

"2d, In the course of years, the means have been so far blessed, that there has been a real beginning in the attainment of this grand primary object.

"3d, Converts, having a view to the Christian ministry, are first set aside, after examination and probation, as catechists. After a sufficient period of trial, they are licensed as preachers.

"4th, It was always designed that these catechists and preachers should devote a large proportion of their time and strength to the making of the gospel known to adults, in all practicable ways.

"5th, With regard to extensive itinerancy, there are certain seasons of the year when it is impracticable in India.—Indeed, this may be said of nearly the whole of the *hot* and *rainy* seasons, amounting, in the aggregate, to about *eight months*. In fact, it is only during the *cold* season, of three or four months, that itinerating labours, beyond the circumscribed localities in the vicinity of mission stations, are at all usually practicable."

"6th, Again, all experience has proved that the teaching of the young in mission-schools may become a very effectual branch of purely evangelistic labour, in converting souls to God, apart altogether from the benefit of a more general kind accruing from such seminaries.

"7th, Moreover, it has been found that, as parents regard the instruction of the young as a boon conferred on them, they are ready to look with a more favorable eye on those who are known to be engaged in this important department of labour. So that when such parties go out to address adults, they are apt to be received in a more kindly spirit, and their exhortation treated as that of friends, rather than that of recognized antagonists.

"8th, Taking these premises, with sundry collateral views, into consideration, the system which, from the first, we adopted in Calcutta, as best suited to the peculiarity of our circumstances, was the following:—

"Sending our educated catechists to an out-station, like that of Culna, for example, our instructions were, that they were to work that place and neighbourhood, during the greater part of the year, on the territorial or localizing system—that, during the middle of the day, when out-door labours are impracticable from the heat and the habits of the natives, they were to devote two or three hours to the training of the young in the Mission School—that, in the morning or evening, or both, as strength or other circumstances

favoured, they were to visit different parts of the town and immediately surrounding villages, for the purpose of conversing with the adults, and addressing them individually as well as in small social groups, or more publicly as miscellaneous audiences, according to the varying opportunities presented,—and, finally, that, during the cold season, they were to engage, for a longer or shorter period, in more extended itinerancies, throughout the remoter villages, towns, and districts.

"9th, The foregoing is the system which has been actually pursued for some years past by our precious and beloved catechists and preachers, subject, of course, to such occasional variations as have been necessitated by unexpected contingencies, or the unforeseen exigencies of the mission.

10th, As indicative of the nature and character of their more extended itinerating labours during the cold season, specimen extracts were a few years ago published in the *Record*, from the journal of Lal Behari De. And, as indicative of the nature and character of their localising evangelistic labours, I herewith send you specimen extracts from the journal of Prasanna Kumar Chatterjya, which was furnished by himself some years ago, and forwarded to the Ladies' Association in Glasgow. As these have never yet been published, the insertion of portions of them from time to time in the *Record* might subserve many excellent ends.

#### "ALEXANDER DUFF."

As confirmatory of the views stated above, we beg to quote the important testimony borne by the *Calcutta Christian Observer* for March 1853, to the efficiency of our missionary institutions in India:

We believe that a great work is going on in connexion with these educational labours; and while we have no desire to bestow exclusive praise upon any one branch of missionary operations, we would encourage those who have the means to prosecute such operations to the utmost. They open up to the missionary who happens to be stationed in large towns and populous districts, means of communicating direct Christian instruction to classes of the native community which he cannot reach by other means.

We say also to those who are engaged in promoting Christian education, Proceed with undiminished earnestness and