

circumstances, as they appeared to be, which our mission party, consisting of Messrs. Shoolbred and Steele, and Wilson and myself, commenced the journey to Rajpootana, and of the great exertions,—appointed by our all-wise and faithful and loving God for the trial of our own faith and that of the church, for the advancement of our sanctification and devotedness to the service of our Lord,—which have been sent to us as the course of our travel. Of the journey, however, especially as connected with the illness and death of our brother Mr. Steele, it may be well, for the instruction of all concerned at home, to have been following us with their sympathy and prayers, and especially our relatives, for whom we feel so anxious, to take more particular notice of what they have yet received.

Upon the conclusion of our first journey from Surat,—on the 25th of November,—that we first noticed that anything was peculiarly wrong in the health of Mr Steele. On that occasion, we were at dinner, he suddenly fell down, and that for the first time in his life. He ascribed the occurrence to a derangement of his bowels, from the costiveness which he had occasionally suffered at home, frequently during his residence in India, and almost continuously during his few days' residence at Wasna with the esteemed brethren of the Baptist Presbyterian Church. Two days after this, when we were resting at Wasna, he complained for an hour of a severe inward pain, from which, however, he got relief by the medicines which he had taken, with our advice. On the arrival of a native doctor for him, he was sent. After this, he did not appear to suffer anything, either during our marches or after their close proximity. He appeared to be cheerful, taking due interest in the country through which we were passing, and in the natives and European people, high and low, with whom we came in contact,—in my missionary address which he regularly attended,—in his own study of the Hindustani language, to which he diligently devoted the fragments of his time.

On the 4th December, when resting at Wasna, on the first stage north of the Malwa, he said to me, when I was about to preach in the village, "I don't think I shall go out

with you to day, for I am not well, though I hope soon to get relief." I learned from Mr Shoolbred, the next morning that he had passed a comfortable night, though the medicine had just had its due effect. For the next two days, matters appeared to be going well with him, though we were not exactly satisfied with the state of his pulse. He did not complain of the journey, which he was performing, partly in a native cart fitted for lying in, and partly on horseback, with no unusual fatigue; and he did not make any change in his meals.

On the morning of the 7th December he rode in the cart from Nariad to Kherda or Kaira. During the march, he said he was again suffering from constipation; and at its conclusion it was but too obvious that he was very unwell. His pulse was high, and he had very much pain over all his body, including his limbs. We came to the conclusion, afterwards confirmed by medical judgment, that he was suffering from inflammatory fever; and, with the help of a native apothecary, we treated him as his circumstances required, giving him the proper medicines, and administering fomentations and enemas.—Next morning, Dr Colston, the civil surgeon of the station, who most readily returned on our call from the camp of the judge in the neighbourhood, took him under his skilful and assiduous care, while he approved of all we had done in his behalf. For some days this kind friend was disposed to attribute the inflammatory action to the passage of small calculi from the kidneys to the bladder; but the strict diagnosis which he made of the symptoms, led him afterwards to abandon this theory, and, with ourselves, to attribute the fever to the costiveness, and the languid action of the liver, which had produced that costiveness. He declared the case to be a very critical one and we all viewed it in this light.

Mr Steele bore his great sufferings with much meekness and resignation, and entered with great interest into our religious exercises at his couch, though at this time he made no remarks on his personal feelings, except on one occasion, when he said, "Read me something about Christ to compose my mind." When, in the gracious providence of God, he got relief, he, with ourselves, felt very thankful for the merciful in-