

sentiments have therefore been drawn perhaps imperceptibly to settle in and around the province which formed the scene of his labours. On the other hand it should be remarked, that while the Baptist missionaries in this Presidency exceed in number that of all the other Protestant denominations put together, there is not a single missionary of this section of the Christian church labouring in the Presidencies of Madras and Bombay, and only two, we believe, in the island of Ceylon.

This table, however, gives a very inadequate view of the labour bestowed on the missionary field. It is limited to the labourers of one sex. But in estimating the extent of Protestant missions in India, we must not overlook the invaluable services of the fairer sex, because they are performed without noise or obtrusion. In this point of view almost all missionaries of the reformed churches may count for two. Their companions in life not only contribute to promote the cause by stimulating the spirits of their partners in the gloom of disappointment, but in their own peculiar and not less important sphere, they undertake a share of active duty. From the peculiar complexion of native society, a barrier almost impassable, separates the female population of India from the labours of the missionaries. It is to the exertions of those of their own sex that they must chiefly look for constant instruction and encouragement. One half of the missionary's duty, therefore, appears to belong to the sphere of his partner, and it is most cheerful to see how readily this fact has been appreciated and acted on.—Wherever an attempt has been made, moreover, to form the converts into communities, it is to the female branches in the missionary circle, that the Christian families, and more especially the females, have been accustomed to look with confidence, for direction and assistance; and the peace of a native family depends far more on the temper of the woman than on that of the man. Those who have had opportunities of experience, will cheerfully acknowledge how much the harmony which may be found to reign in the discordant elements of a native family has been owing to the wisdom, the zeal, and the firmness of the female missionaries.

The amazing increase of missionaries since the impulse given to the Christian world by the late venerable Dr. Carey, affords a source of solid satisfaction to those who look forward with ardour and hope to the evangelization of the heathen. It is now two and forty years since, in conjunction with his colleague, Mr. Thomas, he came out to this country, leading, what appeared to many sincere Christians in his native land, a forlorn hope. The number of missionaries has dur-

ing this period increased under one Presidency alone, from two to nearly a hundred. The flame of missionary zeal, then confined to one, and that but a small sect, has extended to every denomination in England, and stretched beyond the Atlantic to the shores of America. That which was originally but a narrow effort of an inconsiderable and unknown body, has swelled to the magnitude of a national enterprise. The attempt which it was feared would die out with those who projected it, has been taken up and carried forward, with augmented ardour, by the generation which has succeeded them.

Looking back from this point on the past, there is room for Christian exultation. Looking forward to the future, the prospect is not unchequered with anxiety. Judging from the supply of fresh labourers which has reached India within the last ten years, we are almost driven to the withering conclusion, that the efforts of British Christians to convert the heathen world, have reached their maximum. Such a conclusion should not, however, find admission in the mind of any one who desires the conversion of the heathen. In regard to the labours of missionaries in this country, we may state, that it is the primary duty of every missionary body to lay down with wisdom, and to pursue with energy, a plan for training up *native missionaries*, and to afford them every needful qualification for their work; and among the most essential of these we reckon, an intimate knowledge of Christianity in doctrine and practice, and a perfect familiarity with the vernacular languages, both in their classical and popular branches. So indispensable does this appear in a country, where, if the resources of every Society were multiplied five-fold, there would still be but one missionary to every hundred and fifty thousand natives, that it appears the dictate of sound policy and Christian wisdom to separate one or more missionaries from active labours in the field, and to devote their time and talents to the superintendence of a seminary which shall become the nursery for native teachers.

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### DELHI.

#### MOONNEE, THE POOR SWEEPER GIRL.

“Moonnee, a native girl, the daughter of our sweeper woman, died some time since, about 18 years of age. From the age of six years we had known her, and up to the period of her death she was either with her mother in our service, or with her parents or husband some where in our neighbourhood. Observing our children repeat Watts' Divine songs, she too learnt by heart the morning and evening songs; and while residing in