

to pay, do Sir give me one. Can you read? No Sir. Then what do you want of a Bible? Sir, I have two sons and a daughter-in-law, and two grandchildren who can read. Mr. — gave him the Scriptures—he recognised the same kind of book he had seen in the beggar's hand, he fell on his knees, and while his tears were falling on the cover of the blessed book, he warmly thanked the generous donor. He then took his leave and walked home. Five months after, to the astonishment of the clergyman, the old man again presented himself. Well friend what do you want? Why Sir they tell me you have found a religion like this book, and I am come for you to teach me. In order to try his sincerity, the clergyman said to him, you must undergo an examination before you can be admitted into our church. Begin now said he, begin directly, for I know not the day of my death; please to begin, Sir. What do you know of Jesus Christ? The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten Son of God, full of grace and truth. What should you do for Him, who has done so much for you? Know ye not, that ye are not your own, but are bought with a price, therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's. How do you expect to do this? Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God that worketh in you to will and to do. These admirable answers, said Mr. Dudley, amply prove the effects of God's holy word. I saw the clergyman above named sometime since, and I said to him, how gets on the clog-maker? Why, sir, these last six years he has regularly come the distance of 70 miles, twice in the year, to partake with us the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper."

## ENGLISH BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

CEYLON.—Mr. Harris writes from Colombo, under date of May 8, 1839. He estimates the population of the town at 50,000; of whom 10,000 are descendants of Europeans. In addition to this number, there are multitudes inhabiting villages scattered among the jungles, where, he says, "they remain providing supplies for their animal appetites, the evidence of their rationality, in many instances, almost effaced; and their chief cementing tie is the dishonor done to the divine name. Children swarm abroad in absolute nakedness, insensible to the advantages of instruction, and indifferent to every thing but their daily wants, or some unmeaning pastime." He proceeds:

"On this mass of human wretchedness a

considerable amount of Christian labor is brought to bear; but the difficulty lies in moving that which seems to have degenerated almost into lifeless matter. All that constitutes intelligence, all that stands connected with futurity and the rights of God, either seems to be unknown or discarded. Miserable superstition usurps the place of pure and rational devotion; and horrid yelling, and demon-dances, the delightful ascription of praise and glory to Him who is 'over all, God blessed forever.'

I am left here to preach to the burghers, the soldiers, and by interpretation, to two congregations of Singhalese people. The first of these classes are good English scholars, and, with a portion of the English residents, form a tolerable congregation, morning and evening, on the Sabbath; but their indifference to religion is awful, and their attachment to vanity very obstinate. They require the most argumentative preaching, and the most solemn and penetrating appeals.

Bûdhism, when well understood, being a complicated metaphysical system, full of philosophical querulousness, and ending in an erasure of the divine existence, has, from the very discussions it has provoked, set the minds even of those who have no connection with it, upon the ferment; and proof is required of what you advance, and sanctions weighty enough to inspire awe and apprehension. When you preach in this way, you are listened to with great attention, and you may observe an increase in the attendance; but whether the heart keeps pace with the understanding, whether the one is softened as the other is enlightened, is what I am anxiously endeavouring to discover. That some have been brought to sober reflection, and to stand still, after diligent inquiry, I find; and though the struggle of a surrender may be severe, considering conflicting passions, yet, as it is the work of the Most High, this triumph I confidently anticipate.

Among the soldiers real good is now being wrought. On Saturday evening last, I attended a prayer meeting of theirs, and was, indeed, much gratified.

I have only one branch or two more of error to advert to in conclusion—Mohamedanism and demon-worship; the former seen in a coarse and degrading form, and the latter apparently carrying the tokens of insanity.

By these divers evils are these poor people torn asunder, and rendered objects of pity as well as guilt. More help is needed. The evidence of success must not be drawn from what is seen, though this is not despicable, or unworthy of notice. The labors of the Baptist mission here, for the last twenty