ABSTRACT

OF THE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

American Madura Mission

FOR

1854.

MADRAS:

PRINTED BY J. TULLOCH, AT THE AMERICAN MISSION PRESS.

1855.
ABSTRACT OF THE REPORT.

Another year with its joys, its trials and vicissitudes has closed, and we may exclaim with the Apostle, "Having obtained help of God, we continue until the present time." One family in our Mission has been bereaved of a little child; but in no other instance has death been permitted to enter our dwellings, and most of us have enjoyed uninterrupted health through the year. It is a matter of thankfulness that Mr. and Mrs. Tracy and Mr. Little, have returned from their visit to the United States, and resumed their labors. Mrs. Little too has been added to our Mission circle. It is to be regretted that the strength of each of these brethren and sisters should have been so much reduced by their protracted and uncomfortable voyage. Mrs. Noyes still continues a sufferer from frequent returns of asthma. She has remained at the Sanitarium during the year. Mr. Noyes was, at the commencement of the year, placed in charge of the Periaculum station, which is near the foot of the Pulney Hills. He has thus been able to give that important field considerable supervision, and yet abide near his family. Dr. Shelton's increasing debility made a residence at the sea shore necessary. But we regret to say, that after an absence of about six months, he has returned with health but slightly improved. Mr. and Mrs. McMillan, left for America in May last, on account of ill health.

We have from year to year increasing evidence that ours is "a field that the Lord hath blessed." At one station only
there has been a considerable falling off in the number of people under instruction, which, however, can be easily accounted for; whereas in some parts of the field great progress has been made, and such as should call forth sincere gratitude to God. Where the work seems to be at a stand, or on the retrograde is where the labors of the Missionary have been interrupted by sickness, and the station left in charge of Native Helpers. Our native agency, though very important, is still very imperfect, we are encouraged to expect year by year, an improvement in this respect. We have many young men of piety and promise in a course of training.

From the brethren at all our stations, there come words of encouragement and hope. One refers with pleasure to the large numbers he has been permitted to receive to the communion of the church, and the children, amounting to more than three-score, that he has baptized.

Another speaks of greater stability in his congregations, and of an increasing desire on the part of many to learn the Scriptures.

Another mentions the growing zeal and piety of the Catechists under his care, also the greater willingness of the females of his congregations to attend upon the ordinances of the Gospel.

Another expresses gratitude for the constant presence of the gentler influences of the Holy Spirit, purifying and quickening the members of the church, and convincing the impenitent of sin, of righteousness and of judgment.

Another, although called to spend much of his time for the past few months in secular duties, mentions the prospect of receiving two new congregations in villages near his station.

Another has observed in his congregations a very encouraging feature, viz., a feeling among the people that they are thoroughly committed on the side of Christianity, which feeling is producing the most happy results.

At another station, whilst there has been no falling off in numbers, there has been encouraging progress in scriptural
knowledge and Christian habits, and in increasing reverence for the Sabbath.

Another speaks of difficulties arising out of high caste notions among those who had been employed as Catechists and Teachers. But these are now removed, to a great extent; and those who left for a time, are returning with a more humble and much improved temper and spirit.

In all parts of the field, there are constantly arising hindrances to the progress of our work, and obstacles so formidable as to render it emphatically a work of faith and patience. The more respectable classes are so bound by family ties, and cling with such tenacity to their caste, that they are moved with great difficulty. The lower classes are generally very ignorant, debased, poor and vacillating, and are often living in great servility to those above them. They are in many ways subjected to annoyance and extortion by their village officers and headmen, who frown upon any attempt of the lower class of people to rise. These are among the causes of the fluctuating character of many of our congregations. But notwithstanding all these and many other untoward influences, there has been a net gain of 521 Catechumens and 128 communicants.

The Statistics which we now give, and the reports from the different stations which follow, will show what the Lord has done through our feeble instrumentality.

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<th>Excommunicated</th>
<th>Suspended</th>
<th>Remained Suspended</th>
<th>Died</th>
<th>Absent Members</th>
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EDUCATION.

Seminary.—Teachers, 4; Students, 44. In the first class 7; second class, 10; third class, 12; fourth class, 15. Received in 1854, 15; graduated, 4; entered Mission service, 4; Church members, 31.

English School.—Teachers, 3; Christian students, 7; Heathen and Mohammedan 130; total, 137. Average attendance for the year, 65.

Industrial School for Boys and Girls.—Present number, 9 boys and 9 girls; total, 18. Received during the year, 2; married, 1; left, 6.
### Boarding Schools

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCHOOLS</th>
<th>Boys</th>
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<th>Girls</th>
<th></th>
<th>Village Day Schools</th>
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### DONATIONS.

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**DINDIGUL EAST.**

**Rev. E. Webb, Missionary. Mrs. Webb. Thirteen Native Assistants.**

This station has been prospered in some respects, and in others, greatly tried. Both the church and the village congregations have increased in numbers during the year. The Industrial School and the Girls' Day School, under Mrs. Webb's supervision, have been doing well. Mr. Webb's report vividly describes the great trials to which many of his people have been subjected from famine. It speaks also of sources of encouragement and hope. He says, "It will be observed in the statistical returns of my station, that an unusual number of persons have left the congregations during the present year. Some of these persons have gone back like the dog to his vomit, but not all. The year has
been one of unusual trial, principally from the famine which has every where prevailed, but no where more severely than in Pulney and its neighbourhood. The price of grain has been higher there than in any other part of Madura district, and the members of the congregations in that district have suffered more than others, from their being entirely dependant for their support upon the sale of grass which they cut in the jungles. This was all dried up long before the setting in of the rainy season, and the poor creatures were thus left in the extremes of distress. On this account some emigrated to distant parts of the country, and though it is probable they will return in better times, their names are not included in this report; others have died, and others still, I am sorry to add, have been excluded for theft and other crimes, to which, I suppose, they were driven by starvation. Real distress is marked on the countenance of nearly all, and the great exertions they are obliged to make to obtain a supply of food of the poorest quality, sours their temper; so that disagreement and quarrels have been and still are of almost daily occurrence. The morning and evening meetings which used to be pretty regularly attended, have been much neglected during the greater part of the year; for before day-light the people have had to start for the more distant jungles, and at night they have returned with little strength or heart for religious worship. The Sabbath which they had come to observe with a good degree of strictness, has, during the past year, been no day of rest to many of them, for we could adopt no means for enforcing a total abstinence from labor, without driving them from us. With all the distress attendant upon famine, the members of several of the congregations have been subjected to a great amount of petty persecution from the village authorities. This has been to them extremely harassing; one case only has been referred by me to the magistrate, who gave speedy redress. But I have discouraged, as much as possible, all complaints before the European authorities; were I not to do so, before very long these references would indefinitely multiply, and the state of the congregation would fluctuate with the decisions
of the cutchery. Notwithstanding all the unfavorable circumstancies here alluded to, many individuals have joined during the year; chiefly from the connections of those already with us. I have observed however, that there is more danger of hoping too much than too little of these new members. Their ideas of Christianity are generally so vague, that the movement in the first instance is often not a very rational or intelligent one; many adverse winds and currents may bear them off in other directions, before they attain to a hearty acknowledgment of the "truth as it is in Jesus."

"I should fail to convey my own views of the actual condition of the work in my station, if I should not allude to some indications which sustain and encourage my heart in the belief, that the work is of God. In the first place, nine individuals have, during the past year, given hopeful evidence of a change of heart, and have been received to the church, and there are still others, of whom I have some evidence that a work of grace has been commenced in them. I have moreover, reason to believe, that an acquaintance with the object and motive of the Missionary is rapidly spreading through the villages, especially among the relatives and acquaintances of those who have joined us. In the Pulney region there is scarcely a village for fifteen miles around, in which there are not to be found from twenty to one hundred families, who are in some way connected with those who have already joined us. I am continually receiving evidence that they are watching with deep interest, the effects of the new connections into which their relations and friends have entered."

"A small congregation has again been organized in the town of Dindigul, and several intelligent young men from the Roman Catholics have joined us; one of them is now a member of the church; and we expect soon to be able to admit another who appears well."

It may be added, that the trials arising from the famine alluded to in Mr. Webb's report, have been felt at all our stations, though probably not so severely, and when we con-
sider the poverty, ignorance and natural instability of the people, we have great occasion to praise the Lord for what has been accomplished. Moreover, the superabundant rains for the last two months lead us to hope that these poor people will not be exposed to so much suffering during the coming year. Let us bless the Lord, and forget not all his benefits.

DINDIGUL WEST.


During the past two years, this station has had but very little attention from a Missionary. Mr. McMillan and family were absent most of the last year, on account of ill health; and during the first three months of the current year, he was not able to visit the village congregations at all, and much of the time, owing to severe illness, was confined to the house. From April until June, Mr. Webb had charge of the station, but with his own accumulated labors, could devote but little attention to the work here. In June, Mr. Chandler took charge, but his family being at the Sanitarium, and he retaining the care of the Sivagunga station until November, was not of course able to bestow his undivided thoughts and labors upon this field. Mr. Chandler says, "I arrived here with my family on the 28th of September, and exceedingly regret the necessity of giving any report of the station so soon, as from various providential hindrances, I have been able to visit several congregations but once; moreover, seven or eight of the readers and teachers, with a large number of people, some eight months since, withdrew from us for a time, for reasons connected with caste. But several of them, upon manifesting a better spirit, and complying with our rules, have been received again. It will be a very difficult matter
to induce the catechumens from the Vannier caste to yield much on this point, though nothing is too hard for the Lord. As far as my observation has extended, there seems a prospect of doing much good in some parts of the field. The poverty of the low caste people, and the constant annoyance to which they are subjected by the petty authorities, indeed their great servility, both physical and moral, to those above them, will ever be an obstacle to their becoming intelligent, enlightened Christians.

"The Boarding School will, I trust, soon become more prosperous. It was greatly reduced in numbers at the time of the defection on account of caste. But others have been added, so that there are twenty-one boys making commendable progress in their studies."

PERIACULUM.

REV. J. T. NOYES, Missionary. MRS. NOYES.

Eight Native Assistants.

This town lies within four or five miles of the foot of the Pulney Hills, sufficiently distant, as was supposed, to be free from the fever which yearly prevails at their immediate base. It was thought several years since to be a very desirable location for a Mission station; a congregation of some importance had been gathered in the village and in the Combam valley, a large number of people had nominally embraced Christianity; accordingly Mr. Cherry was transferred to that station. But before he had completed the Mission-house, he with one other member of his family was attacked with the jungle-fever so severely, that he was compelled to leave the country. He occupied a thatched-roof mud-house which was very damp. Moreover, the year he spent there was a remarkable one for the severity with which the fever raged. From that time the bungalow has remained unfinished, as it has been thought hazardous for a family to live there, on account of the liability to this disease. This im-
pression is gradually wearing away, and it is now believed that with a good dwelling and proper care at a certain season, a family may reside there with very little danger. The Mission has therefore voted to incur the expense of completing the buildings, and have stationed Mr. Noyes there. The care of the buildings at the Sanitarium now devolves upon him—so that, during the year, his Missionary labor has been much interrupted by secular concerns. He has, however, made several tours in the field, and become familiar with the work.

In his report, Mr. Noyes says, "I have observed the congregations connected with this station several interesting particulars:—

I. The members of the congregations, some of which you are aware, are the oldest in our Mission, are thoroughly committed on the side of Christianity, and would esteem a separation from the congregations a great calamity. They have entirely renounced their connection with their former religion, and are truly and firmly with us.

II. There are in these congregations many promising young men and women, some of whom are the children of the older catechumens. This second generation of Christians will be more intelligent, stable and influential than their fathers, and from them we anticipate valuable accessions to the church, and great good to the cause.

III. Christian marriages are becoming more common. Every time I make a tour through the villages, I am called upon to marry one or more couples. They often travel a considerable distance, and however poor, are willing to pay the usual marriage fee to have the ceremony performed.

IV. The members of the congregations are in the habit of contributing to benevolent objects. The catechists and teachers give a certain portion of their monthly wages, and those who have no employment, which yields ready money, bring of the fruits of the earth, and the firstlings of their flocks, an offering unto the Lord—so that, in the course of
the year, a considerable sum is collected. Last year it amounted to nearly sixty Rupees, and though the present year has been one of scarcity and famine, the contributions will amount to nearly double that sum.

V. The work in the field has become to a certain extent, self-propagating. I mean by this, that new congregations are springing up here and there, which are off-shoots from the older ones. It is not uncommon for two or three families or more to change their places of residence, and remove in a body to another village. I have been pleased to notice that when they have thus removed and gone to live in a heathen village, instead of joining the heathen, they have formed a new congregation, and have induced the heathen to join them.

VI. Another thing which I have noticed with pleasure in the congregations, is the readiness of the members to leave their secular business both on the Sabbath and at other times, for the purpose of attending religious meetings. The people in most of the villages are willing to assemble at any hour when the Missionary is to be present, and when he is expected, they will often go to a considerable distance to meet him. The number of those able to read in these congregations is not large, and I have noticed no particular desire on the parents generally, to have their children instructed; but a few begin to see the importance of education, and I trust that a desire for it may soon become more prevalent."

MADURA EAST.


Mrs. Rendall. Mrs. Shelton.

Nine Native Assistants.

There has been a gradual onward movement at this station for several years past, and there are indications that this movement will become, ere long, more rapid. The native Helpers seem to be engaging in their work with zeal.
Mr. Rendall in his report says, "there has been an encouraging growth in efficiency and piety in some of my catechists. I have noticed their increasing zeal in instructing the members of the congregation and in leading others to join. They are making unusual efforts to bring their people to a saving knowledge of the truth, which have had the effect to make the position of those who join the congregation and those who join the church more plainly understood. I believe the members of the church at this station begin to realize the importance of living for Christ, and letting their light shine.

"The congregations at this station are becoming more stable, and from year to year exerting a more salutary influence on the surrounding heathen. My efforts to bring forward the females of the congregations have been somewhat successful. There have been more tracts and portions of Scripture distributed this year than usual. I am convinced that a wide door is opening for the spread of the gospel in this field. The catechists are greatly encouraged.

"The Girls' Boarding school at this station has increased to forty-seven girls, and there are still applications for admission which we are obliged to refuse for want of funds. Twelve additions have been made to the church during the year on profession of faith, and there are others wishing to be received. There have been but three cases of discipline; one of the persons suspended was afterwards restored upon evidence of repentance and a godly life."

Dr. Shelton's labors at the dispensary have been much interrupted during the year on account of his feeble health, to which we have already alluded. There have been, however, 1,574 cases treated for a great variety of diseases. The dispensing of medicine is always accompanied by religious instruction, which is listened to with marked attention. The Girls' Day School under Mrs. Shelton's care, and one Free School taught by a Christian man, have been continued. The funds for their support have been furnished by a Sabbath School, in the United States.
MAĐURA FORT.

Rev. C. F. Muzzy, Missionary. Mrs. M. A. Muzzy.

Seven Native Assistants.

The work at this station has been somewhat interrupted during the year, by the absence of the Mission family at the Sanitarium, and the illness of some of the native Helpers.

One catechist, after being much reduced by fever, was bitten by a mad dog. His life for a time was in imminent peril. But a gracious providence has raised him up to health and usefulness.

Mr. Muzzy speaks of two hindrances to the prosecution of the work in his field. One is the lack of suitable catechists and teachers, and the other, the fact that the village congregations are scattered over a large tract of country, at very inconvenient distances from each other, and from the station. He says, "The present number of catechists for the sixteen village congregations is six. Were they all efficient and devoutly pious men, located near their congregations, they would be able, with God's blessing, to carry the people on in their knowledge of the gospel, especially if assisted by competent teachers and readers. But in the absence of both these aids, and so situated that they are obliged to travel from eighteen to twenty miles to visit the villages, efficient superintendence is out of the question.

Mr. Muzzy mentions another thing that has operated very unfavorably. "The drought that has prevailed this year," he says, "has been felt by all our congregations, and has occasioned much suffering. The crops of dry grain upon which they chiefly subsist having failed, they have been subjected to much privation and hardship, and so scattered, that their progress in learning the Bible has been much retarded. There is good reason, however, to believe that the truth has
been gaining ground, and these little communities appear to be exerting a good influence upon the people around them."

One of the catechists who resides in a village, fourteen miles from Madura, speaks of considerable improvement in his village; and many places around. He mentions the death of a young woman, who had for the gospel's sake suffered much persecution. Her piety and Christian temper were commended by her enemies. She honored her master daily by her sufferings, and by the faithful discharge of her duty. Mr. Muzzy, when at home, devotes some time daily to the English School, which is prospering. The Bible is used as the most important class-book. All recite in that every morning before any other lesson is commenced. Eight of the scholars are children of Christian parents living in the city.

A Girls' Day School is also taught on the Mission premises, under Mrs. Muzzy's superintendence. The teacher is a graduate of the Oodooville Female Seminary.

Tours among the congregations and heathen villages have been made as usual. Many places have been visited for the first time, but there are still a great many where the voice of the Missionary has never been heard. Mr. Muzzy adds, "The state of my station at the close of the year, as compared with that at the commencement, shows, I think, a decided gain. This is seen, in the first place, in the increase of numbers. The additions have been more than a hundred; while the number of those who have separated from us is small.

"In the second place, the members of the congregations seem better to understand the qualifications necessary for admission to the church; and in the third place, in the greater firmness of the people in their attachment to their religion, and in their increased regard manifested for the truths of the Bible."
PASUMALIE.

Rev. W. Tracy, Missionary. Mrs. Tracy.

One Native Assistant.

It has already been mentioned that Mr. Tracy resumed his labors at the Seminary some seven or eight months since. His labors have been somewhat interrupted by feeble health, though he has not been absent from his station. The course of study pursued is the same as last year.

Mr. Tracy says in his report, "The conduct of the teachers has been all that I could desire. They have not only been faithful in the ordinary routine of Seminary instruction, but they have manifested a deep interest in the moral and spiritual improvements of the students. As they could find opportunity, they have labored also for the good of the people in surrounding villages, and I trust their labor has not been in vain in the Lord. Four of the students graduated in the early part of the year, all of whom are profitably employed in the service of the Mission, and a new class of fifteen was admitted about the same time. In regard to the state of the church, we have much reason for gratitude. Though the Seminary has not been favored with any powerful outpouring of the Holy Spirit, yet he has been present in the midst of us, purifying the hearts of God's children, and awakening some of the impenitent. Fifteen have been added to the church on profession of their faith, and there are some others, of whom we have hope that they have passed from darkness to light. The church-members have also been in the habit of visiting the neighboring villages on Saturday afternoons, for the purpose of distributing tracts and conversing with the people. Their visits have been uniformly received with kindness. We may therefore hope that they have done good. By such efforts for the spiritual welfare of others, they are at least forming a habit which will hereafter be of much benefit to themselves."

Mr. Tracy speaks of the diligence and progress of the
students in their studies, and the importance of a higher standard of qualifications for admission to the Seminary. We have, for some time past, felt that there was great need of improvement in this respect, and been aiming to make all our preparatory schools more efficient and thorough. Some advance we hope has already been made.

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TIRUMUNGALUM.


One Native Preacher. Eleven Native Assistants.

The removal of Mr. Noyes left the entire care of this station with Mr. Herrick; but having charge of the Seminary until Mr. Tracy’s return, he could devote but little time to the work there. Sickness in his family too, greatly interrupted his labors. His report is as follows:

"The general conduct of the Helpers and church-members has been good, with one or two exceptions; but I have seen no marked signs of improvement. During the last three years, the station has been under the care of three different Missionaries, neither of whom has resided here more than six months, and two years of the time the station has been without a resident Missionary. It cannot be expected that under such circumstances, either the Helpers or other church-members should have made much advancement in knowledge or piety.

The Boarding School is in a prosperous state; six boys have gone from it to the Seminary, one has been dismissed and five or six have left irregularly, and twelve have been received.

The Girls’ Day School has been discontinued. In its place we have a school of ten Christian children, most of whom are girls. We do not wish the Christian girls to form the habit of receiving such inducements to secure attendance as the heathen girls have been accustomed to receive. It
was chiefly on this account that the Girls' School was dis-
continued.

One small congregation has been transferred to the care of
the "Native Evangelical Society," and its members are not
this year embraced in the statistics of this station. The
adult members of the congregations, as a general thing, learn
pretty well, and I think are becoming more and more firm
in their attachment to Christianity. I have, however, been
much tried by the unwillingness of some to send their chil-
dren to school, and a laxity in regard to the observance of
the Sabbath. That many should not appreciate the value
of education, and that they should understand but imper-
fectly their obligations to observe the Sabbath, is not strange.
I have been gratified to find several young men and two or
three men of middle age, beginning from the alphabet to
learn to read. One of our congregations, consisting of twelve
families, is within a quarter of a mile of our compound.
While we are thus obliged to see more of their faults, we are
enabled to give them much more instruction than we other-
wise could. During the last two months, I have labored a
good deal among the heathen. I have visited a larger num-
ber of villages, and have generally found the people disposed
to listen respectfully to the truth. I think the great deside-
ratum here, so far as human instrumentality is concerned, is
the faithful preaching of the gospel to the mass of the people."

Perhaps the most interesting part of Mr. Herrick's field is
that under the more especial care of Mr. Winfred, the native
Preacher, who is stationed at Malankineru, fifteen miles
south-east of Tirumungalum.

About a year since when Mr. W. went to reside in this
village, there were twenty-one families under Christian in-
struction. Since that time nine others have been added,
and the congregation now numbers one hundred and two
souls; of these, two-thirds of the male adults can read.
From forty to fifty are present daily at morning and evening
prayers, and still larger numbers regularly attend the religi-
ous services upon the Sabbath. Much difficulty has been
experienced in securing the proper observance of the Sabbath by many of the congregation; also in inducing the females to attend religious meetings. But in both these respects, Mr. W.'s efforts had been attended with encouraging success. He mentions some interesting facts, showing the progress of the people in Christian habits. One poor man, who had no resource but his daily labor to support his large family, left his regular employment, because his heathen master insisted upon his laboring upon the Sabbath. Another, when digging a well, yielded to strong temptation to continue his work upon the Sabbath. But shortly after an accident befel him, which brought him to reflection and sincere repentance. The people often meet for prayer, and have learned to lay before the Lord all their troubles. The females, who most resolutely refused to attend their religious services, are often remembered at the throne of grace, and in several instances the most stubborn wills have been subdued. When the heathen disturb the meetings, they too are made the subject of earnest petitions to the King of kings, and they have striking proof these petitions have not been disregarded. Quite a number of families in the surrounding villages have expressed a wish to be received under instruction.

TIRUPUVANUM.

Rev. Charles Little, Missionary. Mrs. Little.

Six Native Assistants.

We rejoice to be able to report this station as again occupied by a Missionary. Mr. Little, soon after his arrival in the Mission, entered upon the work of building the walls that had fallen down. He speaks of the "wear and tear" upon the nervous system of a Missionary called to enter upon such a field of desolation. A large share of his time, since his removal to Tirupuvanum, August 1st, has necessarily been spent in rendering the Mission premises habitable. Then followed the rains which were unusually severe, mak-
ing it difficult to visit congregations at any distance, so that his efforts may in fact be said to have but just commenced.

"I have, however," he remarks, "visited a few villages in the vicinity, and commenced efforts in two places, where I trust the Lord will build up congregations. Some eight or ten families in each are said to be learning, but it is too early to speak confidently respecting them. Occasionally the results of former labors come to light—an old man, once a member of the church, wishes to be restored; but as he lives at a distance, I am not able to judge of his fitness."

A young lad, brother of a catechist, and once a member of the Seminary, wishes to be received into the church. Though not giving evidence of piety, he seems a sincere inquirer.

Mr. L. speaks also of some obstacles that have come under his notice. Many of the lower classes are in a state of semi-slavery, bound to work for their masters whenever required. It is very difficult for them to break away and act for themselves. The prevalence of drunkenness is also a serious hindrance to the work there. Intoxicating drinks are everywhere sold at such rates that the poorest people will find means for gratifying their debased appetites.

There are many and obvious disadvantages in leaving a station for a number of years. Every thing goes to ruin temporally and spiritually. To the heathen and Romanist, it augurs instability in our work, and is used as an argument against us. But these disadvantages must be met and endured until there is sufficient enthusiasm in the sacramental host to furnish brave men, who will be ready to fall in and fill the gap made by those who are cut down.

MANDAHASALIE.


Nineteen Native Assistants.

Although the work at this station has not been unattended with difficulties and trials, the Spirit of the Lord has been
present, and the labors of the Missionary, the native preacher and catechists, have been blessed. There has been, during the year, more than usual religious interest in many of the congregations. Fifty-two persons have been added to the church, and sixty-seven children baptized. There are many others who give some evidence of piety, who will doubtless be received ere long. There are connected with the station thirty Christian congregations, three hundred and twenty-five families, numbering in all, eleven hundred and seven souls.

Mr. Taylor reports somewhat minutely, the state of the work at his station. He says, "Respecting the large number of people under my care, the words of Christ are true, that 'many are called, but few are chosen.' The majority of those who enroll themselves as catechumens, and even of those who regularly attend on the means of grace, do not give any evidence of conversion, while respecting some, it is hard to form an opinion. Some of the seed falls by the way-side, some on stony ground, some among thorns, and some (for God's word will not fail), on good ground. Notwithstanding our great unworthiness, the Lord, for his name's sake, has been gracious, and there have been added to the church, during the year, fifty-two persons. Of those who have received instruction long enough to obtain a correct idea of the system in the gospel, some go away, and walk no more with us; some few receive it as the pearl of great price, and show a readiness and promptness in hearing the word, and an apparent yielding of the heart and life to God. I know of no authority for refusing such the ordinances of the gospel. These are means for their further growth in grace, and by these we do especially show forth to the world the Lord's death, and clearly indicate the reason of our faith in him. The times of our most pleasant refreshing have been those in which we have commemorated and talked of his love. I have observed that many seem to have been first conscious in themselves of a desire to be the Lord's, as they have witnessed this setting forth of his love at his table. Of a few of the members of the church I stand in doubt. Their
light shines but dimly at best. We were about to commence discipline with one, when he suddenly died of cholera. It appears as if another should come under discipline; but he is absent, and one or two more are wayward; but in general, the walk of the members is to a good degree commendable. Nearly all connected with us have contributed something to benevolent objects, but there is a lack in this respect, and judging from appearances, it will be some time before they will support their own institutions. Their ability, however, is small. To say nothing of their scanty food and raiment, they are generally unable to build either decent or comfortable houses for themselves; so that they cannot be said to live in ceiled houses, while the temple of the Lord lies waste. The designs of God, in respect to self-supporting churches here, are not yet clear; but it is clear that the present is no time for us to draw back.

In respect to the future, I will not speak too decidedly. All depends upon God's grace and providence; but according to all appearances, the door of entrance is opening wider and wider. Not only catechists and teachers, but the Christians who have learned the way are pointing it out to others, especially to their kindred, and a good impression has been very generally made on the minds of the heathen. With the funds now appropriated to this station, if the Lord blesses, existing congregations may be greatly enlarged; for in all, there is yet room, and God is able to bring them in, but without increased means, a number of important places where instruction is asked for must be left destitute."

Mr. Zilva speaks of great progress in one village. He says, "I have several times been to the village Parolichee, and have always found the people willing to hear God's word and profit by it. There were in all, sixty Pallar families in the village. At first fifteen families joined us; afterwards twenty-eight more, making forty-three, and there is a movement among the remaining twenty families, and among others of the same caste in neighboring villages. We
hope the Spirit of God will soon touch their hearts. The Sabbath of November 12th was a day of great interest to this people, and to us all. Our pastor admitted seventeen adults to the church, and baptized seventeen of their children. The people have of their own accord made a written agreement, that neither they nor their families will attend heathen temples or ceremonies even as spectators. I am often quite pleased to see men, women and children sit down together and learn so well, and sing so well, and show such a lively and contented countenance in hearing the words of our blessed Saviour."

Mr. Taylor has entrusted to the care of this native preacher six congregations, he himself only exercising a general superintendence. "At the village where I live," says Mr. Z., "the average attendance upon the Sabbath is forty-five adults. I hold a meeting with the people also every evening, and teach them the Bible, and ask them to pray and admonish one another, which they readily do. There is a movement commenced here among the Shainars. Two families have already joined the congregation."

Thus we see that the gospel has taken a firm hold of a larger number of people in that vicinity. So great a change is not unnoticed by the heathen, the more malicious of whom seize upon every occasion to vex and annoy those who are called by the name of Christ. But impediments one after another are being removed, and the way, we trust, is being prepared for the word of God to run and be glorified.

SIVAGUNGA.

IN CHARGE OF REV. C. LITTLE.

THREE NATIVE ASSISTANTS.

This station is left unoccupied by the removal of Mr. Chandler to Dindigul West, to fill the place vacated by Mr. C
McMillan. Mr. C. has, however, had charge of the station until within two months, and reports general prosperity. The Boarding School which has within a short time been removed to Tirupuvanum, was and is still in a flourishing condition. The seven boys of the first and second classes were admitted to the Seminary, and fourteen others from the Christian families were received.

There has been no falling off in the number of people under instruction. Several congregations properly belonging to the Tirupuvanum station last year appeared in the statistics of Sivagunga. As these are now reported at Tirupuvanum, the number here is therefore less than last year.

Only four persons have been admitted to the church, one of these was a young man of high caste family, who had for several years been employed as a school teacher. He had long been convinced of the truth, but feared to incur the opposition of his friends. The decided stand he has taken, has produced a deep impression upon many in his vicinity. A catechist of more than ordinary abilities and influence has gone with his family to reside in one of the villages some ten miles from Sivagunga. His account of the congregations more especially under his care, contains some matters of interest. He says, "Though the people are ignorant, they seem to be sincere believers in Jesus Christ. They have never before been willing that their marriages should be solemnized according to the Christian rules. In regard to this and other ceremonies, they have however of late often withstood the opposition of their Roman Catholic relations.

"The Shembar village where I reside, has encouraged me much in two things. First, the people have resolved not to work any more on the Sabbath, but to keep it holy. Secondly, they have requested me to hold evening prayer-meetings in their houses; as we have no convenient place of worship, the women did not always attend meetings. But they come to the evening meetings. One man who opposed us much, is now the most forward of all in reading the Scriptures and learning the lessons."
"The village congregations connected with this station, have not increased this year. But the people have advanced in Scripture knowledge more than in former years. That the Lord may enlighten their hearts, and that they may be converted by the Holy Ghost, is my incessant prayer."

There are a few other matters of interest that should not be omitted in this report.

I. The Native Evangelical Society.—This Society was formed in October 1853, and commenced active operations in January 1854. This is a new feature in our Mission, and one of much promise. The officers of this Society have met with a good degree of success in collecting funds. They have employed, during the year, a catechist and teacher, who have labored in Arupucotta and that populous vicinity. They have had two small congregations under instruction, and are much encouraged with the prospect of receiving others. No one can doubt that the best results may be expected from such an effort on the part of native Christians. Not only may we look for positive good to be done by the Society, but the reflex influence upon the character of its members, who are willing to spend their money, their sympathies and prayers in such a cause, will be most salutary. We bid them God speed.

II. Tamil Quarterly Repository.—This is published by our Mission, for the benefit of native Helpers and Christians, and is an effort in the right direction. More than four hundred subscribers have been obtained, and there is reason to hope from the permanent value of its articles, that it will accomplish great good.

III. We need more Missionaries.—The progress of the work has been such as will justify us in speaking strongly. Our first duty, doubtless, is to pray the Lord of the harvest, to send forth more laborers. But we also make a sign for our partners from the other ship to come and help us, that our net may not break. There are large and populous sections of the Madura Collectorate, unoccupied by any Missionary
of the cross. Would that young in America, men full of the Holy Ghost and of faith, would look at this subject with that entire consecration to the work which the Lord of the harvest demands.

But our greatest need is an out-pouring of the Holy Spirit. As Missionaries we need a new unction from on high, a baptism of the Holy Ghost. Our means and instrumentalties must be rendered effective by aid from above. God must give the increase, or Paul will plant, and Apollos water in vain.

"Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified."