

native of the settlement of Mr. Gordon on the heathen island of Espiritu Santo, must stand over till our next number.

The same mail which brought the letter published in another column from Rev. G. Brown of Onchunga, respecting the death of Mr. Morrison, brought one written on September 25th, by the hand now still in death, and which must have been delayed for a month. This letter we shall lay before our readers in next *Record*.

The same mail brought a letter from the Rev. J. McNair, dated Aniwa, (where he was. and Mrs. McNair, on a visit to Mr. and Mrs. Paton), October 2nd. We trust that Mrs. McNair's health, which was delicate at the time has been restored, and that they have both returned in safety to Erromanga, where we are happy to learn they are receiving some encouragement to prosecute their work. May the Lord give them cause to sing the 126th Psalm. We lay this letter before the Church.

### TRINIDAD MISSION.

IERE VILLAGE, DEC 21st 1869.

*Rev. and Dear Brother,*—By your last kind favour, I am informed of the action of your Board in reference to additional Missionaries. I am sorry that the prospect of seeing an additional labourer here is so distant. I hoped that by this time, we should have had the pleasure of welcoming one. Perhaps, indeed, Dr. Haitie may be here soon, but we have not heard what his present movements or future intentions are.

Yesterday, our school closed for two weeks holidays. We had an examination at which some of the neighbouring planters were present. The children acquitted themselves very well, and I think the progress made by them since Sooden took charge of the school is quite marked. H. B. Darling, Esq., of "The Lothians" Estate, forwarded a treat for the children, consisting of prize cards for the deserving, and an ample supply of sweet meats for all. You will remember that we have already acknowledged ourselves indebted to Mr. Darling for maps, an arithmeticon, and a supply of the Christian Vernacular Society's books.

Our services in the Church here and at Palmyra Estate on Sabbaths, have been improving. This has been caused, I believe, by the increase of Coolies on the Estate—

thirty new ones having come there lately. I felt glad that the very first Sabbath that they were on the Estate they were brought within the sound of the Gospel. Two ship loads—about 900 coolies—have arrived lately. They had very few deaths on the passage, and arrived as hearty looking a race as one could wish to see.

A law has just been passed by which the Coolie women have only to make three years time instead of five, and can not be brought up for absenting themselves from work when their condition may render it a hardship. It is difficult to see how the condition of the Coolies can be much farther improved by legislation. When brought here, they are recruited for a week or two on some healthy islands about five miles from Port of Spain. The Estates are obliged to feed them with cooked rations for one year and provide them with houses, hospitals, and doctors to the satisfaction of the Government until they get their free papers. They can then go where they like, and work where they like for five additional years, when they are entitled to a free return passage. What is wanted now is schools for the young and enlightenment for all—a religion of truth and righteousness to make them true and trustworthy—the gospel preached to them, and the grace of God sent down from above to give it effect.

Last Sabbath I met with the opposition of a Babajee. I was reasoning with some Coolies about having their shop open, and they promised not to open it again on Sabbath, when the Babajee told them by all means to open it—it was quite right. I repeated the first part of the fourth commandment and asked what he had to say to that. He said that they might not go to the field and work, but selling in a shop was quite different. I replied, it is the shopman's work, and is a concern of this world, whereas the Sabbath is for rest and the concerns of the next world—for worship. But, said he, the shopman can at any time worship in this way—holding his hands together and repeating a short formula of prayer, and that will please God. I answered that every man ought to do more than that every morning and evening; but on Sabbath they should meet together to hear God's word, and learn his will. This, I continued, is not a question of your wisdom or of mine, but of God's law, and with that there is no room for disputing—it is a matter of obedience. Well, replied the Babajee write one paper to the Queen to build us a large Church in San Fernando, and we will have four or five Babajees to conduct the services, and it shall be so pure and strict that no one who wears shoes shall be allowed to enter, and then come and you will be able to compare our books