

painted on the outside, and that the proposed building at Tacarigua, just half-way between Tunapuna and Arouca, would be proceeded with without delay. This new building will be pushed forward as quickly as possible on account of the approaching wet season. The land has been given by the government on favourable terms. The building will stand in a long narrow village on the Royal Road. Four estates lie in a circle around it and there is a railway station about three minutes walk from it. One of these four estates, Orange Grove, has a population of 500 East Indians. On it Miss Morton assisted by two natives conducts a Sunday school which has an attendance of about forty. But a school on an estate will never draw the children from other estates and only to a limited extent from villages. We need to get a neutral ground to get a good attendance at week day schools, and the same remark holds true of a building for services for adults. This is the busy season when men work hard and long. There is no marked increase in the attendance at the regular services, but in going out among the people there seems to be an increased interest in the story of our Saviour's love and this, perhaps, more markedly among the women than among the men. Oh that the awakening and quickening Spirit would come down to convince of sin and lead these lost souls to seek for mercy! I am happy to report that latterly the improvement in my health has been more marked. My strength has in a large measure returned and but little of my cough remains.—J. M.

Missionary Cabinet.

WILLIAM CHALMERS BURNS.

THIS devoted missionary was one of the sons of the Rev. Dr. William Hamilton Burns, some time minister of Dun in Forfarshire, afterwards of the parish of Kilsyth, Scotland. He was born in the manse of Dun on the 1st of April 1815. He was a nephew of the late Dr. Robert Burns of Toronto, and a cousin of the well known Dr. R. F. Burns, pastor of Fort Massey Church, Halifax N. S. Brought up in the country, William Burns was a

strong athletic boy, full of energy. His first ambition was to be a farmer. Next he would be a lawyer; but, before he reached man's estate he had resolved to become a minister. With this view he entered the University of Aberdeen where he graduated in 1834 with honourable distinction. He studied theology in Glasgow University and was licensed to preach the Gospel by the Presbytery of Glasgow on the 27th of March 1839. He became a leading member of the Students' Missionary Society in Glasgow and the discussions in which he took part kindled in his mind a desire to follow in the footsteps of the heroes of the mission field. Before receiving license he had applied to the Convener of the Church of Scotland's Indian mission to be sent to Hindostan. But in the meantime the Master had other work for him to do. He was unexpectedly called to take charge of St. Peter's congregation, Dundee, during Mr. McCheyne's visit to the Holy Land. Here his ministry was greatly blessed. Crowds flocked from all parts of the country to listen to his earnest and powerful preaching. At this time a wonderful work of grace had begun in his father's parish—the great Kilsyth revival of 1839. This was, indirectly, the means of delaying for eight years his cherished idea of going as a missionary to the heathen. The great interest and the prominent part which he took in these meetings made him what he continued to be throughout life—an evangelist, filled with a consuming desire to save souls. From 1839 to 1841 he laboured chiefly in Dundee, St. Andrew's, Perth, Aberdeen and the Highlands. The next three years found him preaching in Newcastle, Edinburgh and Dublin. In 1844 he came by special invitation to Canada and spent two years in evangelistic work. Wherever he went he left foot-prints. The scenes on the streets of Montreal and in the old wooden tabernacle that preceded Coté street Church, can never be effaced. In many parts of the backwoods eyes will yet fill and hearts heave when his name is spoken. Our own devoted missionary Dr. Mackay is in a measure one fruit of his labours in Canada. But all that he did here and elsewhere served to prepare him for his great life-work from which, for a season, he had been kept back. Now he returns to it with