

province of Bengal, and in the surrounding villages, schools have recently been established on a plan which corresponds, in its leading features, with that pursued by Dr. Bell, for conveying elementary instruction to the children of the poor natives. The government of India have approved the measure, and sanctioned it with their support, with the view of extending the plan to other parts of those vast territories, on the success of the experiment being further confirmed. Thus, by opening the minds, and improving the general character of the natives of India, the period may be approaching, when, in the words of Mr. Forbes, the commissioner of that province, "they shall derive, from their intercourse with us, benefits, which the vicissitudes of the world, and the revolution of empires, shall not be able to efface."

Russia.

Nor is the diffusion of this system from the National Society confined even to the British dependencies; it is about to be introduced into the vast empire of Russia, under the express authority of the Emperor. In April last, his Excellency Count Lieven, the Russian Ambassador, applied, by command of the Emperor, to his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, for permission that four young Russians should be admitted into the Central School, to be instructed in the National System, for the purpose of carrying it into Russia. They were accordingly admitted on the 14th of April. Their attention to the business of the school, and the whole of their behaviour, have been most exemplary; and they have, at the same time, nearly acquired perfect instruction in the system. When they first arrived in England, they were wholly unacquainted with the English language; but, in the clear articulation enforced in the National Schools, and in

other circumstances connected with their mode of instruction, they have found great facilities in acquiring the language, and have rapidly improved, both in reading and understanding it, in a surprising manner.

In addition to this great design of the Imperial Government of Russia, Count Romanoff, the Chancellor of the Empire, proposes to introduce the system upon the large estates in Siberia. He has engaged an Englishman for this purpose, who is now receiving instruction in the Central School, and will shortly proceed on his destination.

On the general progress of the institution, the committee remark—

The interesting details which have now been given, are indeed calculated to awaken the most lively feelings of satisfaction in all who have been instrumental in furthering the great designs of the National Society. They not only prove that this society has succeeded, beyond hope, in promoting the instruction of the poor at home in the principles of genuine christianity; but that its beneficent influence is circumscribed within no limits; that its blessings are diffusing themselves over every part of the habitable globe; and that it seems destined, under the favour of Divine Providence, to become the powerful instrument of exalting the social character of man, and promoting his lasting happiness.

PECUNIARY GRANTS.

The principal grants of the year for the erection of school rooms are particularized. These grants have been in number, 61; of these, three have been of £200, one of £150, and twelve of £100 each; and the whole amount paid under this head, as appears from the cash account, has been £3635 10s.

FUNDS.

A benefaction of £100 from the late Princess Charlotte, with other