

the manager's house, his infant and nurse perishing in the flames. Owing to the School house being required for the manager's use, the school had, of necessity, to be closed. We cannot but regard this as a very great misfortune to the interests of our Mission, more especially as the number of children attending the School was very considerable, upwards of 150 being present on some occasions.

Uitvlugt is by far the largest centre of Mission work on the West Coast. In addition to coolie children, a few black and Chinese children have been permitted to attend. The progress of the children at the School cannot but be regarded as highly satisfactory. An additional teacher has been added, Mr. Estwick, at a salary of \$20 dollars per month, the salary for the first three months being guaranteed by Mr. Grant. The sixty dollars have been paid by members of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, to whom Mr. Grant represented the state of matters at *Uitvlugt* School.

We must not forget to mention in connection with this School, the kindly interest taken in it by Mrs. Gibson, who generally gives her aid in teaching the pupils. And the council place on record their grateful thanks to Mr. Russell and Mr. McConnell, for the generous gift of \$480 towards the finances of the Mission.

The School at *Hague* is maintained entirely at the expense of the estate, and in a building expressly provided for it. The thanks of the council are due to Mr. and Mrs. Throp for their ceaseless interest in the same. The attendance at the School is good.

2. There is nothing special to place on record regarding the stations at Aurora and Good Hope. The Schools at both stations are doing remarkably well, the Government Grant for the former is \$37,50 per month, and for the latter \$20.

We have still to regret that it has been found impossible owing to want of funds to complete the necessary repairs in Aurora Church, a beautiful edifice, but sadly needing the expenditure of a few hundred dollars in order to render it as it should be. A considerable debt still hangs over Good Hope Church, which it has been hitherto found impossible to liquidate. The Church, moreover, stands in need of painting within and without, and the weather is already beginning to tell upon it, in consequence of the want of the same.

The Secretary has twice visited this Church and urged the members to take active steps to clear off the debt still remaining on the church, but hitherto nothing has been done to secure this desirable end.

3. The Catechist at Chalk Hill, Mr. Walker, has laboured for more than a quarter of a century in the interest of the Mission. He is a good, diligent and hard-working man, and has an acquaintance with the aboriginal Indians second to few on the colony. He is much respected and beloved by the Arawak and Acawoio Indians who reside near and far from the Mission. This Mission Station has no grant from our Missionary Society. And, unfortunately, as the School failed to pass the Government Examination in December last, the station is practically without means of subsistence. On a former occasion when the schools similarly failed the Secretary was able to maintain it for upwards of a year without any expense to the Society, through the kind donations of a few friends of the Society, and in the present state of our funds it seems desirable that the same mode of procedure should be adopted.

4. It cannot be said that the present condition of the school at *Anna Catharina* as regards the Society is quite satisfactory. This school receives a small monthly grant from the Society, but as regards its management, it is entirely independent. It does not seem as if the condition of affairs is quite satisfactory.

5. *Mahaicony*.—This station occupies a most important position. Sixteen miles from the Parish Church, it is plainly imperative that the spiritual wants of members of the Church of Scotland, should not be neglected. There is a beautiful little chapel here—St. Peter's which was renovated a few years ago, and is in excellent repair.

As evincing the interest shewn by those living in the neighbourhood, in the cause of the Mission, a neat school and school house, has been completed during the past year. This work was accomplished at no cost to the Society. The expense was defrayed by voluntary contributions in the colony and at home.

The principal credit for the erection of this building, is due to Mr. and Mrs. Barlow of *Sophia's Hope*, and to Miss Barlow who was indefatigable in her efforts in raising the necessary funds.