AMERICAN CEYLON MISSION

1902
Native Labor.—A Lime Kiln.
REPORT

OF THE

American Ceylon Mission

JAFFNA

1902.

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1903.
“O matchless honor, all unsought,
High privilege, surpassing thought,
That thou shouldst call me, Lord, to be
Linked in work-fellowship with thee;

“To carry out thy wondrous plan
To bear the messages to man
‘In trust’ with Christ’s own word of grace
To every soul of human race.”

Selected.
REPORT

In presenting the report of the American Ceylon Mission for 1902 we wish to record our gratitude to God for His dealings with us and to invite all who may read these pages to an active share in the work of faith and labor of love which God has opened before us in Ceylon.

Changes. The year 1902 saw several changes in the Missionary force. At the urgent request of the Madura Mission, Dr. Annie Young was released for a year from her very useful work here to supply Dr. Harriet Parker's place in the Madura Women's Hospital. In December Rev. T. B. Scott and family left for a furlough already over-due and now made imperative by a prostrating illness of Dr. Scott in the latter part of the year. Their home-going was saddened by the death in October of their second son Percy, a most bright and lovable child. The Mission and the Christian community share in the grief of these well-loved Missionary physicians. Rev. T. A. Elmer after five years work in Jaffna College, left with his family early in March and was succeeded by Rev. John Bicknell who, with Mrs. Bicknell, reached Jaffna in September. A son, Harold, was born to Dr. and Mrs. Scott in June and a daughter, Dorothy Hall, to Rev. and Mrs. Dickson in December.

A Forward Movement. One feature of the year's work was a united evangelistic effort aimed to reach the many Hindus and Christian adherents
who well know but do not accept the Gospel of Christ. This was prayed for, planned for, and to a degree carried out. The union of workers was not so complete as wished and the burden of prayer not so great as we dare hope it may become, and the work, while fruitful in quickening Christians, has not yet brought forth the full harvest of redeemed lives which we expect. We hope and believe that this work is but a step in the real forward movement of Christ’s people in Jaffna.

Special Meetings. Messrs. G. S. Eddy, Azariah and Paramanatham spent nearly a month in Jaffna and certainly spoke in the power of the Spirit. We rejoice in a number of striking conversions, in the restoration of some after confession of sin, and in the consecration of others to God’s work.

Caste. In May a Christian girl of the Pallar caste was taken as a pupil in the Oodooville Girls’ Boarding school. The mission welcomed this opportunity to emphasize by its united action the principle that no Christian privilege should be denied to any disciple of Christ, however humble. Because of the intimate social relations between Jaffna Christians and their heathen relatives this step involved some difficulties in which the missionaries and many Tamil Christians alike suffered a measure of reproach for Christ’s sake.

Acknowledgment. We here give cordial recognition to the loyalty of those friends through whom, under God, there came relief from the practical difficulties of this situation; to the members of the Wesleyan and Church Mission societies whose freely offered aid we were glad to accept; to those Christian friends who, whether agreeing or not with the principle
involved, yet tried to find out the mind of Christ and to follow in His steps; to the girls and teachers of the school whose attitude has been not only a means of blessing to themselves but a great help to the missionaries in charge. Chiefly we thank God who in this and all other matters has guided our steps and preserved us from evil.

Church Members. There is an encouraging effort on the part of some churches to purify their membership rolls. We rejoice heartily in this even while with an unusually small number of baptisms it makes an actual loss in membership for the year.

Theological Class. A modest beginning has been made in the training of new candidates for the Gospel ministry. A Theological class was opened under the charge of Rev. R. C. Hastings. With the free opening of lucrative employments everywhere, the Christian young men need more than ever our prayers that none may be disobedient to the heavenly vision.

Schools. Large space is given in this report to our varied educational work. The schools are to be regarded as an evangelizing agency and it is the earnest endeavour of the Mission to make them, by God's blessing, more and more effective not only in training a Christian community but in directly proclaiming the Gospel and winning the people to Christ.

Self Support. Of the eighteen churches, all but two are self-supporting, in that they receive no aid whatever from the Board. Some have help from resident foreigners and from other sources but only to the
extent of about five per cent of the total cost of maintaining the churches. This year the mission has spent Rs. 1992 in evangelistic and catechetical work in districts surrounding these churches, while the Tamil church members gave above Rs. 1550 for their own organized missionary work.

We thank God for this good measure of self-support, and work towards a time when the churches themselves shall be able to furnish men and means to cultivate all this outlying field.

The Work of the Churches

The special feature of the work among the churches during the year 1902 has been the Evangelistic services held throughout the whole field during the moonlight season of May, June, July, August and September. Three days were devoted to each church and an attempt was made to reach with the Gospel message every one in the community. Volunteer workers spent the day in visiting from house to house, speaking individually with the people and inviting them to the meetings in the evening. With very few exceptions the meetings were well attended. Audiences are reported of from 150 to 500 persons. There has been practically no opposition from the Hindus but on the other hand the workers were almost invariably received kindly and with appreciation. These meetings revealed anew the fact that has so often been mentioned that there are in this country multitudes who intellectually admit that the Gospel which we preach is the one true religion, but they have not been aroused to a sense of their personal need of a Saviour and to their individual duty of allying themselves to the truth.

Special mention should be made of the way in which the Christian women took hold of this work. They enter-
ed into the services with whole hearted enthusiasm and in some cases at no little personal inconvenience. Indeed the most encouraging feature of the campaign has been the manner, in which the workers have taken hold. The results for the Christian workers have been invaluable. In almost every church there has been a genuine quickening of the spiritual life and a drawing together of the members in greater unity. These meetings have certainly been a means of rich blessing to the churches apart from their results upon the Hindu community.

In spite of all this work we regret to have to report the discouraging fact that that there have been fewer admissions to the churches on confession of faith during this year than any year since 1892. The average for the past ten years including the year under review is 93. For 1902 the total is 65. These figures are not encouraging. But we do not believe that they represent the whole number of those who have really given themselves to Christ during the year. In all of our boarding schools and our English schools and in many of our vernacular schools and in some of the villages there are young people who are seeking earnestly to know the way of life and we believe some have actually found it.

During the year the staff of workers has remained essentially the same as in 1901. There has been one change among the pastors and only slight changes among the catechists. In looking over the force in the field however, one must be struck with the need of a supply of new workers to take the place of those who are nearing the time when they will have to give up work entirely. There are now under instruction only two young men in the Theological class where we need not less than ten. If young men do not come forward in greater numbers for service in the pastorate we shall find ourselves in a very serious position in a few years.
Membership 229. Admitted on profession 4.

The week of prayer at the opening of the year was observed by holding two meetings daily. These were well attended. Four communion services were held during the year. In March a young man who had received instruction in the Wesleyan Mission was received into membership in spite of the strong opposition of his heathen relatives and has since given evidence of being fully determined to stand firm in the midst of trying circumstances. One young man from a Hindu family who is a student in the College joined the church at the September communion. His father had formerly been a member of this church but was excommunicated for making a heathen marriage. One pleasant event of the year was the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the marriage of the pastor Rev. B. H. Rice. A large number of friends gathered to express their good wishes and congratulations. The repairs of the church have been begun and it is hoped will be complete before the end of the coming year.

The out-station of Araly about two miles distant is under the charge of the Batticotta church. A catechist, Mr. S. Buell is in charge of the work. He is now an old man and the burden of looking after the church in all its departments is almost too much for him. Another church is in course of erection about one mile from Batticotta and the same distance from Araly. It is expected to be ready for dedication during the coming year.

Membership 75. Admitted on profession 1.

Two events have marked the life of the church this year. First the special evangelistic services were marked by great activity on the part
The New Church Building at Arnicotta.
of the women. They devoted almost the whole time allotted to the church to personal house to house visitation and a number also went to Moolai to share in the work there. Second, the organization of a C. E. Society by Mrs. Hastings among the women. The preacher, Mr. E. T. Williams, reports that it is a great help in developing the life of the church.

Moolai Membership 29. Mr. Charles Murugesu, the preacher in charge, reports that the interest in the church has been well sustained throughout the year especially during the special meetings when the church received a great blessing. This is a small, weak, struggling church and it is to be hoped that ere long it will be on a more satisfactory basis. It is one of the churches that might well be helped by some of the stronger ones.

Valany Number of Members 45. This church is on the island of Pungudutive where the work is under the charge of the Native Evangelical Society. Rev. Isaac Paul was the pastor for the first six months of the year, leaving to take up work at Tondi and the church is now under the care of Mr. C. Danforth, Catechist.

Karadive Membership 75. Admitted on profession 2. The report of Rev. C. M. Sanders is full of interest. Among those admitted to the church on profession of faith was a poor low-caste woman, the daughter-in-law of one Isaac who had formerly lived a life which brought reproach upon the name of Christ. He at one time was sent to jail on account of his association with some other criminals. When he was released he was a changed man and by his sincere Christian life he has won his daughter-in-law for Christ.
On September 13th, a service was held in memory of William R. Sanders, son of the pastor, who died in Madras a year before. At the close of the service the Christian people and a few others subscribed Rs. 200 for the building of the new English school. There is an encouraging increase in the benevolences of the church. The pastor also notes with pleasure an increase of attention to Bible study and to family worship.

The out-station of Kayts is worked in connection with Karadive. It is the principal port on the west of Jaffna. It is a stronghold of Roman Catholicism and our work there is out of all proportion to the needs. Preaching services are held regularly but our weak little school has been dropped.

**Pandeterrippoo**

Membership 107. Admitted on profession, 2. During the whole year the pastor, Rev. C. D. Valupillai, has been absent on sick leave. Largely on this account the church has been divided into two factions whose quarrels have made spiritual progress impossible. During the year the catechists of the station have died and the Mission has been unable to fill their places on account of lack of funds. This too has contributed to the lack of unity and progress. Another result is that the church finds itself at the close of the year quite heavily in debt. The pastor expects to return soon and we look for better things next year.

**Manepay**

Membership 157. Admitted on profession 1. The pastor, Rev. W. P. Nathanael, reports that there has been a rich blessing received through the meetings held there by Mr. Eddy, and through the special meetings and the Bible class held by Dr. Scott, and expresses the deep regret felt by the church at the forced departure of Dr. Scott on account of ill health. There have been several cases of discipline, notably that of
a young man of a good family who was disciplined for persistently refusing to partake of the communion with the others.

Two out-stations are worked in connection with this church, viz. Arnicotta and Sandillippai which have been in charge of Catechists, Mr. A. Elliott and Mr. Charles Ratnaser.

Navaly


Navaly church has had a year of considerable prosperity and also of some opposition. An advance step is the arrangement for mothers' meetings carried on weekly in seven different Christian homes. Often before the services on Sundays and on other occasions some of the members with the children go around the lanes singing and sometimes preaching.

A neat substantial stone building for school and evangelistic purposes has been completed at a cost of nearly Rs. 700 and the new church building is well under way. The pastor's report is full of a spirit of hope and trust in God.

Oodooville

Membership 475. Admitted on profession 18.

During the year eighteen persons have been added to the church of whom sixteen were from the Girls Boarding School. Every Sunday afternoon services have been held at the preaching bungalow at Inuvil with an average attendance of about thirty. The pastor, Rev. S. Eliatamby, says, "there appears to be some Christian light rising by degrees in that dark village."

Special meetings were held here for ten days. The first three days were spent in the Boarding School, the next four in the church, for Christians, and the next three in the village in work for the unconverted heathen. The members joined heartily in the work and all were much benefited.
Some time ago when some well-to-do members of the church died it was feared by some that the financial interests of the church would suffer. But gifts have been regularly sufficient to meet the expenses of the church.

Alavetty Membership 59. Admitted on profession 1. Rev. D. Stickney has been pastor of this church for a little over a year. He speaks in his report especially of a woman who joined the church recently. In her younger days she studied in the Mission schools and there learned of Christ. Then she married and went to Colombo where she lived for some years. Later when she returned to Alavetty she was closely associated with some Christian families, and through them learned more of the way of salvation. Her husband also manifested a change of heart and both were to be received on the same day into the church. But the husband who is connected with the rail road was suddenly transferred to Colombo so the wife joined alone.

A class for young men of Christian families has been started by the pastor. The need of such a class was made apparent by the fact the many of the lads were attending Sivite English Schools in the neighbouring village and were under Sivite influence. Here is an argument for the establishing of a good educational plant at each church.

South Eraly Membership 47. This church was under the care of Mr. C. W K. Danforth for the first six months of the year. In July he responded to the call of the Native Evangelical Society to go to Pungudutive and the church was without a catechist for three months during which time services were conducted by pastors and preachers from other churches. In October Mr. V. Arulpiragasam was called to the church and still remains in charge.
Tellipally  

Membership 174. Admitted on profession  
4. Although he is really too feeble to dis-  
charge the duties of a pastor, Rev. J. Christmas still re-  
mains in charge preaching two or three times a month.  
The other services are conducted by the teachers of the  
Training school and other members of the church. Of  
the six who were united with the church five were boys  
from the Training school.

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North Erlaly.  

Membership 45. Admitted on profes-  
sion 1. Mr. Ezekiel Changarapillai still  
remains in charge of this church. The quarrels and oth-  
er irregularities which so seriously disturbed the church  
two years ago have largely disappeared and there is  
now a spirit of unity and good feeling quite in contrast  
to that of two years ago.

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Udupitty.  

Membership 83. Admitted on profession  
7. Mr. P L. Christian has now completed  
a full year of service in this church and we can tru-  
ly say that the church has grown in spiritual power  
under his preaching. We wish he would consent to  
move his family to Udupitty and settle down but he  
does not see his way clear to do so. Apart from the  
special meetings which were a means of much blessing,  
two things have been done which will tend to strength-  
en the church. First, their roll has been revised. At the  
beginning of the year there were 112 members enrolled.  
Of these some had joined other churches, others ought  
to have been suspended or dismissed. Mr. Christian  
brought these matters before the church committee and  
the result is that the membership is as stated above.  
Another feature has been introduced into the church.  
Before the annual meeting the secretary wrote to all  
absent members asking them to send some word of  
greeting to the church. When the roll was called at
the annual meeting the secretary responded for those who had sent their greetings. Enough responded to prove that the custom is worth establishing.

Mr. Christian's aim has been at pastoral care. There is a unity of feeling among the members which is very encouraging. All financial obligations have been promptly met.

**Atchuały**

Membership 62. Admitted on profession 6.

This church has had a year of severe trial. At the beginning of the year everything seemed prospering and the promise for a large accession to the church seemed bright. But on account of the dismissal of an unworthy Sivite teacher from the English school a fierce opposition arose which threatened to destroy our English school, and interfered with, or indeed completely stopped the work of the pastor with some of the most hopeful candidates for church membership. It is sad to report that some of the Christians at least passively sided with the opposition. During all the trouble the pastor, Rev. J M. Sanders, has worked faithfully, full of hope and courage. Often he has said "we have lost a great deal by the opposition but we are right and it will be for our good in the end."

The evangelistic meetings coming so soon after the opposition in the English school were somewhat interfered with. But in spite of that the attendance was large and we believe much good was done.

**Chavagacherry**

Membership 141. Admitted on profession 3. Pastor T. P. Hunt tells in his report of a spirit of revival among the people and of ten or twelve inquirers waiting for baptism. An interesting feature of the work in this church is a class for children conducted by the pastor on Sunday afternoons, in which the children are taught important Christian truths and
also to pray and sing Christian lyrics. The pastor is also devoting a good deal of time to the instruction of boys from the English school. The work among the young people at this station is very hopeful. Encouraging meetings in the large bazaar were held through a part of the year by the Doctors from Inuvil.

The church at Usan is still a part of the Chavagacherry church. It is in charge of Mr. R. Hitchcock. Its building still stands in an unfinished condition and its organization as a separate church is thus delayed. There have been some very interesting conversions from Catholicism during the history of this church. This year one whole family came to us and there are signs that others will follow. The instruction of the children in Christian truth has improved during the year.

**Nunavil**

Membership 52. Last year we reported a very great improvement in the tone and spirit of this church. It is pleasant to report again this year that the same spirit prevails and that there is evidence of a deepening of the life of the church. Mr. J. Sinnatamby still continues to do faithful work. There is a small debt at the end of the year, never-the-less the financial condition has greatly improved.

**Varany**

Membership 44. Admitted on profession 3

The year has been marked by the healing over of differences between members of the church which have been for many years a serious hinderance to the cause of Christ. The spirit of God has moved upon the hearts of the people and there is unity which is very encouraging.

Koduttanai is an outstation of Varany. For a number of years the work has been greatly hindered because there was no house for the preacher. A house has recently been
completed and the work is now in charge of Mr. A. Supramaniam who has moved his family to the village. This is a hopeful field if we can only push the work as it deserves.

Theological Class.

After months of waiting two young men came to us last November with the purpose of studying for the ministry. Both had spent two or three years in Jaffna College some time before. One had since been teaching in an English school and the other had been connected with the Tondi mission in India for a year. While these young men have not the educational qualifications that the times demand in preachers, they have a good spirit and with a thorough course in training will make very useful workers. Two or three others from the College may join after the university examinations but that is some months hence. One great hinderance is the want of funds to support students during their three years course and for funds we must still look to America. Our churches have not yet come to the state when they can support candidates for the ministry.

These students are studying Dr. Fisher's Evidences of Christianity, Farrar's Life of Christ, Biblical Geography and Antiquities, Ethics, and the Epistles to the Galatians and Ephesians. Once a week they have an exercise in the making of sermon plans, and once a week also in writing brief essays in Tamil. All the instruction with the exception of the essays, is given in English, and the boys are doing very well. In the afternoons they are expected to go out in the villages to do work among the people but so far the rains have prevented them from doing much of this work.
The Mission took the first class to be instructed mainly in English in 1876, when seven students began their training. The second class, of six members, was taken in 1884 and a third, of seven members, in 1891. Of these twenty young men, three have died, nine are ordained, and four others are looking forward to ordination soon. One other is a catechist; the remaining three are in secular work. Of the nine ordained men, four are pastors of churches in our mission, one is a missionary at Tondi, one is pastor of a Tamil congregation in the Straits Settlements and three are in higher educational work in our mission.

With eight of our churches without ordained men as pastors the need for well trained and fully qualified ministers is apparent. That others may be induced by the spirit of God to enter this sacred calling is our earnest prayer.

Work among Women and Girls.

One of the most important features of missionary work is that among women and girls in their homes. As in all other heathen lands the women and grown girls, especially of the better classes are closely confined, being seldom allowed to go abroad. So, humanly speaking, the only way to reach them and tell them the story of Christ's love is through the visits of the missionary ladies and Bible women. The latter are at work in all parts of our field and with very rare exceptions may go freely to every home in the peninsula. Their visits are repeated again and again, and if they are only faithful they may be instruments of great good to their benighted sisters. The Bible women work in several different ways, sometimes teaching some of those whom they visit to read, again helping others in memorizing hymns or Bible
verses. They go from house to house telling the people of Christ, sometimes praying with and for them. During the past year or two however, some of the Christian pupils of the boarding schools at Oodooville and Udupitty have occasionally accompanied the Bible women in their visits to heathen homes.

Mrs. Brown of Udupitty writes:— "At the beginning of the school year some of the Boarding School teachers asked if they might go out into the village Sunday afternoons with the Bible women to hold meetings. For sometime previous to the special evangelistic effort appointed for June we held meetings in different localities near the mission house. During the special meetings five women from Atchuvaly came to help the three Bible women, and the wives of pastor and catechist. During this time six girls of the village school expressed an intelligent desire to become Christians. These met daily at the mission house for Bible study and practice in praying."

Mrs. Hastings of Batticotta writes of the Bible women in that field: "Mrs. Boardman of Changany labored faithfully and well until October. Though quite an old lady she held her own with those many years younger and was never absent from our meetings unless unavoidably detained. The one trait which impressed me from the time I first came to be associated with her was her faithfulness. About three months ago she was taken ill and a few days later entered into the presence of her Lord. The Master's "well done" I am sure awaited her. Through Mrs. Boardman I heard about a poor child at Changany in whom I have been much interested. For two or three years she has been reaching toward the light but knows nothing of the Savior except what she learned at the village school and
through the Bible woman. She was married a few months since and her husband is greatly opposed to her becoming a Christian. None of the Christian women are allowed to visit her and to my great sorrow I heard not long since that she was losing her interest. God grant that she may yet know the truth and be made a new creature in Christ.”

In some churches there is a measure of voluntary work which is most praiseworthy in a country so prejudiced against women going from house to house. A non-Christian woman of Karadive bought a whole Bible and with the help of the Pastor’s wife who regularly reads and prays with her, she is now desirous to walk as a Christian and train her children in the Christian way.

Mrs. Hitchcock has also carried on at Batticotta a weekly sewing meeting for the low caste women and girls of the neighbourhood and the pastor has come regularly to give faithful Gospel teaching. The Bible woman, Margaret, works in their homes trying to bring them personally to Christ. Mrs. Chelliah Cooke has carried on a successful Junior Christian Endeavour Society for the children of Christians.

Miss Howland reports that the Bible women of Oodooville have continued their weekly study with Miss Root, of the Handbook for Bible women. One says “This teaching has helped me a great deal in my work.” Three of the inquirers reported by the Bible women are attending church services. It was because of the earnest desire of one of these workers for the salvation of her neighbours that weekly meetings were begun in her house. In these, girls from the Boarding school help, and we have greatly rejoiced in the interest shown by the heathen women and girls. Another Bible woman says of two over whom she was very anxious earlier in the year, “I believe that the Saviour has changed their heart”
Two Mission Bible women did excellent service in Alavetty, visiting both Christian and heathen homes and teaching the little children on Sunday. During a good part of the year, also, there has been an encouraging amount of voluntary work carried on by the Christian women of Oodooville and Manepay. In both places societies of Christian Endeavour for young girls have done good work a part of the year, and Junior Societies have been helpful in training the children of the church. In Oodooville a sewing meeting which is also a gospel meeting has been regularly carried on for the poor working women of the villages and has been largely attended.

One of the Bible Women at Manepay speaking of the special meetings, says:—“If several Bible women could go together as at that time, and visit many houses and see many people in the village at one time I am sure there would be much good done and it would be a happy way to work.” Another speaks of ten inquirers among those whom she visits. She has spent some time in looking after the former students in the Boarding schools, some of whom have married heathen men and are much hindered in their Christian life if indeed they have not altogether given up their Christian profession. One poor woman wants to come to the church services and says with tears, “I am in prison for fourteen years and God does not yet release me.”

In the Tellipally district four Bible Women are employed by the Mission and six by the Bible Society and all are under the supervision of Mrs. J. H. Dickson.

Jesus Christ came into the world to seek and to save that which is lost and on the same errand has He sent His Church. The business of the church is salvation.

Spurgeon.
Native Missionary Efforts

Twice a year there is a rally of the Christians of the American Mission churches in Jaffna. One day of the week in October when the A. B. C. F. M. is holding its annual meeting the churches have their annual meeting to hear of the Christian work in other lands. In May is held the annual meeting of the Native Evangelical Society which has for its field of work the islands of Pungudutive, Valany and Delft west of Jaffna. The fifty sixth annual meeting was held this year at Oodooville. Each church gives a proportional part of the current expenses of the society. Many of those who have become Christians or been influenced to seek a Christian education have gone elsewhere for employment so that the number of Christian families residing in the islands is not large. The number of church members is forty seven and there are ten Christian schools with six hundred and fifty eight boys and girls as students. Sixteen young men and women are studying in the Colleges or Boarding schools of Jaffna, helped in their expenses by the patrons of the society.

The islands were visited in March by Pastor Elyatamby, the secretary of the society, and Pastor Verakatty, and gospel meetings were held. The Island of Eluvative has a school and other Christian work supported and superintended by the Y. M. C. A. of Jaffna College. A Bible woman in Delft is paid by the C. E. Society of the Oodooville school and she reports frequent visits in thirty one different houses and teaching Bible verses and lyrics to the school children.

The Jaffna Students’ Mission has for its field of work Tondi on the coast of India and it was in troubled waters at the beginning of the year, when Mr. J.K. Chinnatamby its first missionary, sent in his resignation in February
owing to physical incapacity of himself and his family. The executive committee accepted his resignation with much regret and then was searching for a person who would take up the work at Tondi. There was none found for the work till July when to the great rejoicings of the society the Rev. Isaac Paul, a missionary in the Islands under the Jaffna Native Evangelical Society, offered himself and his wife for the work at Tondi. The chief centre of his work is the school of the society. It had been broken up while there was no missionary there, and then Mr. Paul found it very difficult to gather the children as there was not much hope in the stability of the school among the people there. Any way he succeeded in gathering nearly half the former students of the school to begin with and began his work in right earnest. He gives very encouraging report of two boys, one a Mohammedan and the other a Brahman. Both of them are good Christians in heart and wait for opportunity to confess Christ publicly. Sunday services are being held regularly and some attend them at least out of curiosity for music.

Mr. Chinnatamby, who is at present employed in Madura, went to Tondi on a visit in December and helped Mr. Paul in finding out the inquirers and in introducing to him some of his friends there. So Mr. Paul has entered into earnest work with them. We thank God for the better hope He has given us at the end of the year than at the beginning, and we hope and pray that the ensuing year may be one of much rejoicing and encouragement.

The representative of the Women's missionary society, Mr. John Murugasu, kept up the school and the Sabbath services at Tondi for three months after the Missionary of the Students' Mission left. It was a discouraging time when for some weeks after Mr. John left in June no one could be found willing to go to Tondi. When Mr.
New Missionaries for Tondi, India.
Rev. I. Paul and Family.          Mrs. Susan Muttu.
I. Paul consented to go as a missionary for the Students' Society, the women were glad to ask Mrs. Paul to be their missionary and their hearts were again rejoiced when Mrs. Susan Parinpam, for many years a Christian worker, gave herself to the work for six months. Mr. Paul went in August and the others followed in September.

Mrs. Susan has visited among the Mohammedan and Tamil women. It has been a trying experience to go often alone to houses where she could not be sure of cordial reception, but many have listened kindly to her words. The break in the work made many fear the missionary boxes would suffer, but it was not so. Though we wish that it might always be the cent a day with prayer, the money taken was more than we dared to hope and more than the year previous. The Women's Society is ready to pay a teacher when a suitable one is found to relieve Mr. Paul from the schoolwork. The annual meeting held in September was interesting, helpful and encouraging.

Medical Work.

Dr. Isabella Curr writes in behalf of the Missionary Physicians: "As we look back on the year 1902 we give thanks to God for all the way He has led us, rejoicing that He has sent us to heal the sick and to point sin-sick souls to the Great Physician."

We are glad to give the following extracts from a report received direct from Dr. Scott in Smyrna. In the early part of the year several important changes were made in the staff. Dr. C.T. Mills who for several years had been assistant physician retired from the mission and his place was taken by Mr. K. S. A. Curtis who had been first assistant in the work since our arrival in Jaffna. Dr. Mills has given many
years to medical work, part of the time independently and again in the direct employ of the Medical mission. He is well known and highly respected throughout Jaffna as a Christian physician. His retirement sets him free to give his whole time to private practice in the surrounding villages where his services are much valued.

Mr. J. R. Vathanayagam who has given valued assistance as writer and dispenser for some years left us and was able to obtain acting appointment in the Government Medical service. Mr. Alfred Anderson was called from the Karadive hospital and dispensary to give assistance at Manepay and Mr. Sithamparapillai was appointed to Karadive. Mr. Samuel G. Mills, son of Dr. C. T. Mills, was taken into regular employment as assistant dispenser. These changes were made partly for economic reasons, due to our plan to take furlough in the near future. The work has gone on satisfactorily under the new conditions.

On June 17th. our hearts were rejoiced by the arrival of another little son to join our family circle. But on Oct. 17th. four months later our little Percy after a brief illness was called to the Home above. We rejoice even in our tears that his happy face which for two and a half years had been a joy and delight to all, now shrines among the jewels in the presence of the Saviour.

In September I was taken ill and although it seemed a slight illness, it soon became evident that we must hasten our time set for furlough. We left Jaffna in December. As it was not wise to take our family into the winter weather of Canada we decided to spend some months in Smyrna, Turkey with Mrs. Scott's sister Miss. McCallum.

The work will be supervised by Drs. Curr and Young of the Woman's Medical Mission at Inuvil during our absence,
Dispensary. It is pleasing to note that the year just passed has not been marked by any epidemic of disease. The number of patients is smaller than last year, due in part at least to the fact that the last four months of the year the missionary physician was not able to attend the dispensary. The meetings held with the dispensary patients were very interesting. Marked attention was given in many cases to the message of life but how far the truth found a lodgment in those who heard we cannot tell. One very encouraging feature of the year's work was the proof afforded that our helpers are earnestly seeking to make known Jesus the Christ. As the patients were fewer, more opportunity was given for the assistant physician and dispensers to speak with the patients personally. Several times the opportunity was given to go out to village evangelistic meetings and always these workers were ready to go.

Hospital. The number of hospital patients is smaller than last year but in proportion to the number of dispensary patients the percentage is very encouraging. The average number of days in hospital is gradually increasing as the patients learn that patience is necessary. The usual “three days with a physician and if no better try another” is giving way to more common sense. The hospital alone provides the means of giving the necessary help to many. A boy was brought to the hospital one day at 10 A.M. It was discovered that he had received an abdominal wound and the intestines escaping had been wrapped up in a filthy cotton rag. It was found that the boy of twelve years was returning with his father from a night of fishing when a large fish (about two feet long) jumped up out of the water and accidentally landed head foremost in the boat. The long pointed nose of the fish penetrated the boy's abdomen. It was
twelve o'clock before we could get free to operate. Under chloroform it was found that thro' an opening as thick as a man's finger fifteen inches of intestine were protruding. After the most careful handling and cleaning of the congested intestine, an enlargement of the opening was necessary for its replacement. To our surprise, the after effects were slight. But the boy had to be tied down and the father threatened with criminal proceedings if he was not left in the hospital long enough for the wound to heal. Ultimately he went away cured.

**Finances.**

We have pleasure in reporting that we have met by local receipts a greater proportion of our expenses than ever before. The extra repairs made necessary at Karadive by the wearing out of the floor increased our expenses considerably. We gratefully acknowledge a gift of $25. from the Woman's Board of Canada, a bale of cotton cloth from Mrs. J. P. Cooke of Batticotta for hospital use, and several small gifts from patients for the hospital poor. We rejoice that we foresee the not-far-distant day when the local expenses will be entirely met by local receipts.

As we give in this report we realize that it is the last annual report of our first term of service of almost ten years. We have seen great changes and much to encourage us during these years. Though we have not realized our ideal, we thank God that we have been used even in small measure to help forward the coming of His Kingdom. In the growing spirit of self-help we see great promise for the future. We pray that in due time we may be able to return to see still greater things and hear from the people who have come to Christ in Jaffna, “The Lord hath done great things for us whereof we are glad.”

Mr. Curtis adds: The cases brought to the Hospital are usually of a serious nature and in general the results of
the treatment have been successful. We note with satisfaction that out of six cases of tetanus four recovered, a fair record considering the nature of this dreadful disease. Many instances might be given to show how through the patience and skillful treatment of the Missionary doctors diseases of long standing and of a severe character finally yield at last and Christians and Hindus alike go away rejoicing in health. But apart from this, results are great in the diffusion of knowledge among the people as to how to care for the sick. Giving cold water and milk to the patients, always objected to by Tamil physicians, is now becoming more common. With European civilization the use of alcoholic drinks is making alarming progress among the Tamils. Patients often ask whether they can use liquor to make them strong. We as a rule forbid them, prescribing alcohol only in mixtures and that too, in special cases. This has a beneficial influence on the patients and on the public in general. Another striking feature of the Mission Hospitals is the equality of treatment given to rich and poor, high and low, the Missionary Doctors thus exemplifying the spirit of the Master in a way not to be seen elsewhere.

**Evangelistic work** The evangelistic work has been carried on earnestly, there being regular work in the wards, with separate patients, in Dispensary meetings and the regular Sunday meeting conducted usually by Dr. Scott and some helpers and a special ward meeting at 8 P. M. held by some of the assistants. Of the work in relation to the large numbers of Roman Catholics who came to the Hospital, the Evangelist, Mr. Fitch, writes as follows: Many of the patients were Roman Catholics who objected to my praying with them. Some came to our meetings, and remained with us when we prayed but they would not let us pray in the ward. The Fathers also came for treatment and visited their Christians. More than
once the Fathers when taking leave of us said, "O how kind you are to these poor patients and what a fine house this is for them."

The nurses have given good help in this as in other branches of the work and their development in Christian character has been a source of great joy to the missionaries in charge.

Mrs. Laura Anderson, Bible woman, tells of her work in a very bright report and finds great encouragement in the inquiring spirit of many patients and in the apparent acceptance by others of the Truth as it is in Christ. She says: Among those who were touched by His Word were Rajah and his grandmother. Though these two were Sivites they attended our prayer meetings regularly and listened attentively to the instruction of our religion. The little boy Rajah said "I shall lead a true Christian life when I grow up." Once when I was reading in his room his uncle asked. "Amma, I like the things you speak of, yet there comes a question in my mind. Why does God allow me to live to this time and do sin and again will put me in hell, while He makes some die within four or five years of age and takes them to heaven. Is it right to do this?" I answered him, "He wants nobody to go to hell. He is anxious for you to repent from your sin. For this He has given us His son Jesus Christ."

Women's Medical Mission.

Of the work under the charge of Dr. Young and herself, Dr. Curr writes:—While the work in the McLeod Hospital has gone on without a break we regret that the branch dispensary at Chavagacherry is discontinued temporarily. After my return from the Hills in May, Dr. Young followed for a few weeks' rest, then going to take charge, for a year, of the Women's Hospital in Madura. This necessitated getting an assistant here and we were glad to welcome in July, Miss Keyt who had formerly helped us. We have missed Mrs. Chelliahpillai, our Bible Woman, very much
Maternity Ward of the McLeod Hospital for Women and Children.
since she left us in June to go to the hills for a much needed rest and later to work for a time in India. Early in the year our former matron, Mrs McLelland, who had been for sometime living at home and helping as she was able in the Chavagacherry dispensary was taken seriously ill and passed away to be with her Saviour. We would bear testimony to her bright and peaceful life in Christ.

We wish to thank very kindly all the friends who have so willingly helped in the Evangelistic work both in the Hospital at Inuvil and in the dispensary and bazaar meetings at Chavagacherry. Especially we thank Pastor Elyatamby for his untiring services at the weekly Sunday afternoon meeting in the Preaching Bungalow as well as at moonlight and other meetings. We also again thank most cordially all the kind friends in America, Great Britian and Ceylon who by prayer, subscriptions and sympathy have helped us to carry on the work among the women and children of Jaffna.

Nurses We are glad to report steady improvement among the nurses, all of whom are Tamil girls. This year the Senior girls have done more village nursing than ever before and their services have been much appreciated. In one family where they would not bring the patient to stay in the hospital they begged us to allow the nurse to stay for a month at least with them and even at the end of that time they brought her back with reluctance, saying they wished she would always stay with them. About another of the nurses a Tamil gentleman who has an English medical degree and who holds a responsible position under Government writes: "As my daughter is feeling well I send M—— back. I must again, thank you with all my heart for your kindness and the great attention she paid to my daughter. I have nothing but praises for her and it will be my best endeavor to promote her interests." It is very cheering to us to have such good reports of our nurses both from the Tamils and from the European ladies whom they have nursed. We
are glad these Tamil nurses are quite willing to care for all classes whether high or low caste.

Through the kindness of friends in Mass. U. S. A. who have sent a donation for the up-keep of a Bible reader for the Hospital we have appointed Nurse Emily, a graduate of this year, to that position. The plan thus far works very well.

Many of the patients brought to the Hospital are very ill indeed having tried numbers of Tamil physicians and only after their vain attempts to cure do they come to the mission doctor, often after they have been for ten or twenty days ill and in some cases for months. In spite of this we have to report only eleven deaths in hospital during the last year. Of course some are taken away only to die at home if the case is hopeless, as they sometimes will not stay in, unless we say for certain that the patient will recover. There are many instances where the patients who died after going home might very likely have recovered had they stayed longer and had careful nursing.

While many of the Tamil women are awaking to the privileges of the Hospital there are still very many who in ignorance remain at home and submit to the treatment of so-called midwives and native quacks. One poor woman who had been left in agony for days in her own house was brought to us in a most wretched and filthy condition after it was too late to cure her. She was so grateful for the temporary relief given her and said “I wish they had brought me to Ammah before this and I should have got well.” And indeed it was just a case of slow murder for there was no reason why she should not have recovered had she been brought early enough. However we were glad to have her even for a short time as she listened so eagerly to the Gospel story and loved to hear about Jesus. She learned a little prayer from the nurses and can we doubt that this woman found the
Saviour even though she knew so little about Him? Her friends begged to take her away when we said there was no hope and she died on the way home. Eternity alone will reveal how many of these poor ignorant women have found true joy and peace in believing.

About the middle of the year a young girl was brought from one of the mission boarding schools to the Hospital where she had to stay for many weeks. All her people were heathen and she had learned to love Jesus while at school and was baptized. Her mother used to visit her in hospital and often staid some days, and she also came under the influence of the Gospel. The mother, acting under counsel of heathen friends, wanted to take her daughter to a heathen temple thinking she could be cured on making some offering to the gods. The daughter did not like this and we also advised her to stay longer with us and put her trust in the true God who was able to heal her child. She seemed much interested in hearing about what Jesus did while on earth, especially about the miracles of His healing the woman who had been ill twelve years when she touched His garment, and of His raising to life the daughters of Jairus. She agreed to let her daughter stay and said she also would believe in this Saviour if her child recovered. The nurses used to have prayer meetings with her and it was not very long until we felt that God's spirit was working in this woman's heart and she become a new creature in Christ. After some weeks she received baptism at the Wesley Mission Church at Puttur where her home is, and now she and her daughter rejoice together in the truth and are seeking to make known the Saviour's love to their heathen relatives.

There are many women who are deeply impressed by the truth while they stay in the Hospital and they tell us they want to be Christians but must first get the consent of their husbands.
**Statistics.** From the two Medical Missions the following cases are reported.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>GENERAL</th>
<th>WOMEN'S</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hospital in-patients</td>
<td>607</td>
<td>654</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dispensary, new cases</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>1313</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; treatments, total</td>
<td>4282</td>
<td>2882</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Dr. Curr reports in addition from the Women's Medical Mission 162 visits to patients in their homes, 37 private consultations, 10 European house patients and in all, 62 maternity cases.

Of the whole number of new patients treated in both establishments 2583 were Sivites, 1102 Protestant Christians, 770 Roman Catholics, 10 Mohammedans and Buddhists. We note also that of every hundred patients, 73 came from the field assigned to our own Mission, 14 from the Wesleyan Mission field and 13 from that of Church Missionary Society.

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**Educational Work.**

The number in the Vernacular department at the close of the year is ninety seven. Of the sixty seven per cent come from Christian homes and sixty nine are church members, fifteen having united with the church during the year.

An epidemic of influenza in July and of mumps, with which forty three girls were afflicted later in the year, seriously interfered with the attendance and regular work of the school. But there was also a falling off in attendance due to another and greater cause.

The year 1902 will be memorable for a struggle with caste prejudice, in some ways more serious than any ever experienced in the whole history of the Ceylon Mission. The first low caste girl to apply for admission to the Boarding School was received this year by unanimous
vote of the Mission. This excited strong feeling especially among the Sivite patrons of the school and, within a few days, twenty five pupils were withdrawn from the school by their parents, only two or three however, being the children of Christians. Many of these have since returned. While it has been a severe trial lasting through several months, the whole experience has been a real means of grace to the Christian girls of the school and has helped to deepen their spiritual life. Little by little in response to the appeal to the highest motives continually presented to them, they have, to a great extent, overcome their caste prejudice and have shown a Christlike spirit toward the girl, doing constantly many little kindnesses.

In July the evangelist Mr. Wadsworth held meetings in the school for a week which were very helpful. Again, in October, during the visit of Mr. Eddy and his associates the school had special privileges in attending the convention meetings. The Senior and Junior Christian Endeavor meetings have been regularly held, and on Sunday afternoons teachers and pupils have helped with village meetings for adults and children. They have also assisted in the sewing class for poor women and in work for the employees of the school. This village work is now planned by a "Gospel Committee" of the Christian Endeavor Society.

The teachers have done good and faithful work. Miss Martha Stewart resigned after thirty one years of valued service as teacher in the school. Miss Mary Anderson was added to the staff in May.

**Oodooville Training School.**

There have been ten girls studying in the Training school during the past year, of whom three have now finished the course and hold Second Class Certificates under Government. These students give much time to helpful work as under
teachers and monitors. They take pride too in being put at the head of the “cooking circles” and often win an enviable reputation as good cooks as well as teachers.

The English department has shared with the Vernacular school in the apparent losses of the year and also in its real blessings. The average attendance has been less than that of last year. However the proportion of girls from heathen homes is quite as high as usual and several of these last are deeply interested inquirers.

The class graduated in March met with good success in the Calcutta Entrance Examination. Of five girls presented two passed in the first division and two in the second. Miss Eunice John was awarded the Kesab Chandra Sen Prize of Rs. 140 as having the highest standing of any girl candidate from India, Burma or Ceylon. Two members of the class have accepted positions in the Girls’ English High school at Vembadi and one is teaching in Oodooville. The teacher of music, Mrs. Mary F. Chellappah, resigned in April and her place has been taken by Miss Louisa Eliatamby. The teachers of the whole school have done very faithful, straightforward work.

Mrs. Hitchcock spent several months in the Mission house, her presence proving of inexpressible help and comfort to the missionaries in charge of the schools. In all the times of trouble and anxiety of this eventful year, we seemed to hear the voice of the Lord “Fear not, for I am with thee” and we can truly say “The Lord has been our Helper.”

The number of girls in school at the close of the school year in March 1902, was forty eight, six of whom were in the graduating class. The number enrolled for the
current year is forty five. Of these, seventeen, or less than one third, are from Christian homes. Seventeen are members of the church, seven of whom united during the year.

The health of the school has been good most of the time, excepting slight ailments. One girl in the seventh standard was taken sick with fever during the November vacation and died a few days after school opened in December. She was in the inquirers’ class but not an outspoken Christian. We do not know with how much faith she died, but trust that she is a saved soul. Her family and near relatives are all heathen and her body was being burned with heathen rites while we held a memorial service for her in the church here.

The religious life of the school has been strong and active. We have great occasion for thankfulness in the earnest faithful work of our teachers. Mr. Clarence holds a meeting for inquirers Sunday afternoon to which the younger girls almost all come; also a preparatory class on a week day for those who are nearly ready to join the church. There are now seventeen in this class. He holds another meeting for Christian girls, and a Bible study class for teachers and matron, using Bosworth’s studies in the Acts and Epistles. Every day at sunset the girls gather in groups under the trees or on the verandas for little prayer meetings. This is in addition to the regular evening prayers in the school. Sunday afternoons the Christian Endeavor society meeting is faithfully kept up, and special interest has been shown in the Missionary meetings. They give regularly to the support of a Bible woman in the Tondi Mission. This Bible woman is Mrs. Susan who was formerly the matron of our school, so the members of the school take a special interest in her as their own missionary.
The Government Grant earned last year was a very good sum, but we feel that the girls are working too hard to earn the grant, and we deplore the fact that they have so many studies. It seems as if they study all the time. They are now having gymnastic drill taught daily to the Fourth, Fifth and Sixth standards, and this gives good exercise, but for real play and thorough relaxation there seems to be no time in the daily routine. English is taught in all standards but not presented for grant examination.

Tellipally Normal Training School.

We look back on a year of unusual prosperity which gives a prophecy of better things to come. By the term "Training School" we mean not only the Training school proper containing 14 students but the preparatory or Practicing school, containing in its upper grades 58 and in its lower grades 88 pupils, or a total of 160 enrolled during the year. Of these the first two sections, 72 in all, are boarders, the rest being day scholars.

Five students accepted Christ and have united with the church. We have an inquirers' class of fourteen that meets every Sunday regularly and at other appointed times. We are earnestly striving to impress our teachers with the great opportunity they have for moulding the characters of those who in later years are to be in turn teachers to mould the young lives committed to their care. There is good reason to believe that the Training School teachers are more fully appreciating their responsibility. During the year we have been able from special funds sent from America to remodel and repair the primary school building, to reseat and refloor the assembly hall and to begin work on a much needed well. These and other minor improvements have required an outlay of about $350. During the coming year, improvements to the amount of
Miss S. R. Howland with Senior Class of Oudooville Training School.

Rev. J. H. Dickson with Faculty of Tellipally Training School.
$400. are in contemplation. All these have been and are imperatively necessary. Had it not been for the generosity of friends in America they would still be, as in years past, waiting to be done. When these changes are completed we look forward to a solid advance in the real work of the school, spiritual and secular.

Our grant from the government this year totals $824. The students contributed $385 in fees, the Board $200. The total cost of the school was $1635, so that the Government met more than one half the cost and the Board less than one eighth.

We are glad especially to report that the two low caste boys received more than two years ago are still with us and not only so but we have also received two others, one of whom was even lower in caste than those first taken. Opposition to them has ceased in the school and they associate cordially and freely with the other boys. We believe that this marks the beginning of a distinctly new era in Mission work in Jaffna and one on which we are now safely entered.

**Tellippally Industrial School**

This school is run in connection with the Training school, i.e. it has no students peculiarly its own. The students in the Training school are required to spend one hundred days of two and a half hours each in some department of the Industrial school.

Instruction is given in three trades, carpentry, printing and book binding. Owing to peculiar local conditions often set forth before, an industrial school in the real sense does not seem to be needed in Jaffna. But so long as the Government continues to give the present liberal grant of $3.30 for every boy who passes the examination held by the Government Inspector, this department can be a real help to the Training School. We are also able to provide the boys with free text books in return for their labor and the grant which they earn.
This institution is separately supported and controlled, yet most intimately connected with our Mission. The year has been an uneventful one except for the departure of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer and for the arrival of Mr. and Mrs. Bicknell. Mr. Elmer left March 3rd after a service of four and a half years. He is a man of high ability and did faithful work during his connection with the College. His successor Rev. John Bicknell arrived Sept. 6th, so for six months we were without a Professor in Philosophy, the Principal filling the gap as best he could. Next March we are to lose our science Professor, Mr. Hitchcock, who after twelve years hard work in his department goes home with his family for a period of well earned rest. The Tamil staff remained unchanged and numbers six including the College Pastor who owing to the lack of teachers has been obliged to spend the greater part of his time in teaching.

We have had 109 names enrolled this year as students. Ten have left, and we close the year with 99 on the roll. Of those leaving, two have secured positions as teachers, and one has joined the Technical College in Colombo. In the purely College classes, the numbers are gaining slowly. In 1903 we had 32, in 1901, 36, and the past year 39.

The results in the Calcutta examination were good in the Entrance where 14 out of the 18 sent in passed, but bad in the F. A. where only five out of fourteen obtained a pass. Of the four who tried for the B. A. examination one only passed.

Turning now to the religious condition of the College, there is much of encouragement to note. The Y. M. C. A. has been so active in increasing the membership that all but two have joined that association either as active or
associate members. The attendance in the Bible classes was small except during November and December when owing to special religious interest, many more attended. During Mr. Eddy’s visit to Jaffna in October, he spent three or four days in the College holding special services. The Christian lads were greatly stirred up; there was deep heart searching and confession of sin, and nearly a score were led to pledge themselves for mission service. Among the Sivite students, sixteen came out and confessed their belief in Christ as Saviour. Half of these were boys who had formerly taken the same stand, but who, hesitating to receive baptism, had grown cold and indifferent. They were formed into an Inquirers’ class and met with the Principal every Sabbath noon. One of these, a member of the Senior F. A. class, was received into Batticotta Church at the last Communion. Two have left College but with the determination to unite with the church at the first opportunity. Two or three have made up their minds that they were too hasty in confessing their belief in Christ. Others will probably unite with the church at the next communion. There still remain about half the number who wish to be considered Christians but who, through fear of their relatives, or through unwillingness to give up the world, are not ready to come out and be baptized. This is really the crucial point and we regret that so many lack the courage of their convictions.

**English Schools**

The desire for an English education has not abated as witness the many schools which have sprung up all over the peninsula during the past ten years. The Missions no longer hold the monopoly of English education, the Sivites having nine English Schools besides three High Schools and two Colleges.

The Roman Catholics have one College and one English
school and one large convent for girls. The three Protestant Missions have three Colleges and eight English schools besides three High Schools for girls and one Primary English School. The above are all registered, with the exception of Jaffna College, and there are a number of others which are not registered. In the American Mission we have five registered English Schools and three other which are applying for registration. Mention should also be made of two, under Christian management, which are hoping to be registered in 1903 but which are not under direct Mission control. It is a good sign when our native Christians come forward and start such enterprises without looking to the Mission for help.

Mr. Brown writes of the Atchuvaly English School as follows: At the beginning of 1902 the prospects of this school were very bright. The previous year it had earned a grant of Rs. 464.00 the largest in its history the attendance was well in advance of former years, and though the tuition came very slowly there was enough to meet expenses of the school. As a Christian agency it was doing excellent work; a number of bright boys were in the inquirers’ class and some were preparing for baptism. In May it became known that one of the teachers, a Sivite, was exercising a very hurtful influence on the school. His dismissal excited intense opposition from the Sivites and the Hindu Society of Jaffna took the matter up and opened a rival school. Immediately one half of our boys left and the tuition fees fell from Rs. 33.00 per month to Rs. 5.00. Then began a contest which last, to the present hour. Every device was employed to break up our school, but the pastor of the church, assisted by the teachers, has managed to keep the school intact and we are glad to say it is gradually gaining its way although the collection of tuition is very difficult.”

Mr. Brown reports an opposition school at Chavaga-
cherry also, nevertheless the Christians have held their own, and the school is prospering. An attempt to raise an endowment has resulted in the collection of more than Rs. 200, which, with contributions from America, makes a total of Rs. 419.

The Headmaster of the Manepay English School, Rev. Edwin Fitch, writes:—Of the two hundred and forty three pupils, ten are communicants, one having joined the church last year, and there are forty baptized children, and two adherents in Christian families. Six young men from Sivite homes have decided to be Christians; there are several others who are inquirers. This school is the best in our mission and owns the best school building in the peninsula.

Of the Batticotta High School Mr. Hastings writes:—This school was started by Tamils and has been, and is still largely under native control. A few years ago, the finances were in such a good condition that it was able to support a Principal from America from its own funds. Other schools have sprung into existence since and have taken off many of its pupils; the grants have decreased; wages have risen fifty per cent, and the school can no longer afford a foreign instructor. The number on its roll is two hundred and fourteen. Of these, several are sons of Christian parents. The school is the principal feeder to Jaffna College.

Of Tellippally English School Mr. Dickson writes:—The Tellippally English school has, during the past year, for the first time since its inception in 1869, come completely under our control. The Hindu headmaster who founded the school and subsequently turned it over to the mission, did so on condition that he be retained for life as headmaster. His death at the close of 1901 allowed us to appoint a Christian headmaster who has fearlessly stood for Christ to such an extent that not a few boys
have left the school, their parents giving as a reason that they did not want their sons to become Christians. From this cause and the opposition of two new English Schools which are giving tuition free, the average attendance has fallen from one hundred and sixteen to ninety five. The number on the roll December 31st 1902, was one hundred and twelve. The Government grant earned this year was Rs. 750.00 and the fees collected Rs. 412.66.

Of the three schools not yet registered, Kankesanthurai English School is the most important. Mr. Dickson has made a good fight of it the past year with the result that the school is now in a very prosperous condition. Kankesanthurai being the terminus of the northern railway, is a place of importance and this Christian institution is bound to exert a very salutary influence on the surrounding people. Mr. Dickson says “It is of prime importance that we retain this school as the center of our rapidly growing work in this still more rapidly growing port.”

The village vernacular schools present at once a priceless spiritual opportunity and a great practical problem. There is fullest opportunity to influence through Christian teachers, through morally pure text books and through the personality of the missionary and the preacher, ten thousand Tamil children.

The number of direct conversions in the schools is not large but their indirect influence upon the community is incalculable, and in hundreds of cases the way has been opened through the village school into the Mission Boarding Schools where definite results have been secured.

The problem is that of financial support. The Ceylon Government gives generous grants in aid of these schools, stipulating that the money shall be used for the payment of teachers and the purchase of books. The grant is given on the results of examinations conducted by government Inspectors, and a child passing in all subjects earns for the school a grant ranging from Rs. 4.50 in the first standard
to Rs 15. in the eighth. The total amount thus paid by the Government last year in aid of our one hundred and thirty two schools was, in round numbers, Rs. 34,500.

The least amount which we could decently spend in fulfilling our part of the contract is Rs. 30 per school. And this must cover the cost of repairs, of systematic inspection and of all other running expenses. The Government may be glad to have the schools administered by the Missionaries even if we are able to give no money, but only time and thought. Still, to take the grants on the tacit understanding that we shall put in a fair amount of money, and then to be forced to use any part of them for purposes other than those specified by Government, however necessary, is a most unsatisfactory situation.

The Prudential Committee has not been able, for some years, to make any grant for our schools and the $530 received from the Woman's Board is restricted to the use of the twenty five girls schools, while the eighty five mixed and the twenty five boys schools are absolutely without support, except from private gifts.

There is most urgent need for a small annual grant from home, at least $10 a school, in order to give us an honest standing with the Government and to develop the local resources. This last is to be done in two ways, first by making the schools so good that the people may be willing to help to maintain them, and second, by making available certain property now lying waste but capable of yielding a good income.

We can offer to the friends who pray for and work with us, no better investment of prayer and money than these needy schools. We share with you the problem and the opportunity. May God's power in no wise be limited in this matter of dealing with the ten thousand eager impressionable children gathered in our Mission schools in Ceylon.
APPENDIX.

From the interesting reports received from the pastors we give the following brief extracts.

Rev. C. M. Sanders Karadive: The time has come for us to feel our responsibility to give the Word of Life to perishing souls. We Christians redeemed by the precious blood should learn of God's spirit the important lesson, "Christ alone can save this world but Christ cannot save this world alone." What we mostly need now is a spiritual baptism from above.

Rev. D. Stickney, Alaveddi: The one boy of whom I wrote, who does not go to a Sivite English School but studies in the mission Vernacular School at the station, is the great grandson of the firstfruit of the American Mission among the Sivites after a painstaking labour of about three years after their arrival in Jaffna. He was the first convert, and by God's grace a true convert he was. There are now seven males and nine females of his descendants, members of this church in regular standing, besides several others who have already gone to join the company of the redeemed in Heaven.

Rev. B. H. Rice, Batticotta: The Jubilee of the pastor's marriage was observed June 4th for no other object than to express the feelings of gratitude for the most gracious dealings of the Almighty towards a poor insignificant family for a period of fifty years and for the privilege of being engaged in the Lord's work for fifty years. A Church is organized in the parish for no purpose short of the conversion of the heathen here. Christ our Master is thirsty for the salvation of souls. Let all of us endeavour to be co-workers with him by a steady faith, by a holy life, by earnest and faithful work, and prevailing prayer and by making sacrifice for exalting the Master and His cause in the coming year.

April 23, 1903, Entered into Rest. Rev. T. P. Hunt, ordained a pastor in 1855. His life has been a long one, full of richest service for his Master. It is a privilege to have known so noble a type of Tamil Christian. Truly a prince in Israel is fallen, and with our joy in the glad certainty of his abundant entrance into the fulness of the heavenly life so long realized in the heart, is a great sorrow for the loss to the Christian Church of Jaffna. May God raise up men who can take up worthily the work here laid down.
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MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN CEYLON MISSION.

With the work assigned to each at the beginning of 1903.


Mrs. C. P. Brown M. A.
Principal of Uduppiddi Girls' Boarding School.
Bible Women of Uduppiddi station.

Miss I. H. Curr, L. R. C. P. & S. Ed. *Inuvil.*
Women's Medical Mission.
General Medical Mission.
Bible Women of Chavakachcherri station.

Tellippalai Training and Industrial Schools.
Mission Press, Tellippalai and Pandateruppu stations.

Mrs. F. H. Dickson,
Bible Women of Tellippalai and Pandateruppu.

Rev. R. C. Hastings M. A. *Vaddukkoddai*
Mission Secretary, Principal of Jaffna College.
Vaddukkoddai, Manippay and Uduvil stations.

Mrs. M. T. Hastings.
Bible women of Vaddukkoddai and Manippay stations.

Miss S. B. Howland, *Uduvil.*
Principal of Uduvil Girls' Boarding School.
Bible women of Uduvil station.

Miss H. I. Root B.A. *Uduvil.*
Principal of Uduvil Girls' English School.
Associate Principal of Boarding School.

Rev. T. B. Scott M. D. *On furlough*

Mrs. M. E. M. Scott M. D. "

Miss Annie Young M. D., *Madura.*
Temporarily with the Madura Mission.

JAFFNA COLLEGE FOREIGN STAFF.

Rev. John Bicknell, B.A., B.D. Vaddukkoddai

Mrs. N. M. Bicknell.

Prof. W. E. Hitchcock M. A. *On furlough*

Mrs. Hitchcock.

N. B.—In this list is given the revised spelling now authorized by Government. It should hereafter be used in addressing letters.
The stations under the charge of Rev. R. C. Hastings comprise the following districts, with a total population of 81,131: Vaddukkoddai, Karadive, the Islands, Chankanai, Manippay and Uduvil.


The districts of Jaffna town, Vannarponnai, Nallur Chundikkulli, Kopay, Navatkuli, Puttur, Kadaivali and Point Pedro are occupied by the Church Mission and Wesleyan Mission Societies.

But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them because they fainted, and were scattered abroad as sheep having no shepherd. Then said he unto his disciples. "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that he will send forth labourers into his harvest."