

and more in attachment to the truth; and although his father has him so closely watched as to prevent him from being immediately admitted into the Church of Christ, I look upon him as a true disciple of our blessed Lord and Saviour. A very interesting circumstance connected with this case is, that although Mahendra has been withdrawn from the school, and although he has been prohibited from reading English books, or writing, he has, notwithstanding, contrived to prepare a very long essay on the Evidences of Christianity, exhibiting a lucid and comprehensive view of the subject, and proving the ability of this interesting youth to 'give to every one that asketh, a reason of the hope that is in him.'"

Your committee rejoice to add, that while this report was preparing, accounts have been received of the baptism of Mahendra. He is now residing with Mr. Ewart, in the mission house.

II.—*Bombay*.—No better proof can be given of the continued efficiency of your institution in the Bombay district, than the testimony borne by your young, talented, and zealous missionary, Mr. J. M. Mitchell. He thus describes his first impressions when he reached his destination:—

"That the youths learn with extraordinary quickness; that they are trained thoroughly to comprehend what they read; and that they take an interest, and even, many of them, a delight, in their lessons, is the conviction which all I have witnessed has uniformly forced upon me. Their acquaintance with Scripture history and Scripture doctrine would, I believe, stand a comparison with that of boys of the same age in any school at home; and they answer frankly and without hesitation, as boys professedly Christian would answer.

"I have witnessed, with the greatest pleasure, the result of Dr. Wilson's exertions in the female schools. Animation, life, and intelligence; run through all of them. It is true that these are characteristic of Hindoo children generally; but it is matter of heartfelt rejoicing to see them all turned into such a channel. I examined yesterday the highest class of girls; most of them about thirteen or fourteen years of age. They answered intelligently the questions which I put through Dr. Wilson. Every particular in the life of Jesus Christ seemed perfectly familiar, and the reason of his death no less than the fact of it. Their teacher is one of Dr. Wilson's most interesting converts; and I believe he labours with his heart fully in the work.

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"I must have ill expressed my feelings in reference to the proceedings of the mission, if hope did not appear to brighten all of them. It is not, indeed, by human might that India will be converted; but the Lord is shedding, we cannot but believe, his blessing on human agency. Not, then, unto us, unto His name be the glory. It is with hope that I enter on my duties here,—hope that He who hath begun, will perfect."

"The encouragements for us to abound in our work of faith and labour of love," says Dr. Wilson, in a letter of 25th March last, "are daily becoming more conspicuous. Many of the friends of the mission are aware that inquiries were addressed, and proposals were made, to me, by the highest Brahmanical authorities in this part of India, which sufficiently reveal their apprehension that changes of great magnitude are not far distant. These changes we anticipate, in virtue of the sure word of prophecy; and these changes, fraught, as we perceive them to be, with inestimable blessings to the land, we should all seek to hasten."

It is matter of great thankfulness to your committee, that Mr. Nesbit's health is so far restored as to allow of his resuming his inestimable services. In the last number of the Record there is a very interesting account of the last two converts whom he has received by baptism into the church of Christ—a mother and daughter. Your committee will quote from it at present only a few sentences in regard to the latter:

"Her conduct was blameless: and she appeared to have a delight in hearing the Word of God, and in making it known to others. Under trials her mind seemed to be stilled and supported by the Divine promises; and, as far as I could learn, she was in the habitual practice of secret prayer. Her renunciation of Hindooism, in which she appears to have prided herself as an adept, was decided; and her desire for baptism great. Her views of the leading doctrines of christianity have been long clear and correct; and her expressions with respect to her own sinfulness, which I trust were naturally elicited, have been lately full and strong. Under these circumstances I felt myself warranted in acceding to her own and her mother's earnest request that she might be admitted into the church."

Dr. Wilson, in addition to his other indefatigable labours, has been engaged, along with Mr. Mitchell of Poonah, in a missionary tour in the Konkan; and has returned from it in renovated health. A young Parsi candidate for baptism was their companion; and Dr. Wilson speaks of him in the most gratifying terms. Of this tour a journal has been kept by Mr. Mitchell, and is to be transmitted to your committee. They have no doubt that it will be found to possess, in various points of view, a very strong interest.

In the mysterious providence of God, the young man who was mentioned in your committee's report of last year, as the first native catechist licensed in India, and of whose usefulness the brightest anticipations were formed, has been removed by death. This melancholy intelligence is communicated by Dr. Wilson in the following terms:—

"William Chapman's name, you will observe, does not occur in the prize list. This is owing to his indisposition, which, I am grieved to inform you, is so serious, that it affords us no hope of his ultimate recovery. He is habitually in the enjoyment of the peace of the Gospel. * * * *

"When I was writing part of this letter yesterday