

mission; and the Rev. W. Gomez was expected in a few days with a party of converts from Lundu, who also were to receive Holy Baptism at Sarawak. The following letter from Dr. McDougall, dated Sarawak, July 30th, gives a complete account of the state of the missions at that time:

"I arrived here on the 24th April, and forthwith resumed the charge of the mission.

"*Sarawak School.*—Mr. Fox having signified his intention of resigning his post of Catechist and Schoolmaster at the end of the quarter, I placed the school under the charge of the Rev. James Grayling, with Mr. Owen as assistant, and requested Mr. Fox to assist these gentlemen in their Malay studies. As soon as it could be arranged, we held an examination of the school. I found the first class much in advance of the others; but the progress of the younger scholars was by no means so satisfactory. More pains had evidently been bestowed upon the older boys, and I was particularly pleased with their knowledge of Holy Scripture and acquaintance with the Liturgy; in other respects, their attainments would not be discreditably to boys of equal standing in an English school. One of the four senior boys reads in turn the daily lessons in the Church.

"There are now 26 boarders and 10 day-scholars. Of the former, 4 are girls (1 Chinese, 1 Dyak, and 2 half-castes), and 22 boys (16 Chinese, 3 Malays, 3 half-castes). The day-scholars are all Chinese (7 boys, 3 girls). The principal instruction is in English, but the Chinese and Malays learn their own language in addition. The English text-books used are those of the Christian knowledge and Irish Societies. In order to multiply them, lessons from them are printed off by the boys as required.

"The conditions on which the boarders were taken are, that their parents should give them to the Mission for ten years, to be brought up as Christians; and that after they were educated, they should be free to follow such employments as they choose, or the Mission might offer them; and if the parents should insist upon removing any child before the term was complete, they are bound to repay the Mission the sum of three dollars (specie) a month for the whole time the child may have been in the school. Since my return, I have taken one very promising boy, of the age of fifteen, for five years only. He had been some time a day-scholar, and expressed his desire so earnestly to become a Christian, and enter the school, that I could not refuse him.

"The cost of each boarder for clothing, feeding, washing, &c., is about three dollars a month. At present Sir James

Brooke assists us by giving rice to the value of twenty dollars a month, and he has expressed his intention of doing his best to endow the school as soon as his funds will permit it. Meanwhile, I wish to impress upon the society the necessity of our carrying on this institution efficiently as a Missionary College, for to it alone can we look for our future Missionaries, Catechists, and School masters. Already our first-class boys are sufficiently advanced to be put under more careful training for that purpose; and Mr. Grayling has taken them under his special charge, and in less than two years hence, I trust they will be prepared to send out as Catechists.

"*Church Services at Sarawak* are celebrated as follows:—Morning and Evening Prayer daily in English and Chinese; and if there be Christian Dyaks staying in the town (which is often the case), an additional daily Malay Service for them. On Saints' days, full services and short sermon. On Sundays, half-past 7 A. M., Litany or Communion Service; 8 A. M., Chinese Service and Sermon; 11 A. M., English Service and Sermon; 3 P. M., Catechising; half past 4 P. M., English Evening Prayer; half past 5 P. M., Chinese Evening Prayer. Holy Communion is administered the first Sunday in every month, and on all the great festivals. Congregation of adults—English, 20; Chinese, 17. Children, 30. Communicants, 24.

"*Baptisms.*—Since the commencement of the Mission there have been 112 baptisms. Chinese, 48; Dyaks, 38; Malays, 3; mixed blood, 11; Europeans, 12. Of these 29 were baptised as infants; the rest answered for themselves.

"The *Malay Day School*, which I established before going to England was discontinued in my absence; but I propose re-opening it as soon as a successor to Mr. Fox can be procured. It is necessary that we should keep up our influence among the Malays, by instructing them in such things as they are willing to learn and we can teach. Fox although I dare not expect any immediate or visible results therefrom in a missionary point of view, yet by gradually enlightening their minds we shall remove and lessen bitter and hostile prejudices; and thus to gain power over them is the only way to prevent them actively opposing us in our work among the Dyaks.

"*Linga Mission.*—The Rev. W. Chambers having earnestly requested assistance in his work at Linga, I directed the Rev. A. Horsburgh to proceed thither, and endeavour to establish a school among the Dyaks at Banting, and to take charge of the Station there when Mr. Chambers is itinerating. On the 31st May, in company with Mr. Gomez, I went to Linga to visit

Mr. Chambers and Mr. Horsburgh, and to settle a difficulty that had arisen about the translation of the word "Jesus" into Malay. We settled to adopt the Arabic word Issa, which is used by the Malayá, and understood by the Dyaks. We also agreed upon several other words of a religious nature, so as to ensure uniformity in our teaching and translations. During my stay at Linga, we settled upon a piece of ground, and fixed upon the form and dimension of a church, which is now, I believe, in the course of erection.

"*Lundu Mission.*—On July 28th I returned from Lundu, where I had been a week with Mr. Gomez. I administered the Holy Communion on Sunday, the 22d instant; and although laid up by an accident to my foot, I was able to inspect the very suitable and neat church, now nearly complete, and to exhort daily the Christian and other Dyaks who kept coming in to me from morning to night. I took Mrs. McDougall with me, who received visits from and went amongst the women. Indeed, from the anxiety of the females to see and converse with her, from early in the morning till late at night, it was a very fatiguing work, and has, I fear, been too much for her strength. I think Mr. Gomez' progress is sound and satisfactory. If the old Orang Kaya (or Head Chieftain) had lived a little longer, I think the visible results would have been more rapid; for after having professed himself a Christian, as he did before his death, the energy of his character would have led him to urge the whole tribe publicly to embrace Christianity without delay; but his eldest son and successor is a more timid character, and will not, I fear, forward the work so earnestly as his father would have done. Mr. Gomez has found great assistance in the zealous cooperation of Mr. Grant, the Rajah's officer in command of the country; and I am happy to say it is now settled that our old Catechist, Mr. Fox, is to succeed Mr. Grant in charge of the tribes on that river, and I feel sure that he will cooperate earnestly with Mr. Gomez in his missionary work. Mr. Fox's leaving us may thus be overruled for good. It is not necessary that I should here go into particulars concerning the details and progress of the work at this station or at Linga, as the missionaries there will send their own reports. My own feelings, after visiting these Missions and inquiring carefully into their state, are certainly those of unmixed thankfulness and gratitude to God, who has thus opened up for us what I believe to be highways for the messengers of salvation in this land of death and darkness and cruel habitations.

"The *New School-house and Dormitory* at Sarawak will, I hope, be completed in