

advance. It has realized substantial progress in the number of its agents, in the number of its converts, in the improved character of the native churches, in the enlargement and spread of its native ministry, and in the increase in the number and efficiency of its catechists and teachers; it has realized that progress in the enlargement of its education, in the improvement of all its Christian literature, in the occupation of new fields, in the ripened experience of its hands of labourers, and in their more efficient application of their consecrated service to the mighty sphere they seek to occupy. An expenditure of more than two millions and a quarter sterling, contributed by the churches of Europe and America, and by the local church, both native and European, in India, has maintained during that period a staff of missionaries now reaching to more than five hundred in number,—a staff of native pastors and missionaries that has risen to 183, with 1776 catechists, and hundreds more of native school teachers. Fifty-one thousand boys are taught in its vernacular schools, and twenty-four thousand others study English in addition to their own tongue. Twenty-one thousand girls enjoy the benefits of Christian female education under its care. That expenditure, in addition to the salaries of these numerous and experienced agents, has provided them residences, has maintained school-houses, built and repaired churches for worship, provided facilities for preaching journeys, has brought out large numbers of new missionaries, has carried away the exhausted invalids, whom the climate has destroyed, and has produced and scattered with liberal hand a vastly-improved Christian literature in fourteen languages, including, and thoroughly based upon, improved translations of the word of God. In a word, it has provided, maintained, and applied to the provinces of India under the English Crown, all the elements, wisely gathered, of a religious and moral agency, which, in obedience to Divine command, and in dependence upon promised Divine blessing, shall expose the folly and ruinousness of false religions, shall expound the way of salvation, shall teach a divinely-revealed morality, and shall stir up the minds of the myriads who shall listen to its words, to think, to weigh, to understand, to follow, all that shall render earth's life a blessing, and crown mortality with endless life. That agency has, during the decade, rescued thousands of souls from death, has witnessed an elevation of the tone, knowledge, and temper of native Christian life, and has seen a large increase in the number of native converts.'

In the Free Church Record, the following remarks are made on some of the facts here brought out.

"First in the number of *Native Christians*.

In 1852, in India and Ceylon there were, in round numbers 112,000. In 1862 they had risen to 153,000, or one half more; and if we include Burmah, we find the entire number is 213,000, or about *double* the number in 1852.

Then to take another class, the increase of whose numbers is to our mind a still more satisfactory mark of progress. Let us now look at the number of *communicants*. In India and Ceylon in 1852 they numbered 18,000; in 1862 they were 31,000: while embracing Burmah they are nearly 50,000.

Then, in a matter to which we attach still greater importance, namely, the *ordained native missionaries*, we see an increase yet more marked. In 1852, after more than a century and a half of effort, they had reached the number of 48, a number which shows only too clearly the small importance which had been attached to the rearing of a native ministry. The early European missionaries did not seek with any great earnestness to train up a body of well-qualified ordained, native missionaries. They long continued to depend too much on the European element in the mission staffs, and the native was too much neglected and depressed. Different views prevail now in almost all quarters, and, accordingly, in ten years the number of ordained native missionaries have risen from 48 to 140, while, if we include Burmah, the total is 186. We hail this great increase as one of the surest indications of real progress, and we regard it as one of the chief grounds of hope for yet more abundant success in the time to come.

Let us glance a moment at another matter, which may be regarded as of