

to instruct them, and a very difficult task it was to do so. They would come into the place of worship and ask what he was talking about; and they would bring their skins with them and prepare them in the chapel. To hinder and prevent the spread of the Gospel the natives left no means untried. The people were entirely ignorant of writing; and it was very puzzling to them for one to write a letter to a person at a distance and receive another in reply. They were very much put about at times to get a letter sent, and had great difficulty in getting a carrier. The natives thought that it would speak on the road. A man said to him that he would not carry it in his hand, but would put his spear through it and carry it over his shoulder, and he had to assure him then that it would neither speak nor cry on the road. What now was the state of matters? They had now a reading population, where formerly this ignorance prevailed. The people had got possession of their own language, but it was a matter which cost a great deal of labour, and required perseverance. To learn the language he was obliged to leave his family and live with the natives for a number of months, preparing skins with them, and living exactly as they did, except that he prayed every evening. He could assure his hearers it was by no means a pleasant life. By the time he returned to his family he was able to open his mouth and speak to the natives in their own language. It was indeed glorious to be able to do so. He began to hope then that he would see one book of the New Testament printed in the language. One thing which retarded him in the work of preparing the Scriptures was, that he had never sat at the feet of a Gamaliel, and was not prepared to act as a translator. He did all that in him lay to get some one to come out to undertake this work, he offering to help to the utmost in his power. All his efforts had failed; and seeing that it was useless to expect any one would come out, he set himself, heart and soul, to the work of study. He got perfectly fascinated with it in the course of time, and worked unremittingly. The result of all this labour had been that he got a portion of the Scriptures into the native language, and they were now disseminated over hundreds of miles of the country. There was an eager demand for them everywhere, and in some parts there were a great many native teachers—men and women—who, though not trained for the work, read the Scriptures to and prayed with their neighbours. Such simple service had been largely crowned with success. Mr. Moffat then detailed some interesting cases of conversion, and described the primitive condition in which he found the people in some of the districts

His wife had made a nice gown for the queen of a certain tribe; but instead of using it she sold it for a sheep to another tribe. Traders had called at this place, but could not dispose of so much even as a handkerchief. Since the people had been brought under the power of the Gospel and civilised, there passed through yearly at this same place 60,000 pounds of British manufacture. There was a time when the missionary waggon was the only waggon in the country, and now there were scores of them among the people, even in the far interior where their brother missionaries resided. There was a time when the missionary plough was the only plough, and now scores of them might be seen; and there was a time, happily gone by, when the wives were little better than slaves, and laboured on the land. At one time the women were to be seen, with their babies on their backs, working in the fields under the burning sun, and at night returning home, with a load of firewood on their heads, to cook for their lords and masters. He took the women's side, and used to set an example to the men; but notwithstanding that the females were his greatest enemies. The queen had determined upon expelling them, and one day she led out her army of women and tore down the ditch, letting the water, on which they were dependent, run to waste. Latterly she became converted and died a Christian. Although he had suffered much, and laboured like a galley-slave, he would willingly spend his life in that great field. He had received most affectionate letters from the people of the country, all regretting deeply the absence of him and his family. He had much pleasure in acknowledging and thanking the meeting for the kindness and hearty welcome accorded him—to use a native expression, "it made his heart white as milk."

Missionary Intelligence.

Presbyterian Church in the United States.

Since May 1, 1870, no fewer than fourteen missionaries have proceeded from the United States to foreign fields as missionaries of the Presbyterian Church. Of these, nine are new missionaries, the other five, of whom one is a physician, are returning to their cherished work. With these are ten ladies, two of whom are unmarried, and who are going to India, to be employed in laboring among the women of that land.

On the first of May there were 84