

# THE MISSIONARY HERALD.

Subscriptions and Donations in aid of the Funds of the Baptist Missionary Society will be thankfully received by the Treasurer or Secretary, at the Mission-House, 6, Fen-court, Fenchurch-street, London; in Edinburgh, by the Rev. Christopher Anderson, or H. D. Dickie, Esq.; in Glasgow, by Mr. Joseph Swan; in Dublin, by John Parkes, Esq., Camden-street; at the Baptist Mission-Press, Calcutta, by the Rev. James Thomas; at Kingston, Jamaica, by the Rev. Joshua Tinson; and at New York, U. S., by W. Colgate, Esq.



Dwelling-House.

Chapel.

SALTER'S HILL, ST. JAMES'S, JAMAICA

School-Room.

## J A M A I C A.

## S A L T E R ' S   H I L L .

THE following historical sketch of the station at Salter's Hill is given by our esteemed brother Dendy, the missionary residing there. The drawing from which the representation on the first page is taken was made by a friend from England, who lately visited the spot.

THE church now assembling at this place used to meet at Crooked Spring, about two miles distant from Salter's Hill. It was for some years under the care of Mr. Moses Baker, a person of colour, who was called to endure much persecution, in consequence of his efforts to instruct the slaves in the things belonging to the kingdom of God.

In the year 1822, Mr. Baker, from age and infirmity, was unable to continue his labours. Mr. Vaughan, the proprietor of Crooked Spring and Flamstead, anxious to carry on what had been commenced, applied to the Baptist Missionary Society for a person to reside on his estates, who could instruct the negroes, and also engage in some secular employment. A suitable individual was found, in the person of Mr. Henry Tripp, a carpenter, who was connected with the church in East Queen-street, Kingston, and proceeded, under the sanction of the Society, to this station, where he laboured successfully till the death of Mrs. Tripp; which induced him, on account of his family, to return to England.

Mr. Burchell was ordained as a missionary in 1823, landed at Montego Bay in January, 1824, and in the same month met the church and congregation, and commenced his labours by preaching from Luke ii. 10, "Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy." Mr. Burchell commenced preaching also at Montego Bay, where he soon formed a church. In 1826, through ill health, he was obliged to take a voyage to England. In the mean time the Society sent out Mr. James Mann, who supplied his place during his absence, and co-operated with him after his return in introducing the Gospel to other places, and supplying the many who were hungering and thirsting after the means of grace.

In consequence of the many calls for further assistance, Mr. Cantlow arrived in the island in December, 1829. He took charge of the Crooked Spring church, and laboured with much acceptance, until he was obliged to leave the island in 1831, in consequence of ill health. During his ministry at Crooked Spring, the foundation-stones of Salter's Hill chapel and dwelling-house were laid. The chapel was opened on the 27th day of December, 1831, by the Rev. Messrs. Knibb, Whitehorne, Gardner, and Abbott. A large congregation assembled,

and Mr. Gardner preached a sermon appropriate to the occasion from the words, "And there they preached the Gospel." This is the only sermon that ever was preached in that chapel. Disturbances breaking out among the negro population, served as a pretext to the enemies of religion to persecute the missionaries, and destroy their places of worship. This new chapel was destroyed by fire in the early part of January, 1832, by a party of the St. James's militia, under the command of the captain stationed at Latium.

In consequence of the return to England of Mr. Cantlow, as already mentioned, in 1831, the church was left destitute of a pastor, and the Committee sent Mr. Dendy to fill up the vacancy. He embarked from England in November, 1831, with Mr. Burchell and family, who were then returning to Jamaica. On their arrival the district was found in a state of alarm and confusion, and the station to which Mr. D. was appointed deprived of both a chapel and dwelling-house. A continued series of persecutions, as well as time consumed in endeavouring to obtain redress for loss sustained in the destruction of Mission property, and the defenceless state of the missionaries, rendered it utterly impossible to commence missionary labour at this place until the early part of the year 1835. Mr. Dendy, therefore, in the interval, was engaged in preaching in various parts of the island, namely, Port Royal, Annatto Bay, and Buff Bay, in St. George's; afterwards at Falmouth, Rio Bueno, and Stewart Town, in Trelawney; assisting, also, at Montego Bay and Lucca.

The arrival of Messrs. Dexter and Hutchins, as well as the return of Messrs. Burchell and Knibb, who took charge of their respective churches, left Mr. Dendy at liberty to supply those to whom he was originally sent.

The church, during the absence of the means of grace among themselves, attended, as far as they could, at Montego Bay, a distance of eight miles, or met in the open air, under the shade of trees, at Greenwich Hill, a distance of six miles, at which place Divine service was occasionally held.

On the 31st day of January, 1835, a meeting of the church having previously been held, Mr. Dendy was unanimously chosen pastor; and, on the 20th day of February the ordinance of the

Lord's supper was administered to as many of the church as could conveniently be present at Montego Bay.

The station was still beset with great difficulties. There was no place near the destroyed chapel in which the people could meet for worship, or any place in which they could obtain shelter from rain. Towards the re-erection of the Mission premises only 1000*l.* currency (600*l.* sterling) was in hand; however, a service was held, preparatory to the commencement of building the premises, on the 4th day of April; a rough-boarded temporary place was made for the minister to sleep in; and a shed made, of the branches of trees, for the congregation when meeting for Divine worship.

The roof, windows, and doors of the chapel being complete, on the 1st of April, 1836, it was opened for service, Mr. Burchell preaching within the walls, and Mr. Knibb without, the congregations amounting to about 5000 persons.

The importance of a dwelling-house for the minister, and a school-room for the instruction of the young, induced the church and congregation to resolve to erect a comfortable residence, and to build a spacious school-room. The foundation-stone of the latter-place, to measure 58 by 29 feet, was laid on the 8th day of October, 1836; and it was completed, and publicly opened on the 11th day of May, 1838.

Notwithstanding the formidable expenses incurred in these erections, the congregation continued so much to increase, that, although a considerable number of members were dismissed in the early part of Mr. Dendy's ministry, to form a new church and station, now known by the name of Beththephil, it was determined to erect galleries, that should hold about 500 people and 400 children. This determination was met with cheerfulness by the congregation, who contributed liberally, at the commencement of the undertaking, and gave further proofs of the hearty co-operation in this work at the time the galleries were opened by Mr. Oughton, in the month of January of the present year (1839.)

In consequence of the numerous engagements of their minister, the church was anxious to secure the assistance of a person as schoolmaster, who would also be willing to undertake Sabbath-day services, as he might be required, at

Salter's Hill, Beththephil, Maldon, or St. Elizabeth's; accordingly an application was made to England, and a suitable person was found in Mr. T. B. Pickton, of Hastings, Sussex, who, with his wife, arrived in the island in the early part of 1838. Being acceptable to the people, he was publicly recognised as a regular ordained minister, in the month of January, 1839, when the Rev. J. Tinson gave the charge; the Rev. W. Knibb took the introductory service, and asked the usual questions; and the Rev. T. Burchell prayed the ordination prayer. The Rev. Messrs. Abbott, Hutchins, Clark, Dexter, and Ward, also assisted on this interesting occasion.

The example of this Christian church is worthy the imitation of churches in Great Britain. If the magnitude of their undertakings be compared with the smallness of their means, it must be acknowledged that they have done nobly. They have now erected a chapel with galleries, capable of seating 2000 persons, including children; a school-room, for a day and Sunday-school, which will accommodate from 350 to 400 Sunday-school children; a dwelling-house, 40 by 26 feet, for the minister; and are now erecting a house for the residence of the assistant minister and schoolmaster. The only assistance for these objects received from home is the 1000*l.* currency mentioned in the former part of this statement.

The assistant minister and schoolmaster is entirely supported by the congregation, excepting such assistance as has been given by the Jamaica Education Society, and a few other donations from other sources, towards the support of the school department.

If it be asked, How is all this accomplished? the reply is, that every member and inquirer, who is able, contributes towards the object; and although much is not given at a time, the frequency of their subscriptions, together with occasional donations for special objects, amounts to a considerable sum. If members of all Christian churches in Great Britain contributed in the same proportion, ten times the efforts made at present for the extension of the Gospel might be effected.

It perhaps may be considered interesting to state the progress of the church since 1835, the period when the present minister took charge of the station: it is as under:—

	Baptized.	Received.	Restored.	Died.	Dismissed.	Excluded.	Total Members.	Inquirers.	Marriages.
31st Dec. 1835	122	8	...	17	68	...	679	610	136
— 1836	174	9	10	18	6	9	839	990	166
— 1837	211	4	5	12	34	25	983	887	69
— 1838	150	13	20	28	2	29	1112	960	80

The number of day-scholars reported on the 31st of December, 1838, was 143; the number of Sunday-scholars, 396.

## SAVANNA-LA-MAR.

## DESTRUCTION OF THE CHAPEL BY FIRE.

We have just received a letter from our friend Mr. Burchell, written at Savanna-la-Mar, which conveys the intelligence of a calamity which has plunged Mr. Hutchins and his affectionate flock in the greatest distress. On the night of Nov. 23rd, a store, or warehouse, in the same street as our chapel, but at the distance of 200 yards from it, took fire; and, owing to the combustible nature of the buildings, and a high wind at the time, the conflagration extended, till the chapel, newly built at the cost of nearly 4000*l.* currency, was totally destroyed, together with other property to a large amount. From subsequent information, we learn that this destruction was the work of an individual, who set fire to his own premises with a fraudulent design. He has since been taken into custody.

We insert the letter of Mr. Burchell, persuaded it will not fail to excite the liveliest sympathy of our readers on behalf of our afflicted friends. We trust, also, that many will be disposed to assist, by contributions, towards rebuilding the house of God. The funds of the Society are so much more than exhausted, that no aid can possibly be rendered from that quarter; but donations from any Christian friends who might feel it in their hearts to present them, will be very gratefully received.

Mr. Burchell writes thus:—

My dear Sir,—You will, I have no doubt, be surprised to receive a letter from me from this place; but our poor brother Hutchins is again involved in the greatest distress. Twelve months ago this very week, I came hither to commit to the grave the remains of his dearest earthly friend,—a season of mourning and sorrow which is now vividly before my mind. Little did I expect to be called to spend the first anniversary of that mournful event with him and his poor people, in sympathy, under another trial, of a most painful and distressing nature. The house of God which he and his people had erected, under many, very many difficulties, and which was just paid for, by their united and strenuous efforts, in August last, is now a ruin—a melancholy ruin: nothing but the walls are left; and they, probably, will have to be taken down in part, if not to the foundation. You may imagine their deep distress. “They are fed with the bread of tears, and they have tears given them to drink in great measure.” Their harps are again hung upon the willow, and they are called to mourn at the remembrance of their much-loved Zion—“it is burnt with fire;” the scene is desolation, and what remains is a ruin.

On the evening of Saturday last, between nine and ten o'clock (brother Hutchins was at Fuller's Field,) a fire broke out in a store, 200 yards from the chapel premises. The wind, at the time, was blowing a heavy gale from the north, thus endangering the whole of the lower part of the town. The fire, it appears, had been

burning for a considerable time within the store, so that, in the course of a few minutes after it broke out, the whole house was enveloped in flames. Through the violence of the wind, the flames were so ungovernable that no one could get near, so as to subdue their fury by pouring in water by buckets, and there was no fire-engine to be had: the consequence was, the adjoining house was kindled, and, in ten minutes, equally wrapped in flames. House after house took fire, and the scene is described as awfully terrific. Nothing could be done to obstruct the progress of the destructive element. The continued violence of the gale, and the awful ascendancy the flames had acquired, appeared to bid defiance to human effort, whilst they raged with terrific fury, spreading abroad desolation and ruin.

As most of the houses are framed with timber, and boarded, and as all the roofs are shingled, all the inhabitants expected that the whole street, extending about half a mile, would become a prey to the desolating elements. At length, in about two hours from the breaking out of the fire, a shingle was blown upon the chapel roof, the shingles of which caught, and in a few minutes presented an awful blaze. The anxiety and terror of the inhabitants were now beyond description, as the chapel, being built of brick, appeared the only defence to the whole town; and when the roof fell in, I understand that there was one general feeling and expression of thanksgiving to God. The flames were pent up within its walls, the power of the gale

upon them was consequently restricted, and hope was inspired: nor was this hope disappointed; and the preservation of the most important part of the town is attributable to this building, together with the efforts of the people. We do rejoice that the house of God, whilst it has proved a blessing to many immortal souls, has been a blessing to the community in this respect, preventing such extensive and ruinous desolation.

The loss occasioned by the fire is estimated at full 50,000*l.*, and all in the space of four hours. A subscription is set on foot for the sufferers in the town and parish, which amount will be divided in proportion to the respective losses; so that should one or two thousand pounds be raised, the church would scarcely receive 100*l.*

I have stated that the church had, by united and strenuous efforts, just paid off their debt. They were contemplating building a school: indeed, they were making preparations for the same; and were anticipating, at the coming Christmas, much enjoyment in the ceremony of laying the corner-stone; however, their hopes are all blasted, and their joy is turned into mourning.

Brother Hutchins and his poor people are thus left perfectly destitute. A more devoted and laborious missionary than brother Hutchins there is not among us, nor one upon whose labours and ministry God has put higher honour. He has been signally favoured of the Lord, and I am confident he will not now be forsaken of Him. I am persuaded, also, that the Committee and the Christian public will not leave him to sink in his embarrassments: surely an appeal to the Christian public cannot be in vain. I trust that in this country all his brethren will come forward to his help; but what will this be? so many of them are still involved in building chapels and schools, or in debt for those

they have built. His own people will do what they can; but he wants immediate assistance, in order to commence immediate operations. He must rebuild, and must begin forthwith, if he can borrow but 500*l.* to help him, till he can obtain assistance from home. I see his embarrassments and the affliction of his people: let me, therefore, my dear sir, urge you to bring the subject, without delay, before the Committee; and I do sincerely trust that they and you will address the most earnest appeal to the Christian public for liberal and immediate assistance.

Perhaps it is proper to add, that the people raised among themselves about 3000*l.* currency towards the chapel, though they were a small number when brother Hutchins came among them, and even now they are not numerous, though increasing, so as to render it necessary to build a larger chapel than the one now in ruins. The accommodation it afforded had become very inadequate to the increasing attendance. The chapel was very substantial and very plain: there was not a shilling spent upon it that could be avoided: indeed, brother Hutchins would not go to the expense of having a pulpit until the debt was paid; and as they were contemplating an enlargement, nothing was done in this respect.

In consequence of the destruction of the chapel, the building of the school-room cannot be proceeded with, unless assistance can be obtained for this purpose. There are many friends in England who hesitate to subscribe for rebuilding a chapel, who would not towards the erection of a school-room; and assistance for this object will be most important for the people.

I am, my dear Sir,

Yours very respectfully,

THOMAS BURCHELL.

## LUCEA AND GREEN ISLAND.

### INTERESTING INTELLIGENCE FROM MR. FRANCIES.

UNDER date of the 1st of November our young brother, Mr. Francies, writes as follows from this station; which, as our readers will remember, became vacant by the removal of Mr. Oughton to Kingston. The manner in which the word has been received at Lucea and Green Island is highly encouraging; and none can wonder that Mr. Francies should follow up the account he has given by a most earnest appeal to the Committee for aid in building a chapel. Want of room prevents our transferring this appeal to our own pages; and we are pained to add, that absolute want of means will prevent any grant to this most desirable object from the Mission funds: should, however, any friends feel it in their hearts to help this interesting case, their contributions for that purpose will be gladly and thankfully received.

For some time after our reaching this place, we had but little of encouragement: the people were broken-hearted with disappointment, and seemed as though they could never believe another minister would remain steady with them. They have been sadly neglected, and it was

hard work for them to place much confidence; however, we were enabled, by the grace of God, to persevere, and we are now enjoying the fruit of our perseverance. We have now much joy and delight in our work, inasmuch that we would not change our post on any account.

Last Sabbath-day was a glorious day at Lucea. By moon-light, in the morning, not less than 2000 persons assembled at the sea-shore, to witness the baptism of 214 persons, many of whom are promising young people; and, on the approaching Sabbath I shall (D. V.) baptize about 100. "This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes."

To attempt a description of last Sabbath would be impossible for, whatever language I might make use of, it would fail to convey any just idea of it. After the baptizing we returned to our house. At six we held a prayer-meeting, in which the Spirit of the Lord seemed poured out above measure; and the services throughout the whole day were of the most interesting character; but upon this I must forbear.

You are aware that at Lucea we have no chapel to meet in, the bottom part of our dwelling-house, which is only 35 feet by 42, being the only place appropriated to this purpose. It has long been far too small for the congregation, and the people have long been promised a chapel. Of this I did not think much when I first came, but now I am compelled not only to think but to act. A few weeks ago it was found

expedient to put up a temporary shed, for the accommodation of the increasing congregation, which will hold 300 or 400 persons. This, however, was no sooner up than it was crowded to excess; and now not a Sabbath passes but hundreds are found returning crying, because they cannot get near hearing room: and I have them following me along the side of the house as I go to the pulpit, with their tears running down their cheeks, begging and praying, sometimes in the most powerful manner, to give them a place to hear about Jesus. Many of these have never heard the Gospel more than once. There are numbers now coming from the estates, who have, as it respects their souls, been living like brutes; but, having been once fed, they are hungry and thirsty, and they come crying for food: is it not hard that we should have the food, and not have room enough to contain the guests? We feel that they must not be left to perish; and, in order to help them, I visit the estates, and hold evening services on them; and no sooner is it noised that I am at the large house on an estate, than numbers are flocking,—yea, on large estates, hundreds are assembled in a few minutes.

Our classes are all increasing: our church, also, is rapidly advancing. I suppose I have now not less than 150 persons waiting for examination, and who will, most probably, be baptized at Christmas.

## C A L C U T T A.

### LETTERS FROM THE REV. MESSRS. W. H. PEARCE AND J. WENGER, WITH ACCOUNT OF THE VOYAGE.

SINCE our last we have been favoured with letters from our brethren, who sailed in the *Plantagenet*, and whose arrival was mentioned in our last *HERALD*.

Under date of the 11th of October Mr. W. H. Pearce writes as follows to the Secretary:—

My dear Friend and Brother,—In expectation of meeting, in the course of our voyage, with one or more vessels proceeding to Europe, and of being able, by their means, to send letters to our English friends, I had prepared for you a long communication, containing particulars of our pleasant and rapid passage on board the *Plantagenet*. No opportunity of the kind occurring, however, and all further details on this subject being rendered unnecessary by the accompanying letter, prepared, at our request, by dear brother Wenger, I hasten to refer to some other particulars which appear to demand attention.

Before proceeding further, however, I would mention, that, in consequence of our hurried departure from England, I was quite unable to answer many letters which arrived at the time

of our embarkation; I should otherwise certainly have written to acknowledge the numerous expressions of Christian affection, and generous concern for our usefulness, which they contained or accompanied. Will you kindly permit this apology to appear in the *HERALD*, that the friends referred to may perceive that we are not insensible to their kindness, which we have hitherto failed to acknowledge? In a few weeks I shall hope to address them individually.

Will you also have the kindness, through your monthly publication, to inform the benevolent ladies at Aberdeen, Alcester, Battersea, Biggleswade, Birmingham, Bramley in Yorkshire, Bradford in Wiltshire, Brighton, Cambridge, Cheltenham, Crayford,

Dunstable, Fenny Stratford, Great Driffeld, Hitchin, Hooknorton, Kettering, Leeds, Harvey-lane, Leicester; Devonshire-square, Salter's Hall, and Spencer-place, London; Oxford, Portsea, and Portsmouth; Ripon, Shortwood, Tewkesbury, and Trowbridge, that their respective contributions of useful and fancy articles were duly received; and, with the exception of two or three packages, which will follow us by the first vessel, have accompanied us on board the *Plantagenet*. As soon as they are disposed of in India, the generous donors may depend on receiving further particulars of the receipts from their contributions, and of the progress of native female education, which they are designed to promote; meanwhile, they will kindly accept our best thanks for their generous and most welcome aid.

We are also greatly indebted to the Rev. Mr. Smith, of Astwood, for his acceptable present of needles; to the "little girl with one hand only," for the pretty piece of work which, even under such circumstances, her persevering benevolence had enabled her to complete; and to some other friends, whose names I have not now the opportunity of recording.

You will imagine the eager anxiety with which, before entering the *Hughly*, we welcomed the pilot on board, and with what pleasure I heard from him that, to the best of his knowledge, no missionary or minister had died since Mr. Penney, whom he knew. Great was our delight to find this intelligence confirmed by welcome letters from brethren Yates and Thomas, which reached us at the mouth of the river; and by verbal communications with brethren Ellis and Parsons, who kindly met us before we reached Calcutta. We rejoiced to find that the lives of all the European missionaries in the city, whether of our own or of other Societies, had been mercifully spared; and that, with the exception of my amiable young friend, Ram Krishna, who died triumphantly in Jesus a few months ago, our native labourers were also all preserved in life, and appeared increasingly promising, as it regarded their future labours. Permitted, at the close of a most harmonious and prosperous voyage, to see all our dear associates land on missionary ground in good health, and to hear of the preservation in life of so many we left behind; informed of the extended usefulness of our beloved brethren and friends of all denominations, and heartily welcomed by

them to a share in their labours and success, my dear wife and myself felt that the day of our second landing in Calcutta was one long to be remembered by us with gratitude and joy.

A few days after our arrival a meeting of the brethren was held, in order to assign to each, with reference to his peculiar qualification and views of duty, some particular sphere of useful labour. The meeting was a very pleasant one, distinguished alike by pious and friendly feeling. I would gladly send you the result; but some of the arrangements are contingent on doubtful circumstances, and it will therefore be better to await the next despatch. I may add, however, that after authorising brother Parsons to proceed to Monghyr, as originally proposed by the Committee, to occupy the place of brother Leslie, who has at last agreed to try the effect of a voyage to Europe, we felt ourselves quite unable, with reference to the extended and promising spheres of labour in and around this vast city, to spare any other than brother Phillips for the Upper Provinces. What station in that part of India, among the many which solicit our attention, shall be finally occupied, will be determined as soon as we know the views of our brethren in Hindoostan.

This circumstance will tend, I doubt not, to satisfy the Committee that more missionaries are needed, and will lead them to send out, with as little delay as the procuring of suitable agents will permit, the other brethren whom they are pledged, in consequence of the generous contributions of our friends, to supply for this vast country.

I am thankful to inform you, that from all I have yet had an opportunity of noticing since my return, I am led to conclude that, in almost every department of labour, there has been a very perceptible advance; much to evidence, not only that the agents of the Society have been active and persevering in their efforts, but that the blessing of God has evidently attended them. May the same blessing accompany the exertions of those who are now graciously permitted to unite in their exertions!

We rejoice to find, by your last letter overland, which reached us two days ago, that the American and Foreign Bible Society have again sent you a noble donation in aid of translations. The amount is urgently required, and will, I am persuaded, be usefully expended.

We add the letter referred to from our brother Wenger:—

*Ship Plantagenet, off Saugor Island,  
Sept. 24, 1839.*

Dear Sir, — Through the kindness of our heavenly Father, our voyage is already drawing to a close, although three months have hardly elapsed since we took the last glimpse of the British coast. You will be pleased to hear

both that our progress has been so rapid, and that we are all in tolerably good health.

1. We experienced more contrary wind in the Channel than we had to contend with ever after. We were not fairly out of land till June 26th. It was tantalizing to those of us who had friends at Plymouth, to discern Eddy-stone light-house for a whole day together, and

yet to be separated from those whom they loved just as effectually as if a distance of a thousand miles had intervened. But, from the day just mentioned till past the Cape Verd Islands we had a constant succession of favourable breezes and fine weather. Then we were detained four or five days by calms and contrary winds, but we finally crossed the line on the 25th of July. Amusing accounts of the ludicrous ceremony which took place on that day will probably be written by some of us to their private friends, but it would be absolute waste of time to make an attempt at describing it here.

A few days afterwards (July 29th) we were admonished of the frailty of human life by the sudden death of one of the soldiers, who, whilst ascending from the steerage, fell off the ladder into the hold, which had been opened for the sake of getting provisions, and expired two or three minutes afterwards, having broken his neck in the fall.

We crossed the line again on the 15th of September, having scarcely had an hour's foul wind, and only two days' calm. Since then our progress has been somewhat less rapid. Early on the 22nd we once more saw land, a pleasure which we had not enjoyed since we had passed Madeira. The pagoda of Juggernaut was the first object which presented itself to our view. To see this gigantic temple of the cruel idol as soon as we could discern the shore of India, and to see it on the morning of the Lord's day, could not fail to produce powerful and solemn emotions in our hearts, and to strengthen the desire that we might arrive in India in the fulness of the blessing of the Gospel of Christ.

2. Our voyage could hardly have been so rapid, had we not generally had boisterous weather. Indeed, after the beginning of August, we had a heavy gale regularly once a week, which would begin at three or four in the morning, and continue all day. We experience that they "that go down to the sea in ships, that do business in great waters, these see the works of the Lord, and his wonders in the deep." The tempestuous weather was as the solemn voice of the Lord, calling upon us to watch and be ready; but at the same time it reminded us that, to the Christian, death ought always to appear as the gate through which he enters heaven, and obtains admittance to the mansions which Christ has gone before to prepare for him.

The physical effect of the most violent one of these gales upon the delicate frame of Mrs. Phillips was very painful: she was obliged to keep her bed for three weeks; but since the end of August she has gradually been recovering her strength, and will probably enjoy her usual good health when the excessive heat abates, and when she finds herself once more on dry land.

Mrs. Morgan suffered much from the rough weather in the British Channel: indeed, during the first eight or ten days she was dangerously ill, but the subsequent gales she bore pretty well.

It is hardly necessary to add, that whenever the weather was rough, or cold, or wet, the effects of it were more or less felt by all. Mr. Pearce's health seems to have been considerably improved by the voyage, especially since we emerged from the cold regions to the south of the Cape.

3. The violence of the winds was not so favourable to our occupations as it was to our progress: we had laid down plans of study and usefulness, but we could do much less than we anticipated. We all, however, pursued the study of the Hindoostanee or the Bengalee language with a certain degree of regularity and success. One of our fellow-passengers, G. Morris, esq., of the Company's civil service, very materially assisted some of us in the acquisition of the former, while the rest gave their attention to Bengalee; but many were the mornings on which the one or the other of us felt hardly able to read an English book, much less to study an Indian language.

By a mutual agreement between Mr. Innes, of the Church Missionary Society, and ourselves, it was settled that he should take charge of the soldiers,—at least of those among them who were professedly Protestants, for there were about forty Roman Catholics,—whilst we would endeavour to do something for the sailors; we found them, however, so constantly employed, and ourselves so sadly affected by the motion and the weather, that, after repeated attempts had been made to carry into execution a plan which had been laid down for instructing them, we were compelled to give up the idea of attending to them regularly: they were, however, constantly supplied with a number of books, which many of them seemed to value, and to read with attention.

One man, the captain's cook, was taken ill in the second or third week. He lingered on till the end of August, and was regularly visited; but the result of the instructions and exhortations which he received will only be known to us on the day when all secrets shall be made manifest.

4. Our comforts were as numerous as they well could be on board a ship. Regularity, order, and discipline uniformly prevailed; harmony and good feeling reigned among the passengers; and our intercourse with the officers of the ship was rendered very pleasant by their courtesy and kindness. Capt. Domett evidently was anxious to make us as happy as he could. With our brethren of the Church Missionary Society we felt united by the bond of brotherly love, whilst among ourselves mutual esteem and affection seemed to increase day by day. But the regular recurrence of devotional exercises was by us all considered as one of the very greatest privileges we enjoyed. After breakfast, and after tea, all those of us who were well enough assembled in Mr. Pearce's cabin for worship. Our friends of the Church Missionary Society constantly joined us. Mr. Innes took his turn in



conducting *family* worship, as we used to call it; and the two German brethren were only prevented from doing the same by their reluctance to pray in a language which they could not use so readily as seemed desirable.

On the Lord's-day morning Mr. Innes always read the church service, after which he preached one Sunday, and two of us on the two succeeding Sundays. The evening service was left entirely to our direction. Only four times the weather allowed the service to take place on the quarter-deck, where the soldiers and sailors could attend: every other time we assembled in the cuddy [the dining-room.] A lecture was delivered every Wednesday evening in Mr. Pearce's cabin; and Monday evening, when the weather permitted a protracted service, was devoted to a prayer-meeting. Mr. Morris and his daughter attended quite regularly on all these various occasions. Mr. Morris likewise took the Lord's supper with us. In Mrs. Tilley, the wife of one of the sergeants, we found a sister, she being a member of the church at Agra. Occasionally two or three of the other passengers attended our daily devotional exercises, but none of them so regularly as we could have wished.

Such, dear sir, is a sketch of our voyage. Those numerous friends who commended us to

the protecting kindness of our heavenly Father, will rejoice to find that their intercession was so graciously answered by him, and feel encouraged to persevere in praying for the coming of the kingdom of Christ.

The thought that we are so near the scene of our future labours fills our hearts with mingled feelings of expectation and humiliation; for "who is sufficient for these things?" But we trust in him whose grace is sufficient for us; and we pray that we may be more and more filled with that Spirit, who taught the apostle to say, "None of these things move me; neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the Gospel of the grace of God."

All the brethren and sisters unite with me in presenting their kind regards to yourself and Mr. Evans, and many other esteemed friends, for whose names there is not sufficient room here. Please to remember me kindly to Mrs. Dyer, and the friends at Camberwell; and believe me ever to be,

Dear Sir,

Yours affectionately,

J. WENGER.

#### ACCOUNT OF THE LIFE AND DEATH OF THE REV. JAMES PENNEY.

(Concluded from p. 117.)

In his character as a Christian were displayed sincerity and love, zeal and consistency. He had a deep-rooted aversion to all hypocrisy, and a perfect hatred of it in matters of religion. This impression was so strong that it saved him from many of those unhappy feelings which he would otherwise have experienced from the knowledge he had of the depravity of human nature. His heart did not condemn him, and therefore he had confidence toward God. He was a lover of all good men, and one who delighted in the triumphs of redeeming grace, by whomsoever they might be obtained. He was forward in every good word and work to the extent of his power; and the good he did in one place was not marred by the evil he did in another. He was not the saint abroad, and a tyrant at home; but a regular, steady light, reflecting, as a star of the first magnitude, the lustre of Divine truth on all around him.

His efforts as a preacher of the Gospel were only occasional, till he lately took the charge of the Bethel. In all his discourses simplicity and order were observable. There was often much point in his observations, which told remarkably well on the honest character of the sailor, and which invariably secured the attention. He was always an acceptable preacher; and had his education and practice been made to bear directly upon this work, there is no doubt he would have

been one of the first order. But it was as a teacher of youth that he was most distinguished: in this capacity he was admired and loved by all who came under his instructions. He formed a high estimate of the importance of his work, and this is always essential to inspire the mind with ardour and perseverance in a difficult undertaking. The light in which he viewed it may be seen in the following extract made from one of his sermons:—

"Another legitimate part of the work of the Lord is the instruction of children. We will not call it, as some do, a secondary consideration, but a primary one, because the work of the Lord cannot prosper without it, any more than a fire can be kept up without fuel. Educating the rising generation, training them in the fear of the Lord, guiding them in the paths of virtue and piety, is indeed the work of the Lord. Nothing bids fairer for the future welfare of the church, than the attempt every where made to impart to children moral and religious instruction. It will not only better the moral condition, but promises to perpetuate to future ages the name of our adorable Redeemer. It will prove a blessing to millions unborn when our bones are mouldering in the grave, and when our spirits are with God. David says, in the language of prophecy, 'Thou shalt arise, and have mercy on Zion, for the time, yea, the

set time to favour her is come; for thy servants take pleasure in her stones, and favour the dust thereof.' Children are these stones, and his servants take pleasure in them when they adopt means to instruct them in the way of the Lord. This is the first process by which they are shaped and prepared for a place in that building, which shall be to the praise and honour of our Redeemer, who is the chief corner-stone. By these means we shall erect a superstructure more magnificent and beneficial than the temple of Solomon. No part of the work of the Lord is more interesting and encouraging, for we have seldom to say, 'Unto whom is the arm of the Lord revealed?' The toils and labours of this department meet with a rich reward: the tender plants under our fostering care grow up under our eye; they bud, they take root, they blossom, and bear fruit. What has proved more beneficial than Sunday-schools? How many plants have they introduced to the church, to the ministry, and to the missionary field! One of the most useful and zealous missionaries now in the field with us once related the following circumstance in his life:—'When a youth, as I was wandering about the city in which I lived on a Lord's day, heedless and careless, in passing down one of the streets, I was arrested by the sound of singing. I went to the door to listen, and, while riveted to the place with attention, one of the teachers entering, laid hold of me, and thrust me into the room. I was soon noticed by the other teachers, and placed in a class. It pleased the Lord to bless the instruction: I joined the church; the church called me to the ministry; and when in the ministry my soul yearned for the salvation of the heathen. The simple circumstance of thrusting me into the school was the turning point in my life; and although I could never after recognize the person, yet, whoever he was, he was to me an angel of light.'

"This is not a solitary instance; many more are on record. The Methodists, a numerous and useful body of Christians, have acknowledged that nothing has proved more beneficial to their denomination than their schools for the sons of ministers: it has furnished them with efficient members, faithful ministers, and zealous missionaries.

"Our brethren at Ceylon have seen the goodness of the Lord in this department of labour. One of the most useful men in this country, though but little known, except to our respected East Indian friends, was a Mr. Burney. To say that he was the means of the conversion of a hundred persons would be saying too little. If the Christian churches in this country expect to vie with those in Europe and America, more must be done in training up our youth, and instructing them in the truths of the Gospel, that the man of God may be 'thoroughly furnished for every good work,' that there may be a seed, a generation to serve the Lord, and that the work of the Lord may appear unto his

servants, and his glory unto their children. All, then, who are engaged in preaching the Gospel, and instructing the rising generation, are engaged in the work of the Lord."

The secret of our friend's success in teaching appears to have lain in the rare union he exhibited of authority and kindness. He let his pupils know that he was their master, and he made them to know equally well that he was their friend. By his authority they were led to try to do right; and by his kindness they were made afraid to do wrong. It is nothing but the combination of these qualities, with competent knowledge, that can make a successful teacher. All these our friend possessed, and hence the high esteem he justly secured among all his pupils, and the satisfactory proof they have given of it since his removal.

Beside his missionary brethren, and the immediate circle of his friends, the following institutions or bodies will severely feel his loss:—The Benevolent Institution, of which he was so many years the teacher; the Bethel, which he had undertaken to supply on the Sabbath; the Baptist Auxiliary Missionary Society, of which he was the active secretary; the church in Circular Road, of which he was a worthy deacon; the Ladies' Society for Female Education, of which he was the president; and the Juvenile Society, of which he was always the zealous friend.

For a man that was living to Christ in so many ways to be removed, though it may be to his eternal gain, and to the happiness of the church above, is a great affliction to the church on earth. When he preached in this place on the first day of the new year, little did we imagine that the light which was burning and shining in the midst of us, was so soon to be extinguished. But the deed is done; and since He who has done it loves his own cause better than we do, and is able to raise up other instruments to accomplish his purposes, we bow with submission to his holy will, and to the inscrutable dealings of his all-wise providence, and say, "The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away, and blessed be the name of the Lord."

The removal of our friend was very sudden. The disease by which he was removed was the spasmodic cholera, which is very rapid and painful in its progress. Elijah, conveyed to glory in a chariot of fire, scarcely disappeared more suddenly, or entered more quickly into his rest. The day in which the cold hand of death was laid upon him was his birth-day; and it was a very singular coincidence of events, that his birth, his arrival in India, and his death should all have taken place on the same month, and on the same day of the month. On that day I was invited to dine with him. I met him a little after four in the afternoon, in good spirits apparently, though I afterwards learned he was suffering at the time, and vainly wished him many happy returns of the day,—never for a moment thinking that was to be the last birth-day he

would keep, and much less fancying that it was to be the last day of his life.

While sitting at the table I observed he partook of no food, and asked the cause. He replied he did not feel well, and shortly afterwards retired from the table. Mrs. Penney first went to see what was the matter, and came and asked me to see him. From the coldness of his hands and head he appeared to me like one death-struck. Medical aid was immediately called in, and every means used to check the disease, and produce a re-action in the system, but all without the desired effect. The sickness and some other symptoms of the disease were arrested, but the cause still continued to work internally; and under it our friend was in great pain, and exceedingly restless through the night, and at eight o'clock in the morning expired.

The first remark that he made to me, after he lay down on the couch, was, "I shall not go down any more." This alarmed me at first, though I afterwards found, by his repeating it, that he meant only to say, he felt too prostrate to go out again that night. Being in great pain he could speak only at intervals. While under paroxysms of pain, he said several times, "It's hard work." Once he said, "Well, there is a country where there is no pain, for there will be no sin there." As the disorder increased, I asked him if he thought he was going. He replied, "Yes, I suppose I am; it is rather unex-

pected, but it is of no consequence, for I suppose death always comes unexpected at last." I asked him at another time how he felt in the prospect. He answered, "I am not afraid to die; I have no elevated joys in the prospect, but I have a firm hold on Him who is able to save;" evidently alluding to the passage, "I know in whom I have believed," &c. I inquired of him again, whether he found the promise true, and the grace of Christ sufficient. He said, "Yes, sufficient to prevent all murmuring. Sinner as I am, what have I but that grace to trust to? By that I am what I am."

To the doctor, early in the morning, he observed, as he had done to me, that he was not afraid of death. To one who came to see him he said, "So you have come to see how I behave myself at last." To another he said, "All is well—all is well."

Perceiving that life was drawing rapidly to a close, I asked him once more if he had any thing he wished to communicate before he left us. He replied, "Take care of my wife and children: I commit them to God. Let brother Ellis take charge of my papers in the tin box. To Lucy [his wife] I leave what I have. That is all; and so my affairs are soon settled." After this he continued gradually to sink away, till at length he expired in peace, without a sigh or tear, or groan. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord."

## Home Proceedings.

### DEPUTATION TO SIR LIONEL SMITH.

ON Friday, December 20th, a Deputation from the Committee waited, by appointment, on his Excellency, Sir Lionel Smith, G.C.B., the late Governor of Jamaica, at his residence in Eaton-place, Belgrave-square. The Deputation was received by Sir Lionel with the utmost courtesy; and the high testimony borne, in conversation, to the valuable services rendered to the colony by our missionaries, and to the exemplary conduct of the negroes under their instruction, was very gratifying.

We subjoin a copy of the Address read by the Secretary of the Society, and of the Reply received from Sir Lionel a few days after the interview.

#### TO SIR LIONEL SMITH, G.C.B., &c. &c. &c., LATE GOVERNOR OF JAMAICA.

WE wait upon you, this morning, Sir Lionel, as a Deputation from the Committee of the Baptist Missionary Society. We are gratified with an opportunity of personally offering our respectful congratulations on the return of your Excellency to your native land, and our warm and grateful acknowledgments of the firm and efficient protection you have uniformly extended toward our missionaries in Jamaica.

The post which your Excellency was chosen to fill was, from the circumstances of the period, peculiarly arduous. Under your government a very important and momentous change in the social condition of the labouring class in the principal slave colony of Great Britain, had to be conducted to a successful issue. Many serious difficulties stood in the way, arising, however, not from the character and dispositions of

the many, but the supposed interests of the few. Much depended on the wisdom, firmness, and moderation of the individual who, at such a crisis, acted as the representative of our gracious Sovereign; and, as friends of the negro, we rejoice, and beg to felicitate your Excellency that a Governor was found equal to the occasion. That a small class in the island, chiefly, we apprehend, among those least interested in its permanent prosperity, should have opposed, thwarted, and misrepresented your measures, was no more than might have been expected. An ample compensation has, however, been awarded to your Excellency in the warm and lively gratitude of an emancipated peasantry, who have proved themselves every way worthy of the boon conferred upon them. By them, and by their posterity, the name of Sir Lionel Smith will be repeated, with affectionate veneration, for many, many years to come.

We cordially thank your Excellency for the promptitude you have ever shown to afford protection to our faithful and devoted missionaries, than whom, we are convinced, Jamaica contains no men more decidedly the friends of peace, industry, and good order; and for the countenance given to their attempts to shield the labouring class from oppression, and to train them up as virtuous and enlightened citizens. To the unexceptionable conduct of our brethren, and the utter falsehood of the calumnies which

have been so industriously circulated against them, we feel assured your Excellency, on all proper occasions, will be ready to bear testimony. And we trust that, in the honourable gentleman who has succeeded your Excellency in the responsible office from which you have retired, will be found a Governor possessing, like your Excellency, the sagacity to discern merit, even though covered with reproach and calumny, and the resolution firmly, calmly, and impartially to sustain it.

We learn that the just favour of our gracious Sovereign has confided to your Excellency the care of another colony in the distant East, circumstanced, in some respects, like that from which you have lately retired. Permit us to assure you, Sir Lionel, that our earnest and devout wishes will attend you to that new sphere of honourable service. May Divine Providence favour you with health, and peace, and length of days, and make you the instrument of conferring benefits as important to the labourers in the Mauritius as have already been communicated to that class in Jamaica. And may the Supreme Ruler, who assigns to all mortals their stations in this transitory life, and to whom each one of us must shortly render our account, crown every inferior mercy by bestowing on your Excellency, through the merits of his Son, that favour which is the sure and blessed pledge and earnest of glory everlasting in his presence!

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#### R E P L Y.

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Gentlemen,—I thank you very cordially for your kind address of congratulation on my return to England.

The ministers of your Society in Jamaica have not only deserved well of the oppressed negroes, but have been of the strongest support to her Majesty's government in that colony, by giving effect to those measures of amelioration which ultimately terminated in freedom.

It was my duty there to see that great measure, so dearly purchased, completed in all its objects; but it was the constant endeavour of the planters, notwithstanding compensation, to preserve to themselves the advantages of slavery.

The calumnies so industriously circulated by

the planters against the ministers of your church have been proportioned to the good they have done in exposing oppression, and guiding the negroes in their moral and religious improvement.

The abuse of such men is quite harmless, and will never, I hope, deter the friends of the negroes in this country from watching over their interests.

I thank you, Gentlemen, very sincerely, for the expression of all your good wishes; and I would beg to assure you, I shall always entertain a grateful sense of the benefits I witnessed from the labours of your Mission in Jamaica.

(Signed) LIONEL SMITH.

## A VILLAGE CONTRIBUTION.

AMONG the Contributions reported this month, is a sum of *5l. 11s. 9d.* from Milford, an obscure village, in the southern part of Hampshire. The following modest recital, by the worthy pastor, accompanied the remittance of this sum. We trust its insertion may be beneficial, not to the cause of the Mission only, but to many other churches through the kingdom, whose circumstances may be similar to those of our friends at Milford.

I THINK there is something encouraging in the fact that nothing has ever been lost to the Christians who have contributed to the cause of God, when it has been done with a single eye to the glory of God, and with a view to spread his Gospel throughout the world. This fact has been clearly elucidated in our own case: I have now been three years at Milford; our people are exceedingly poor; nearly the whole of them agricultural labourers, most of them with large families. The first year I was with them we did nothing for the missionary cause, nor for any other society: at the close of the year we found we were behind in our incidental expenses, and also in the amount promised for the support of the minister. The next year I endeavoured to lay it upon the hearts of the people that we should try to do a little for the Missionary Society and other institutions. Many of our people were fearful that if this were done the minister would still be worse off; but I thought otherwise, and still pressed the subject on their minds. After much prayer on the subject, and a visit from the Rev. Eustace Carey, we raised

*2l. 15s.* We also assisted several other causes in a small way; and at the close of the year we were no worse off, but of the two rather better than the year before.

This year we have raised the inclosed sum and paid all our incidental expenses, and the amount for the support of the minister has increased more than was promised; and this is the more encouraging, when you are informed that this year we have had an expense of near *10l.* in repairs, alterations, and new chandelier and branches, which were requisite.

When I first came to Milford, very many of our poor people, living at a great distance from the chapel, used to go home at the close of the afternoon service, so that about from forty to fifty were the whole of our evening congregation, but now we have an increased attendance in the evenings of between 300 and 400, which compelled us to increase our lights.

Pray for us, that our heavenly Father may keep us humble, and continue to smile upon us, and make us more than ever useful in his blessed work.

## CONTRIBUTION FROM RUSSIA.

OUR readers will observe, in the List of Contributions given this month, an amount of *9l. 9s. 5d.* from some Christian friends, who have emigrated from their native land, and settled in southern Russia. This contribution was forwarded by our much-esteemed friend and brother C. C. Tauchnitz, of Leipsic, who writes thus, under date Dec. 7, 1839.

YOU are aware that the German Mennonites have formed several colonies in the south of Russia. The largest of them, near the river Molotschna and the sea of Asof, now consists of forty-three villages, and is constantly increasing. The last of these villages was built by a congregation who emigrated from Prussia six years ago. They called the place "Gradenfeld," [field of grace.] I was personally acquainted with them, and know several of their members to be men of evangelical piety. They always felt much interest for the Mission, and continued to do so in Russia, where they maintained monthly prayer-meetings for the purpose. They now send me sixty-five Prussian thalers, as the produce of their collections, and desire me to forward this money to you; because, as they

state, among all missionary undertakings they know of, they feel most attached to your Society. They wish to have a receipt from you, which I beg you to forward me on a separate leaf; and as these dear friends are not acquainted with English money, I desire you particularly to state in your receipt that the amount of the inclosed bill of *9l. 9s. 5d.* is the just equivalent of sixty-five thalers, Prussian currency.

This little donation may be considered as a first-fruit from this congregation since they have been in that part of the world; and I am convinced that many good wishes, tears, and prayers of simple piety, mounted up to the throne of grace when it was collected. May a blessing remain upon it!

## LETTERS RECEIVED FROM MISSIONARIES, &amp;c.

EAST INDIES. — Calcutta, Rev. James Thomas, Aug. 27, Jan. 9; E. Edmonds, Aug. 26; Rev. J. D. Ellis, Aug. 27, Jan. 9; Rev. W. Yates and others, Sept. 21; Rev. G. B. Parsons, Oct. 8; Rev. W. H. Pearce, Oct. 11, (to the Treasurer,) Nov. 9; Rev. John Wenger, Sept. 24. Serampore, Rev. W. Carey, Aug. 23. Cutwa, July 7. Patna, Rev. H. Beddy, Nov. 5.

CEYLON.—Colombo, Rev. Joseph Harris, Sept. 19, Oct. 14.

## WEST INDIES.

JAMAICA. — Kingston, Rev. S. Oughton, Nov. 4, 21, Dec. 7. Rev. Josh. Tinson, Dec. 6. Bethtphil, Mrs. Baylis, Oct. 5. Port Antonio,

Rev. John Hornby, Nov. 12. Luca, Rev. E. J. Francies, Nov. 1, (two.) Mount Carey, Rev. Thos. Burchell, Nov. 2; Savanna-la-Mar, (without date.) St. Ann's Bay, United Missionaries, Nov. 14. Old Harbour, Rev. H. C. Taylor, Nov. 12, Dec. 5. Brown's Town, Rev. John Clark, Dec. 4. Falmouth, Rev. Wm. Knibb, Nov. 26. Port Maria, Rev. D. Day, Nov. 26. Mount Charles, Rev. W. Whitehorne, Nov. 26. Savanna-la-Mar, Rev. J. Hutchins, Nov. 27.

BAHAMAS.—Nassau, N.P., Rev. Thomas Leaver, Sept. 20; another, without date, received Dec. 30.

HONDURAS.—Belize, Rev. A. Henderson, Sept. 19, Oct. 1, Nov. 22.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

THE thanks of the Committee are respectfully presented to the following, viz., to friends at Plymouth, for a case of articles for the Rev. Thomas Burchell; to Mr. R. Jones, Tottenham; Mr. Spurden; Mrs. Bridgewater, Oxford;

a friend at Westbury; and T. C., for parcels of Magazines, Reports, &c., for the use of the Mission; and to Mr. W. Vickers, Nottingham, for a box of lace for Jamaica.

*Fen-court, Jan. 18, 1840.*

## ANNUAL MEETING.

IN order to avoid the inconvenience of so many of our ministering brethren in the country leaving their congregations on the first Lord's day in May, the Annual Meeting of the Society will be held, Providence permitting, on Thursday, the 30th of April next. Exeter Hall is engaged for the occasion, and SIR CULLING EARDLEY SMITH, BART., has kindly promised to preside. *Two* Sermons will be delivered on the previous day, and the Committee are happy to announce that the Rev. JOHN EUSTACE GILES, of LEEDS, and the Rev. THOMAS FOX NEWMAN, of NAILSWORTH, have consented to be the preachers.

Further particulars in due time.



