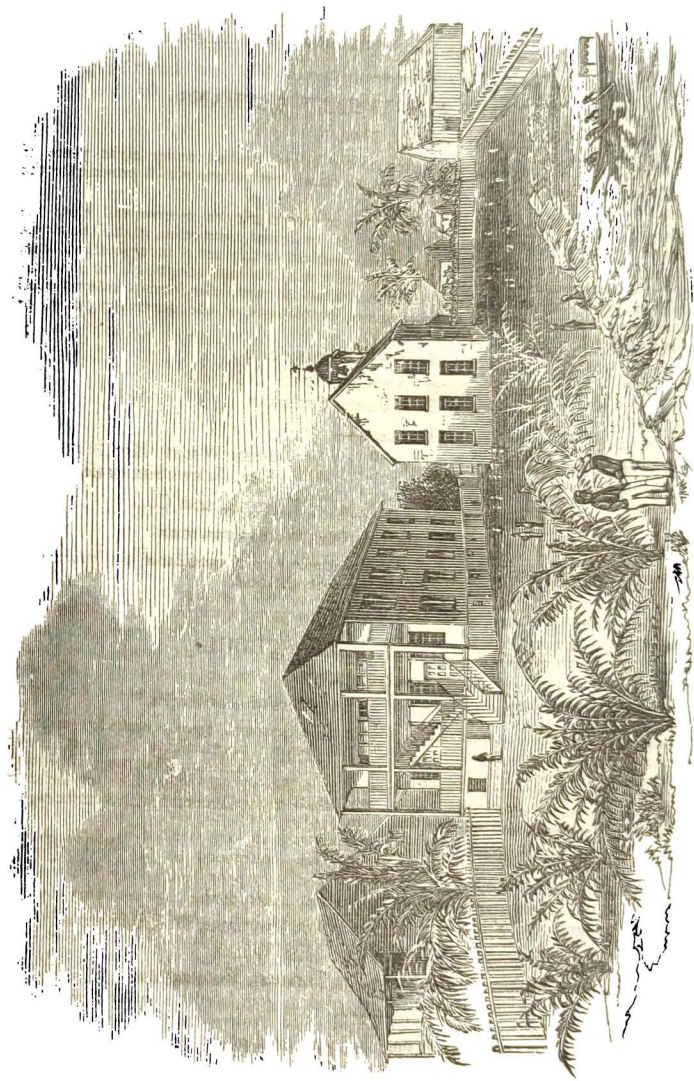


THE MISSIONARY HERALD.



MISSION PREMISES, BELIZE, HONDURAS.

BELIZE, HONDURAS.

Mr. Henderson, our laborious missionary at this station, having long wished for a colleague, and especially one practically acquainted with the art of printing, is about we hope to see the fulfilment of his desire. Mr. J. P. Buttfield was set apart for this purpose on the 23rd of September, at the Baptist Chapel, Box Moor, Herts. The services were conducted by Mr. Fraser of Lambeth, Mr. Gould of Dunstable, and Mr. Gotch, who had been Mr. Buttfield's pastor. Mrs. Buttfield is grand-daughter of Dr. Carey, being the daughter of Mr. Jonathan Carey late of Calcutta. They sailed on the 13th of Nov., in the Echo, Captain De Quétville.

RETROSPECT OF HALF A CENTURY.

The following ingenious comparison between the commencement of missionary exertions in this country, and the scenes which were taking place at the same time in a neighbouring land, was made by Dr. W. R. Williams of New York in a discourse delivered in June, 1842, at the close of the twenty-seventh session of the Hudson River Baptist Association.

When the foreign missions of our British brethren commenced, the French revolution had begun. The opening scenes of that fearful drama arrested all eyes. Its violent and wondrous changes, and its terrific victories, were filling the civilized world with hope or alarm. The year of Carey's missionary discourse was that in which the September massacres drenched the prisons of Paris with gore by a series of butcheries more atrocious than the judicial murders of the guillotine. Amid these sanguinary and frantic convulsions at home, the French people were looking abroad with undaunted mien; and their National Convention, in the same year, flung down the gauntlet of defiance to all the governments of Europe, by pledging assistance and fraternization to all nations who would rise and battle for their own freedom. The following year, that in which the English missionaries set sail, was that in which France gave proof of her stern abjuration of all monarchical government by bringing her sovereign to the block, and the blood of the houses of Bourbon and Hapsburgh, among the oldest of the royal lines of Europe, flowed on the scaffolds of her capital. It was not a mere revolution, it was a war of opinions, upheaving the old foundations of society, and the most cherished and venerated principles of antiquity. Not only were the floods of change shaking the base of each European throne, but the authority of heaven was boldly questioned and cast off. French infidelity was already maddening all Europe, and Paine's "Age of

Reason" was in preparation, intended to carry on the same work through the language and literature of England. The privileged and titled classes, who saw with horror the political changes, were largely infected with the principles of this revolt against religion. And many who might dread French democracy, were but too partial to French atheism. Then it was, when the people were thus "imagining a vain thing," and saying of Him that sitteth on the throne, and of his anointed Son, "Let us break their bands asunder, and let us cast away their cords from us," that He whose name and being they would abolish, "laughed, and the Highest held them in derision." When the pride of hell was thus assailing his church in the west, he replied but by calling for a new and vigorous onset upon the gates of the enemy in the ancient east. The times of the ignorance there long winked at, were now to end. He summoned to his service in the conflict a very poor, but a very learned and pious man. From the lap-stone and the awl he had called him. And he came. He put into the hands of him, and his humble associates, some £13, and bade them, thus furnished, to assail the paganism of India, with its myriad gods, and its myriad fanes, entrenched in massive and time-worn fastnesses, that centuries of power had built up, until they seemed impregnable. It was as if a grain of sand from the desert had been commanded to lift itself up on the wings of the wind, dash itself against the pyramids of

Egypt, and shatter their mountain masses into dust. But hopeless as was the task, and inadequate as were the means, at his bidding these poor but devoted men moved onward to the unequal enterprise. As soon as literature could descry objects so insignificant, she overwhelmed them and their enterprise with peals of mocking laughter and heartless derision. But they held on their way in the serene metekness. What their God had commanded they knew was right, what he had promised they felt was sure. There was seen the mighty magnanimity of faith. It was amid such scenes of confusion and dismay, in such a day, dark with rebuke and blasphemy, that Carey and his coadjutors planned their missions for the welfare of the distant east. It was not for the want of objects requiring their care at home that they went abroad. The labours of Wesley and of Howard, who had but just then ended their race, had shown how fearful was the mass of misery left unrelieved, and of ignorance yet untaught, that were to be found in Christian Britain. But there were many to whom these domestic necessities might be well committed; a heavier necessity was laid on them to heed the distant cry of the dying millions of heathenism. In December, 1793, the devoted preacher had but recently set foot on the shores of India. As yet, ignorant of the language, we find him in that month with a congregation composed only of his own family and that of his associate in the mission; but he is anticipating much pleasure when he shall be able to preach in their own tongue to the benighted Hindus. Little does he suspect that six weary years are to elapse ere he shall be allowed to welcome one sincere convert. In that same month, when the cheerful missionary is thus girding himself to the work, a lieutenant of artillery is distinguishing himself by effecting for the French armies the capture of a besieged sea-port on the southern coast of France. The name of that young engineer is yet to resound through all lands. It is Napoleon, the star of whose glory is seen skirting the horizon and beginning to emit its first glimmerings at the close of the year which brought Carey to India, and when the pious missionary was labouring over the rudiments of the Bengali. How distinguished was the career that soldier was to run! The instrument in the hands of providence for shaking the powers of Europe and bringing into a new shape the whole structure of its society, he went on winning battles, dictating treaties, putting down kings, and overthrowing dynasties, until many were ready to deem him more than man. Some seven years after his success at Toulon, that victorious general has become the first consul of France. It is the 24th of December, and he is driving through the streets of Paris, when a fearful explosion is heard behind his carriage. It was intended for his destruction, but he escapes it, preserved

for far other destinies by that providence of which he took little thought. The event is caught up by every gazette, and is the theme of comment in every civilized land. On that incident the destinies of the world seemed to hinge. Yet, four days after, in a far distant land nearer the rising sun, an event occurred of which no gazette, as we believe, took note but which was scarce less significant in its results. It was Carey "desecrating," to use his own phrase, the waters of the sacred Ganges by the immersion of his first Hindu convert. The chain of caste has been broken. We fancy that the rabble of gods who crowd the Hindu Pantheon looked on, aghast at the sight, feeling that the blow was one well aimed, and that struck at the very heart of their power. When we look at durable results, which seems the more eventful incident, the escape of the great Captain, or that first success of the lowly missionary? The course of the soldier, after a series of the most splendid triumphs, in which, to use his own favourite phrase, he seemed to chain victory to his standards, closed in defeat and captivity. The career of the conqueror of Lodi, of Austerlitz, and of Jena, was terminated in disaster and exile. The flames of Moscow and the rock of St. Helena were a melancholy comment on the instability of all earthly glory, and the utter impotence of all mortal prowess. The year in which your association was formed, 1815, was that which smote down his power on the field of Waterloo. In vain was his gigantic genius, in vain the remorseless conscriptions that drained France of her sons—in vain the energy of despair wielding all the resources of his consummate tactics. A few years after, the Great Captain died, on a lonely island in the ocean, his soul seething impatiently with wishes never to be realized, his mind teeming with vast projects that perished in their conception; with his parting breath muttering indistinctly and deliriously of armies which he no longer headed. But the missionary said in his later years that he had no wish that was left ungratified. Who was then the happier man? The brilliant victories of the one scarce kept pace, in their number, with the dialects into which the other translated the lively oracles of God. Give to the mighty warrior the honours of an exalted intellect, with which that of the humble missionary can never be compared—give to him the unmatched influence he exercised over the diplomacy and civilization of all Europe—give to him the 2,200,000 conscripts that perished in his service, and the myriads that were sacrificed in the armies of his adversaries. Set over against these the gates of eastern dialects opened to the scholars of Europe by that missionary; Christian churches planted, and the Christian scriptures translated; and an impulse given to the mind of heathen India, of which it is equally idle to dispute the present extent or

to calculate the future limits. Does it not seem as if each year is now effacing the monuments of the one and expanding the influence of the other? And who shall show the field in which that missionary's fame and his power were cloven down? His fame and his power we called them. They were not his. The glory of his attempts and achievements was Christ's; and the power that wrought in him mightily, and wrought with him effectually, was Christ's. You are engaged, my brethren, under the banners of the same Captain of our salvation. Do the odds seem against us? The force of numbers is not with us. The literature of the world is not thoroughly with us. The laws of the world are not with us. The fashions of the world are not with us. But if God be with us, it is enough. The prince of darkness, in mustering all his hosts to the encounter, bears on his scarred brow the print of the Master's avenging heel. Hell has been already foiled in that hour now past which was the true crisis of the world's history; and prophecy shows us the whole earth soon to be subdued to the obedience of the faith.

ASIA.

CALCUTTA.

In a letter relating principally to business details, Mr. Thomas writes thus, September 21, 1844:—

Brother Yates has been for some time very unwell, but he seems improving. It will be necessary for him to try a little change during the ensuing cold weather. Brother Pearce has also been rather unwell; the rest appear in tolerable health. Makepeace has not yet arrived, but we are daily expecting him. Brother Small is preparing to leave Calcutta for Benaras. May the blessing of the Master go with him!

CEYLON.

A letter has been received from Mr. Dawson, dated Colombo, September 25, containing the following cheering particulars:—

My last letters have been of a melancholy nature. It now falls to my lot to communicate things of a very joyful kind.

First, though not first in order of time, I must acquaint you with the safe arrival of Mr. and Mrs. Davies. For many days previously had our eyes been wishfully directed along the horizon (our house being at the seaside) in search of the "Brunette," and now that our dear friends are safely lodged under our roof, we know not how to feel sufficiently grateful to the Preserver of men. Mrs. Davies was confined to her cabin nearly the whole voyage with sickness, and consequently arrived in a very weak state. It is our happiness, however, to see her daily gathering strength, and our hope that she will ere long be perfectly well. Mr. Davies is also slightly indisposed, but thinks a few days will set him right. I need not say to any who know them, that they are lovely and amiable persons. They will doubtless be a bright ornament to the mission, and a great blessing to the land. It is mutually agreed for them to stop at Colombo till more help arrives, and then to proceed to Kandy.

Second. It is extremely gratifying to know that the death of our dear brother Daniel has been the means of seriously impressing the hearts of many who were unimpressed by his living voice. The natives in many villages appear sensible of the loss they have sustained, and some are alarmed lest he should hereafter be a witness to condemn them.

The 8th inst. was a day long to be remembered. After preaching in English in the morning at Colombo, I visited the station at Kottigahawatta, where brother Nader has been labouring with great success. After preaching in Singhalese to a large and attentive congregation, I administered the ordinance of baptism to twenty persons, fifteen of them females. They had all been candidates for many months—some for eighteen. Their regular attendance,

consistent conduct, and earnest expressions of attachment to the Saviour, seemed to render further delay improper. In the presence of Mrs. Dawson and Miss Wells (a lady connected with the Female Education Society), I put to them many searching questions, which they answered to our satisfaction. The cases of several were extremely interesting. Five were from village schools—the fruit of the labours of pious teachers. One lad, about thirteen, discovered much shrewdness. When he applied for baptism, his pastor said to him, “You are too young, and too small.” “Sir,” said he, “my body is small, but my soul is not. And though I am young in years, I know that I am a great sinner, and that no one but Jesus Christ can save me.” Some time after, on again applying, he was asked why he was so anxious to be baptized. He replied, “I know baptism will not save me, but Christ has commanded it, and how can I call him my Saviour if I live in disobedience to his commandments?” “But were you not baptized in your infancy?” “I have been told so,” he said, “but know nothing about it. The scripture says that those who repent should be baptized, and as I have repented I wish to do all that my Saviour has commanded.” At the close of the ceremony ninety-five of us partook of the Lord’s supper, and sweetly realized his presence in our midst. Brother J. Melder lately baptized six persons, one of them a native man, aged ninety-three. In his latter days he found the pearl of great price, and though subjected to much scorn and persecution, he patiently bore it all, rejoicing that he had found that happiness in believing in the Saviour, to which he had been all his life an utter stranger. His daughter, aged fifty-four, was baptized at the same time.

Third. The lithographic press has arrived, and many thanks are due to Mr. Haddon for

the care with which he has collected what appears to be all that is requisite for its effective operation. I long to get it fixed, and see the beautiful Singhalese and Tamul characters printed from its stones.

Fourth. Our devoted brother Garnier, who labours on the estates near Kandy, having been laid aside a short time by weakness, brought on by over-exertion, the planters, to show their personal regard for him, and their estimation of his labours, have raised nearly £20 to buy him a strong horse. He will thus, I trust, soon be able to visit more estates at the expenditure of less bodily strength; at least, his bodily strength. Missionary horses are very needful here, as they enable one missionary to do the work of two.

Fifth. On Saturday last a meeting was held in our Petrah Chapel, at which Sir Anthony Oliphant presided, to determine on the manner of appropriating the sum collected to perpetuate the labours of Mr. Daniel. It was resolved unanimously, “That a sum not exceeding £20 be applied to the erection of a tablet in the baptist Petrah Chapel, to perpetuate a remembrance of the labours of the Rev. E. Daniel, and that the remainder be remitted to his orphan children through such channel as shall appear most advisable.” Dr. Elliot, Lieut. Maberly, and brother Davies are appointed a committee to carry the resolution into effect. The subscription list is not closed, and it is expected that £300 will be raised.

Sixth. It looks ungrateful for me to notice so low in my letter the vote of £400 for Kandy Mission Premises, made by the Jubilee Committee. Be assured we feel truly grateful for it, though much more will be needed to complete the object.

On Friday next we are to open a new chapel at Matakooly, three miles from Colombo. The cost of its erection is £70. Already the sum of £40 has been collected.

The following letter was written by Mr. Davies a week after his arrival:—

After a favourable though not a rapid passage of 116 days, we arrived at Colombo on the 16th instant, when we heard the unexpected and painful intelligence of Mr. Daniel’s death. Never was the removal of any one more generally and deeply felt and regretted. It presented the dark scenes of heathenism to us in shades of deeper gloom. We were heartily welcomed by Mr. and Mrs. Dawson and Dr. and Mrs. Elliot, whose extreme kindness and value cannot be too highly estimated. Since then Mr. Dawson and I have been trying to arrange things so as to meet present difficulties. He will return to Kandy after a short time, and I will remain here until we hear from you. I have seen most of the native preachers, and many of the schoolmasters.

With some of them I have been highly pleased. Some of the stations, I understand, are in a very encouraging state; others greatly need the quickening influences of heaven, and much self-denying and wisely directed labour. The Academy, of course, has suffered through Mr. Daniel’s death. This institution seems to me to claim special attention, as under well considered and well adapted arrangement, carried on with energy and perseverance, it will become, under God, a means of incalculable benefit. I hope the committee will consider the necessity of sending out two suitable men for Ceylon; for Kandy must have two, and so must Colombo. It is quite impossible for one to do the work efficiently at either place. At Colombo the village stations have suffered under

Mr. Daniel (who in habits and constitution had become so thoroughly naturalized), owing to his not being able to visit them except very occasionally, since he commenced the Academy. If I could transfer to England the scenes of idolatry, debasement, and wretchedness which I have already witnessed, I think they would move our churches to send us help through mere compassion; but I trust higher motives will prevail. Oh, that almighty God would eminently qualify us to pull down these strongholds of Satan, and in some humble degree advance his glory.

It would be madness to think of living in Mr. Daniel's late residence, for all agree that it greatly accelerated his end. The house where we now are, with Mr. Dawson, cannot be occupied more than a week or two, so that we have been under the necessity of looking out another. After much inquiry and toil we

found one to-day in most respects eligible for ourselves and the students, but requiring a little alteration and expense. The rent is £5 per month; and here I would suggest what every one here would most strongly recommend, on principles of economy as well as convenience, the desirableness of the Society's securing some permanent missionary residence, as rents, and all other things in Colombo, have doubled within the last few years, and are expected to go on increasing in value in the same proportion for some time to come. This house can be leased at the specified rent for not more than four years, or it can be purchased. Will you be kind enough to say a word on this head in your next, as houses here are so very scarce, and as it will be a suitable place for any one who may come out. My own health is good, and Mrs. Davies is much improved since our landing.

AFRICA.

FERNANDO PO.

Letters have been received from Mr. Sturgeon, written in July, from which we give copious extracts, principally on account of the illustration they furnish of the difficulties and perplexities surrounding those who labour among uncivilized tribes. It is on many accounts desirable that these should be understood; and the following details will at once show that faith and patience are needed by those engaged in the work, and that others should count the cost before they offer themselves for so arduous and important an undertaking.

I am interestingly engaged at the present time in examining the candidates for baptism, eight in number; three males and five females. Two of them are promising girls, who two years ago were fast hastening to ruin. The pleasing change wrought within by the gospel is observed by all who know them. They form part of my juvenile class, and are ranked among the teachers of our sabbath-school. The regularity of their attendance at the school, the simplicity and ardour with which they instruct their classes, lead me to conclude that they will be made eminently useful in our neighbourhood. A young man from Holland is also one of the candidates. The labours of brother Clarke were blessed to his conversion on board the "Chilmark," on her way to Fernando Po. As he has only been in Africa a few months, my knowledge of his character is imperfect; but he appears to be a diffident, affectionate, zealous, and truly pious youth. I shall baptize (D. V.) on the 21st instant. We anticipate a refreshing season. The absurd notion of religion not

belonging to the young, is but too prevalent even now among the less informed of our people, though so much has been said upon the subject, both in public and in private. Yet it was truly encouraging at our last church-meeting to witness the tender manner in which many of our friends spoke of receiving the youthful followers of the Saviour into the church.

Old Habits.

I have seen too much of the deceitfulness of the human heart in Africa to be over-sanguine in my expectations respecting them; but so exemplary has been their conduct, that on no former occasion of a similar kind have I been more confident that the work is of the Lord; to whom, through Christ, be all the praise. We have a church-meeting on the second Wednesday in the month for prayer, the special object of which is to promote a revival of the good work of the Lord; and on the fourth Wednesday we meet to transact the affairs of the church, to appoint sick-visitors,

&c. These meetings are characterized by great Christian love and candour, and a general willingness to engage in any benevolent plans proposed for adoption; which lead me to hope the Lord is favouring us, and will still more abundantly bless us. My confidence in the people is increasing; and as persons are coming to me all times in the day for instruction, and to make known to me the burden of their souls, my labours are really more refreshing than arduous. Yet have I had much of late to cause me to weep. I have had the pain of excluding eight of the inquirers: three have been restored, and the remaining five profess great contrition for their backslidings. Most of them were dismissed for family quarrels, and cruelty to their servants. One of the men knocked his wife down for a slight provocation; and fearing she would die, he fled into the bush, having previously committed his child to the care of his neighbour; but he soon returned to his home. The poor woman suffered much for several days, having one eye entirely closed, and being greatly affected in her head and face. They have been to me, and expressed their mutual sorrow; but I found the difficulty to be more than trivial to convince the man that his wife ought not to go to the wharf and fetch his palm-oil, while he remained idly at home. It will take many years to eradicate the degraded opinion of female worth. There are, it is true, many gossips and busy-bodies in the matters of others, among the women, but I have many times witnessed the readiness with which they have performed labour which strictly belonged to their husbands, though the latter have been gazing on them with indifference, smoking their pipes or lounging upon their sofas. It requires much of the meekness and simplicity of the gospel on the part of the missionary to behold these things without feeling indignant; but anger must be suppressed, and these abuses patiently borne, and meekly and constantly reproved, ere the gospel will have its legitimate effect upon these semi-barbarians. On no occasion do I feel to need more of the disposition of the "husbandman," who "waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it until he receive the early and the latter rain," than when I see the poor females treated with scorn and cruelty. Another female of the guilty party came to me one evening about nine o'clock, P.M., whose mouth and face presented a frightful appearance. Her husband had beaten her, and turned her out of doors; and the poor creature intreated me with many tears to give her my advice and protection. I recommended her to sleep at her neighbour's house that night, promising to see her husband next morning; which I did, and after spending much time with him, succeeded in softening his mind and effecting a reconciliation; and I trust they are now living amicably together.

The case has given me uncommon trouble, as the young man has been very active in serving me at Clarence, and has been my head-man in the erection of the mountain cottage; and in both him and his wife I had many times hoped that a work of grace had been begun.

Struggle with Temptation.

Contrasted with the disgraceful conduct of those before mentioned, I may refer you to the Christian conduct of one of my female members, who was formerly our servant. She is a widow with three children. She came to me on one occasion, and intimated her intention of marrying a man who was a stranger to godliness. I cautioned her against taking so sinful a step, and set before her the unhappy consequences that would naturally follow to herself and to us. She heard me patiently, and urged the necessity of making provision for her children, which she affirmed she could not do in her state of widowhood. This only afforded me a still better opportunity of encouraging her to keep in the path of duty, use all the means within her reach, and then rest securely in God. She left me rather depressed in spirits, but, as I thought, disposed to act upon the counsel she had received. As she had previous to that time been an ornament to her profession, I was rather surprised at her present state of mind. After the lapse of a few weeks she paid me a second visit, and said that she had agreed to unite with the man in question. I trembled on hearing such information; not only on account of her, of whom I had hoped better things, but for the fearful consequences of such a precedent in an infant church in a heathen country. Many were the admonitions administered to her; and though they were not indignantly repelled, yet they did not sufficiently weigh with her. I visited her several times in her house, in company with Mrs. Sturgeon, and gave her instances of such unholy alliances. She appeared a little moved by my reasonings and scriptural exhortations. As the last resort I resolved upon giving a public address upon the sinfulness of professors of religion uniting in marriage with ungodly persons. I founded my sermon on 2 Cor. vi. 17, 18. The address answered my design. A few days after its delivery the young women came to me, and thus addressed me: "I tink too-much 'bout de word you tell we; I can't join wi de man cause him no love Jesus. I no-fear for me child; my Fader will do good for dem and me. My heart no give me content till me tell you dis word. Pose I go on wi marry palaver, den me vex de Saviour: now I no go do dat ting, me heart let me for peace." You cannot tell my feelings of gratitude and joy when this statement came from her lips; after I had literally agonized with God in prayer for several days and nights, that her views might be changed, and the church preserved in peace. Her

faith in Christ when she made the confession appeared to surpass the experience of one who had only been called by divine grace a few months. There was no vain boasting, but a steady reliance upon him who hath promised to be a "husband to the widow, and a father to the fatherless." Her conduct since that period has been such as becometh the gospel of Christ. I have greatly rejoiced over her; but I should not have troubled you with the narrative, but for the remarkable circumstances which have since transpired. A few months after the connexion was broken off, the poor man was drowned at sea, the boat in which he was sailing having sunk in a tornado, when he, with a Krooman, found a watery grave. This fact made a deep impression on the minds of our friends. I now have the pleasure of informing you that I am to marry the young woman to-day (July 10th) to George Williams, who is one of the settlers from Jamaica. We consider Mr. Williams to be an eminently pious and devoted man of God. By his industry, affability, and piety he has won the confidence of, and is greatly beloved by all our people. If a large number of such worthy men were to come here as settlers, they would be a great acquisition to your mission in Africa.

Sabbath School.

We have an excellent sabbath-school, containing nearly 300 scholars, the greater part of whom being neatly clothed, they present a pleasing appearance. The school is superintended by Mr. Norman, the teacher of our day-school. His heart is much in the work, and he promises to be very useful among us. We are also greatly assisted by Miss Stewart, a white female from Jamaica, and Miss Cooper, a coloured female from the west. These young persons are teachers of the right stamp, are indefatigable in their labours, and "watch for souls as those who must give an account;" while their methods of communicating knowledge are of a superior order. Our own friends are beginning to view sabbath-schools in their true light. Ten of our members are teachers: four of those who are about to join with us, and two or three others who I think will quickly form part of our number. There are also two of the children whom we hope are choosing the Saviour for their portion. I have had great difficulty in exciting a proper attention to the young; but I have now partially succeeded, though much remains to be done. It is in the hearts of the young that we expect the seeds of truth to vegetate most freely in Africa, for it is a lamentable fact that the old people, as soon as they acquire a little knowledge, indulge much in self-righteous principles.

Village Manners.

We are progressing with our temporary chapel, and my mountain cottage. When I

go to the mountain, I usually sleep there in a hut erected for my boy. It is nine feet by seven, and six feet six inches high. A few wild canes tied to some stakes driven in the ground constitute my bedstead, a hair-cloth serves for my bed, my cloak answers for my pillow, and a blanket is my covering. On a recent occasion my door was broken several times in the night, but it was soon repaired, as it consisted of a few palm leaves. The night being rather cold, we made a fire in our hut, which was a rich treat to the boys, who slept very close to it. At a short distance from the hut the head-man was sleeping in his hammock, slung to two of the posts belonging to the cottage, almost directly over a large fire, around which five boys were sweetly reposing, three of whom were under a large sheet, the black cranium of one only being visible. Another was lying upon his back, upon a few wild canes, with only a wrapper about his loins, and his heels not more than two inches from the fire; and the fifth with his face quite as near to the precious element, the large quantity of smoke issuing from which, supplying the place of a soporific dose, as "sleep ketch him too much."

As soon as the sun cheered us with his refreshing beams, we sang and prayed, and then most of the boys went cheerfully to work. At the morning worship I gave a little scriptural instruction; but it is almost impossible to make the people here generally understand, as they have so corrupted the English language as to give to many words an opposite meaning, and to others no meaning at all. Thus, "He don't go to his farm;" i. e. he has gone to his farm. And the word "palaver," has a hundred different interpretations. Its primary import it to dispute in a quarrel, as "He made palaver," i. e. he quarrelled. "I no top for palaver;" I shall not remain to dispute the point in question. But it is most familiarly used in the following absurd ways. I have "work palaver," "washing palaver," "eating palaver," "singing palaver," &c.; by which indefinite expressions they simply mean, they have labour to perform, washing to do, food to eat, &c. The word "sabby" also signifies to know or understand, or any other meaning you choose to give it; thus, "I no sabby," i. e. I do not understand; "Dat plant no sabby for grow," that plant will not grow; "I no sabby belong to go dat way," I shall not go that way. The use made of the word "lib" (live) is very amusing to foreigners. A captain inquiring for the grave of a gentleman who had fallen in the Niger Expedition, received the following reply: "Him don't lib dere," i. e. He is in that place, at the same time directing the eye of the captain to the grave-yard.

Sea Monsters.

We have had very heavy rains for the last two months, and the sea-monsters in our har-

hour have been unusually numerous. On the 26th ult. a large number of persons were seen on the beach watching Mr. Scott's men, who were employed many hours in their attempts to catch "devil fish." Toward the close of the day they succeeded in hauling one to the shore. I took the dimensions of this wonder of the deep. It was seven feet ten inches in length, and twenty-eight feet broad, i. e. from the extremity of each fin. Its mouth was two feet wide, and being open about four inches after it was killed, it presented a frightful appearance. It was killed with a harpoon. In the morning one of them had broken a harpoon, which had deeply penetrated its flesh, and made off with it, though death must have soon followed. The one I saw was capable of swallowing a corpulent man with the greatest ease.

Judicial Perplexities.

At Banapa and Basillar, places in which I take a deep interest, as they are within a few miles of Clarence, I am attempting to form stations, and regularly appoint two young men every Lord's day to visit them, and teach them to read. I occasionally visit them in the week. A fortnight ago they were in a very disturbed state. One of my inquirers came to me in an agitated state of mind, and said, "Minister; de Boobie fill me house up; palaver lib in im town (Banapa) cause one man kill im boy in de bush; now de family of dat boy, and de country people too much fear." Hearing from the description of the affair that the friends of the deceased intended to attack the family of the murderer, I went to Banapa the next day to meet the different parties, hoping to bring about an amicable settlement of this unhappy affair. On reaching Banapa, I found Boloko assembled with his people in the play-ground to settle the palaver. Seeing a large number of natives armed with spears, cutlasses, and guns, and having too much reason to conclude their hearts were meditating revenge for the wounds so recently inflicted, I felt it was a critical time. Silently lifting up my heart to God for assistance, I told the king, through an interpreter, that my object in visiting him was to make peace between him and his enemies. With great energy he replied to the following effect: "One man go out, and call him countrymen boy to go for bush; and when he take him he kill him; for popo (intentionally) or no I no understand. Den de boy's fader get too much vexed, and chuke (stab) two child with him spear belonging to the man who kill him one boy. Dat same palaver bring me here to day." The assassin was speedily pursued by the natives, who were brought together by the cries of the mother; but he evaded their search, and it is supposed he is now concealed at Clarence. One of the children died the next day, the fate of the other I have not yet heard. The

boy who was shot in the bush was a native of Banapa. His name was Edibo; he was twelve years of age. It was Boila, the deceased boy's uncle, who took revenge upon the helpless children when alone in the house. One of these last mentioned children belonged to Basillar, and the other to Robolo; which makes the case as complicated as it is painful, the families of three different towns being involved in the inquiry. I remained a long time with Boloko, intrusting him to use his kingly authority to prevent a repetition of the tragical scene already exhibited. The king and his gentlemen heard me patiently, and I was sincerely thankful to find my statements were not altogether lost upon them. During the discussion of the subject, Boloko said, "Before white man come to look we, we kill plenty: pose one man soot him countryman, den him die quick, and we kill all him family. Now we can't do dat way; we no kill Boila for him bad trick: we belong to take him fowls and goats. We break him house, and den we no let him *lib wi gentleman*; he must sit down him one far away: we no eat wi him, we no peak to him more." To be banished the society of the *gentlemen*, or chiefs, and not be permitted to hold intercourse with the common people, are the greatest punishments the natives can sustain; and would, if acted upon, bring about a better state of things. Being recommended to go to Basillar, to mediate between the king of that town and the king of Robolo, I took that course, and was well received, though I accomplished but little. The father of Edibo was steeled against all remonstrance, and boldly affirmed that he would either kill one man, or take one girl from the family of the murderer to be his wife. Perceiving that he was greatly biasing the king and people by his enraged temper, I smiled, and very deliberately said, "If you hear this God palaver, it will put away your kill palaver, bring you love palaver, and make you happy palaver." They laughed heartily, and after a little pleasant chat, retired to consider the best plan to be adopted. Twelve of the gentlemen constituted the grand jury for this capital offence. They arranged themselves into a circle about ten yards from us. The highest in authority among them addressed his brother jurors with significant gravity and earnestness, but in too low a tone of voice to be heard by us. During this solemn conference (for such it was) several Boobies passed by, but took not the least notice of the gentlemen. Had they offered the slightest interruption, they would have brought upon themselves the severest punishment. In less than half an hour the court broke up, and returned to our party, who were anxiously awaiting the conclusion of the pending trial. Silence having been called, the foreman of the jury, with calmness and firmness, informed me that they were unable to give a verdict; and with

much cunning referred me to Boloko, the king of Banapa, who alone, he said, was competent to decide the case.

We then returned to Banapa, followed by the chiefs of Basillar, and Robolo, and many of the natives. Boloko was waiting in his house, with his gentlemen, to receive us. As soon as we were seated, and had refreshed ourselves with palm wine, the king recapitulated to the chiefs what had been said at our former meeting. A sage-looking veteran then spoke for nearly twenty minutes. He told them of the many sanguinary wars in which he had been engaged formerly, of the battles he had won, the misery and desolation he had caused, but which he now bitterly lamented, and concluded by energetically requesting his fellow chiefs to refrain from fighting, and act according to the "good word," now carried to them. His address was listened to with profound attention. Several times he asked the chiefs and people if they understood him, to which there was a simultaneous reply, "Oula," yes, or we understand. Boloko was the next speaker, and was frequently interrupted by the people shouting, "Long life," "Thank you," &c., as expressive of their great joy. He contrasted the present with the former state of the people, and said that they were accustomed a few years since to killing each other for trivial offences, and to cutting off a man's hand for stealing, &c. Children in earlier times were like cats (stealing all they could get), but now they knew better, and were glad for white man to settle their palaver. Though all was interpreted to me, the chiefs spoke in such an animated strain as to make me forget my weariness and hunger, and rendered the season a most refreshing one. They all appeared dis-

posed for peace before I parted, and I have since heard that my negotiation, which lasted for several hours, had the intended effect of stopping the shedding of human blood. On my leaving many blessings were desired for my happiness, &c.

Concluding Remarks.

Persons coming to Africa should well count the cost; should consider what they will have to teach, what to do, and what to suffer. They should be men who have been proved; who have exhibited an untiring zeal in works of self-denial, strong faith in God, and a growing love to perishing souls. And let none come to labour in Africa who will not cheerfully forego the luxuries of Jamaica, and willingly travel a few miles through a little rain, or grass wet with dew. If persons coming from the west anticipate a comfortable home in Africa, to be waited upon, and fare sumptuously every day; disappointment, shame, discontent, and uselessness will follow, and you will have many loiterers in the field. There are probably but few countries where more good may be done than in Africa, but those who come should be prepared for the worst, and not expect to enjoy the reward until they have patiently endured the toil. These things, and many others, have been said already—publicly spoken and widely spread, but they are not yet understood. The prosperity of our cause in Africa for many years, and perhaps centuries, will greatly depend upon the band of teachers and missionaries who will next be sent out. I therefore with diffidence, and with a degree of trembling, say again, let them be tried men—men who have been accustomed to reading and teaching, and suffering for Christ.

WEST INDIES.

JAMAICA.

The painful intelligence of the decease of Mrs. Evans, wife of Mr. G. P. Evans, missionary at Vale Lionel, has just reached the Mission House. She died on the 14th of October, after premature labour, brought on by a prevalent fever which attacked her six days previously. Her afflicted husband, writing on the 20th, adds,

The deacons of the church rode down to Old Harbour to have brother Taylor's assistance at the funeral, and his sad reply added to my grief. "Mr. and Mrs. Taylor are both confined with fever, increased by the fact of being unable to assist you in your distressing situation." I was permitted to engage in

this melancholy service myself, which I assure you has been no small consolation to me.

It will afford me much pleasure if in the next number of the Herald or Magazine the following may be inserted, copied verbatim from my dear wife's diary.

Under date of Nov. 10, 1842, my dear wife writes thus:—

“This afternoon and evening have been to me a time of deep feeling and great searchings of heart. The mission cause, which has so frequently called forth my warmest affections and sympathies, has been a matter of thought and inquiry. In reviewing my experience as connected with this subject, I well remember that from the time I was first brought to the Saviour's feet, I felt a deep interest on behalf of his kingdom in the world. No sooner did I taste his love than I longed to lead others to him, and naturally did I look to heathen lands as an appropriate sphere of effort. I was told that it was the ardour of first love which led me to desire the missionary work, and I must expect to cool down. But the desire has grown and increased with each revolving year, and I now feel it as intensely as ever. An ardent longing to teach the heathen has given me wakeful nights, has occasioned me to shed countless tears, has called forth ardent supplications, and has been within me as a secret flame, threatening by its very intensity to consume my spirit, to injure my health, and take away all my comfort in the discharge of duties connected with my present situation. Often have I been led to ask, ‘Did God impart a missionary spirit only to disappoint its fervour?’ Or again, ‘Will he not grant my request when he has exercised my faith and patience as much as he sees is right for me?’ Deep are the mysteries of providence, but just and true are all the ways of him who is the king of saints; and I rejoice in the thought that he shall be glorified in me, even though an irrepressible and ungratified longing break my heart. But is it not possible that I am deceived in my own suitability? Or may there not be some latent impurity of motive which occasions God to deny my request? Or may I not have done wrong in counselling my feelings? Perhaps because I have kept them in my own bosom instead of seeking judicious Christian counsel, God has given me to reap the fruit of unfaithfulness to con-

victions of duty. Oh, how earnestly do I feel disposed to ask, ‘Show me wherefore thou contendest with me; and why thou withholdest my request?’ It is my mercy to know that a throne of grace is accessible to me; that Jesus ever lives to plead for me. Again and again may I, and again and again will I, present my supplications to God, that he would fit me for his service, that he would call me to his service, even though that service should involve labour, and suffering, and death.”

In a note of April 2, 1843, Mrs. Evans writes:—

“When I review what I wrote under the date of November 10, and contrast it with my present circumstances, I almost think I dream; but my God has, I trust, heard my prayer, accepted my desire, and given me a prospect of employment in the mission field. Gratefully would I acknowledge the indulgent goodness of my heavenly Father in this respect, and especially that he has opened my way under circumstances that leave me nothing to desire. Not for crowns or kingdoms, not for earth's fairest fame or greatest wealth or splendour, would I resign my present prospects—prospects which yet I feel (amidst all the uncertainties of earth) may never be realized. All the unknown future would I leave with that God who has guided me hitherto; my times are in his hands. I feel that I have now an additional motive for cultivating every grace of the Christian character, for how without a large measure of personal piety shall I be fitted for my probable duties? How without it shall I be prepared to share a missionary's labours, to sympathize with a missionary's peculiar trials and hallowed joys, and oftentimes to be his sole earthly counsellor, comforter, and support? May the language of my future experience ever be, ‘I can do all things through Christ who strengtheneth me.’”

Such was the devoted missionary you have lost, and such indeed was the counsellor removed from me.

EUROPE.

BRITTANY.

After an absence of six weeks, spent in seeking contributions towards the chapel which it is intended to erect at Morlaix, Mr. Jenkins has returned in safety to his family and friends. On the 28th of October he writes as follows:—

The sums collected amount to 1047*l.* 15*s.*, as you will see by the following list: Guingamp, 45*l.*; Dinan, 5*l.*; St. Servan, 109*l.*; St. Malo, 5*l.*; Rennes, 5*l.*; from Guernsey, by Mr. T. G. Dobrée, 36*l.*; Boulogne, 312*l.* 75*s.*; Marquise, 15*l.* 40*s.*; Calais, 31*l.*; Rouen, 122*l.*; Havre, 184*l.*; and Caen, 177*l.* My travelling expenses amount to 359*l.* 65*s.*, in