

Sketches of Missions.

LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

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In the preceding sketch of this Society, some account was given of its commencement about 50 years ago, and of the great success God granted to the labours and prayers of his Missionaries in the South Sea Islands, the first place to which their attention was directed, and the same glad tidings might be told of many countries where these men of God have since sown and reaped abundant harvests. In India this society occupies a number of different stations, and employs 54 Missionaries with upwards of 300 assistants, each station having its Church or Chapel, School House, and in many cases Printing Presses. In the West Indies too they have formed various congregations, and possess from 50 to 60 Missionaries and assistants, and they have also been instrumental in redeeming from the bondage of sin, many of the captured sons of Africa. In the South of Africa the missions have been peculiarly blessed, and in our present sketch we will try to show something of the wonderful works of God among the tribes of Africa, whose condition before the Gospel was preached to them was the lowest to which mankind can sink. Here is a picture of the Bushmen of the interior of South Africa, before the story of peace was heard in their land. "They have neither house, nor shed, neither flocks, nor herds. In a bushy country they will dig a hole, and make the branches to meet over their heads, there the man, his wife, and a child or two, will lie together on a little grass in this hole not larger than an Ostrich's nest. When they have plenty of food, they do nothing but eat and sleep, dance and sing until their store is expended, when driven away by hunger, the man takes his spear and suspends his bow and quiver over his shoulder, while the woman frequently carries, in addition to an infant, a mat, an earth-