

CATECHISTS.

The catechists employed were :-

Paul Bhukhan at Arouca.

Chararja Lalla at Arima.

Ajodhya at Chin Chin Savanna.

F. Davis at Tacarigua.

John Buddhu at Tunapuna.

Geof. Subarn at St. Joseph.

Andrew Gayadeen at Caroni.

John R. Ganesh at Chaguanas and Chandernagar.

The first on the list is Co.-manager with me of all the schools, and besides his own field has some oversight of Arima and is liable to be sent to any part of the district. Lalla has only been employed one year and is under the oversight of P. Bhukhan. Ajodhya is an old man who gives only part of his time to the work at a very small allowance.

It is the duty of these men to visit and look after all the Christians in their district, to encourage the people to send their children to school—to assist the teacher in giving religious instruction at the appointed hour—to teach adults to read in the evening—to conduct services on Sabbath and on one week evening—to visit hospitals and the people at their homes and hold open air services. Friday afternoon they report to me for the past week, get directions for the next week's work and receive three hours special instruction. In the evening, along with the teachers, the girls from the Home, and all who can be got together, they are examined and instructed in the Bible lessons for the week.

These men have laboured faithfully and studied diligently throughout the year. They have been at peace among themselves and proved themselves peace-makers among the people. Some of them have at times been reproached for the name of Christ and have taken it patiently.

THE WORK OF THE MISSIONARY

has been to manage twelve schools and see to their efficiency—to direct the work of eight catechists and train them for it, and to visit and hold meetings in all sections of his field. This year an unusual amount of labour has fallen upon me in connection with the general work of the mission and of Presbyterianism in the island. It is hoped that the settlement of Rev. E. A. McCurdy in Grey Friars congregation and the more regular operation of the new school ordinance has brought this extra work somewhat to a close.

TEMPERANCE WORK

has been carried forward in the lines reported last year. Three crowded meetings were held and 56 names have been added to "The Tunapuna Blue Ribbon Band" which now numbers 331. Except for the lowest castes, strong drink is forbidden to Hindus as well as Mohammedans. The temptation in Trinidad breaks down this rule with many. And if when they become

Christians, it is understood that the restriction is abolished as a legal command, and not required by the law of love to God, our fellows, or ourselves, only disaster can be expected; for self-control is weak, drinking customs prevail, and drink of the most dangerous kind is for sale at every corner. Beyond dispute abstinence is good for the present distress. Drinking is the reproach of Christians and that reproach we wish to remove.

WORK AMONG WOMEN.

St. James' Church, Charlottetown, P. E. I., supplied \$100 for this work. Fanny Subarn, and for a time Annie Mewa aided Mrs. Morton in carrying it on. Women's meetings were held at all the stations and at most of them at a fixed hour weekly or fortnightly. The difficulties in this work are great; but the good results are in some cases very apparent and I can testify to the excellent general influence exerted by this branch of our work.

HOME FOR GIRLS.

In 1890 I reported that Mrs. and Miss Morton had six girls from 14 to 18 years of age under special instruction in secular subjects, Bible knowledge, sewing, cutting, washing, cooking, etc. This year the average number in this extemporized home was nine. They acquitted themselves well in my Friday evening Bible class and fell very harmoniously into the line of work marked out for them and into our home life. Five were married during the year, four of them to teachers. All of these help with work among the women of their own district and three of them teach the sewing in their husbands' schools. In this connection, Alice, wife of N. Traambakhsh, teacher at Chaguanas deserves special mention. She had more advantages than some of the others, and in one of the most remote districts has kept up a regular course of meetings and house to house visitation. Hitherto this work has not been on the estimates. The money for carrying it on in 1890 was offered us when in Canada in 1889. The Ladies' College, Halifax, the Women's For. Miss. Society, Congregational Societies (chiefly in Truro,) and personal gifts, have supported the work for two years, and the year closes with a good working balance. The management and training now cost nothing in money; but money could not easily purchase the time, toil and thought given to it by our volunteer workers. It has told most distinctly for good on the persons chiefly concerned, and it has commended itself to onlookers, both heathen and Christian as a practically wise effort. It may not be needed in all the districts or always in this one; the means of carrying it on may not always be available, but in present circumstances it seems clearly one of the things providentially provided to meet a need.

STATISTICS.

Thirty-seven adults and twenty-five children