

progress he has made in that truth, and of the influence it has exercised upon him.

Believe me faithfully yours,

A. R. SYMONDS."

Madras, 10th January, 1853.

SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE.

June, 1853.

The Rev. Dr. RUSSELL in the Chair.

The Secretaries laid before the Board the Audit Sheet, signed by the Auditors, April 29th, 1853.

The grants to the amount of 3000*l.* placed at different times at the disposal of the Standing Committee, for the purposes of emigrants, having become exhausted, the Committee proposed, according to notice given at the last General Meeting, that a further sum of 1000*l.* be voted by the Board for this object.

This sum was voted accordingly.

The Secretaries reported that there had been issued from the Depository during the past year—

Bibles	153,799
New Testaments	79,483
Common Prayer Books	324,923

A letter was read from the Lord Bishop of Colombo, dated N. Eliya, Ceylon, March 23rd, 1853. The following are extracts:—

"I sent you not long since an account of the opening of two native churches in the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel Mission of Milagraya, near Colombo, which, with the timely and generous aid of your Society, the Rev. J. Thurstan has completed. A third is now ready, but the villagers are desirous of connecting their secluded village with the main road, to make their church more accessible before it is opened, and for this purpose are themselves now engaged in constructing a branch road under his guidance. On my return to Colombo next month (if all be well), it will probably be prepared for my visit and Confirmation through the rural districts south of Colombo. The Mission has been lately extended, and embraces several large and populous villages, not before included within its limits, each having its own little chapel and school, served by Mr. Thurstan and his ten assistants, as either catechists or schoolmasters. It is very gratifying to me to inform the Society that within this Mission Divine Service is solemnized in the Singhalese language not less than sixteen times every Sunday, and eight catechetical lectures are held weekly in the respective villages, for instructing the candidates for confirmation and adult baptism, and explaining and enforcing on their immediate attention the obligation of sponsors and parents of children to be baptized. There are, moreover, thirteen Sunday, and seventeen day schools within the district, including one industrial boarding school, which has by his judicious superintendence and patient perseverance been made almost self-supporting; a new feature in Ceylon in both respects of maintenance and residence. Including the schoolmistresses there are thirteen labourers employed wholly in imparting Christian instruction daily, under the energetic and quiet superintendence of this single Missionary.

"Before my departure I encouraged him to hope for a donation from your Society of 10*l.* for the purpose. If to this the Society is willing to add a donation of 5*l.* or 10*l.* for the provision of Singhalese elementary books in his seventeen schools, it would furnish a good supply for some time; and the expense of a competent outfit for so many is considerable.

"In the district of one of my native Deacons, stationed at Pantura, fifteen miles south of Colombo, originally as a catechist, and now, by the aid of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, admitted to holy orders, the Singhalese villagers of Kehilwatté (or 'plaintain-garden,' for most of their names are significant), to mark their gratification, have resolved to com-

plete a little chapel, which they had commenced in their village, with their own materials and their own labour. Such buildings are then inexpensive; the door, windows, and roof alone costing any thing. They are, however, greatly cheered by any expression of sympathy in their earnest work from without; and as they have no money to purchase what they cannot themselves supply, I made them a donation of 5*l.*, and am willing to hope that your Society will do the same."

It was agreed to grant 25*l.*, the sum requested by the Bishop, in aid of these objects.

The Rev. J. W. Welsh forwarded a report of his labours among emigrants leaving Liverpool during the quarter ending May 12th, 1853. It appeared that within the past quarter nearly 50,000 souls sailed from the Mersey for different parts.

Mr. Welsh stated that his work in general continued to be of the same character as that described in former reports, namely, visiting the lodging-houses, boarding the ships in the river, and holding service during the day, and every evening reading prayers and preaching a sermon in the dépôt chapel at Birkenhead.

Three hundred and ten vessels had been visited during the period specified by Mr. Welsh.

The Secretaries stated that a supply of Bibles, Common Prayer Books, and other Books and Tracts would be forwarded to Mr. Welsh. Grants for the use of emigrants have been supplied to Southampton and Plymouth.

EXTENSION OF THE COLONIAL EPISCOPATE.

(Continued from page 72.)

*** The fact that the English formed so small a minority in every part of the country, constituted one of the chief difficulties in founding a Church in that land; for they were not more than one-sixth of the people: they were poor and scattered. They must have pastors and churches; but they were not in sufficient numbers, nor had they sufficient wealth, to maintain their own churches by themselves. This was one of the Bishop's chief difficulties; but, in addition, he must be prepared, if he fulfilled his work, to attempt the conversion of the heathen in the Diocese. Now, this country had entailed considerable responsibility upon itself by choosing to make these heathens its own subjects; the Church had also responsibility resting upon it from the same cause.

First, he felt that the tribes of the British Kaffirs had very strong claims upon our Christian sympathy and love. If others, who had laboured amongst them, were to abandon them as hopeless, they might have some shadow of an excuse for their lack of Christian love; but the Church of England had no such excuse, for she had done nothing whatever for them. It was his solemn conviction, that if the Church of England had been permitted, twenty or thirty years ago, to send out, what he trusted, even at the eleventh hour, she would send out, Clergymen and Missionaries under the superintendence of a Bishop residing upon the spot, the last Kaffir war would never have taken place, and the first might never have occurred. The two wars put together had cost this country not only the lives of many brave soldiers, but, in a money point of view, a sum of not less than £3,000,000, or sufficient to support a body of 2,000 Missionary Clergymen for ten years. We would not do the work which God gave us to do among the British Kaffirs, and He hath suffered that people to rise up and be the instruments of our chastisement. He did not think it yet was too late, although he regarded the present peace as nothing but a lull in the storm; but if the Church of England could be effectually planted among them, it would be the most effectual instrument of preventing any future outbreak. The work was rendered indeed more difficult by each successive war; but it was very far from hopeless. Brutalized and degraded our present enemies might be, but they might yet be raised out of their degradation. Nothing was too hard for God, or beyond the reach of His grace, and the power of His gospel. In conclusion, the right reverend Prelate strongly urged the erection of a Bishopric at Graham's Town, and another at Natal. He should be rejoiced if the result of this Meeting effected this subdivision of his Diocese, and the foundations of two new Sees. If he were permitted to go back with two fellow-workers, he should go forth with a light heart, and encouraged by a good hope. Then he should feel convinced that at length the Church would sink her roots deep in the soil, and that she was taking the most effectual steps for the extension of Christ's kingdom. But the chief field of our contemplated Missions was in Natal. There indeed was a wide and effectual door opened for the Missions of the English Church; and there, also, less was done by other religious bodies for our heathen subjects than in any other part of the diocese. We had within that colony, at the very lowest computation, no less than 115,000 Zulus. No sooner was the British authority set up in that country, than many thousand subjects of the great Zulu chief Pinda came pouring into the land, seeking the protection of our Government against the oppressions of