

ertain, however, on good grounds, the expectation of doing so ere long; and they would here state the high gratification with which they received, a few days before the 1st of May the unsought donation of *thirty pounds* from a lady who had previously contributed liberally to the general funds, and who sent this donation as the commencement of a subscription for the erection of a Scotch church at Sealcote, "a thanksgiving for India, May 1st, 1859."

MADRAS.—By a Report of the operation and prospects of the Institution at Madras, which was read on the 24th of December last, by Mr. Walker, at the annual examination, it appears that the attendance has been good, there having been in the parent Institution, and the two branch schools in Black Town, and at Trivatoor, altogether 584 boys and girls.

In the last Report, Mr. Walker says:—

"I have only now to mention that, in connexion with the Mission, we have two small congregations of Christians, formed of the fruits of our educational labors, and the results of preaching to the adults. In one congregation, which meets regularly on Sunday in the chancel of St. Andrew's Church, there are 30 communicants; in the other, which meets in the Mission-house, there are 18. And at present there are 7 enquirers, whom we hope soon to admit into the Church."

The last intelligence received from Madras confirms the statements which these reports supplied. The Rev. Stewart Wright, who has recently entered on his duties as one of the chaplains at Madras, writing on the 9th of March, says:—"I have made several visits to the Mission-house since my arrival. My first impressions were most pleasing, and the more I see of it, I find it the more attractive."

The Committee regret to be under the necessity of stating, that the connexion of Mr. William Buchanan with the Mission is closed. In consequence of certain communications that were laid before the Committee, it was resolved that Mr. Buchanan's services should be discontinued.

Missionary Operations of other Bodies connected with the Church.—Your Committee have observed with much interest the vigor with which missionary operations in India are conducted by other bodies connected with the Church, as these are noticed from time to time in the *Missionary Record*. They rejoice to know, from the Twentieth Annual Report of the Scottish Ladies' Association for the advancement of Female Education in India, under the superintendence of the General Assembly's Committee on Foreign Missions, that the work directed by this Association advances prosperously, and that, at the Orphanage at Calcutta, there were, when that Report was prepared, forty-eight children, while the day schools afforded instruction to upwards of one hundred and thirty pupils. Equally satisfactory accounts were given respecting Madras, Bombay, and Ceylon.

Agencies Employed.—Your Mission has always been conducted according to the principle of employing various agencies:—the education of the young; the training of native teachers, catechists, and ministers; and the preaching of the Gospel to the adult population. The education of the young has been efficiently conducted. The work of training native teachers, catechists, and ministers, has been successfully prosecuted among those who have been willing to be trained for such services; but the number so trained has not been large. In the Institutions at Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay, the Gospel has been preached by your missionaries to the teachers, the more advanced pupils, and other inquirers, while principally through the labors of preachers or catechists connected with your Institutions, Gospel truth has been repeatedly, and in various ways, communicated to the natives. Your Mission has thus been conducted according to the principles of combining the education of the young with the preaching of the gospel to the adults. From all the inquiries they have been able to make, your Committees are satisfied that, could native preachers and teachers be sent out from the Institutions to villages in the country, great good might, through the blessing of God, be effected. Native preachers, fully qualified, endowed with the talent, zeal, and attainments that are requisite, are able to address their countrymen in the most efficient manner, and, placed under European superintendence, exercise the very instrumentality that promises to be most successful in winning souls to Christ. This opinion has been pressed on your Committee by statements, as to the effect of native preaching and teaching in the villages, on the correctness of which they believe entire reliance may be placed.

Suitableness of Institutions for Training Converts.—Your Institutions at Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay, seem, as at present conducted, well fitted, on the whole, to accomplish the end of training native converts for missionary work. The course of instruction such as to make the pupils intimately acquainted with the evidences and doctrines of Christianity, and thus to bring them under the influence of that truth which the Holy Spirit renders effectual in convincing and converting those whom the Lord hath chosen. Native converts undoubtedly receive such instruction without being converted to the Christian faith; but native converts, who have resolved to dedicate themselves to the duty of propagating the Gospel among their countrymen, receive at your Institution the very training by which they may be best prepared for such labors.

Results of the Conference with those who had been Chaplains or Missionaries in India.—The result of the conference above referred to was not such as to lead the Committee to sanction any very decided change in the mode of carrying out the principles on which the Mission to India has been hitherto conducted. Good reasons were assigned for a continu-