

consisted, in 1846, of five catechists, fourteen schoolmasters, two schoolmistresses, and eight subordinate officials, as organists, sacristans, &c., whose united salaries amounted to about 2,076 rupees; to which must be added, six superannuated pensioners on the mission-fund, at an annual expense of 240 rupees. In aid of this already existing burden, and the salaries of the European missionaries, the Dresden Society receives from the Danish, (besides the use of all the buildings, fields, and garden-grounds belonging to the mission,) an annual payment of 720 Reichs Bank thalers,* (or about £84 sterling,) being the interest at 4 per cent. of three legacies, amounting in all to 18,015 thalers, made by persons deceased, specially in favour of the Tranquebar Mission. The management of the capital however remains, as heretofore, in the hands of the Copenhagen Missionary College.

The Saxon branch of the Tranquebar Mission, before its present acquisition of the Danish establishment, employed eight missionaries, four of whom have but recently arrived at Tranquebar; these are now zealously engaged in fitting themselves for their future spheres of labour, and meantime giving what aid they can to the elder missionaries."

India.

Last year's Report of the London Missionary Society, says:—"The commencement of the past year has been characterised by a novel mode of opposition on the part of the infidel party in Calcutta. Having, during the course of the preceding year, endeavoured in vain to check the onward progress of the gospel, by the publication of blasphemous tracts and the erection of anti-Christian schools, the enemies of truth bethought themselves, about ten months ago, of making a similar attempt in the way of public preaching; and, with that design, selected the very localities and hours when the missionaries were in the habit of addressing the people, so that it frequently happened that, after the latter had succeeded in assembling a good congregation, these champions of infidelity, who had been watching their movements, appeared on the spot, and, taking their station as near to the missionary as possible, did everything in their power, by invective, low abuse, and appeals to the worst feelings of their countrymen, to turn them away from their faith, and to prejudice their minds against the message of salvation. With thankfulness to God, your Committee have now to record that this hostile attempt has signally failed. Though the congregations were at first occasionally disturbed, the

evil was not of long duration. The majority of the natives soon felt disgusted at the scurrilous language used against Christianity and the missionaries, and refused to lend a further ear to the preachers of infidelity. The consequence was that these men gradually abated in their endeavours, and, finally, gave up their opposition as a fruitless undertaking."

Ceylon.

About two years ago, one of the Colonial papers described a visit of some Siamese priests to Ceylon, sent by the king of Siam to search for books and relics of Buddhism. Upon their return, they took with them a letter from a descendant of an ancient royal family in Ceylon. It represents Buddhism as in a state of great and rapid decline, in consequence of the government and other schools there established; the extensive study of the English language by the young men of the island; and the inducements held out to them to engage in government employment. It expresses the opinion that Buddhism must soon become extinct in Ceylon, unless the king of Siam, in his great devotion to that faith, will interpose his aid, and grant the pecuniary means for the education in that faith of a number of their most promising young men; but they hope that in this way Buddhism may yet for one hundred years be preserved from extinction in Ceylon.

Koordistan.

The Mission among the Nestorians continues to prosper. The missionaries are printing the Pilgrim's Progress for the use of the converts, and expect much benefit to result from it.

In a letter dated January 26, last, Mr. Perkins gives some curious and interesting information respecting the movements of the Romanists.

"It is some time since we have alluded to the subject of Popery in our missionary field. We are thankful to be able to inform you that this system has, for several of the past years, seemed to make but little progress among the Nestorians. Since the Patriarch came to Oroomiah, last summer, some who had been proselyted, have returned to the Nestorian fold. A circumstance attending the return of one of these proselytes I may mention; as it is likely to exert, and is exerting, an important influence in enlightening the Nestorians on the subject of Popery, and guarding them against the efforts of its wily propagators.

The individual in question was a priest, who, in company with two or three other

* A Reichs Bank thaler is about 2s. 4d. sterling.