# THE MISSIONARY HERALD.

At the last Quarterly Meeting, the Committee had to deal with questions of unusual importance, and which required the gravest and most prayerful consideration. To two of them, more especially, we earnestly invite the serious attention of our readers; and we beg them not to be content with simply reading what we write, but to ponder the facts, and as in the sight of God to ask themselves what they ought to do.

For a long series of years the Committee, in all cases involving fresh outlay, have largely depended on the faith and liberality of the churches. It has, indeed, grown to be a sort of maxim, "send out the men, and do the work, and the means will come;" and if by acting upon it a debt has, in any case, been the result, they have sometimes had to bear sharp and severe rebuke. But the facts which we shall shortly advert to, will plainly indicate, that for the present at least, the Committee are compelled to pause.

Nothing is easier than to denounce an evil; few things more difficult than to suggest the remedy. In the present circumstances of the Society, events which no one could foresee, and which have occasioned unlooked-for but inevitable expenditure—the commercial condition of the country for the last eighteen months, with trade paralysed, entailing enormous losses and bringing severe distress on numerous classes of persons, among whom were to be found some of the most liberal supporters of the Mission, and the purely voluntary nature of the Society—have been too much overlooked. Moreover, its essentially aggressive character, and the success which our Divine Lord has graciously vouchsafed to its Agents, necessarily requiring larger means, have been sometimes forgotten.

But what is the remedy? Raise the income is the reply. Efforts have been made to do that. Separate appeals for augmented yearly contributions have been sent to pastors and churches, to all the members of the Society, and to our various chapels throughout the country; so that each attendant might see them. Very many have also been sent to non-contri-

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buting churches, in the hope that they might be induced to put their hand to the good work. What the effect will be, we cannot yet tell; nor shall we be able to do so until the financial year is closed.

Meanwhile the appeal on behalf of the debt, for personal contributions, and congregational collections, in commemoration of the seventy-fifth year of the Society's existence, has been freely responded to. By the time these lines are in the hands of our readers, nearly £4,000 will have been sent up. This has been done with a spontaneity that has surprised us; and most of the letters we have received breathe a spirit of warm attachment to the Society, and express the most ardent wishes for its prosperity.

Then, again, reduction of expenditure is urged. Such expenditure as the Committee could at once deal with, has been reduced as far, perhaps, as is consistent with the efficient conduct of the Society's affairs. But to reduce it in the Mission field is not so easy, and requires time. Even if missionaries were at once recalled, months must elapse ere they would cease to be a charge on our funds. Moreover, there is a wide-spread and deep repugnance to such a step; nor should it be taken at all, except from dire necessity. "Anything rather than that," is often said, and in a tone which indicates the distress it would inflict.

There was only one other course open to the Committee, and in present circumstances inevitable,—resolutely to avoid increasing the expenditure. Only three missionaries have been sent out during the past three years. These have not supplied the losses occasioned by sickness and death. Benares, Delhi, Jessore, Barrisal and Eastern Bengal, cry out for help. In China, Mr. Laughton is now alone. Africa calls aloud for more labourers, and Mr. Allen's place in Ceylon has not yet been filled. In the face of these facts no one can question the sincerity of the Committee in their desire and effort to prevent, as far as it is in their power, any renewal of debt. Ponder, we beseech you, what follows!

Last year Mr. Knight, of Rawdon College, offered himself for Mission service. His own letters, those of his tutors, and others from friends who know him well, and had heard him preach, were indicative of a superior fitness for the work. As his period of study was not then expired, he was requested to renew his application; this he has done. Mr. Orwin, of Regent's Park, also offered for service in India; and his testimonials were equally satisfactory. Mr. Gordon, a member of the Church at Allahabad, born in India, growing up in familiar acquaintance with the languages, customs, habits of thought, and superstitions of the people, formerly a student at Serampore, and whose determination to preach the gospel to the heathen was the result of many striking indications of Providence, requested the Committee to take him into service, and place him under Mr. Evans's direction, that his qualifications might be tested. Being

native born, and therefore accustomed to the climate; already in the country, and therefore requiring no expenditure for outfit and passage; and living with his parents, and needing but little for his support, his offer was most difficult to resist.

Here, then, are three cases, such as, in ordinary circumstances, would have occasioned little hesitation; and if these brethren had been accepted, their acceptance would have given a thrill of joy to all our friends; for it is a joy to send forth a preacher of the gospel to the heathen! What was the duty of the Committee? Plainly to act on the resolution they had formed. It cost a struggle to do it, and it was not done without pain. But we believe they will have the sympathy and approval of their constituents. The following resolution sets forth the fact and grounds of their procedure:—

Resolved—"That this Committee record, with great sorrow, that although they have had before them three offers for Missionary Service, they have deemed it so essential to avoid additional expenditure in the present condition of the Society's finances, that they have felt it their duty to decline, for the present, to entertain such applications."

The condition of our China mission has, for some months, engaged the attention of the Committee. They have been deterred from all efforts to strengthen it by the state of the funds. But it has been said,—"Why not accept offers of service from men who are willing to go out in faith, not looking to the Society for help, but trusting in God for it, and prepared to run all risk of finding it in the country, and from the contributions of sympathising friends at home." Now, there is nothing in the constitution or practice of the Society to forbid this. The first missionaries did so, and, more recently, the late Mr. Cassidy; and Mr. Gillott, who proceeded to Poonah to join him, did so too. Mr. Taylor, formerly connected with the Chinese Evangelical Society, who returned from China some years ago, to study in the medical schools of London, left for that country about eighteen months since, taking with him a considerable number of men and women. They depend on no Society, but a friend, who deeply sympathises with Mr. Taylor, receives contributions, from these funds they have assistance, as it may be wanted. They have no salaries, and hope, mainly, to obtain support in China itself, either from personal labour, or from the people they may gather together. We have not yet received sufficient intelligence to justify any decisive opinion on the scheme as a general one; nor whether the actual success has equalled the expectations raised. It is enough, perhaps, at present, to say, that this enterprise may lead to some modification of the modes of conducting missionary labour. There is no reason whatever to prevent our adopting any plan which time and circumstances may show to be expedient. There is some danger, doubtless, of great organizations falling into a stereotyped system of action; nor is it, on the other hand, desirable to make changes for the sake of change. Rather should it be our care to give our plans all the elasticity of which they are susceptible.

Moreover, there is something heroic in thus going forth in this spirit of faith. It is a great gift, and not given to all the Lord's servants. Just now, at least, it cannot become the sole principle of action. One thing, however, must not be forgotten. Any one going forth on this principle who has not attained to a full belief in it, will be sure to fail. Disappointment and distress will inevitably be his lot who has not the firmest possible hold of and confidence in it. But we should honour those on whom this gift is bestowed, and be ready to assist them to the full extent of our power. As far as the means placed at the disposal of the Committee will permit, brethren animated by this spirit will be cordially welcomed. The opinions of the Committee on the subject will be best understood from the resolution which they have passed, and which we subjoin:—

Resolved,—"That the Committee will be happy to receive proposals to labour in China, under the auspices of the Society (as has been done with respect to other parts of the mission field), from brethren who are disposed to enter on the service of Christ, to find, mainly or altogether, their support in the resources which the country they seek to evangelize may furnish, the Committee rendering only such aid, from time to time, as it may be in their power to afford."

Resolved,—"That the Committee are prepared to receive any contributions specially given for the use of such brethren, by Churches or private Christians, and to forward such funds to the brethren for whose aid they are designed."

There is one class of men to whom, on this ground, we may, with great propriety, appeal, as we have done on some former occasions-we mean men of cultivated talent and ample means. Why should not they consecrate their talents and their property to the cause of Christ, and, for His sake, go out to heathen lands? Young men of social position and ability do not hesitate, when opportunity offers, to go to India or China, or any other distant country, for pleasure, or to amass wealth, and then return. Is it unreasonable to ask the disciples of Jesus who can do this, to go and spend and be spent in the glorious work of preaching the Gospel? What Missionary Society would not welcome them with open arms? How great the interest they would awaken in the Churches! Self-sacrifice and devotion of this lofty order would kindle a holy fire in Christian hearts, awaken an intense spirit of zeal and prayer, and bring again the heroism of former days! "The romance of missions is gone." This may, in part, be true, and not very difficult to account for. A few such examples as we have supposed would surely restore it; and without upsetting present plans of operation, or creating new organizations, or disarranging those already in existence, would impart to them the warmth and glow of a renewed life.

#### THE VOYAGE OF THE SHANNON.

#### BY THE REV. T. MARTIN.

November 29th, 1867.—We are in the Hooghly, and expect to reach Calcutta in a few hours. The voyage has been a prosperous one, though not so speedy as was anticipated. God has mercifully preserved the lives of all on board, and the health of some of them has greatly improved. You will be sorry to learn, however, that Mr. Lewis and Mrs. Martin have not derived as much benefit from the voyage as you and we hoped they might. Their appetite seemed to fail both of them a good deal, and during the last few weeks Mrs. Martin has suffered much from cough and extreme debility; but we trust the few months of the cold season The rest of our mission circle, and that still remain will make amends for all. all the children on board, have enjoyed excellent health. A few hours will put us in possession of the news for which we are anxiously waiting, respecting the dear ones whom we have left behind us. God grant that the tidings may be such as will cheer our hearts, and strengthen us for our future labours! Hitherto hath the Lord helped us. Blessed be the name of the Lord!

During the voyage there were no incidents worth mentioning. In rounding the Cape, our course for some weeks was upwards of forty-two degrees south of the Equator, and consequently we had cold squally weather, and a rough heavy sea. When we again entered the Tropics, we were the better able to appreciate the genial warmth of the sun.

We have on board thirty-two first-class passengers with eight children, six second-class passengers, and three Ayahs. Among the first-class passengers are the Rev. Mr. Roberts, a chaplain of the Established Church of Scotland; the Rev. Mr. Hacon, who, we understand, is connected with the "Additional Clergy Aid Society;" and the Rev. Mr. Scott of the American Baptist Mission. Mr. Hacon, the second of these gentlemen, is a young man, and a member of the Church of England. Being connected with the "Additional Clergy Aid Society," he has consequently no connection with the Government. Nevertheless, the captain singled him out from the beginning, and conferred upon him the honour of saying "grace," and returning thanks at dinner. He also exclusively read prayers every Sunday morning, and after prayers preached when the weather permitted.

We have had delightful services on board. At Mr. Lewis's request the captain gave us permission to hold a short service every morning in the cuddy, and to preach every Sunday evening when the weather was favourable. The daily morning service usually lasted about fifteen minutes, and consisted in singing a hymn, reading a portion of Scripture, and prayer. The brethren Scott, Roberts, Lewis, Gregson, Thomas, and myself, conducted these daily morning and Sunday evening services alternately. Most of the passengers attended them regularly, and seemed to appreciate them. We have no doubt their effect has been good. They have at least tended to provoke to love, and to maintain harmony and goodwill among us. It is not often that passengers meet together daily for prayer, and we felt thankful that so many on board the "Shannon" availed themselves of the privilege.

Mr. Thomas and I read a good deal of Bengali during the voyage. He applied himself with great diligence, and made considerable progress in the language.

December 6th.—We reached Calcutta at 10 o'clock on the morning of the 30th ult. We are all well, but the news of another cyclone has cast a gloom over us all. Distress and sadness every where. May God be our helper, and the helper of the poor! We go to Serampore to-day.

#### MISSION WORK IN DELHI.

#### BY THE REV. JAMES SMITH.

Amid considerable discouragements, I think, we are making progress. Last month our daily average attendance at the boys' schools was 304, and girls about 50. These are not ordinary heathen schools; for the boys are generally untrammelled by caste, and the parents are quite willing that they should receive Christian instruction, for many of them are nominal Christians, and hence a considerable part of them attend services on Lord's Day in the chapel. They are all, with the exception of the central school, taught by our town missionaries or Scripture readers, and I feel confident they are aiding our preaching operations most effectually, in spreading abroad the knowledge of the truth. Not less than 1,000 weekly attend our enquirers' prayer-meetings, at which easy expositions of the Word of God are given, and we have a Sabbath congregation of 150 in the city, besides Pahar Gunge, Purana Killa, and Shahdura, where they have small separate congregations. Crowds assemble every night in the city to hear the Gospel. The Mahommedans fight hard, whilst the Hindus, as usual, look on with apathy. We can see the effect of all this instrumentality, and have no doubt as to the eventual triumph of the truth; but it is nevertheless true that our converts are still counted by units, and when we get them they are a continual source of anxiety to us in consequence of their weakness and inconsistencies.

#### EXPECTATIONS.

No doubt we expect too much from them, and look for the effects of centuries of culture in as many years. Idolatry eats into the very soul, and produces defects of character, that to an European Christian are incomprehensible. These defects are hereditary, and a better atmosphere must be produced before moral health at all returns. I am tired of theorising. I know well that God has sent his Son to seek and to save the lost, and this seeking is going on wherever the simple Gospel is preached. The length of time necessary for finding treasure, depends a good deal on the amount of rubbish you have to move before you can get at it. So with the Hindu, the rubbish of centuries has to be removed before you get near his conscience; and when you find it, long disuse has produced such insensibility that all its powers have to undergo the vitalising and energising influence of God's Spirit and truth ere it is in a fit state for the performance of its proper functions. Unless we look for the return of the age of miracles, we must be satisfied with a gradual advance towards Christian consistency. This adbe satisfied with a gradual advance towards Christian consistency. vance will be slow and discouraging in the old converts, and much quicker in their children. I have come to this conclusion after long experience and careful We are responsible for using the means in our hands, viz., telling all we can to obtain access to the one Saviour, and the result is as certain as that the sun drives away night. My dear wife has got three Zenana teachers at work, and her schools are going on well. I hope in a short time we shall have systematic labours such as we have never had before, in the female department of the mission. I need not say that our expenses are very high: £500 per annum will not more than pay our present labourers, and £84 have been withdrawn from us by the Australian churches, that they may have a mission of their own in some way separate from the Baptist Missionary Society. I have just engaged a Mr. Middleton, on 50 rupees per month. He was formerly in the Benares mission in Middleton, on 50 rupees per month. He was formerly in the Benares mission in connection with Mr. Small, and is very highly spoken of by the people at Jullundur, where he has long had charge of the Station School. He gives up 25 rupees per month that he may labour in his own denomination, and be engaged entirely in the Lord's work. Do help us with funds, directly or indirectly. The mission, I am sure, was never doing so important a work in Delhi, and I hope we shall not stick for want of funds.

#### PROGRESS IN POONAH.

BY THE REV. A. O. GILLOTT.

I am very pleased to inform you that the meetings at our chapel are most encouraging—the people take quite a delight in coming to chapel, and it is a hopeful sign that most of them are regular in their attendance. Last Sunday fortnight I administered the ordinance of baptism, when the chapel was full. May the Lord give me many souls, and He shall have all the praise. The congregation, too, have just got up a subscription amongst themselves, and have covered the whole of the chapel floor with cocoa-nut matting. They also have been at a great deal of expense to raise the floor, and really it is now quite a nice comfortable chapel. Several of the members of my congregation gave very liberally indeed. To the Lord be all the praise for all his goodness towards me. "I sought the Lord and He heard me," and therefore I will cry to Him again. You are desirous, dear sir, to know what my prospects and plans are. I desire to give myself entirely to the work of the ministry without any secular employment at all, if God will. May the Lord guide the committee and Mr. Spurgeon in all their plans for the spread of Christ's kingdom, and especially may He guide them with regard to the mission here at Poonah!

#### NEWS FROM PATNA.

#### BY THE REV. D. P. BROADWAY.

I am glad to state our work is going on steadily, by the blessing of God. The people still crowd to us, as soon as we appear in the streets, and the manner in which they listen is very encouraging. I was under the impression for some time that the novelty of hearing strange preachers was drawing them to us in such exceedingly large numbers, but it was a mistake; they continue to assemble in the same way every day and everywhere; therefore, the Gospel must be the attracting power to them. I have carefully noticed the people at our permanent stands; scores are in the habit of attending them regularly, who seem to be convinced of the truth of the Gospel. I have questioned several on the subject, and they have acknowledged, without any hesitation, that such was the case; but when I have pointed out the necessity of throwing off the mask, and embracing it publicly, and the danger of smothering conviction, and so forth, some have told me they had difficulties in their way, and others, the time for them to take such a step had not yet arrived. May the Lord bless them, that conviction may lead to conversion, and make them the heirs of eternal life! I find the women of the middle and lower classes here stand and listen to the Gospel in the streets, and some, who have access to those of the higher class in seclusion, no doubt convey to them what they hear. It is a remarkable fact, that the woman of this country are foremost in all religious observances, and very fond of talking about them; consequently, it is hard to tell what amount of good of this kind a hidden current of the Gospel might produce one of these days. I should like to have either a European or East Indian female in the Mission for Zenana work.

I have been trying for the last two months to establish a good school in the chouk [market place], but have not yet succeeded as well as I had expected. I have no difficulty in getting scholars—the people are willing to send their children to me; in fact, many come to me imploring to have them instructed—but they have been so impoverished by the recent famine, that the largest number of them are unable to help me with means to comply with their wishes. I asked the Government Inspector of Public Instruction of this division for a grant, and he told me he would be happy to let me have it as soon as I would show him a flourishing school, which can't be done without funds for teachers and materials.

I dare say you will be glad to hear that a respectable linen-draper and his son

who have been inquirers a long time, have at length resolved to join the Church. The matter is not likely to be allowed to consummate very quietly. Their friends have commenced persecuting them in every possible way; they even induce the vile fellows of the city to insult them, and seem so determined, that it might yet be necessary to obtain protection for them from the magistrate. I shall let you know more about them, and whatever might occur at their baptism by-and-by; in the mean time pray for them, and for the whole mission here. I was nearly forgetting to say that the number of my Sabbath congregation is increasing. Several Hindoos and Mussulmans have commenced attending my services in the mission house.

I am sorry to say fever, small-pox, and cholera have been prevailing all round us at an alarming rate for some months. The poor creatures run to me for medicine as soon as they are attacked. I have been very successful in treating them, by the blessing of God; but I find it rather expensive for my purse, and will not be able to keep up the practice regularly, unless some kind friends enable me to do so, by supplying me with medicines occasionally. The Killa House is situated in such a place that we are continually in the midst of all sorts of disease, which is very unpleasant; but our comfort is that we are in the Lord's hands, and not a shaft can touch us without His will.

#### A REMARKABLE WORK OF GRACE.

We have much pleasure in inserting the following extract from a letter addressed to a friend at Maiseyhampton, by the Rev. F. Pinnock, of Amboises Bay, and in appending to it the account of the old woman furnished by our esteemed friend Captain Milbourne. It is a remarkable illustration of the power of Divine grace to transform the most miserable of wretches into a child of God:—

"You and the friends at Maiseyhampton who have taken so deep an interest in the old woman whom you have been supporting for some time past, will be glad to learn that on the first Sunday of the present month she, with six other persons, publicly put on Christ by baptism, and is now in the full fellowship of the Church. You would be delighted to witness the simple trust of this poor old woman, and to listen to her words expressive of the great joy of her heart, consequent on her faith in Christ as her only Saviour. Oh! that we could see many such giving themselves thus unreservedly to the service of Christ, as this poor old woman! But we may hope, however, that if we labour faithfully, our labour shall not be in vain in the Lord. May the case of this poor old woman, and every like case, encourage us to put forth every effort in our power to help and deliver the helpless and the distressed!

"You will please remember us very kindly to the good friends at Maiseyhampton. Tell them how much I thank them for the great help they render me, in taking upon them the support of the old woman living with me, who is now a dear sister with us in Christ Jesus, and whom I trust they will meet at last in heaven. The poor old woman was very ill a little time ago, so ill indeed was she that I quite expected she would have died; but the Lord has mercifully spared her that she might be a witness for Him, before her own people and others, of the fulness and freeness of the grace of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. May the testimony which she has been thus enabled to give be not in vain, but may good eventually result from it, by others being brought to see their sinful state by nature, and to accept Christ as their Saviour and Redeemer!"

Capt. Milbourne says:—

"About six years ago, this old woman's daughter died at Fish Town (three miles from Victoria). According to African custom, it was at once concluded by the natives that her death had been occasioned by witchcraft. The mother of the

deceased and an old man were accused of having witched the young woman. The old man was hung on the branch of a tree. A sister of the deceased made out a strong case of her mother's innocence, and obtained a short reprieve till she could confer with a sorcerer in the neighbourhood of Bimbia. On her way to Bimbia, she called at Victoria. Her intense mental distress excited the attention of Mrs. Wilson (Deacon Wilson's wife), who inquired into the cause of her trouble; she explained that her mother was in custody, ready to be sacrificed for witching her sister. The case was made known to our missionary (Brother Pinnock), who at once set off for Fish Town, where he found the old woman in fetters, ready to be sacrificed. Mr. Pinnock's reasoning with the chief so shook their faith in this wicked superstition, that they offered to sell the old woman, and asked for her ransom upwards of £30 in merchandise, which, being so large, could not for a moment be entertained; nevertheless, before our missionary left, they delivered her over to him for two kegs of gunpowder, value 20s. On my return to England, some four years ago, the Church at Maiseyhampton felt so interested in this case, that they undertook to provide for the support of the old woman, and, as you know, have annually contributed £5 for this object. You must have had some account of this interesting case at the time of her purchase. I should judge her age to be about 70."

#### MORANT BAY MISSION. A MISSIONARY TOUR.

BY THE REV. WILLIAM TEALL.

I left home on the afternoon of Wednesday, the 24th of July. By previous arrangement I had a meeting at Style Hut, about eight miles on the road to Bath. There was formerly a chapel there, but it was burnt in Martial law; so I collected the congregation by the wayside and had a very considerable number, which kept increasing till the service was finished. After the service I went on to Sunflower, the residence of Mr. Murray, the Wesleyan minister of Bath, where I was most kindly entertained for the night On Thursday I went on to Belle Castle, calling at Hordley estate by the way. Belle Castle chapel was well attended in the evening, and I enjoyed preaching to the people on the Ministry of Angels. Sunday, the 28th July, was a wet stormy day, and my congregation was small, but I had service morning and afternoon at the Tabernacle, when I advocated the claims of the Jamaica Baptist Missionary Society. I returned for the night to Mission Cottage, a small residence recently purchased by our missionary committee for the use of the Portland missionary, and where Mr. Service and his wife reside. On Monday, 29th July, Mr. Service and I rode over to Boston for an early prayer-meeting, and returned to the cottage to breakfast, where Mr. Harris, of Belle Castle, joined us.

In the evening we had at Tabernacle a very good missionary meeting, the first of the kind held there. The chair was worthily filled by W. Wemyss Anderson, Esq., the gentleman who so nobly wrote a letter of counsel to G. W. Gordon on board the "Wolverine," but which his murderers destroyed instead of handing to him. Three Baptist ministers and Mr. Pinnock, the Wesleyan minister of Port Antonio, besides the chairman, addressed the meeting. Wednesday morning we had to be astir early to attend a meeting five miles in the mountain south of Port Antonio. At six o'clock Mr. Service baptized, in the Rio Grande, ten persons, on a profession of repentance towards God and faith towards our Lord Jesus Christ. The scene was magnificent as the sun arose, and gilded the tops of the mountains and cast its sheen upon the surface of the flowing river. At noon we had a missionary meeting in the neat, rustic chapel at Fellowship, about half a mile from the place of baptism. Mr. Porter gave some interesting information about two or three of the old native Baptists who first introduced the Gospel into the district many years ago. The meeting was a thoroughly good one and well sustained.

On Friday, the 1st August, I had a meeting at Norwich, a small station

of Mr. Porter's, about three miles to leeward of Port Antonio; after which I went on to Burlington, and missing the proper fording of the Rio Grande, had to cross nearly a mile higher up, and got through and up the further bank with considerable difficulty. With only two bolts of the buggy broken, of which I had taken the precaution to have spare ones with me, I got over Daniel's river and so to Hope Bay, where my friend, Mr. Dias, an old neighbour of mine when I lived in St. Mary's, with his family, was expecting me. At the Hope I spent a pleasant evening, and after the fatigues of the day had a comfortable rest. Friday, 2nd August, leaving the Hope after first coffee, I drove up a steep and difficult ascent, commencing almost immediately after crossing the Swift River. The ascent is called Black Hill. At the top of it I found Mr. Porter, who has a small station called Hopeful there. I stayed an hour and had prayer with as many of the people as could be got together; then I proceeded to Buff Bay, and after resting for a time, went on to Annotto Bay, where Mr. Jones, my old shipmate, was waiting with a saddle-horse for me to accompany him to Ebenezer Cottage, at a distance of five or six miles from the bay. Whilst at the cottage I received a deputation of native Baptists from the high mountains between Annotto Bay and Kingston. They wished to be included in the system of stations I purpose forming to be supplied with native pastors under European supervision. I engaged to see them the following Thursday on my way across the island to Kingston.

On Lord's day, 4th August, I had the pleasure of preaching twice at Annotto Bay, where, twenty-four years ago, I landed and delivered my first address in Jamaica. As in other places, the congregation was much less numerous than in former days; but it was still a large body of people gathered together, and I enjoyed the services, especially the second, which was intended for the young. The Annotto Bay missionary meeting was held on Tuesday, the 6th of August, and was a good one. The attendance was large. To our great regret Mr. Jones became very unwell on the morning of the meeting, and was unable to be present, so I had to occupy the chair in his stead. On Thursday, the 8th August, at five o'clock in the morning, I left Annotto Bay for Kingston, a distance of thirty miles. Mr. Thompson accompanied me as far as Agualta Vale, when he turned off for Brameld and I went on for the Junction Road. The rains in the mountains had been heavy the previous day, and the Agua Alta or Wag-water was much swollen. I had about five fordings to cross before I got to the new (road, and some of them were very deep. After getting on to the new road the travelling was better, but there were some places where the mason-work had given way, leaving wide chasms to be crossed on mere green sticks laid over. At one of these breaks there were not two inches to spare between the Buggy wheels and a fall into the river of some seventy feet. But we passed safely, through the protecting care of our Heavenly Father. About eleven or twelve miles on the road I was met by one of the people with a saddled pony, and leaving the buggy by the wayside, I forded the river at a rocky and difficult place, and rode up a steep mountain-pass to one or two villages. I met a considerable body of native Baptists, and had an animated consultation with them. We are to have further communication. This visit detained me three hours, and then I resumed my journey to Kingston, and got there about three o'clock.

#### ANARCHY AND THE GOSPEL IN CHINA.

BY THE REV. R. F. LAUGHTON.

From my last you will have learned that we have rebels in the neighbourhood. They have not made an attempt on Chefoo; professedly for want of artillery. They are now encamped at a distance of 70 or 80 miles from us. It is reported that they are waiting for another body with artillery, which they expect to join them. Their future plans are not known. They are genuine Tai-Ping rebels, followers

of the late Tien-Wang, and now of his son, who succeeds to his father's titles, &c. There are several "Tai-Ping" armies in the interior, and they seem everywhere able to hold their own. I have one of the rebel general's proclamations which was posted up in this neighbourhood. He states that he comes at the command of Heaven; that his object is the salvation of the country, the establishment of the Tien-Wang's rule, and the submission of the people to his authority, &c., &c. Whether the rebel general will be able to establish the power of the "Tien Wang" in this province is, I think, impossible to say. I think, from what I hear, that the Tai-Ping cause is gaining strength in the interior. If they should ever get to be as powerful as they were some years ago, I think the foreign powers will acknowledge them. Indeed, if they now approach Chefoo in good numbers, announce their intentions to the foreign consuls, and guarantee the safety of the life and property of foreigners, I do not think that much objection would be made to their taking the ports. The present dynasty is in its old age and apparently near its dissolution. Poor, weak, corrupt, and helpless, it is alike unable to defend its supporters and put down its enemies.

The Tai-Ping rebellion is not the only trouble of the government. The Mahomedans in the provinces of Shen-Si and Kansuh have for some time past been in open rebellion. Last spring their armed men were estimated at 100,000, and they have, doubtless, been considerably increased since then. The last advices from Pekin state that this immense body is marching northward, supposedly for the purpose of attacking Pekin. A celebrated Chinese general has already started from Pekin to endeavour to stop them. The latest news from the south is that a Mahomedan rebellion has broken out in Yunnan, and that the leader of it has assumed the title of Emperor of China. Thus the poor country is everywhere torn by internal dissensions, the people impoverished by rebel and imperial armies; the latter everywhere the worse of the two. The state of things here for the last month can only be believed by those who have witnessed it. The poor people have been rushing from hill to hill for security; their little all lost; their lives in continual danger, and vast numbers captured and made to work as burden-bearers to carry rebel booty. Most of our Christian people fled into Chefoo for protection, and, being helpless, I have had to feed them. Most of them have returned home, but may be back any day. The rebels visited the chapels at Choong-Kia and Han-Khiau, broke the windows, and did other damage, but fortunately did not burn them.

I may be mistaken, but I think that these present troubles have made a very considerable impression on the minds of the thoughtful among the Chinese here.

The Chinese philosophers teach that great calamities are indications of the displeasure of Heaven, and are sent to punish people for their sins. I have found of late that in preaching to the Chinese this conviction has given me a great hold upon them. I have taken advantage of it, and my preaching has been a mixture of the denunciation of the Old Testament with the gospel of the New.

Our country brethren tell me that, when in danger, the heathen entreated that they would pray for them, and themselves kneeled down and joined in their prayers.

I am glad to say that our native Church has still to rejoice that God is with us. It was my pleasure to baptize eight persons on Sunday morning, the 4th of August. They were the wife, mother, and brother of our friend "Chang," from Han-Khiau; the wife of Loo-Woo, and the wife of Ki-Sien-Seng, from Choong-Kia; and a widow and her two sons belonging to Chefoo. It was a high day with us. The country brethren were all in Chefoo to rejoice with us at what God had wrought. I trust that there are one or two other persons who are under the influence of the truth.

Whatever may be the political result of this present rebellion, I believe it will be productive of moral and spiritual results to these poor afflicted people.

#### HOME PROCEEDINGS.

The only missionary visit we have to chronicle this month is one to Staffordshire, by Mr. Kerry. But the proceedings of the Quarterly Meeting of Committee, to which we have referred in a previous article, will, we trust, excite the attention of the churches, so that the Society may receive from them a larger measure of support for the coming year.

Mr. and Mrs. East, with their two daughters, will be returning to Jamaica, about the 14th instant. He has done right good service for the Society during his visit; while in the interest of Calabar, and the Jamaica School Fund, his untiring efforts have been crowned with signal success. He will leave England with the affectionate good wishes of all our friends for himself and family; and a cordial welcome awaits them on the other side of the Atlantic.

We beg to call the particular attention of the officers of Auxiliaries, and members of the Society to the following notices:—

#### POST-OFFICE ORDERS.

Several of our friends, in their desire to save trouble, get their orders made payable to the office nearest John Street. This occasions great inconvenience in collecting. If all orders are made payable at the General Post Office, this inconvenience will be obviated. We shall be much obliged if our friends will kindly remember this.

#### NOMINATION OF COMMITTEE.

As our anniversaries are approaching, we beg to call particular attention to the nomination of gentlemen eligible to serve on the Committee. It is very important that no one should be nominated who is not known to be willing to serve, if elected. A member of the Society may nominate any number of gentlemen. The balloting list is made up of the names sent in, and they must be in the hands of the Secretaries, on or before the 21st of March. No name can be placed on the list after that day.

#### FUNDS.

We again most respectfully, but earnestly, request the officers of the various auxiliaries to remit, without delay, whatever funds they may have in hand. We are sorry to appear unduly pressing in this matter, but necessity compels us.

#### MISSIONARY SCENES.

In consequence of the announcement in the last month's Herald, several applications for these beautiful cards, ten in number, have come to hand. They are only one shilling the set. A considerable reduction will be made in taking a dozen sets. They will be found most useful as rewards in Sunday-schools. They may be ordered direct from the Mission House, or when not wanted in any quantity, through booksellers. Mr. Stock, or Messrs. Jackson, Walford, and Hodder, Paternoster Row, and the Sunday-school Union, Old Bailey, will supply such orders.

### HISTORIC SKETCH OF THE SOCIETY.

As several inquiries have been made respecting the above, we beg to state that it may be obtained of Mr. Stock, through the booksellers, or ordered direct from the Mission House. In the latter case it should be in quantities of not less than a dozen, which will be sent, postage free, for twelve stamps. The price is only one penny.

# CONTRIBUTIONS

# From December 19th, 1867, to January 18th, 1868.

W & O denotes that the Contribution is for Widows and Orphans; N P for Native Preachers;

T for Translations; S for Schools.

0 - 4	P - J	£ s.d.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Contribs., Sunschl., for
ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS.	"Nonconformist" 0 11 0	Orphans in Mrs. Ander-
Blackmore, Rev. S., Ear-	Frice, Mr. W. C., by	son's School, Jessore 5 0 0
disland 1 1 0	Mr. G. B. Woolley,	Do. do., for Orphans
Bilbrough, Mr. W. H.,	Hackney 10 0 0	in Mrs. Hobbs' Sch. 5 0 0
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Francis, Mr. J 1 1 0	Rees 1 1 0	
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Wood, Mr. F. J., LL.D. 50 0 0	Enfield—	Contribs, Sunday-schl. 4 5 10
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Cardiff, Tredegarville -	Haverfordwest—	Contributions 10 0 0		
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CALCUTTA ZENANA MISSION FUND.				
Contributions per Lady Peto Treasurer £37 7 0				

Contributions, per Lady Peto, Treasurer ...... £37 7 0

#### FOREIGN LETTERS RECEIVED.

Africa—Camenoons, Saker, A., Nov. 11, 26, 27, 80; Fuller, J. J., Dec. 11; Piunock, F., Nov. 11, Dec. 6; Thomson, Q. W., Nov. 11 & 26. SIERRA LEONE, Smith, R., Dec. 24. ASIA, INDIA—
CALCUTTA, ALLAHABAD, Evans, T., Nov. 23;
Gordon, C. M., Nov. 23; Deacons of Church,

Nov. 23. BARISAL, Bate, J. D., Dec. 3.

BENARES, Heinig, H., Nov. 23. BOMBAY, Edwards, E., Dec. 28; Lindon, W., Dec. 13. CALCUTTA, Wenger, J., Nov. 23; Dec. 7, 23.

CHITTAGONG, McKenna, A., Nov. 12; Lewis, C. B., Nov. 36, Dec. 5, 6, 22.

Dabjeeling, Mullar, M. W., Nov. 29. DELMI, Smith, J.

Merches, Sinda, V. River Hooghly, Martin, T., Nov. 29.
Monghye, Parsons, J., Aug. 24, Dec. 5.
Howrah, Morgan, T., Dec. 3.

JESSORE, Hobbs, W. A., Dec. 4.
SERAMPORE, Anderson, J. H., Nov. 23, Dec. 9.
SEWAT, Johnson, E. C., Dec. 6, 13.
COLOMBO—Pigott, H. R., Nov. 26; Waldock, F. D., Nov. 15.

WEST INDIES-BAHAMAS, NASSAU, Davey, J., Dec. 14. GRAND TURK, Kerr, D. L., Nov. 26. HAYII, Webley, W. H., Nov. 20, 24. HAITIAN, Dutton, J., Dec. 19. TRINIDAD, Gamble, W. H., Dec. 19; Law, J.,

Dec. 6. WEST INDIES-

ST INDIES—
ANNOTIA BAY, Jones, S., Dec. 2.
Bnown's Town, Clark, J., Dec. 9.
CLARKSONVILER, Maxwell, J., Dec. 7.
FOLE PATHS, Claydon, W., Dec. 7.
MOBART BAY, Teall, W., Dec. 7.
MONTEGO BAY, Dendy, W., Dec. 4.
SPANISH TOWN, Phillippo, J. M., Dec. 23.
ST. ANN'S BAY, Millard, B., Dec. 23.

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