

## MISSIONS OF THE FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

INDIA—ANOTHER CONVERT GATHERED IN.—Dr. Duff, in a letter contained in the October number of the *Home and Foreign Record* gives an interesting account of the baptism of a young man at the Missionary Institution on the 14th June. He had been originally trained in the Culna Branch School, whence he was removed by his friends to another school at Burdwan. There he joined a class of young men, engaged in studying the principles of the Brahmin faith. But the seeds of Divine truth had been implanted in his heart, and the impressions which had been already made were soon deepened. We give the account of his subsequent course in the words of Dr. Duff:—

“Wholly dissatisfied with the Brahminic teachings, he escaped from Burdwan, returned to Culna, and sought refuge in the Mission House.

“When the pressure upon him became too heavy to be any longer borne, he and two others in the school, came with one of the Culna teachers to Calcutta. Friends who followed them thither, and others already there, plied them in the ordinary way with importunate entreaties, luring promises, and, when these failed, with revengeful threatenings.

“For a time all the three stoutly held out, but at last the firmness and courage of two of them gave way, and they returned with their friends. But the youth who had been at Burdwan, evidently benefited by the siftings and the shakings to which his incipient but growing convictions had been there exposed, remained resolute in his determination to cling to Christ and his great salvation.

“Accordingly it was arranged that he should be publicly baptized in the hall of our Institution, on the morning of Sunday, the 14th June. Whilst some of us saw a good deal of the young man, it was mutually agreed that Mr. Don should take him in special charge, in making suitable preparation for the solemn ordinance of baptism.

“Every Sunday morning, (except the first of every month,) the elder classes of our Institution assemble in the hall for sermon, lecture, or address, on some Bible theme—to the average number of between two and three hundred. But on Sunday morning, 14th June, the number present could not be less than between four and five hundred—many having come from other schools and colleges, and some who have long since left both, and are now engaged in government and other offices.

“After the regular service of prayer, praise, and sermon, Mr. Don proceeded to administer the baptismal ordinance, furnishing a brief preliminary statement of the leading circumstances of the case, putting the usual questions to the neophyte, and concluding with an address to him and to his heathen and non-believing countrymen then present.

“In the early stages of our mission, we were wont sometimes to send home summaries of these more special proceedings, that the friends and supporters of the great enterprise might have a clearer and fuller apprehension of the solemn ceremonial observed in admitting an adult, on a profession of his own faith, into the visible Church of Christ.

“But, so far as I remember, for many years back this has not been done, on the supposition that our people had become familiar with the procedure. A new generation, however, is fast rising up, and can have no remembrance of these things. On this account, it occurred to me to ask Mr. Don for a copy of what he delivered after sermon on the solemn occasion—the first on which he has been called to administer the sacred rite to an adult convert from heathenism—with a view of its being published in the *Record*.

“Would that the eyes of all our people could have been fastened for only a few minutes on the intelligent and deeply attentive audience of four or five hundred educated youth, young men, and men of maturer years, whom Mr. Don so fervently and faithfully addressed, in his sermon and concluding remarks, on the morning of the Sunday already named! My decided belief is, that in the whole Gangetic valley, with its seventy millions of human beings, such an