That the dark places of the earth are full of the habitations of cruelty, has become almost a trite observation to the reader of missionary journals, and yet every now and then facts come before our observation, calling to mind that truth with the vividness and pertinency of a novel illustration. We have heard so much of heathen cruelty in old times, that it almost seems to our minds to belong to the past. Mr. Fuller's letter, as given below, is the old story; but it is enacted *now*.

#### CRUEL SUPERSTITIONS.

"It happened that a few months ago some of the poor creatures living up that branch of the river called *Yaporna*, were taken in cold blood, and slaughtered as sacrifice for the late King Bell. This is one of the horrors of heathenism, a scene of wickedness which, from the influence of the gospel, had for many years ceased in this river. The perpetrator of this wicked deed tells his tale thus:—"I dreamed a dream, that my late father appeared to me, and spoke to me very sharply, that I was not worthy the name of a man, because I did not offer any human sacrifice for him; so, in order to please my dead father, as well as I have tried to do for other people, I went and did as my father wished me." This the poor man uttered without thinking for a moment of the responsibility of the immortal soul. Oh! how my heart did pity him as he said the words. This act of cruelty on the part of the murderer, and other matters, led Mr. Saker to take this journey.

"You would have pitied the poor creatures, if you had seen how timid they were when they heard the sound of our boat's oars. We found the river to be a beautiful wide one, edged on the borders with beautiful green; but this act of brutality has left it quite dead as to human life, for we travelled quite thirty miles up without seeing a single soul. When we had gone up about sixty miles, we came to a town settled on the edge of the water; but as soon as they heard the rowing of the boat, every man, woman, and child started off

into the bush, leaving their houses and every little thing they had to the mercy of their supposed enemies.

"We went quietly after them, and endeavoured to make them know that we were their friends. After much persuasion, one man came out with his gun, but meeting me standing before his door with no weapons whatever but my pocket handkerchief in my hand, and umbrella, he willingly gave me his hand, upon which I told him that we were the servants of God. On hearing this, he began calling all his neighbours, who came out one by one, all armed. I then followed them to one of their chief men's places; I endeavoured, to the best of my knowledge, to show unto them, in a few words, that God had made of one blood all the nations of the earth, to serve him. After which, I told them that Mr. Saker was in the boat on the beach, so they all went off to see the white man. Before we left them we had great cause to be thankful to God for having enabled us so to acquit ourselves as to make them feel we were their friends indeed."

#### DISCOURAGEMENTS.

"The church at Bimbia has suffered much from the conduct of one who was once a member, the very first male that had entered it; the poor man has relapsed into his entire former state, while death is sweeping off his few. We have lost two since my stay up here, who have given us to hope that they are safe in the arms of Christ. We are not, too, without encouragement that the little leaven is work-

ing, and, with God's blessing, will leaven the whole lump. Since my last baptism, I have been greatly encouraged in the present inquirers. May it be our happiness to see poor Isubu's remnant hear the word of life and live. The lad there, thank God I can say, in the strength of Christ, is doing well, and I have no doubt

God will honour his labours. One thing I wish to beg for him, and that is a few books—he wants them very much, and I have none I can give him—especially some comment on the Scriptures; I must specially request you to get for me 'Carson's Life and Works,' and 'Livingstone's Missionary Labours.'

## WEST INDIES.

### TRINIDAD.

Mr. Gamble, in a short letter of the date June the 22nd, enclosing a copy of a report read by him at a missionary meeting in Trinidad, expresses great satisfaction at the prospect of a visit from Mr. Underhill. It appears that the mission in that island is conducted amidst much that is calculated to damp the energies of the missionaries. The nature of the discouragement will be seen in the following extracts from the letter and report:—

"I long to see the deputation. No one knows but a missionary what joy swells up in his heart when he anticipates the happiness of seeing some one direct from Moor-gate-street, who is endowed with authority to direct, and wisdom and love to counsel and comfort.

"I have had, since we left home for a short time, no fever, I am thankful to say; so that I am, at present, strong to labour in the Lord's vineyard. The wet season has commenced, and since it set in it has not ceased raining but for one day.

"Of course our roads are terrible. There is water above and mud and water below, so that travelling some twenty miles on Sabbath is not agreeable to the flesh. I am, however, happy in my work, and, though many obstacles oppose, I trust that good is being done, if not so much as I desire or expect."

#### REPORT READ AT A MISSIONARY MEETING.

"The church meeting in this place holds the first position. There are forty members in full fellowship; there is a Sabbath-school, with an average attendance of forty children, who are instructed by five teachers.

"There is also a day-school kept here, of which Mr. Webb is the teacher. Since the beginning of last year your children have had the advantage of a secular education, which is no small boon. The school being in the village, many children can attend who could not go so far as the mission; not to say that that school is over-crowded already. And another advantage of this school is, that children are taught from the Bible—God's own Book—every day, so that the day-school helps the Sabbath-school.

"The attendance at the day-school averages about twenty-five; some days there

are thirty children present, other days less than twenty-five. The parents pay a trifle—five cents per week for each child, but, of course, this is altogether insufficient to support the teacher. Money has, therefore, to be found to pay his salary. This is done through the kindness of the friends in the Quarter and in Port of Spain.

"The members of the church do something for the support of their pastor. There are the gatherings at the Communion-table upon the first Lord's-day in every month. Some few of the members pay also a quarterly subscription, which goes towards the same object.

"At New Grant, where our brother, Mr. Jackson, labours, there is a small church. I pray that God's blessing may rest upon it. The few who are there are steadfast, but the greater number of the members seem to be cold and indifferent, and many have withdrawn themselves. I trust that though they may leave our chapel that they have not left the Church of Christ, for that is the only ark of safety. There is no other name given under heaven whereby man can be saved but Jesus Christ. Last year there were twenty members, but since then one is deceased, and several have ceased to attend. The number of members at New Grant being so small, they cannot be supposed to do much for their pastor. I am sorry to say that the Sabbath-school has dwindled down to nothing at this place.

"At Matilda Boundary there is a small place in which Divine service is held once on the Sabbath; but those who at one time attended have withdrawn themselves, and attend elsewhere, so that very little can be said with regard to this place.

"Trinidad is a dark land; there is much ignorance, superstition, and error; and the most lamentable feature in the condition of the people is, that they are satisfied to have it so."

## HAITI.

A letter from Mr. Underhill, dated Jacmel, Oct. 29th, will be read with much pleasure.

## A PLEASANT EXCURSION.

"I have returned from Port-au-Prince just in time to write you a few lines by the homeward mail.

"Port-au-Prince is, as you know, the capital of Haiti, or the eastern portion of this magnificent island. It is about sixty or sixty-five miles from Jacmel. The road thither, over lofty mountains, if the most perilous of the journeys I have ever undertaken, is certainly among the most magnificent—exhibiting scenery of surpassing grandeur and beauty.

"Mr. Webley accompanied me, and a guide. Our home at Port-au-Prince was with the Wesleyan missionary, Mr. Bishop, from whom, and his excellent wife, we received the warmest and most Christian hospitality. I was very glad to see and learn their missionary labours, on which God's blessing largely rests. The station was formed in 1816, and two or three excellent men still live who were the first converts. After a few years, persecution set in, and the English brethren were obliged to leave the country. On their return in five or six years, they found some faithful converts, who, in secret places, and in prison, had borne testimony to the truth. The mission was revived, and now numbers some 120 members, while the chapel, a good-sized structure, is often filled with hearers. At the two Sabbath services which were held during my stay, the morning congregation probably numbered 120, the evening, 180. A large proportion of both consisted of men. The work is extending to other places, and I was gladdened to find how extensive the influence of missionary instruction is continually becoming. Mr. Bishop obtained for us an audience with President Geffrard. He is a very agreeable and intelligent man, and I propose to send to Sir Morton by next mail the substance of our conversation.

"I shall omit now all remarks on our own mission here, as I will send you (D.V.) a full report for the Committee. We ought, however, to take immediate measures for strengthening or extending it. Webley is in very poor health, and his wife is still

worse. It is a fine field that he occupies, but he ought not to be alone in it. The country is certainly improving; though the jealousies between the coloured and black people, and those of both against the white, are very destructive to its advancement in civilisation and prosperity. It was a sad sight to see magnificent plains, fine plantations, all forsaken, the culture abandoned, and the people content with the natural growth of the staples of trade, as coffee or cocoa, and the fruit of the few trees they cultivate for food. But freedom found them barbarians, and the struggle out of barbarism has been checked by many untoward events. Still the tendency is upwards, and some considerable advance has been made. No nation can rise by its own unaided efforts. It must receive assistance from without. But the fear that if white men again secure a footing in the country, they will re-introduce slavery, keeps out the only elevating influence, and retards the growth of sound policy and good government."

## PREPARATION FOR COMING WORK.

"I am very thankful to have had the preliminary insight into the condition of the black population, which my visits to Trinidad and Haiti have afforded me. I shall not feel, as otherwise I might have done, so wholly unprepared to understand the state of things in Jamaica. Here, for example, is one principle clearly present to every mind, 'that the black people will not enter into any engagement with others which has the aspect of the servile condition from which they have been freed.' Even the condition of a *servant* in many islands seems to them to approach too nearly the condition of a *slave* to be undertaken, or if undertaken, it is accompanied by so much pride, independence, or indifference, as to make the so-called servant to be of little value to the employer. It is with the greatest difficulty domestic servants can be obtained, and they usually serve very ungraciously. This, it is true, is the effect of slavery; but we cannot, in forming a practical judgment of the state of things, overlook its influence."

## CHINA.

## SHANGHAI.

In presenting to our readers the *first* letter received from a missionary of our own in China, very little introduction is needed. Mr. Hall's tone of quiet perseverance and subdued expectation, at this time of temporary discouragement, cannot fail to inspire hope and confidence. If the man who stands *alone* there, surrounded by bloodshed and tumult, condemned to forced inaction, yet,

"bating not a jot of heart or hope," can quietly bide his time, and summon others over to wait with him in unremitting preparation, with girded loins, and lamps in hand, looking for the signal to go forward, can we refrain from heaping up contributions, that they may pour forth in rich abundance when our Lord calls for them! If the missionary on the spot is not disheartened by the recent events, which have really been disastrous to him, we must not be discouraged. Those events were under the control of the Lord of the church. He has permitted this check to the progress of his kingdom. *Wherefore?* his people may ask. It may be to rebuke their half-heartedness. It may be to say to them, "I gave you my blessing on the day of small things in India. Now that you see what that blessing can grow unto, let your new commencement be somewhat commensurate with your expectations from me. Scarcely another commencement remains to the church. Let this be earnest and large-hearted, as becomes men who are hearing one of the last calls of their Master. Are there no more tithes that ought to be brought into my storehouse? are there no more offerings of first fruits? are there no thank-offerings for special mercies? *Prove me now herewith, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.*"

"Your welcome favour, of July 22nd, was received by me at this port on the 15th. Our position at present is much affected (as you know, ere this) by the events which have recently transpired at the North. I personally had intended to go to Ching-keang-fu, on the Yiang-tsze, and had broken up housekeeping at Ningpo ere the news of the defeat reached me. I was thus brought to a stand-still. My furniture was sold; my position with relation to home undecided; my wife and self suffering from the combined effects of climate, uncertainty, and isolation from foreigners in a Chinese house (which experience has taught me cannot be adapted to foreigners but at an expense which would suffice to build a new one). On consideration, I deemed it best to leave Ningpo, and to come to this place, until I shall have had something which will point out my future course.

"I have seen no reason to repent the change as yet. Since we left, most of the missionaries have been constrained to leave the city for a time (they have since returned), owing to the excited state of the public mind. On our arrival at Shanghai we were kindly permitted to occupy for a time a house belonging to the English Episcopal Mission. Owing to the arrival of the new missionaries from the London Mission, we were obliged to seek a dwelling, as an Episcopal missionary, who had hitherto lived in Dr. Lockhart's house (which is now required by the mission), required to come into our lodging."

#### HINDRANCES TO THE WORK.

"I am not, by far, the only one whose plans have been overthrown for a season by political affairs; and disease, also, I am sorry to say, combined with the excitement among the people, has prevented much mission work being done these last few months. In Ningpo, cholera has carried off Mrs.

Parker, a Sister of Mercy, and two infants, and almost all foreigners have suffered more or less from dysentery, &c. The season is also considered by the Chinese as peculiarly unhealthful. At Shanghai, I am sorry to say, I cannot do much mission work. I shall, however, endeavour to talk a little to the Ningpo men, who dwell here in such numbers that it is said one-half of Shanghai is peopled by Ningpo men. My time, however, will principally be given to Mandarin dialect, till I hear further from you, as this dialect (with some provincialisms) is spoken everywhere north of the Yiang-tsze—to which quarter I hope you are looking. I have engaged a Pekin man as my teacher, and I believe his pronunciation is pretty pure. We here feel somewhat anxious as to the feeling which will be produced at home by the news of the defeat at Ta-Ku, and also to know what steps our Government will take. The opinion here prevails that nothing but the most decided measures will be of any avail, and that if such measures be pursued they will certainly secure for foreigners a much more desirable position than could have been hoped for had the treaty been ratified. There are those, of course, who blame unsparingly the British policy."

#### TEMPER OF THE PEOPLE.

"The Chinese are most insolent, and, though now it is much quieter than a few weeks since, it would not yet be safe to venture into the country. Though it appears somewhat unpropitious that the new missionaries will be confined to the old ports for awhile, yet I do not think that it is really so much so as it seems. There can be but little doubt that within two years China will be *really* opened, and that probably under more favourable circumstances than we had hoped for. Those brethren in the five ports will have plenty

to do during that period in studying the language and the people, and then they will be enabled at once to go in and possess the land. The expense of living will probably be the chief difficulty. I had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Kloekers when we first arrived at Shanghai. Should he still be in England, please to present my cordial brotherly love.

"And, now, what shall I say? I have told you our present position—and a poor one it is, viewed in a missionary aspect. China is more closed now than she was last year. The powers seem to have bestirred themselves to keep out the foreigners, and it is manifest that a strong feeling exists against the religion of Jesus, whether Protestant or Romanist. You doubtless know that the native Christians were threatened a few weeks ago, and exhorted to return to the religion of their fathers while their heads were on their bodies."

#### CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

"The Baptist Missionary Society is too old to need any instruction with regard to missionary work, what it is, and what may be expected to be the result. It has passed the period of vivid imaginations, and has long ere this given up the day-dream that the work of bringing the world to Christ is either easy or romantic: and its hard-working labourers testify that, discarding these pretty ideas, it has found beneath them a true field of missionary labour, and has learned to enter upon this work, not simply as a recreation or pastime, but because its duty to the Master constrains it. I rejoice that this is the case, because I

believe the work in China to be peculiarly dispiriting and uninteresting to those who feed upon excitement and pleasing narrative. The Chinese, as a people, are not so pleasant to live with and to deal with as some other Asiatics. Their manners and customs (much as they have been praised) are generally filthy and unclean; they seem almost incapable of the finer feelings of the human breast; and missionaries will find, as they have found, that those of whom they have hoped the most at last give great occasion for grief. With such a people nothing but a right estimation of the missionary work will sustain in patient well-doing either the missionary or the Christian Church. What the Chinese are capable of becoming, we may see in one or two cases. What they want is the religion of Jesus.

"If prudential reasons would prevent a large number of missionaries being sent just at present to China (on account of expenses here), I do not see any reason why they should not be prepared in England to start at the first news of a brighter day. God will soon, most assuredly, open China fully to the messengers of peace. It is for us to be found ready to hear his voice, and occupy that which he gives us. I have been much pleased and cheered by the kind congratulations of members of other missions, the London Mission especially. We are not interlopers in China; and I feel convinced that, send as many men as you may, they will be received as brethren by all here. We have no 'Evangelical Alliance,' but we are 'Faternally Allied.'"

## NOTES AND INCIDENTS.

**THE NATIVE PASTORATE IN BENGAL.**—Although a native pastorate is not yet extensively employed in Bengal, it exists and is in operation, especially in the Baptist mission. Its churches to the south of Calcutta, as well as nearly all those in the Jessore and Backergunge districts, are presided over by native pastors, probably as independent in their action as those who labour among the Karens; and, although they are not yet supported by their flocks, they live amongst them pretty nearly on terms of equality, and, being largely dependent on them for their comfort, are closely identified with them. The same kind of agency is largely employed in the rural districts of Bengal as among the Karens of Burmah; and, on a smaller scale, there have been remarkable awakenings here as well as there.—*Calcutta Christian Observer.*

**IDOLATRY IN CEYLON.**—During the Dutch domination, not a single idol temple was allowed to be built within its bounds; not a single native was allowed to enter Jaffna with the marks of idolatry on his person. The relaxation of this rigid and unjust interference with the religious rights of the population, in the conquest of Ceylon by the British, led to a sudden revival of idolatry, the more extensive and vigorous for the unwise oppression it had endured under the Dutch rule. In the first year of British occupation, not less than 300 temples were built in the province of Jaffna alone; and out of every ten natives, nine were to be seen with the mark of heathenism visibly stamped on the forehead.

## HOME PROCEEDINGS.

THIR meetings of the past month have been numerous. The Secretary has visited Newport, Niton, and Wellow, in the Isle of Wight, and, with the Rev. W. G. Lewis, Watford. The latter, on behalf of the China Mission, has also been to Nottingham, Wallingford, Luton, Dunstable, Houghton; also at Windsor, where the Rev. T. Hands, of Luton, formed a part of the deputation, and who, during the following days, attended meetings at Staines, Datchet, and the vicinity.

The Rev. W. Teall has taken the district around Coate, and subsequently joined the Rev. C. Short, of Swansea, in attending meetings at Abingdon, Oxford, and Farringdon. In most of these places it is stated that the receipts have been in excess of the past year.

Dr. Hoby has been to Brenchley, in Kent; and Dr. Leechman, with Mr. Teall, to Chipping Norton. The friends in the Eastern District of Gloucester, viz., Stow, Guiting, Naunton, Cutsdean, and Brockhampton have, with the aid of the Rev. J. Wassall, of Blockley, and R. Hill, of Cheltenham, made their own arrangements and collections this year, without a deputation from a distance, hoping thereby to save some expense.

The Rev. T. E. Fuller has formed new Auxiliaries in

Cheddar . . . . .	Mr. Fowler, Secretary.
Bradford . . . . .	Mr. James Kempton, Secretary.

The meeting at Cheddar was most interesting—the chapel full, and the contributions £10 16s.—good omens of a revival of mission spirit in this place. Mr. Fuller gave a lecture on the “Progress of Discovery in relation to Missionary Work.” We may add, that this plan of lecturing on a subject suitable to the purpose has proved very successful wherever it has been tried.

By the last mail from the West we received a letter from Mr. Brown, announcing his safe arrival in Jamaica, November 23rd. The first part of the voyage was very boisterous; the rest, calm and pleasant. Mr. and Mrs. Underhill, at time of writing, November 25th, were both in good health. The deputation intended leaving for Spanish Town on the 26th, and then at once commence their work on the south side; taking the north on the week following, hoping to reach Calabar in time for the examination of the students, which is fixed for the 19th inst.

## “JUVENILE MISSIONARY HERALD.”

The number for the present month appears in a new form and dress. The contents seem to us appropriate and interesting; and, if it does not meet the wishes of our friends now, it will be hard indeed to know what will. If the general feeling be one of approval,—and this is confidently anticipated,—then let a united effort be made on its behalf, and its circulation will soon rise to the proper amount.

## FINANCES.

The 31st of March will soon be here; therefore do we earnestly request the treasurers and secretaries of Auxiliaries, who may have funds in their hands, to send them up as soon as they can. The China Mission will shortly begin to draw heavily on the treasurer. Mr. Lewis has given anxious attention to the thorough canvassing of the larger congregations for increased and new subscriptions. He has arranged to visit Manchester and Birmingham, and the kindness of friends in these localities awakens the hope of success. He will be both glad and grateful for invitations to visit those parts of the country from which there has been no response to the Society's appeal for China.

## FOREIGN LETTERS RECEIVED.

<p>AFRICA—CAMEROONS, Innes, A., Oct. 25 ; Saker, A., Oct. 21 and 29 ; Prince, D., and others, Oct. 25</p> <p>GRAHAM'S TOWN, Hay, A., Oct. 15.</p> <p>VICTORIA, Diboll, J., Oct. 19.</p> <p>ASIA—AGRA, Gregson, J., Oct. 19, Nov. 2.</p> <p>BENARES, Parsons, J., Oct. 17.</p> <p>CALCUTTA, Beeby, T. G. O., Oct 21 ; Lewis, C. B., Oct. 22, Nov. 8 ; Williams, J., Oct. 27.</p> <p>JESSORE, Anderson, J. H., Oct. 20.</p> <p>MADRAS, Steevens, G., Oct. 19, Nov. 12.</p> <p>MUTTRA, Evans, T., Nov. 2.</p> <p>SERAMPORE, Sampson, W., Oct. 20.</p> <p>AMERICA—NEW YORK, Brown, N., Oct. 21.</p> <p>BAHAMAS—GRAND CAY, W. K. Ryecroft, Sept. 10, Nov. 17.</p>	<p>HAITI—JACMEL, Underhill, E. B., Oct. 8, Nov. 1 ; Webley, W. H., Nov. 8.</p> <p>JAMAICA—ANNOTTO BAY, Jones, S., Nov. 25.</p> <p>BROWN'S TOWN, Clark, J., Nov. 24.</p> <p>CALABAR, East, D. J., Nov. 8.</p> <p>FALMOUTH, Gould, T., Nov. 25.</p> <p>KINGSTON, Brown, J. T., Nov. 25 ; Underhill, E. B., Nov. 9 and 25.</p> <p>MONTEGO BAY, Hewett, E., Nov. 23.</p> <p>MOUNT CAREY, Hewett, E., Oct. 17.</p> <p>PORT MARIA, Day, D., Oct. 25.</p> <p>RIO BUENO, East, D. J., Nov. 25.</p> <p>SPANISH TOWN, Clark, J., Nov. 7.</p> <p>ST. ANN'S BAY, Millard, B., Oct. 24.</p> <p>STEWARTON, Knibb, M., Oct. 10.</p> <p>STEWART TOWN, Lea, T., Oct. 8.</p> <p>TRINIDAD—SAVANNA GRANDE, Gamble, W. H., Nov. 6.</p>
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## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

The thanks of the Committee are presented to the following Friends :—  
The British and Foreign School Society, Borough Road, for a grant of school materials,  
for *the Rev. W. K. Ryecroft, Turk Island.*  
Mrs. Blight, sen., for a parcel of Magazines.  
A Friend, for ten Magazines.  
Mr. J. E. Goodchild, for two Volumes of "The Baptist Magazine."  
Miss Short, for a parcel of Magazines, for *the Rev. J. Trafford.*

## CONTRIBUTIONS,

*Received on account of the Baptist Missionary Society, from November 21  
to December 20, 1859.*

*W. & O.* denotes that the Contribution is for *Widows and Orphans*; *N. P.* for *Native Preachers*;  
and *I. S. F.* for *India Special Fund.*

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
	£ s. d.				
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Dallas, Mrs. (1858-9) ...	2 2 0	Do., for <i>China</i> .....	0 10 0	Stearns, for <i>China</i> .....	5 0 0
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Contributions .....	6 9 4	Collections .....	2 10 5	Collection .....	3 10 0
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Do., for Africa ...	6 13 4	Rishworth—		Contributions .....	8 8 0
Carter Lane—		Collections .....	5 16 2	Do., Sunday Schools	1 2 0
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Circus Chapel—		Do., for China .....	0 2 6		
Collections .....	16 10 3	Do., Juvenile .....	1 12 8	SCOTLAND.	
Contributions .....	41 13 6	Do., do., for China	1 12 8	Aberdeen—	
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Do., for W. & O.	10 0 0	Steep Lane—		Ballina—	
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Great King Street—				Collection, for India	32 12 8
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Collections .....	10 10 4	Contributions .....	3 4 0	India .....	34 13 3
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and Bible Class	13 18 0				
Zion Chapel—					
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Acknowledged before, and expenses .....	413 10 4				
	0 17 0				

Subscriptions and Donations in aid of the Baptist Missionary Society will be thankfully received by Sir Samuel Morton Peto, Bart., M.P., Treasurer; by the Rev. Frederick Trestrail, and Edward Bean Underhill, Esq., Secretaries, at the Mission House, 33, Moorgate Street, LONDON; in EDINBURGH, by the Rev. Jonathan Watson, and John Macandrew, Esq.; in GLASGOW, by John Jackson, Esq.; in CALOUTTA, by the Rev. C. B. Lewis, Baptist Mission Press. Contributions can also be paid in at Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, Tritton and Co.'s, Lombard Street, to the account of the Treasurer.