

Miss Blackaddar's Report.

Princetown, Dec. 28th 1883.

To the Women's Foreign Mission Society.

The eighth Report of your Agent is respectfully submitted.

The past year has been spent as usual, hard at work in the school-room, the home, and in the neighbourhood. Our day-school has been in a very prosperous condition this year, one hundred and eighty-three children have been in school during the year.

The usual studies of a common school have been taken. Some have done well, others have been careless, and so did not take as good standing as with care and attention they might have done. At the visit of the Government Inspector thirty-five passed the Examination. The examinations are all written, the questions are prepared for the Board Schools in England. These questions are often hard to be understood by the little Coolies, yet they make brave attempts to answer. I will give one or two examples.

Question, 'What is a Cape and a Promontory? Distinguish the difference between them.'

The poor child looked alarmed and exclaimed, 'oh! eh! Sir, I never heard that.'

Question, 'What is the bed of a river?'

Ans.—'The something it lies on.'

Question.—'Where or in what direction is the sun-rise first seen?'

Ans.—'Behind Mr. Palmer's house.'

One poor child wanted to know if Adam was still alive.

The minds of these children are bright and active, and they really do very well. We have devoted an hour a day to Bible study, and religious instruction. We have read from Genesis to Ezekiel, learned the small Catechism, the Commandments, the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, a number of Psalms, thirty hymns, some good poetry, and, Bible stories.

Planters often say, "You people spoil the Coolies, when they can read they get proud and lazy and are ashamed to work." This year we have done what we could to meet the objection by having the children do work. The boys have made and planted a garden; cut wood, carried water, kept the yard and garden neat and clean, and swept, washed and dusted the school house. The girls helped in the washing, ironing, cooking and other domestic work. At first some did grumble and say they came to read, and not work, but now all do as they are told without grumbling.

The sewing has gone on every week.

The patchwork, all prepared by Miss Fairbanks, and sent out last year has been a great source of pleasure to the girls and it greatly lessened the labour of cutting, on the part of Mrs. McLeod and myself. Garments, patchwork, sheets, and many other useful articles have been made. We intend to have a sale of work some time in April, the money will be given to the new church.

Charles Ragbir taught the primary school for a short time, then he went to College in Port of Spain. He is now at Auburn Theological Seminary, and is doing well. Ed. Ramnaryan then took the department. In a short time he was removed to teach one of Miss McChar's new schools, then Alex. Murray took the school and has done remarkably well with the children.

Lame Annie Mena is the only one of the girls now with me, all the rest are out in good places. Jessie has been with Mrs. McLeod; Jane and Amelia are now with their Brother; Clara is with a good woman; Jumnee is with Joseph Anagee; Mrs. Brown our good friend has taken Ellen, a dear little girl some seven years old. Ellen can read nicely and every day she takes her Bible and reads to the cook, a black woman who cannot read.

This is one very encouraging instance of the spread of good influence, even babies can praise the Lord. Five of the boys have gone out this year, one is in a lawyer's office, one in teaching. Mr. N. Brown a prosperous European Merchant has taken one of the boys as a clerk in his store, and at the first of the year he will perhaps take two more as clerks.

Our good friend and elder C.C. Sudeen has taken Boodoo, one of Mr. McDonald's boys in his store, Vishnath the destroyer of idols is in a Chinese shop; we hope that Somera will go next year to the Normal School in Port of Spain, to be trained for a teacher.

Thirty boys and girls have gone out from school during the years past, and all are doing well, with one sad exception. A lad who had been trained in the Mission Schools, since his childhood, whose family has received a great deal of help and kindness from the missionaries, has turned out to be a disgrace to all. We must not forget that even among the twelve, one was false.

One of our girls Bella Martin, who held a situation as teacher in the E. C. School was married last week, she was just sixteen, very pretty she looked in her bridal robes, as she stood by the side of her husband, a tall big policeman; she has gone