

that the Christian religion is the only true religion. Besides these I have two candidates for Baptism, most hopeful men, who receive instruction almost daily. But I would not have you suppose that all are seeking. The other day when addressing a number, a Brahmin was very noisy, I paused and spoke as kindly as possible to him, but he declared that he would rather cut off his head, than become a Christian. Poor fellow! Generally a respectful attention is given.

The field is widening and if possible at least another labourer must be secured very shortly. A considerable time ago Mr. Morton called the attention of the Board to Couva, and it was hoped that Dr. Hattie might be induced to come. Now I can fully corroborate all that Mr. Morton stated regarding the importance of this district. It lies about 12 miles North of San Fernando towards Port of Spain. Here there are 16 sugar estates largely owned or managed by gentlemen who are anxious for the elevation of the thousands of Coolie labourers in their service. As an illustration Mr. Frost, Attorney for Mr. Burnley who resides in Scotland, intimated to Mr. Morton and myself that he was authorized to expend \$360 annually on two of his estates in payment of teachers and Mr. Frost is now preparing a school room. Other gentlemen of kindred spirit will do likewise. It will be difficult in the meantime to get competent teachers. Mr. Morton is going to give up his tried and faithful Soudeen. Any other that may be obtained will be inexperienced and it will be necessary for one of us to make a weekly visit. But as at home, so here, Sabbath is the best day of the seven to secure an audience, and it is quite impossible for either of us to be away on Sabbath without retarding the work in our own respective fields which are altogether too wide even now. What then is to be done? I believe no Church ever had better prospects in a Mission. Here is a people just as ignorant of the Gospel as were the Erromangans; they are accessible, enlightened gentlemen are ready to place, I may say, at our disposal, the means necessary to sustain schools. There can be no diversity of opinion as to the value of well conducted schools as auxiliaries to our higher work. They are essential. Farther in the Couva district, especially, there are several young Scotch Presbyterians, who act as managers, overseers, engineers, &c., and these I believe would contribute handsomely, provided the Missionary conducted an English service on Sabbath, and this would materially relieve the church at home.

With God's blessing the 25,000 or 30,000 Coolies of Trinidad may be leavened in a few years by the Gospel; but it is not the half measures which a selfish Christianity

would adopt that will accomplish this work. Handsome returns are now generally secured from the sugar estates here, but these are the fruit of the combined energy of proprietor, manager, overseer, drivers and labourers. A slack hand must result in failure. Men in worldly pursuits know it.—Let our Church bring the same earnestness into the work of cultivating the moral fields or wastes of Trinidad, in humble dependence upon Him who waits to bless, and I am persuaded that at an early day she will gather an abundant harvest.

I confess that there are peculiar difficulties and discouragements which we ought not to underrate. I may indicate some of them by and by. In the meantime I would simply add, the land is before us, the Lord has evidently commanded us to go in and possess it. Will unbelieving fears cause us to tarry, and suffer another generation like their fathers to go down unwarned, unpardoned, and unsaved? It cannot be. The spirit of missions is too highly developed in our Church to permit us to act a part so criminal. Your agents are trying to do their duty—but the whole island should be occupied; one missionary should be sent without unnecessary delay to Couva. I cannot think that the young man will be wanting when your Board calls. But whether men come forward or not, continue to plead that the arm of the Lord may be revealed amongst us. I know that some good friends are remembering this field at the throne of grace, or we would not have so much to encourage.

I am, yours sincerely,

K. J. GRANT.

REV. P. G. MCGREGOR,

Secretary B.F.M., P.C.L.P.

News of the Church.

Presbytery of Truro.

The Presbytery of Truro met at Truro May 2, and following day. Several matters of importance were before court. Of these the following are the principal: A petition was presented from the Brookfield section of the Middle Stewiacke and Brookfield congregations, praying to be separated from the other section and erected into a distinct congregation. A paper was at the same time laid on the table from Middle Stewiacke, stating that that section had no objections to offer to the wishes of the Brookfield people. The matter was, after some conversation deferred till next meeting. Mr. Edwin Smith, Student of Theology, having returned from Princeton, where he had been finishing his studies, was taken on trial for License. He deliv-