

hoiachin succeeded him, who, with a multitude of his people, his princes treasures and sacred vessels were carried to Babylon. Nebuchodonozor appointed Zedekiah, uncle to the former king, to reign at Jerusalem, but he making an alliance with Egypt and revolting, Jerusalem was taken and destroyed, and Zedekiah and his sons laden with irons were taken to Babylon. It was this king whose image the three Israelites refused to worship. It was he also, who took Tyre after incredible labor, and a siege of thirteen years, and received as the prophets had foretold, the spoils of conquered Egypt, as the hire for his services in overthrowing that proud city. On his return to Babylon, he became lifted up with pride in reflecting on his greatness; as a chastisement he was deprived of his reason and became like a beast, but being wonderfully restored he reentered the Gen-

of heaven. A year after this he died and left his kingdom to his son Evil-Merodach.

In this prince's reign, Daniel was cast into the lions den, but although he appears to have been merciful both to Daniel and king Jehoiachin, whom he released from prison after a long confinement, he was put to death by his own relations because of his crimes, and Neriglissar, his sister's husband reigned in his stead. This prince, it may be observed, began the war with Media, which soon afterwards ended in the overthrow of Babylon. Having reigned fourteen years he was succeeded by his son, a licentious prince, who reigned only nine months. After him succeeded Belshazzar, supposed to have been the son of Evil-Merodach. He was the last of the kings of Babylon, and was slain on the night that Cyrus took the city. B. C. 536.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S INDIAN MISSION.

CALCUTTA.—Out of various interesting materials, we select at present one subject,—the case of one individual, who very peculiarly claims our prayers. He may be viewed, in his turn of character and in his experience, as the type and representative of a large class of his countrymen, on whom European light and Christian love are beginning to tell. His history very vividly illustrates the fearful nature of the contest that must be waged between truth and error, when the stronghold of Satan is assailed, and his throne shaken. In his trials, the power and patience of Christian faith are manifested, and amid our formed and fashioned modes of Christianity, we cannot but stand in awe as we gaze upon its earnest reality, in a new born child of God, called actually himself to deal with those terrors and pains which we can but faintly suppose possible.

The case of this young man is thus introduced into the Committee's Report to the General Assembly :—

As an attestation of the inseparable connection formed in the minds of the pupils of your institution, between scientific and Christian instruction,—as a beautiful example of the way in which these departments are made to blend, and in which the greater wins its victory,—your committee entreat your attention to the case of one individual, Mahendra Lal Bassack. How much Mahendra had distinguished himself in merely intellectual attainment, your committee now present to you very unequivocal and striking proof. They lay upon your table, along with this report, voluntary exercises performed by this remarkable youth, at the age of little more than fourteen,—

The department to which these exercises belong, was by no means the only branch of intellectual culture in which he excelled. But these alone mark a proficiency scarcely ever attained among ourselves at a similar age. The exercises now laid upon your table, contain very numerous instances of new demonstrations of some of the most important propositions in Euclid's Geometry.—Your committee, guarding themselves against the danger of implicitly following the impulse which led them to admire and applaud the generous daring of the attempt, subjected the exercises to the revision of one, whom all will acknowledge to be a thoroughly competent judge,—who has few equals among us, either in correctness of mathematical knowledge, or in richness of original resource,—Dr. Wallace, late professor of Mathematics in the University of Edinburgh. Dr. Wallace's opinion of the merits of this youthful investigator, is thus expressed, in a letter to the Convener of the committee :—

"I herewith return the very interesting MS., written by the Hindu youth, *Mahendra Lal Bassack*, containing demonstrations of various propositions in the elements of Euclid. The demonstrations are, I believe, new, and, at any rate, they are the result of the writer's own reflections. I will not say that they are better than those which have come down to us from the Greek geometer, but on various grounds they are remarkable. A disquisition on a branch of abstract science from the pen of a Hindu is quite a phenomenon. It is such as would have done credit to a student in a British University. The writer has shown an intimate acquaintance with the logic of Geometry, and much skill in its application."

Now this young man, so distinguished by his zeal for intellectual culture, has been not less conspicuous for his ardent inquiries after Christian truth, and for the freedom and boldness with which he declared his admiration of the Gospel. Of the