

tion of the Church. Let us pray that God may continue to pour out his blessings upon our work in connection with this mission. Pray for me.

Yours truly,

M. R. PARADIS.

Our Foreign Missions.

TRINIDAD MISSION.

Sixth Annual Report.

SAN FERNANDO, Dec. 31st, 1873.

The Board of Foreign Missions Presbyterian Church, L. P., B. N. A.

Though called upon to review the busiest year yet spent in this field there seems less necessity than in former years to give lengthened details. Though not dull, the work of the year has been almost monotonous in its regularity.

PREACHING

the Word as usual occupied a prominent place. On Sabbath I held service regularly at Iere Village, in Hindustani at 9 and in English at 11 o'clock, except when called upon to supply the San Fernando Presbyterian congregation. At two o'clock I took part in the Hindustani service in our new Church, San Fernando, and very generally went out for a fourth service, to visit the sick or to converse with any whom I might meet. During the week I also held as many meetings as I could overtake, on Estates at the Colonial Hospital, in villages and at the convict depot. And two days in each month I gave up wholly to Conva. Three times during the year attacks of sore throat hindered me in this part of the work, and obliged me to use my throat with the utmost care and economy.

There has been a manifest interest in the Word preached in some quarters, and a very decided opposition to it in others. The leading Mahomedans in particular have shown us how very strong their opposition is. Although outwardly on friendly terms with us, they have secretly done all they could to thwart our influence, and have tried their best to seduce some of our young men from the faith of the Gospel. This opposition affects the attendance at our church meetings as only those who are prepared in some measure to brave it will attend regularly. The Church attendance has therefore been somewhat fluctuating. As a rallying point for the mission and for the instruction of converts and of those interested, the Church is indispensable. But the warfare must be carried into the open country, hence the importance of car-

rying the Word of God to the people at their own homes. And this is the very department of work in which native agents can be most usefully employed. Many of the people have not time to come often to us. Many will not come to us who will yet listen attentively when we go to them, and our going to them has a softening kindly influence which tends to draw them to our Church meetings. Informal meetings too give better opportunities of answering questions or objections, and of correcting errors and mis-conceptions than more formal meetings with larger audiences in the Church. And it brings the Gospel to some who otherwise would never hear it. Very encouraging has it often been to visit Estates and Hospitals, very pleasant to roam through the forests and hills carrying the word of life to the people.

SCHOOLS.

1. Esperanza School has continued during the year under Soodeen. The illness and death of his wife and child, and his own serious indisposition, together with a large amount of sickness among the people affected injuriously the attendance at this school.

2. Sevilla School, Annajee teacher. Two of the children of this school were run over, early in the year, by a mule cart, when on their way to school and killed, one by being trampled on, and the other apparently from fright. This seriously affected for months the attendance of children from a distance. The year, however, closed with a very good attendance.

3. Iere School was closed in April for the following reasons: Kantoo and Juraman with their families, were about to leave the village to act as teachers, others had left and were attending school elsewhere. The attendance was thus seriously reduced.

The cost of the school to our funds was considerable.

And Thomas W. Cockey was required to take charge of the San Fernando school.

For these combined reasons it was thought best to close the school, at least for a time, and I cannot report any immediate prospect of re-opening it.

4. Palmyra and Ne Plus Ultra School has supplied to the children of these two Estates the advantage of free education at their very doors.

Two new schools have been opened in my special field during the year.

1. Jordan Hill School was opened April 1st, in a room given by the proprietor Geo. H. Jones, Esq. This room was found too small, and as the proprietor could not build for us, I appealed to the Coolies on Jordan Hill and Cupar Grange Estates for some help toward the erection of a suitable building. The labourers of these two Estates at