

as they *did very much wish to be baptized*, for they truly believed on Jesus. I then formed them into a little class for special examination, with the view of their being admitted into the Church by the initiatory rite. Of course I knew how they had conducted themselves, and what progress they had made in scriptural knowledge, since the time they had come under our protection. Still, it was touchingly interesting to hear each of them tell how he or she loved the Lord Jesus, who came to seek and save them. It was not long before I came to the conclusion that they were all quite prepared, and *ought to take the step*, which they proposed, of joining themselves publicly to the company of believers by baptism.

"Andrew Meek is the name of the boy. He has been under the care of the mission about ten years, and was not more than a child of two or two and a half years when he was brought to us from Raepore, about 200 miles to the east of this. In stature he is very small, and, for a considerable time, was very delicate, but is now pretty healthy. Although Andrew may never have great bodily strength, yet he promises to be a fair scholar, and, if spared, may find useful occupation in serving the Lord in connection with the mission. At least, for this we hope and pray. One thing in which this dear little friend excels is the singing of hymns, both in the vernacular and in English, of which, I have no doubt, you and Mrs. M— heard specimens during your visit to us at Nagpore.

"Of the three girls—Naganna, Ambai, and Maggie Irvine—I need not enter into many particulars. They are all from twelve to fourteen years of age, and have always been quiet and exemplary in their conduct. The first took the Christian name of Ruth, and the second that of Rachel, as they did not wish now to be called by names that savoured of heathenism. Ambai, now Rachel, I am sorry to say, suffers from leprosy; but for more than a year she has been undergoing a course of medicine, very kindly supplied by Dr. Bhau Daji, of Bombay, and, I think, under his treatment, she is improving. But oh, how comforting to know that she and her companions, of whom I have just been writing, are seeking deliverance from a more terrible disease, the leprosy of sin, which affects both body and soul; and that in Christ, in whom they now profess to believe, they are assured of a perfect and permanent cure. Let the friends in Scotland who are specially interested in these dear young disciples join us more earnestly in prayer, that henceforth they may adorn the doctrine of God their Saviour in all things."

BOMBAY.

Dr. Wilson says: "I had even more than usual encouragement this year in preaching in the towns and villages on my way to and from Mahabaleswar, where I spent a few weeks last hot season. On entering Puna, however, on the 7th of June, I encountered a terrible storm of lightning and rain. I caught a severe cold from a wetting which I got. I had to wait in Puna for four or five days for a Presbytery meeting, when I found myself rather getting worse. On reaching Bombay by rail, I had to attend to some of the opening business of the Institution, which proved too much for me, as in a day or two I was visited by a very violent attack of fever. Being of a remittent, and not intermittent type, it did not yield to the medicines to which, from ordinary usage, I resort. My kind friend, Dr. Joynt, seemed quite alarmed at the state of burning heat and exhaustion in which he found me. Through the blessing of God on his singular skill, and his frequent attendance upon me day and night, I am now in a state of decided convalescence, much to the relief of many friends who feared that my