

people seems to have been somewhat awakened to the word spoken, accompanied at the same time by a fear of each other, which tended to keep back some from the services. On one occasion, Mr. K. held a discussion with the priest of St. Flavie, an adjoining parish, at which over four hundred persons were present. Here was a fine opportunity for proclaiming Christ Jesus, and justification by faith in him, which our dear brother was enabled to improve. In other instances, sometimes on the highway and sometimes in the house, he has had opportunities of declaring to the ignorant "*habitués*" the Word of Life. The people have uniformly treated our Missionary with respect, and in some instances, with kindness; and we hope that his labours are not without fruit, to the glory of God.

The Mission School which Mr. Kedeley was enabled to establish, for the benefit of French Canadian children exclusively, and which was in a flourishing condition, was left by him, with written directions, under the joint care of Messrs. Page, (the teacher) Turris and Smith, who are to send up a monthly report of the school to the Society. The first of these reports I have just received, shewing the latest attendance to be thirteen, with applications for three more. It is matter of regret, however, that the same letter announces the sickness of the teacher for ten days previous to the 13th current, in consequence of which, the school was closed. The disease is inflammation in the throat. He writes as follows: "Since I stopped the school the poor children have been to me every two or three days, asking if I am better and when they may come again, and the parents of three more are waiting for the harvest to be in, to get bread to send their children." God seems thus early, in the history of our mission, to be trying our faith, but if it is his cause what have we to fear. If to support that mission and its school be our duty, let us go on using the means we have, and prayerfully waiting for God's blessing. "Something more should be done for this people," writes Mr. Kedeley, and it may be that when the necessary interest is awakened, something more will be done for them by our Church.

Hoping that ere long, our dear brother, himself, will furnish you with a sketch of his summer's work, I will leave it to him to enter into particulars, and will only now advert to the call which we have to go on in the work before us,—a call arising alike from what has been effected by this our first effort, and from the relations in which the French Canadians stand to us, and the influence which they exercise upon us in a political and religious point of view. They need to be educated and enlightened before Canada will take that place among the Christian nations which she ought to occupy. Oh that their deliverance from the thralldom of superstition and death, were more the prayer of God's people in Canada, then might we expect to see light arise out of darkness, and the worship of God in Christ Jesus supplant the adoration of saints and angels.

I am, dear Sir,
Yours, &c.,

JOHN LAINO, Treas. S. M. S.

To the Editor of the Record.

TUCKERSMITH, Sept. 3, 1851.

MR. EDITOR,—

You and I, it would appear, have lately been meditating on the subject of Polynesian Missions. It is a great topic, even the triumphs of a Saviour God, in a portion of the heathen world. I refer to the article in your last issue, entitled "Christianity in Tahiti." Re-reading the spirit-stirring narrative at present, by the late lamented Rev. John Williams, of the London Missionary Society,

and finding abundant reason to praise God for events therein recorded, I was naturally led to long for the latest information, about what might be doing in that distant part of the world. That you have in some measure supplied by sending us some paragraphs from the *Puritan Recorder* I see the old day of Gospel triumph back again, and, while praying for its increase and spread, would seek to give God the glory. When formerly attending the University in Glasgow, I had once the pleasure of hearing him, whose name will go down to posterity, as the "Martyr of Erromanga." His text was from Psalm lxxiv 20: "Have respect unto the covenant, for the dark places of the earth are full of the habitations of cruelty." He seemed to throb, from his mode of speech, that Satan was laughing and scorning at the efforts of Christendom for reclaiming the heathen, because they were on such a puny scale, compared with the magnitude of the work to be done, while in the meantime he was bearing down, in rapid succession, one multitude after another from the Pagan world to the abodes of woe. Oh what a thrill of joy must it give the faint spirit of Williams, if he now know in the heavenly world the sacred doings that are going on in the islands three days sail from his formerly beloved Rarotonga. The heathen were cruel to him—his blood dyed the shore of the Pacific; but who will compute the results flowing from his personal labors, or the moral power connected with "a narrative," which, in 1845, had reached its forty-first thousand; or who can tell the spiritual influences which it may please God to connect with the memoirs which have been published of him since his death. His decease, though our grief, was his gain, and no doubt was overruled for good to the church of the living God. If his course had not been finished, the powerful letters of Dr. Campbell on war and missions, would yet be unpublished. If his widow and bereaved children be still in this vale of tears, may they be supported and comforted by the Father of the fatherless, and the Husband and Judge of the widow; and may his successors in office, in those beautiful islands of the sea, have a double portion of that Spirit which animated Williams, while he was yet seen among mortals.

The Rev. Robert Moffat, as many know, was set apart in Surrey Chapel, for southern Africa, on the same day that Mr. Williams was appointed to the South Sea Islands. His career likewise, has been one of great trial and danger, and his name will hold a conspicuous place in the history of Africa, on that day when Ethiopia will stretch out her hands unto God. Fellow Christians, think on missionaries, support them, pray for them; think on Moffat, for a quarter of a century in Africa; on Dr. Duff, for a period as long, connected with the burning sands of India; on the half sovereign, from Esquimaux, for our beloved friend, the Rev. W. C. Burns, of China; on Mr. Smith, in continental Europe, seeking the lost sheep of the house of Israel, with whom some of us have associated in former days. Remember our French Canadian Mission in the east, and our Raleigh Mission, for the sable sons and daughters of Africa, in the west; and as you thus remember Zion, enter into the closet and shut the door, and give not God rest until He arise, and make Jerusalem a praise in the whole earth.

WILLIAM GRAHAM.

To the Editor of the Record.

GUELPH, Sept. 16, 1851.

DEAR SIR,—

In perusing an account of the last meeting of the Commission of the Free Church of Scotland, I noticed some admirable remarks of Dr. Candlish, on the necessity, not to say propriety, of good and sufficient title deeds being procured for the various sites of their churches, manse, schools, &c., and also of having the same recorded and lodged in safe keeping. Now, Sir, what is good

for the Free Church, I should think would be good for us, and I would humbly suggest, that the various congregations, through their managers, trustees, or others, should use every endeavour to get good title deeds, made out similar to our model deed, and have the same registered and deposited in the various County Register Offices, till we have some secure building of our own in a central situation, such as a college in Toronto, or some other convenient place.

I remain, yours respectfully,

A. D. F.

CHINA.

LETTER FROM THE REV. W. C. BURNS.

Canton, June 19, 1851.

MY DEAR FRIEND,—Having had an occasion to write to Mr. Nisbet (in answer to a letter from him) two months ago, it is now three months since I gave you any account of what I have been doing in the prosecution of the work of the Gospel among this people. And indeed to my sluggish pen all may be summed up in a single sentence. I have been happy in finding as many opportunities of preaching, the word of life among this people as I have had strength to overtake.—I have been almost daily, and sometimes twice or thrice a-day, thus employed. You, and others, will naturally ask, What has been the result?—In answer, I have almost no proofs to bring of success, farther than is afforded by a certain degree of attention and interest on the part of some, and it may be supposed that the gradual spreading of a certain degree of Divine truth in a small portion of the public mind. Were the work in which we are engaged one of man's devising, or undertaken in obedience to any human command it might seem foolish to pursue it where there is so little appearance of fruit; but doing what we do in compliance with the command of our God and Saviour, and feeling also that he makes good to us the promise, at least in our own experience, "Lo I am with you always" therefore we faint not, but continue to speak his life giving word, knowing that it shall not return unto him void, but shall accomplish that which he pleaseth and shall prosper in the thing whereto he sendeth it. When I last wrote you in the end of March, the eight months for which I had taken these premises were coming to a close, and I mentioned that I did not know how much longer I might be allowed to occupy them. During these three additional months, I have been allowed to go on as before, but at the end of this present month I must remove. I got this notice on the 27th of May, from the new tenant, an Armenian merchant, who has rented the whole premises. On receiving this notice, as I had my hands full of suitable and interesting work in preaching, &c., both here and at other missionary stations,—as I was, in the providence of God, provided with good native assistance in the co-operation of the agents connected with other Christian Societies, and as I had nothing from home or Amoy leading me to conclude that the time was now come for my leaving Canton, I began to look about for some other suitable centre of operations. In this, however, I and those about me, met with a renewal of the difficulties (very great they are in the case of this place) which had been experienced by Dr. Young and myself on our first arrival here. No suitable place was to be found which the owner was willing to let to a foreigner, or the neighborhood willing to allow him to occupy. The only escape from this difficulty which presented itself was in the fact that the second morning after I got notice to remove, an American Baptist missionary (at whose station within one hundred yards of this, I have been giving addresses since I came to Canton, and which is exceedingly central for collecting people) called to ask me to take the entire charge of this station, at least for some months, as during the summer he could not