

THE MISSIONARY HERALD.



CHAPEL AND MISSION HOUSE AT CAMEROONS.

THE MISSION FIELD.

THERE are some observations of great interest in the report of the labours of our brethren in the department of translations and printing the scriptures, from which we have extracted the "incidents of bible distribution in India." We cannot do better than make a free use of these observations to illustrate the important work going on in that part of the Mission field. We do so also for another reason. The translation of the scriptures is a work of great toil, and attended with much mental anxiety and effort, and is a work which does not strike the eye like the active outdoor labours of itinerating, preaching, and distribution of tracts and bibles. The labours of our brethren in this department are pre-eminent; and those most competent to pronounce an opinion attest their diligence, fidelity, and accuracy.

"The distribution of the word of God among the teeming multitudes by whom our missionary brethren are surrounded in this great country, is a work the importance of which can hardly be overrated. It is the diffusion of the true leaven, which is in time to exert its blessed influence on the whole mass of the community. The extent to which it has already operated, or is now operating, may be in some measure conjectured, but cannot be fully known until made manifest by the disclosures of the last great day.

"In this blessed work the agents of the Baptist Missionary Society have been privileged to occupy an important place, and by them chiefly, though by no means exclusively, has the distribution from the society's stores been effected. While the missionaries of the Baptist Mission have been constantly supplied from them, it has been particularly gratifying to receive applications from missionaries and others of other denomina-

tions. All such applications have been cheerfully and promptly complied with."

From the Report it appears that the distributions from the beginning of 1847 to the end of 1851 amounted to 222,769, which, added to those previously sent into circulation, make a total of 609,906 copies of the word of God, or of larger or smaller portions of it, issued from the mission press to the end of 1851. These numbers are large; but what are they compared with the myriads of the population of India needing the bible? While we render praise to the God of all grace that he has aided his servants thus far, and enabled them to do so great a work, let the question we have put stimulate all who read it to fresh diligence, zeal, and prayer.

The "Friend of India" continues to call public attention to the debate in the late parliament on the new charter, and particularly to its ecclesiastical topics. Speaking of the subjects which are before the Committee, appointed after that debate, as matters of inquiry, the editor observes, "There is one which excites no little surprise. After all that has passed in the last sixty years, we should scarcely have expected that any English ministry would have ventured to direct a parliamentary inquiry into the ecclesiastical provision which existed for the diffusion of Christianity. We hope the subject will be expunged from the list, because the agitation of it can do no good, and may do harm. By an 'ecclesiastical provision,' is evidently intended a provision in the 'ecclesiastical department of the state,' which at this presidency consists of a bishop, archdeacon, and sixty-six military chaplains. To make an ecclesiastical provision, therefore, is to provide for the diffusion of Christianity through the ecclesiastical servants of government,—in other words, to identify the state with the missionary

enterprise. The functions of the ecclesiastical department in India are at present clearly defined. The military chaplains are appointed to watch over the spiritual interests of that section of the public service which belongs to the Established Church of England and Ireland. Whatever aid they may give to the cause of missions is voluntarily given, in their private capacity; and we hail every such instance of missionary zeal with delight. But if it be intended, by the introduction of this topic of inquiry, to invest the 'ecclesiastical' functionaries of government with a missionary character, and place missionary operations, by a parliamentary enactment, under episcopal jurisdiction and superintendence, we have no hesitation in saying that it will be a disastrous innovation. It will mix up the state with schemes of evangelization, and create unnecessary alarm, if not dissatisfaction; it will make more hypocrites than Christians; and it will seriously interfere with the pious and independent efforts of the numerous missionaries, not of the church of England, now engaged in the field, and thus paralyze the efforts of the Christian world for the conversion of the heathen." These sentiments demand very serious attention; and it behoves the friends of missions to keep this subject in view, that the

interests of the great cause may not be injured by an "ecclesiastical" encroachment, however insidiously it may be contrived. It is a matter for thankfulness that a paper of such large circulation and acknowledged influence is under the direction of one who thinks rightly on this momentous topic, and can and does express his thoughts respecting it with so much precision and force.

The intelligence from Jacmel is painful. We deeply regret to learn that Mr. WEBLEY'S sorrow at the loss of his brother's services has been followed by so much domestic affliction. We commend him and his family to the sympathy and prayers of our readers; and more especially, that ere long help may be sent to a missionary overborne by work and distress.

The engraving, which gives a view of the mission premises at Cameroons, is from a sketch taken by Mr. WHEELER on the spot, shortly before he left Africa. The centre building is the wooden frame chapel used for divine worship, and for the weekly and Sunday school. The shed-looking erections on the left hand form a part of Mr. SAKER'S present dwelling, and the wooden building on the right is Mr. HORTON JOHNSON'S, built on posts, the ground floor being used for a store house.

INDIA.

CALCUTTA.

There was just time last month, after the arrival of the Indian mail, to announce the safe arrival of the "William Carey," with Mr. and Mrs. MAKEPEACE, and Mr. and Mrs. JACKSON, and their families. A few extracts from Mr. THOMAS'S letter, under date of July 2nd, will be acceptable to our readers

generally, and especially to the relatives of those dear friends, who have probably by this time arrived at their destination.

The "William Carey" is in. Yesterday brother Wenger and myself went some distance down the river, hoping to find the ship, and bring our friends on shore; but we were obliged to return without accomplishing our purpose, the vessel having anchored much

lower than we had expected. A friend however went on; and though it was late in the day when he reached the ship, they were so anxious to come on to Calcutta, that he contrived to bring them all up, and between 7 and 8 p.m. the unexpected announcement was made that they had arrived. Mr. Jackson with Mrs. Jackson and child took up their abode at brother Wenger's, while the Makepeaces, great and small, are my guests; and I assure you mine is now no despicable family. We muster strong around the breakfast and dinner table; and could you just drop in and see us at such seasons, you would be ready to say the good old times have come round again—the times of the patriarchs. Our dear friends are quite well and in good spirits. The captain was very kind to them.

Our dear friends the Pearces have been making arrangements with a view to return in the "William Carey." As it has been for some time evident that they must return home for a season, if not for good, it has been arranged for the village stations to be under brother Wenger, with the understanding that he will turn the services of Mr. Supper to account in the management of the mas far as circumstances will allow. Brother Lewis has agreed to take charge of Intally. This arrangement, while the only one open to us,

appears to me to be a really good one, and I confidently expect it will be found to work well.

Our brother Pearce cherishes the hope of their returning to India again, after recruiting their health and strength in England. I must confess I can hardly expect that, shattered as their constitutions are, they will ever be so restored as to afford any reasonable prospect of their being able to live and labour with any energy and comfort in India. Time however must decide this question, and if it decide in the affirmative we shall be glad to see them again among us.

Mr. WENGER, in a letter dated July 12th, intimates that as the "William Carey" was likely to be sent to China, a passage had been taken for Mr. and Mrs. PEARCE in the "Essex," which was expected to leave about the 6th of August. No doubt they are making good progress home, and we trust the voyage will prove beneficial to them both. They have indeed long "borne the burden and heat of the day."

MUTTRA.

Mr. and Mrs. PHILLIPS, as our readers are aware, had been obliged to leave Muttra, and seek a restoration to health by a short residence in the mountains. Already they seem to have derived great benefit. Mr. PHILLIPS gives some account of the locality under date of June 10th.

Here we are, seven thousand feet above the sea, recruiting our exhausted energies. It is an English climate, and is doing us all good. My last will have informed you of the painful necessity that drove us here.

My presence here has suggested to some of our friends the propriety of purchasing a mission house for sick missionaries of our denomination. We should like your opinion on the subject. I need not enter into the arguments pro and con on this point, but would simply inform you that the question has been settled in the affirmative by the three great societies labouring in Northern India. The American Presbytery Mission have an estate here capable of accommodating three families; the Church Mission is building a house in Landour; and the London Mission have for some time had a mission and house at Almorah.

Having lately suffered from an attack of fever and ague, I feel weak and not able to write much. This place is like the Grampians hugely magnified. The highest point on which houses are built is 7500 feet above the sea; the air therefore in the house is always cool, and except in June, tolerable with an umbrella outside all day. The houses are scattered at all heights up the two united mountains of Landour and Mussurie. There are enough to fill twenty ordinary cantonments. It is the fashionable resort to all the sick of North-west India, who cannot afford the expense of Simla. There are two churches, now filled by pious clergymen, one female Catholic school and chapel, two good boys' schools, and some for girls. At present there are four baptist families here, two of whom are permanent residents. On sabbath next I hope to immerse in a stream at the bottom of the hill, one brother and two sisters; other pious persons have been studying the subject of baptism before my arrival, and may yet be immersed. We have one English service a week; and when my health is rather more established, I shall commence bazar preaching with brother Makepeace's Telooogo convert now with me. Friends here will assist the Muttra mission, whilst I am here, with their contributions.

SERAMPORE.

In a letter to the secretaries, dated July 1st, Mr. DENHAM offers some striking remarks on the need of schools. Without unduly pressing their importance, he decidedly urges their extension as a most valuable auxiliary to the missionary in the prosecution of his work.

I fully concur with you that we have not made the most of our position and influence to instruct and prepare our teachers: as a denomination we are woefully deficient in the department of schools, though as baptists our views have least of all to dread the spread of light and knowledge, yet little has been done by us in the direct work of education since the days of our fathers. In reading their journals we cannot but be struck with the energy and far-sightedness of those good men, with the zeal and avidity with which they seized, and the care they expended on the three great departments of mission labour. They preached to the natives incessantly, they translated and distributed God's blessed word, and everywhere they opened schools. There was little or no novelty in their plans. Indeed, essential novelty in these respects would be undesirable, while to neglect their example would be blameworthy. It is agreed on all hands that they stimulated the most apathetic bodies to do something towards educating the masses of the people; but, have not we ourselves grown cold since those good men were laid in their graves?

When I came to Serampore and saw the state of things, these reflections deeply moved me. Our difficulties in endeavouring to resuscitate the college, to say nothing of the immense outlay, you know were formidable and not few. I saw, or thought I saw, as in England so in India, that those churches were most healthy and the people composing them most active, where the young were looked after and cared for. One fact is, however, patent to all, that the preaching of the pastors at home is not less frequent, nor their success diminished, nor are their contributions to benevolent objects less, where schools and bible classes are found in active operation. These observations apply to India; intimacy and frequent intercourse with the better instructed and more influential youth among the heathen give a hold on a neighbourhood that every wise missionary will improve.

When in Burmah two years ago, the same facts struck me forcibly. Our American brethren have schools in every place. I visited nearly all the stations, and found that wherever there was a missionary station

there was a school; and in some places very superior schools too. I may instance the schools at Obo, under the direction of Messrs. Vinton and Binney. The Karen female school, under the efficient superintendance of Miss Vinton, was one of the most interesting schools I ever witnessed. It is true that the Burmans and Karen mountaineers are more manly than the Hindoos; still the whole of that mission redounds to the honour of our American fellow labourers; indeed their praise is in all the churches.

I trust that you will not forget Burisál, and Mrs. Sale's schools there; and Intally, and the very useful school under the charge of brother Pearce. The head master of the Benevolent Institution in Calcutta, was a pupil in my classes here, and who has his heart in the work of preaching Christ among the heathen. Nearly all the young people who have joined our church here since my residence, have been from my Bible and other classes. In the course of the year I expect that one young man, of talent and of promise, will leave Serampore for Simlah, to assist in the school there, and I have no doubt but that he will make an efficient lay preacher in that far distant station.

I have five clever and promising youths not supported by the college; one has lately joined the church; also Mr. Felix Johannes, who is a member of the church, is with me at present on probation, together with a Christian Hindoo, and a young man formerly a *Mussulman*, not yet baptized. The young *Mussulman* has resided here about six months, and has given us great satisfaction. We have had many inquirers, at different times; but I dread making such cases prematurely known, for many run well for a season who, by-and-by, grow cold or become offended. Perhaps there is nothing more trying to your missionaries than such repeated disappointments, many, even good Christian men, err here and grow impatient at apparently limited success. They overlook the fact that great events are tardy in their development, that there is much preparatory work yet to be done. From the days of Eden to the advent of the woman's Seed do we not reckon 4000 years? The destined leader and legislator of God's chosen people passed through many vicissitudes and trials, and had, moreover, *eighty* years' discipline to undergo before God openly called him and divinely commissioned him to lead his people from the house of bondage to the promised land. The slowness of the work may exercise us, but when a man advances with God his steps may be slow, but they will be certain.

The annual festivals here are just over.

The numbers in attendance throughout the time bore small proportion to former years. There was altogether a great falling off among the pilgrims this year; the attendance was a concourse of the lowest rabble, sprinkled here and there with a few country Hindoos.

The disreputable females, *connected with idolatry*, were in greater numbers, and showed themselves more openly and behaved more insolently than I have known them do on former occasions.

CHITTAGONG.

Mr. JOHANNES writes, under date of June 26th, and he seems to have considerable encouragement in his work. The following extract will show on what it rests, and whence it is derived.

At Comilla the people afford us great encouragement. Eighteen souls have already been putting on the Lord Jesus Christ, and we have a few hopeful inquirers. I think in a few years, when the gospel is more extensively preached in this district, a very large church may be formed. If a brother was sent here and schools established, much beneficial result is likely to follow. Pray for us, dear brethren, that the Saviour may be more and more glorified among these idolaters.

We have also some who attend and encourage us at Chittagong, and of whom we entertain hopes. My old teacher, who has been with us for ten or twelve years, a high-caste Brahmin and a most intelligent man,

after rejecting the gospel for so many years, has this year professed his regard to the religion of Jesus, and I have every reason to believe he will answer my best expectations and be a warm adherent of the Lord Jesus Christ. He promises to be a very useful preacher, for which he appears to possess qualifications. His wife and children will, I fear, leave him. He is a middle-aged man, and loves his wife and children dearly. How he may stand this trial I cannot say; but as he appears to be sincere, God will bestow his grace upon him and enable him to make the Saviour his all in all. He is a well-known character here; and as soon as the Brahmins find him separated from them, they will commence with their persecutions. One of his daughters is married to a Brahmin. He has also one son who is with the mother in the village. May God appear for all our tried and persecuted converts, and enable them to be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.

INCIDENTS OF BIBLE DISTRIBUTION IN INDIA.

In our last number, a few extracts, under the above title, were given from the Fifth Report of the operations of our brethren in translating, printing, and circulating the sacred scriptures in the languages of India. A few more are subjoined; for they cannot fail to interest our readers, and afford them an insight into a part of mission work, which, though not so striking as some others, is yet of the highest importance.

Manner of distributing the scriptures.

You ask me about the distribution of scriptures. I will mention the plan which I have been pursuing for some years in Patna, as it may be useful to some young missionary or other.

In Patna, where I am well acquainted with the people, and am generally known, I first give persons small books, and tell them, when they have read them, to bring them back to me, and if they know their contents,

I will give them larger. It has often happened that one and the same book has gone to several persons, being taken from one and given to another. At the last mela we visited, Paikunthpur, I pursued a new plan; knowing that a number of wicked men came to annoy me, by getting books just out of sport to destroy them, I put a price on them, and took one pice of some, and of others two or three pice; this had a good effect, it checked those persons, as they would not spend their pice for nothing, or for spoiling the books. Several hundred books I thus gave away for pice; but to those who had read our books and could tell me what they contain, I gave books gratis. One man came holding out his hands for a book; I asked him if he could read, he said, "No;" but added, "I have a friend who is not here at the mela; he reads every day, and I listen to him, and I like what he reads very much." From what he said, I perceived it was a tract he spoke of. I then gave him a gospel. I told the people that next year, if the Lord permit us to come again, they must tell me the contents of the books which I gave them. I intend to follow this plan at all melas in

future. I don't know that any one has been converted by reading the books, but we universally hear it said that our books are good books; this testimony is given by the majority of readers and hearers, and, in my opinion, is of no small value.

A proposed plan for systematic distribution.

I have often thought of the plan you recommended me some years ago, to leave a copy of the scriptures in every village where a person could be found to read it to his neighbours, and have in many instances acted upon it; not, however, as extensively as could be wished. I have had the pleasure of preaching in villages, where no missionary ever preached before me, and of leaving some portions, or the whole of the New Testament, with the understanding that it would be frequently read to the people. But to carry out this plan fully, we must have systematic itineration, or the *colportage* system, which I think a very excellent one; the Bible and Tract Societies here are trying it. I trust it will succeed and be eminently useful in disseminating the knowledge of the one true and living God and of Jesus Christ whom he hath sent.

Good effects—duty of persevering.

In some few instances I have witnessed the good effects which the perusal of the word of God had produced, so that I could say, "on them that were sitting in darkness and in the region and shadow of death hath the light shined;" and even in cases where one could hardly conclude that real conversion had indeed taken place, yet former bitterness and opposition to the truth had vanished away as the morning cloud and the early dew, and decided hostility and indifference had been succeeded by thoughtfulness and respect, which may, with propriety, be regarded as the harbingers of still greater and more permanent benefit to the individuals themselves, as well as a noble manifestation of the triumph of truth over error and superstition. If by any means, through the divine blessing, whether by preaching, conversation, or the reading of the scriptures, the attention of the enemies of Christianity can be arrested, and they themselves brought to indulge a spirit of inquiry and reflection, very much has then been accomplished towards bringing them over on the Lord's side. Now, it appears to me quite plain, that for this purpose all these means combined ought to be resorted to. For example, I go out into the streets and lanes of a city to preach,—many persons gather round me to hear;—some oppose with all their might, and raise objections;—controversy or conversation necessarily ensues;—then if I have by me some portion or portions of

scripture expressive of the doctrine or subject of which we have been speaking, I hand it to them, that they may read for themselves. This I have done on many occasions, and have afterwards marked its beneficial tendency. Sometimes, indeed, I have been without any scriptures to give—which, by the way, is the case at the present moment, with the exception of a few portions which I lately obtained from a Christian friend in the station. Since I have been here, several parties have applied to me for books which I had not. Therefore I hope you will be so kind as to send me a good supply, as soon as you possibly can, in the Urdu, Hindi, and Sanskrit languages.

The scriptures read.

At the yearly melas at Bhuteshwar, where thousands are congregated from distant parts, scriptures have been regularly distributed to such as could read and were anxious to obtain them, and some instances of their effects have come to my notice. After one mela a man came to my house at Chitaurah, bringing a gospel and tract with him, and declaring that he was convinced of the truth of Christianity and determined to embrace it. I one day passed a Muhammadan with two books before him, and on turning to see what he had got, I found him carefully comparing two translations of the New Testament, which he had found out were not exactly alike. Again a short time since, after preaching in a village, a man brought me an old copy of the Hindi Testament, which he assured me he regularly read, and the contents of which he remembered to some extent. I mention these little incidents to prove that the bible is read by numbers who receive it, and consequently, although some abuse it, yet it is making its way amongst the people, and leaving impressions where the foot of the missionary has never trod.

Increasing desire for the scriptures.

In my own district, during the last year, several have borrowed the Old Testament, and after reading it, have returned it. Amongst the Muhammadans especially there appears to be a spirit of inquiry, such as I have not before witnessed. Applications at my bungalow for the word of God have been more numerous last year than in any former one; and as readers are increasing, there is every prospect that the blessings of the gospel will become more generally known and appreciated.

I have not a copy of the Sanskrit Testament left, and my Hindi ones are also expended. I will therefore thank you for a supply, as soon as you can conveniently send me one.

WEST INDIES.

JAMAICA.

BROWN'S TOWN.

We insert the following extracts from a letter of our esteemed brother CLARK, dated Brown's Town, July 8. The account which he gives of the state of the churches under his care is very pleasing; and it must have been most gratifying to him, after his long absence, to find the people so steady, united, and consistent. But his statements respecting the physical condition of the people are truly affecting. Grants continue to be sent, from time to time, from the Cholera Fund; but the SPECIAL FUND is nearly exhausted, and lately very little has been received on that account. How necessary such a fund was, and still continues to be, no one who reads Mr. CLARK's observations can doubt. We hope they may tend to replenish that fund.

During my absence, brother Hodges has diligently and faithfully superintended the stations; several neighbouring ministers, of our own and other denominations, have kindly assisted in supplying my lack of service, and my excellent native helpers have earnestly persevered in their labours—preaching the word, conducting prayer-meetings and schools, and visiting from house to house.

The small-pox has prevailed awfully in the Brown's Town district. There have been about two thousand cases, and a large number of deaths. The distress of the people, I am told, was greater than was ever known before. Whole households were prostrated, so that one individual could not assist another. Food was scarce; water could not be obtained except from a distance of six to ten miles, so that young plantain suckers had to be cut down, to extract the moisture from them: and even now, where the disease is, we hope, subsiding, there is much suffering. In many cases those members of families, by whose labour the remainder were supported, are unable to work. The drought to a large extent destroyed the growing crops of provisions, while the prevalence of sickness prevented the usual amount of planting; so that were it not for the importation of food from America,

we should have a famine. Flour, which sells in England for 18s. or 20s. a barrel, is selling here for 50s. A threepenny loaf is by no means equal to a penny loaf with you, and most other provisions are proportionately high in price.

The help you have enabled brethren to dispense to the sick and poor has been very welcome. I trust you will still have it in your power to render aid where it may be required, and to afford assistance to brethren themselves, whose means of support have been almost entirely destroyed. Let me also beg the earnest and importunate prayers of all who take an interest in missionary operations in this island, that the repeated and heavy trials and afflictions through which the people have passed may be blessed to their spiritual prosperity.

I have reason to bless God for his goodness and mercy to the churches under my care. With some exceptions, the members have, during my absence, walked according to the gospel. A few of those who were awakened during the cholera have turned back; but the greater number have been faithful to their profession. There are a goodly number of candidates for baptism, but I have not yet been able to converse with them. The attendance at our schools has fallen off, in consequence of the sickness and distress, but they will soon I hope be restored to their former state. Since my return, I have preached one sabbath at Brown's Town and the other at Bethany, to immense congregations. To-day I go to Clarksonville, to visit that portion of the flock I had the happiness of gathering, who are now under the pastoral care of brother Johnson, and in a few days I hope to go to see those connected with Sturge Town and Salem churches, under brother Hodges's care.

In the hurry of departure I omitted to request you, through the pages of the Herald, to return my sincere thanks to those dear friends who kindly and generously contributed to assist me in carrying on the work of God at these stations; also towards the liquidation of the debts on my chapels, and maintaining our two sabbath and four day schools; and to those who made me the medium of conveying their liberality to some of my fellow labourers—from each of whom they will no doubt hear in the course of a few weeks.

I received boxes and parcels of useful articles, which have just been safely landed, from ladies at Birmingham for Mrs. Knibb.

Mrs. Burchell, Mr. Hands, Mr. Dexter, and for several female teachers connected with our mission, as well as for my own schools; from Liverpool, Bradford, Luton, Leighton Buzzard, Thrapstone, Shacklewell, Devonshire Square, Bloomsbury, Tottenham, and Stoke Newington; also grants of tracts, children's books, and lessons from the Tract Society, Sunday-school Union, and various friends, for the stations and schools under my care; a box from Lion Street Sunday-school, containing Testaments, lessons, and slates for the schools of our native pastors,

and a grant of books from the Tract Society for native preachers;—for all of which I beg to return my grateful acknowledgments.

Our brother Hodges and his family will, I regret to say, be compelled to leave the island in search of health. Brother Hodges is unknown to the brethren, but I beg to commend him to you as a faithful servant of Jesus Christ. Brother and sister Gay will sail about the same time. Other brethren and their wives also greatly need a change.

SAVANNA LA MAR.

We have great pleasure in announcing the safe arrival of our beloved brother, the Rev. JOHN CLABKE, at Savanna-la-Mar. From his letter it is evident that he has returned to Jamaica with the old feeling of interest in the people there, fresh and strong. He writes like one glad to return to that part of the mission field where his heart ever was, and from which he has been long separated. His letter is dated, Sutcliffe Mount, July 2nd.

We reached Jamaica in safety, after a pleasant voyage of forty-three days from the Clyde; and after remaining eleven days in Kingston, we proceeded in a drogher to Savanna-la-Mar. In twenty-four hours we reached the place, and had a kind welcome from the many friends who assembled to greet us. On the sabbath the chapel was well filled, and many came a distance of

twelve miles to be present on the occasion. On the following Lord's day, at Fuller's Field, the attendance was also good, and I was well pleased with the place, and with the warmth of feeling manifested by many of the people.

We enjoy good health, and are pleased with the prospects of usefulness which appear before us; and not the smallest cause of rejoicing on my part is the fact that, in a district very near to me, a great number of recently arrived Africans are located—some of them are married; several have become inquirers, and nearly all express a deep interest in the truths they hear at this place. They are anxious to have their children taught to read, and I hope to find one of their number, who can read tolerably well, and be willing to act as an instructor to the rest. A person from Sierra Leone is a member with us, and our best sabbath-school teacher. I hope God will incline his heart to this work; and a young Creole, of unassuming manners, I have already taken under probationary training for a teacher of the young at this place.

H A I T I.

JACMEL.

It is with sincere sorrow that we read Mr. WEBLEY'S last letter, dated Aug. 10, and none will read the extracts which follow without deep sympathy for our brother, whose trials have been so numerous and heavy.

Our house is now a very sad one, and our hearts are sorely desolate. Since the departure of my brother, my poor wife has been almost entirely confined to her bed, and is still an invalid. Her extreme suffering has been a source of great anxiety and sorrow to

me, and I have even feared that she would not live through it. But, thanks to Him who always mingles mercy with deserved judgment, she is now a little better, though still suffering from great weakness. During her illness our darling babe was taken ill with fever, and we feared that our heavenly Father was about to deprive us of this precious treasure. She is now better, though far from being well. The day she was seized with fever, I was myself taken with violent headache, so violent, indeed, that I immediately sent for a doctor to bleed me. The next day, in spite of the precaution of the previous evening, I was taken with fever, and had

to be bled and leeches, and so again the following day. After considerable difficulty the fever was got under, although we feared it would turn to brain fever. I am, however, very, very weak. My constitution was so broken up before, that this last attack has

left me weaker than any previous one. How sweet that heaven must be where there will be no more pain. May these oft-repeated sorrows of earth prepare us for the rest and quiet of heaven.

PORT AU PLAT.

It will be remembered that some months since several changes took place in the Bahamas mission. It was thought desirable that the mission originally begun by Mr. RYCKOFF in Port au Plat, on the north side of St. Domingo, and which was abandoned in consequence of opposition from the authorities, and the disturbed state of the country, should be resumed; and Mr. RYCKOFF removed from Turks' Island for that purpose, and having now been at Port au Plat some months, gives the following details in his recent correspondence:—

On the 6th of March we sailed from Turks' Island for St. Domingo, where, after a short voyage of two days, we landed on the Monday, and on the Thursday night opened divine service in a suitable room hired for the purpose. From that time down to this date, April 9th, we have held services on the Lord's day, and during two evenings in the week, with an encouraging measure of success. True, our congregation inside has not been more than from twenty to thirty; but this small matter may kindle

yet a great fire, a fire of light and love to the Saviour, that shall raise many souls to heaven and purity. We have at most of the services the natives round the doors and windows, especially under cover of night, and the shade of the verandah projecting from the house. When I see this I take my Spanish testament and read to them, or at once endeavour to tell them in Spanish about the right way of salvation by Jesus alone. I have then all satisfaction in the good attention of the people.

I have reason to believe that here, at Puerto Plata, we should soon have an encouraging congregation, if we could obtain a chapel; this establishment would tend indirectly to aid us in other places. It would make us known as having a stake in the country, and make your missionary known in a way that would render more easy his access to other places.

I must not forget to say, we have opened a Sunday-school with eight children; but should that institution increase, our accommodation will limit our efforts.

Our first collection was made on Sunday, when on Monday we found something like 125 dollars had been subscribed, or nine shillings and threepence sterling. I have opened a class, which will call upon our friends' liberality as well as aid their spirituality.

AFRICA.

Mr. WHEELER, whose health has been materially improved since his return, and who is now busily engaged in attending various meetings, has sent us an account of the kind manner in which the members of the church at Fernando Po provided for his comfort during his voyage. It is due to this affectionate people to insert Mr. WHEELER's note to us on the subject.

I must acknowledge the proofs of kind feeling and consideration which I received from the people at Clarence on my leaving

the island. Any little thing they could do for me in the business of packing up, or needful for my comfort, they were too pleased to do; and one after another, when informed of my sudden summons from the captain to be ready to start, kept coming in to bid me good bye, or see what they could do. In the meantime I found that fowls, yams, oranges, pine-apples, and bananas, were being sent into my yard for shipment for my comfort in the voyage. Our good and active brother, Wilson, superintended the getting in of these things, and told me that there would have been even more fowls sent, but that the coming of two war-steamers a few days before had nearly exhausted the supply both of fowls and eggs. I may mention that the

supply of these forms one source of profit to the inhabitants. But the number of fowls actually sent was not less than thirty-eight, some sending even three. One woman, a constant hearer, unable to get any fowl, met me at the last, offering me some silver instead, which of course I declined, although she was sincerely desirous that I should accept it. I however made her understand that I quite appreciated the feeling which prompted her.

Several, besides the deacons, accompanied me to the beach, assisting in carrying the things not already on board, and there I parted with them, with more felt than could be expressed in words on both sides. This seasonable supply of nourishing food, together with the good provisions with which the ship was so liberally stocked, very greatly contributed to the restoration of my health, especially when the pure breezes of the cooler latitudes recovered my digestive powers. Thus, on landing at Liverpool, by God's blessing, I looked a very different being, to what I did on embarkation at Clarence. I have already informed you of the very kind and generous way in which the ship-owners waived all mention of payment for my passage home.

Mr. SAKER continues to prosecute his work with ardour and zeal. Our fear is that, in spite of all remonstrance, he will overwork himself, which is too evident from the recital he gives in his letter of June 28th.

Now that I am compelled to pause, I can write you once more, but it is not an easy task. This day week and the day following I passed in indescribable suffering, and since then till now, I can scarcely leave my recumbent position, yet I did manage yesterday to go to meeting, and stood in the desk two hours. You will, I am sure, excuse me if my letter is short, when I tell you that it is only while lying down that I can write at all.

I left Bimbia again at midnight, May 4th; next day at Clarence with Mr. Wheeler till the 10th. During this stay we had to bury the remains of Mrs. S. Johnson. On the morning of the 10th left for Bimbia; thence to Cameroons—arrived on the 12th. Left again on 14th, at midnight. Next day and night exposed to a heavy storm for fourteen hours; arrived at Bimbia, sabbath day, 16th. Next morning correcting proof sheets from 12 o'clock till 5; then sailed for Clarence—a stormy passage; once our boat was completely on her beam ends. I had scarcely a hope that we should reach land again: yet we arrived at Clarence at night without loss. Found the house vacated, Mr. Wheeler had sailed—being five days before the time appointed by the captain of the vessel. The

first duties of this station detained me there till the 31st. Left at midnight for Cameroons—arrived June 1st at 2 P.M. Here detained again till the 11th. Left at midnight for Bimbia; arrived at two next day. The next day, the sabbath, quite unwell, and could not preach. Correcting printing, and suffering, till the 19th. Left at 11 A.M. for Cameroons;—arrived at 9 in the evening. Heard that my wife and child had left for Clarence on account of the heavy rains. Next day, still unwell; preached but once. Monday 21st, very ill. Strong fever and intense pain at night. Next day worse; requested a visit from a surgeon, who, although the kindest trader I know in Africa, was too much engaged with his trade, to come and see me. Heard that a vessel was about to sail to Clarence at night; a passage was readily granted. Next morning was carried to the vessel, and arrived here on Friday morning, very greatly bettered by rest, and have continued to do well ever since, so as to preach once yesterday; and hope to leave again for Bimbia in three or four days.

This so far is a mere outline of journeys;—the labour connected with it I cannot describe. To preaching and talking there is no end. Translating and correcting sheets is a serious task, and frequently involves intense study by night, when there is nothing to interrupt attention. The New Testament is now our chief work, and I have printed to the 3rd chapter of Luke. Chapter 8 is in type this week. Next to this is the Imbu grammar, which progresses slowly. Some Fernandian lessons, and a new class book for the Dualla schools, are in type.

CLARENCE.

On Monday, the 24th of May, I met the church at Clarence, and had the painful work of dismissing four members; and early the next day had to bury one of the best of our number. He ascended to join the church above in their unbroken praise. And now I arrive just in time to hear the last sad accents over the remains of our brother Richards, long an honourable deacon of this church. When I was here in May, I promised to perform the marriage ceremony for him. I doubt not but he is now at the marriage supper of the Lamb.

When I found Mr. Wheeler was really gone, I felt then that something must be done to continue the services here. For me to resume the entire charge of this station I felt to be impossible. In a few words then I will tell you what I have done. I resolved to visit Clarence as often as possible; so that it involves no neglect of anything on the continent;—to leave the services and the church at Cameroons more in the hands of Horton Johnson;—to appoint J. Wilson a teacher for the time being at Clarence, and arrange with him that two days shall be devoted to the church during the week, that

when I am not here, the services shall be conducted by him and by Smith during the week and on the sabbath. So then, with Johnson at Cameroons, Fuller at Bimbia, and Wilson and Smith at Clarence, I hope to continue all the stations.

FRANCE.

MORLAIX.

Amid the greatest opposition and discouragement with which the mission has to contend in this district, the gospel yet makes its way, slowly indeed, but with some tokens of success. Mr. JENKINS writes, Aug. 12th :—

In the first place I have to mention two interesting meetings held lately at our place of worship. One of these is a kind of a general meeting, held alternately every three or four months in the places of evangelical worship in this department. It was held here on the 26th, 27th, and 28th of June. It commenced on Saturday evening, by a re-union for reading God's word, prayer, and praise. On sabbath morning, the pastor, Le Fourdray (Brest), preached in French. In the afternoon, the Rev. J. Williams (Quimper), preached in English. In the evening, Mr. Planta (evangelist at L'Orient), preached in French. At the close of the afternoon service, a collection was made in favour of the work of distributing the scriptures in Brittany, which amounted to 183 francs. On Monday evening we had a closing meeting, in which was given some account of evangelical labours in this country.

The other meeting referred to was a Breton one, held at our chapel last sabbath morning (8th of August), to unite and edify the Breton friends of the gospel of Christ. The attendance was fair. Some persons had come from a great distance. We had a good meeting; and we have reason to say it was a blessed thing to meet thus together in the house of God. It may be said with truth, of several of those present, that they are like children growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. There is among them some real progress, and we believe it is a beginning of a more extensive success of the gospel.

The Itinerant School.

I have now to state the case of our itinerant Breton school, and I shall feel obliged to you for laying it before the Committee. What I call our itinerant school is, as you are aware, the teaching of children and adults to read, from house to house, making use for that purpose of our Breton first book

to read, and the New Testament. This mode of teaching was commenced on the 10th of December last, by one of our Breton colporteurs, who had not succeeded in obtaining an authorisation to sell the scriptures. It struck me he might be usefully employed in this other mode of doing good within the district where I preach in the country. It is true we feared the difficulties which were likely to arise against this work. Nevertheless our friend went to work boldly. Success attended his labours. Priestly opposition and some lay influence soon came to bear against him, which made several tremble and abandon the teacher and his teaching. This panic did not last long, and we had the satisfaction of seeing confidence returning, and with it a portion of those who had been frightened away. The priest of the parish where he chiefly labours preaches violently against us at present, complaining that the men especially, being led away by our errors, do not come to the confessional; but I am told the people generally disapprove of his attacks, and are becoming displeased with them. The good work of teaching goes on, and gains ground. According to the teacher's account, at the commencement of this month, he has fifty-five learners. They are thus:— three married men, two married women, ten young women, three young men, and thirty-seven children, from the age of six to fifteen years. The teacher gives a lesson daily to the greatest part of his pupils, but the others he is able to visit only every other day. All are in the first book except one, who now reads in his New Testament.

More Teachers wanted.

I have the satisfaction of telling you that this work is so much on the increase, that another teacher or two are wanted, as the demand for lessons extends to a wide circuit, and it appears quite probable that this is a work that would soon greatly expand itself, if supported and carried on with judgment and vigour. I am quite of opinion that it is highly desirable; all that is possible should be done to carry it on and extend it. I need not expatiate on its vast utility and importance. Knowing that none are more able to form a just idea of the value of this excellent work than the gentlemen who form the Committee of our Missionary Society, I

dismiss this point, only remarking that this is perhaps one of the most effectual means of evangelization we can make use of among the inhabitants of Lower Brittany. It suits particularly the Breton population; it will enable us to prepare them for the perusal and understanding of the word of God; to hear the preaching of the gospel with discernment and profit; to remove prejudices; to spread true Christianity among them in a familiar way; to open the way for introducing among them with success our little religious literature, &c.

Shall the School be supported?

The question now is, what will the Committee do to support our itinerary school, and whether it will be supported as a great means of evangelization, so as to enable us to foster and extend it as far as we shall be encouraged to do by the Lord's opening the

way before us, and giving us suitable agents for the work. I think it is desirable that I should know the Committee's views on this subject. At present we have but one teacher, whom I baptized some time ago. He is suitable for the work. He has received only four francs per week salary, and was supported from December 10th to the close of June by funds collected here, in order that a trial might be made of this itinerary teaching. Now that his teaching is become a permanent thing, I am obliged to apply to you for funds to support him. But henceforth we must pay him five francs per week, as four francs are insufficient, though he receives something in the way of food from the people.

Will any generous friend enable the Committee to decide our brother's question in the affirmative?

HOME PROCEEDINGS.

DURING the past month meetings have been held in various parts of the country; and on the whole, from the accounts we have received respecting them, they have been animated and encouraging. Messrs. J. A. WHEELER and J. J. BROWN have been in Glamorgan and Monmouthshire. Mr. WILLIAMS, of Accrington, writes, that as they were unable to obtain a suitable deputation for that district, the pastors determined to do the work themselves. At a considerable sacrifice of time, the brethren PARK, EVANS, WOOD, OWEN, WILLIAMS, and BURN, assisted by Mr. GRIFFITHS, of Accrington, devoted a fortnight in advocating the mission cause, in Colne, Burnley, Padiham, Sabden, Haslingden, Cloughfold, and Accrington. Mr. W. adds, "The meetings have been well attended, and were of an effective character; and I am happy to state that the aggregate proceeds of this year are larger than were those of last. Progress has been made, and still greater progress promised."

Our indefatigable friend, Mr. ELVEN, accompanied by Mr. JARROM, formerly a missionary in China, whose kind services on this and former occasions we beg to acknowledge, has been attending meet-

ings, on behalf of the society, at Barton Mills, Isleham, Soham, West Row, and Burwell.

The Hon. and Rev. B. W. NOEL, M.A., Rev. E. CAREY, and E. B. UNDERHILL, Esq., have been similarly engaged in the West Riding of York. Through the kindness and zeal of T. HARWOOD and J. COOKE, Esqs., the secretaries of the Auxiliary, a much larger number of churches have consented to receive the deputation than formerly. Mr. UNDERHILL afterwards goes on to the Newcastle district, and Mr. CAREY joins Mr. GOUGH in Lincolnshire. Mr. GOULD, whose return from Jamaica was announced in a previous letter, has visited several churches in Sussex, and Mr. LEECHMAN has kindly assisted him at the Brighton and Hastings meetings. Mr. BURDITT, of Saffron Walden, with Mr. GOULD, have taken the Hull district; Mr. SMITH of Brentford, and Mr. WHEELER, have visited St. Alban's, Hemel Hempstead, and Markyate Street; Mr. G. H. DAVIS of Bristol, with Mr. CASSIDY, formerly of the Free Church Mission at Bombay, but whose license was withdrawn by the kirk session, in consequence of his avowing a change of views on the subject of baptism, and

who has been recently baptized by Mr. NOEL, has taken Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire; Mr. WHEELER, North Devon; and Mr. TRESTRAIL and Mr. NEW of Birmingham, the Worcestershire Auxiliary. Some few of these engagements will run partly into the first week of the present month. We would fain hope that they will be found, in every respect, most profitable missionary engagements, and that a liberal, devout, and earnest spirit has pervaded them.

We again respectfully remind the officers of the Auxiliaries of a request, very often made, to send up their remittances speedily. We would say to them,—don't wait until all your accounts are finally adjusted before you remit; but send up what cash is in hand. At this period of the financial year we are compelled to borrow of the bankers. But the amount required may be seriously

diminished, if kind attention be given to this oft-repeated request.

Let not the proposal made by an old subscriber in the last Herald be permitted to pass into forgetfulness. A general adoption of it, by the heads of Christian families, could not fail to produce a most beneficial effect. The thought that thus many thousand families were praying for the divine blessing on the mission every Lord's day morning, and that they were giving under the influence of solemn prayer to Him, is indeed delightful. May the suggestion thrown out by a most liberal and zealous friend soon become a fact!

We would intimate to any friends who may not have received their copies of the Report, that they may have them on application at the Mission House, or by intimating in what way they may be sent, if possible, free from expense to the society.

POSTSCRIPT.

We take the present opportunity of correcting a mistake in the list of honorary members of the Committee, as printed in the Report. Our esteemed friend, the Rev. C. E. BIRT, A.M., of Wantage, felt it last year to be his duty, in consequence of the state of his health, to resign his seat on the Committee. This resignation was reluctantly accepted, and the Committee, to mark, in the only way open to them, their sense of Mr. BIRT's services for upwards of twenty

years, passed a resolution in acknowledgment, and placed his name in the list of honorary members. By an oversight, which was not discovered till it was too late to correct the error, Mr. BIRT's name was omitted from the printed list in the Report for the present year. It is due to the Committee, and to Mr. BIRT, to explain this circumstance, which the Secretaries most sincerely regret.

FOREIGN LETTERS RECEIVED.

| | | | |
|----------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| AFRICA | CLARENCE | Saker, A. | June 28. |
| ASIA | CALCUTTA | Lewis, C. B. | July 1. |
| | | Thomas, J. | July 2. |
| | | Wenger, J. | July 12. |
| | CHITTAGONG | Johannes, J. | June 26. |
| | LANDOUR | Phillips, T. | June 10. |
| | SERAMPORE | Denham, W. H. .. | July 1. |
| BRITANNY | MORLAIX | Jenkins, J. | August 20. |
| HAITI | JACMEL | Webley, W. H. .. | August 10. |
| | PUERTO PLATA | Rycroft, W. K. .. | June 27, July 16. |

| | | | |
|----------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| JAMAICA | MOUNT ANGUS | Teall, W..... | July 14. |
| | PORT MARIA | Day, D..... | August 3. |
| | STEWART TOWN | Dexter, B. B..... | July 26. |
| | SUTCLIFFE MOUNT | Clarke, J..... | July 21. |
| TRINIDAD | PORT OF SPAIN | Law, J..... | August 9. |

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

The thanks of the Committee are presented to the following friends—

Friends at Lewisham Road, for a box of clothing;
 Juvenile Missionary Society, Hanley, for a box of clothing, for *Africa*;
 A subscriber, for a parcel of Baptist Magazines;
 Drawing Room Society, Camberwell, by Mrs. Doxsey, for a parcel of useful articles, for *India*;
 Friends at Kettering, for a box of clothing, for *Rev. H. Capern, Bahamas*;
 Friend at Hammermith, for a parcel of magazines and reports;
 Friends at Mint Lane, Lincoln, for a case of useful articles, including a number of boots and shoes from Mr. Penney, for *Mr. J. Fuller, Bimbia*;
 Miss Eley, Wotton under Edge, for copies of Reports;
 Rev. C. Kirtland, Canterbury, for do.

The Committee will feel obliged to any friends who may have copies of the last year's Annual Report of the Society, which they do not require for their own use or for distribution, if they will kindly return them, carriage free, to the Mission House; as the Committee's reserved copies are quite exhausted.

CONTRIBUTIONS,

Received on account of the Baptist Missionary Society, during the month of August, 1852.

| £ s. d. | | £ s. d. | | £ s. d. |
|---------------------------------|---------|--------------------------------|---------------|---------|
| Annual Subscriptions. | | | | |
| Chandler, Mr. John..... | 1 1 0 | Luton, Old Meeting, on | account | 3 13 9 |
| Croll, A. A., Esq..... | 10 10 0 | | | |
| Donations. | | | | |
| Anon | 5 0 0 | BESSHIRE. | | |
| Bolton, Rev. W., Pro- | | Reading | 22 12 8 | |
| ceeds of Property in | | BUCKINGHAMSHIRE. | | |
| accordance with the | | Amersham— | | |
| wish of the late Mrs. | | Collection | 30 11 0 | |
| Bolton..... | 600 0 0 | Contributions | 48 7 2 | |
| Coverley, S..... | 0 5 1 | Do., Sunday School | 1 15 10 | |
| Educational Committee | | | 80 14 0 | |
| of Society of Friends, | | Less expenses | 1 2 6 | |
| for <i>Trinidad Schools</i> ... | 25 0 0 | | 79 11 6 | |
| J. P. G. | 0 10 0 | Speen— | | |
| LONDON AUXILIARIES. | | | | |
| Bloomsbury Chapel, on | | Collection | 3 13 2 | |
| account | 5 0 0 | Sunday School | 0 5 10 | |
| Spencer Place— | | CAMBRIDGESHIRE. | | |
| Branch School, Presi- | | Cambridge— | | |
| dent Place..... | 5 0 0 | St. Andrew's Street— | | |
| Vernon Chapel— | | Collection | 50 5 4 | |
| Young Ladies, Miss | | Contributions | 57 12 4 | |
| Simcoe's..... | 0 5 0 | Do., Sun. School | 7 10 0 | |
| Walworth, Lion Street— | | Zion Chapel— | | |
| Female Auxiliary, on | | Collection | 2 13 7 | |
| account | 5 0 0 | Chesterton— | | |
| BEDFORDSHIRE. | | | | |
| Cotton End— | | Collection, Juvenile... | 1 1 6 | |
| Collection (part) | 4 18 11 | Contributions, Bible | | |
| Contribution, Miss | | Class | 0 15 4 | |
| Arnold | 5 0 0 | Do., Sunday School | 0 17 9 | |
| | | Cottenbam— | | |
| | | Collection | 19 5 1 | |
| | | Landbeach— | | |
| | | Collection | 1 5 9 | |
| | | Contributions | 0 3 6 | |
| | | Melbourn— | | |
| | | Collection | 5 11 8 | |
| | | Contributions | 2 12 0 | |
| | | Do., Sunday School | 1 4 10 | |
| | | Shefford, Great— | | |
| | | Collection | 2 5 0 | |
| | | Contributions | 2 5 0 | |
| | | Swavesey— | | |
| | | Collection | 5 0 0 | |
| | | Waterbeach— | | |
| | | Collection | 4 2 1 | |
| | | Willingham— | | |
| | | Collection | 0 17 0 | |
| | | | 165 7 8 | |
| | | Acknowledged before | | |
| | | and expenses..... | 135 6 10 | |
| | | | 30 0 10 | |
| | | DORSETSHIRE. | | |
| | | Dorchester— | | |
| | | Collections..... | 3 13 4 | |
| | | Contribution | 1 0 0 | |
| | | Do., for <i>Native</i> | | |
| | | <i>Preachers</i> | 0 14 2 | |
| | | | 5 7 6 | |
| | | Loss expenses | 0 9 0 | |
| | | | 4 13 0 | |
| | | Gillingham..... | 3 16 6 | |
| | | (This contribution should have | | |
| | | been acknowledged in the Sep- | | |
| | | tember <i>Herald</i> .) | | |

