

A liberal response was also given by many of the churches to a special appeal made last December, at which time the financial prospects of the Society seemed somewhat dark.

Your Board would also put on record their appreciation of the part taken by Dr. Castle in securing \$500 for the Akidu field, from the Livingstone Estate of which he had been appointed a trustee.

Your Board would also make honourable mention of the noble work done during the year by the Women's Auxiliary Societies. For the fiscal year now closed, we have received into the treasury of the General Society,—from the Women's Society, West, the sum of \$1,300, and from the Women's Society, East, the sum of \$620.

Their reports testify to the fact that these Societies have done their work very efficiently. There has been quite an increase to the number of Mission Circles and a more wide-spread interest created regarding the great importance of Women's Work in heathen lands. They have found the MISSIONARY LINK (a paper which deserves a place in every Baptist home), so ably conducted by Mrs. Freeland, invaluable in connection with their work.

During the year, monthly meetings have been held by the Executive Committee with good results. At these meetings, the state of the Mission in general and the financial state in particular were always carefully considered, nothing being left undone which would tend to make the home department of the work a success.

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.

In this department, each of the Missionaries reports for the year ending 30th June, 1880.

REV. A. V. TIMPANY in rendering his report, states that Bible Revision, the erection of the Chapel and some other buildings, the building of the new mission boat, essential to the successful prosecution of the work, together with various kinds of Mission-work at the Compound and travelling on the field, have fully occupied his time and filled his "hands, head and heart."

DIVISION OF COCANADA FIELD.—What has hitherto been known as the Cocanada field has, during this year, been divided; one part becoming the "Colair Mission" or Akidu field, of which our esteemed Bro. Craig has taken charge. Of it, Bro. Timpany writes: "I know of no Mission in all the Telugu country that has more encouraging prospects in some very important respects."

Your missionary states that "the Cocanada Field that yet remains to be called by that name may be said to be fifty miles long by about thirty miles broad"—that it is a country "rich and densely populated, but does not contain more than seventy-five Telugu Christians."

With his characteristic energy and love for souls, Bro. Timpany is planning to explore this vast mission field during the coming year, and as God gives the means, have the Gospel "preached systematically" to those perishing for lack of knowledge.

REGARDING THE TOWN OF COCANADA, he says:—"Our plans for the future are somewhat as follows: Jugganakooporam, on the south side of the river, is a mile or more from our Compound. In this place we propose to locate an English church which we expect will be soon organized. We have commenced to raise funds for securing a lot and building a house that will do for Chapel, Temperance Hall, and also provide a place for a reading room. It is also proposed to make it the centre for work in this part of the town. For our English work, we fondly hope that God will call one of the English speaking people into the ministry, and we believe that with judicious help for a time, the church would become self-sustaining. The house and lot will cost about \$1,200. Half of this sum, I think, we can raise on the ground. Half, we hope friends who read this will provide. We do not ask help of the Society for this object, but as friends help a struggling church at home to build a place for worship, so may they help our English brethren at Cocanada."

CONVERTS ON THE FIELD.—Last January, a Mr. Hooper, of the Telegraphic Department, wrote a letter to Bro. Timpany, stating that he had been converted under a sermon preached by Bro. Craig, some months previous, and that he now desired to be baptized. "He was followed, to the joy of all, by Mr. Gibson, a most worthy young man who had attended and helped in every way ever since Bro. McLaurin began the work." Since then ten others have been baptized and others are coming. In addition to these, fifteen have been baptized from Samulicotta, a large town some seven miles from Cocanada. Here the head man and all his family are believing, and your missionary expects soon to baptize the entire household on profession of their faith in Christ. Many more in the place profess to have forsaken their idols

and to have turned to the living God. We wonder not when our brother says of the movement, "It has been a most blessed work."

A NATIVE MINISTRY.—The great want of India to-day, is an earnest, devotedly divinely called Native Ministry. Of such, there are a few, but what are these among so many calling for the bread of life? Feeling the force of this, Bro. Timpany says: "I would ask the prayers of all God's people, that the Lord of the harvest would raise up labourers for his harvest in Cocanada. The harvest is ripe, but the reapers are not to be found."

In closing his report, your missionary says: "I would call special attention to one resolution passed by the 'Cocanada Conference,' at its meeting last January. It is the one referring to the necessity of a school for the training of a native ministry. Our success or failure as a mission in its largest sense, I am satisfied is bound up with this question and our solution of it. We will never do much in raising self-sustaining churches here, until we have men who, for years, have been under the care of a missionary, daily drinking in his Christian culture and becoming imbued with his spirit, to the destruction of their old manners, customs and modes of thought that in every direction antagonize with those that are Christian."

TUNI STATION.

At this station, our devoted brother, Rev. G. F. CURRIE, B.A., has continued to prosecute the work both earnestly and faithfully during the year; but thus far it has been a time of sowing the good seed of the kingdom rather than of reaping.

Building operations, for the present, have been completed, which adds somewhat to the comfort of your missionary and his family. The services at the Compound have been attended frequently by people from the village, who have listened to the Word of Life with growing interest. It is to be hoped that the good seed, thus sown, will yet bear an abundant harvest.

In the villages around, the Gospel has also been preached by your missionary and his native helpers, with the firm conviction that the "truth frequently preached is silently extending its influence over the minds and hearts of not a few, and that sooner or later saving grace will do its work in souls thus prepared."

TOURING.—Regarding this part of the work, Bro. Currie says:—"Five preaching tours have been made during the year—three in September and October, one in February and one in June. Of these, two were made in the region north of Tunni, two south and one between the Station and the coast. In nearly all the villages thus visited, we have found the people ready to give a respectful hearing to our message; and in many cases a cheering amount of interest has been manifested. We feel assured that these visits only need to be followed up at moderate intervals to result, with God's blessing, in the conversion of a goodly number in many places. This part of our work I have found more pleasant and satisfactory than any other, and am only sorry that, thus far, I have not been able to do more of it."

SICKNESS.—Your missionary states that during November and December the work was almost at a stand-still, owing to malarial fever. Nearly all living in the Compound were affected. Both the native preachers with their families, had to be sent away to recover strength in more healthy localities. In the month of January, however, they were able to resume work.

In addition to these difficulties, towards the close of the year, the serious misconduct of one of the native preachers made it necessary that he should be dismissed from mission service. This was a very sore trial, as he was one in whom Bro. Currie had placed confidence to no small extent. His place is for the present vacant, though a colporteur has recently been engaged, who will to some extent supply the deficiency. One person has been baptized during the year. In this connection, your Board would urge the importance of not despising the day of small things. Dr. Carey laboured seven years in India before he baptized the first convert, yet he firmly believed that India would finally be converted to God.

AKIDU FIELD.

This new and promising field is under the care of our energetic young brother, Rev. John Craig, B.A. Regarding this important station your missionary reports as follows:—"In presenting my second annual report, I am glad to have the privilege of telling about some active work in this great harvest field. In December Bro. Timpany, with his family, and Mrs. Craig and myself made a tour in the Colair region, and visited some of the principal villages. On this tour, we had to reorganize the mission

in that region, as Nathan Gabriel had succeeded in disorganizing it by his performances in 1878. We made out a new list of the Christians in the various villages, and reorganized the church at Gannanapudy. Accordingly, when I assumed charge of the work in the Colair region on the 1st of January, I had an almost exact list of the church members on my new field.

OUR NEW STATION.—When we were out in December, we visited Akidu twice to see about securing land. Our efforts at that time did not avail us much. However we succeeded in buying a small house from a Eurasian gentleman who had built it and afterwards removed from Akidu. As this house stands in the centre of an acre and a half of ground, it will do as a temporary abode for the missionary while the permanent house is being erected. We were very thankful that we had obtained this place, as it gave us a foothold in Akidu. Delays took place in securing land for a compound till Bro. Timpany and I visited the Zemindar, who owns the village, and obtained from him a gift of between four and five acres adjoining the bank of the canal. As this gift was secured only a few days before the end of June, there is no further progress to report.

TOURING.—When we were out in December our time was limited; hence we did not see all the villages where our Christians live. We planned to go out again in January, but Bro. Timpany got an attack of fever, so I had to go alone. However, as I had Josiah and Peter with me, I was not left entirely to my own resources. I was out about five weeks and visited eighteen villages, seeing the homes of nearly all our Christians. During this tour eighty were baptized. In March, I made a short tour, visiting only a few villages, but enjoying the privilege of baptizing twenty-seven candidates. Sixty-eight of those baptized during the two tours were from villages that had given no converts before December last. The closure of the canals for some six or seven weeks, and the danger of travelling during the very hot weather, prevent much touring being done, between the middle of March and the end of June.

PREACHERS.—During the past six months four preachers have been at work more or less of the time on the Akidu field. John occupies most of the field between Akidu and the Godavary river. Joseph was stationed last January at Akidu. His work is to look after the Christian villages that lie within a few miles of the new station; and also to preach as far as he is able in Akidu and other places that are still without Christians. Peter's district begins about 15 miles south-west of Akidu and contains a majority of the church members on his field. From the middle of March till the middle of June, Peter has been attending our school in Cocanada, and has made good use of the advantages afforded by it. Although he could read and write to some extent, he had never been at school before. Our fourth preacher occupies the most south-westerly part of the field where there are two of our villages which are within 15 miles of the Kistna river. This worker receives only part of his support from the Society and hence, he can spend only part of his time in the work. His name is Moses, and his trade is weaving. He has very little learning but a good deal of earnestness in telling sinners about a Saviour. In fact, none of these men are as well educated as they ought to be, and some of them do not satisfy us in other respects, but this state of things can be remedied only by the opening of a Theological School under one of the missionaries. Men and women must be moulded for the work.

VILLAGE SCHOOLS.—This applies also to school-teachers. We want a school in every village where there are Christians, and therefore we want school-teachers. From the beginning of February, five or six schools have been kept up. In all of these we have tried to arrange the giving of aid so that the Christians would be compelled to give something, and we hope before long to see them giving regularly, not only for the support of school-teachers but also for that of preachers.

PRESENT STATE OF THE FIELD.—I have already mentioned the baptisms that took place in January, February and March. These additions were almost all on the south-western part of the field. Somewhat of a blight seems to rest on the north-eastern part. However, the new station is so situated that most of the Christians in this latter region will be within easy reach of the missionary. Before long, I hope to be among these cold-hearted ones and make up to them what is lacking on the part of their preachers. Peter, whom we hope to ordain as pastor of the Gannanapudy church before long, is a pastor already in practice. Under God, he has taken good care of the sheep entrusted to him, so that we feel he is worthy of the office in spite of the deficiencies in his education. With him on the south-western part of the field and