

The Presbyterian;

A MISSIONARY AND RELIGIOUS RECORD



OF THE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA IN CONNECTION WITH THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

CONDUCTED BY A COMMITTEE OF THE LAY ASSOCIATION.

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MEETING OF SYNOD.

We regret to announce that, notwithstanding our best exertions, we failed in procuring the services of any efficient reporter, through whose labours we had confidently expected to have been enabled to lay before our readers a full account of the proceedings of last meeting of Synod, which sat at Williamstown on Wednesday, the 7th of July. No Minutes of Synod having as yet come to hand, we regret that we are under the necessity of going to press without them. We trust, however, that in our next issue we may have it in our power to make up this deficiency.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

(Considerably abridged from the *Edinburgh Evening Post*.)

[Continued from our last number.]

Dr. MACFARLANE, Duddingstone, then laid before the Assembly the Report of the Committee for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, especially in India, from which we give a few extracts.

Of those connected with the Missionary Institution at Calcutta, it is our duty to record, with humble and devout gratitude, the admission of one recently to the Christian Church by an open profession of attachment to a crucified Saviour. The young man's name is Golock Nath Bose, and his age about 26 years. He had, for upwards of three years, been employed as an English teacher in the Institution; and from the circumstance that his relatives are men of wealth and well known in the native community, as well as from

the fact that he himself was connected with that class of persons who wish to be considered and called "the enlightened or educated natives," the utmost care was taken to test by every prudent method the sincerity of his Christian profession. At length, after all due trial, his public admission to the Christian Church was resolved on; and a declaration of his faith in Christ was voluntarily emitted by him at the baptismal service, at which Mr. Ogilvie presided, in the Scotch Church.

"During the past year we have imparted to upwards of 1300 Hindoos the best general and Christian education that it was in our power to communicate. With respect to the adult portion of the population, we have employed such means as, we trust, may not have proved wholly unavailing. In the hope that God of His mercy might bless to some of them the proclamation of His Gospel, we have had preaching in the Bengali language twice, and frequently thrice, every week. With the same hope twelve missionary gentlemen of various denominations have, not long since, delivered a series of lectures in the Bengali chapel attached to the Institution. Divine service in the English language has been conducted every Lord's Day evening. We have also lately opened Sunday morning classes for the sake of our own teachers and pupils, and especially with a view to imparting a knowledge of Christianity to those persons who have no other opportunity of acquiring religious instruction."

MADRAS.

"The past year," the Rev. Mr. Grant says in his latest communication, "has not been without its fruits. A few months ago we were privileged to receive four of our female pupils into the Redeemer's Church from heathenism and idolatry. Though that was not all the fruit of this kind we thought we had good reason to expect, yet we surely may look on it as a token for good, and thank God, and take courage. This leads me to speak of the numbers of our pupils in attendance. For a considerable time after last examination they continued to be a little above 600, that is, above 200 girls and very nearly 400 boys. Indeed this continued to be the case till towards the end of the year, when rumours of

baptisms began to spread abroad. The parents in many cases became greatly alarmed; and many pupils were in consequence withdrawn. We have not yet recovered our numbers; those in attendance being but about 500 in all, viz., nearly 300 (282) boys, and about 220 girls. One grand reason that our numbers have not been larger is the want of Vernacular schools. Our pupils (boys) consist of those only who learn English. But many youths are desirous of acquiring a knowledge of their own language without English. These also we would be glad to receive and benefit spiritually."

It is satisfactory to think that one of the deficiencies referred to in this communication, namely, the want of Vernacular schools, has, to some extent at least, been met by the energy and zeal of our respected chaplains at this Presidency; and that, by a recent letter from the Rev. Mr. Hamilton, our much valued correspondent, we are apprised of the fact, that it has pleased God to bless the means of grace used in connection with the native congregation of St. Andrew's Church, and to bring two of the heathen to a knowledge and profession of the Truth.

BOMBAY.

"Here the breaches made some years ago have not yet been repaired; and it was presumptuous in us, therefore, to look for great results where we have nothing to make use of but the most slender means. Of this grievous inadequacy in the amount of agency employed there are none better aware than the two reverend gentlemen, Dr. Stevenson and Mr. Cook, who are the respected chaplains in the Scotch Church in this province, and but for whose presence, and counsel, and superintendence, this branch of your operations must long ere this have languished and died."

The Committee conclude their Report with the following appeal to the Church for a great enlargement of their resources and means:—

It is with no ordinary feelings of apprehension that we point at this date to our balance-sheet, with the large deficiency therein reported of