

Missionary.

Our Missionary Operations in Canada.

From the New York Home Mission Record.

A year ago our Exploring Agent in the western section of the Province of Canada, found it necessary, on account of his health and domestic interests, to resign his commission, and, though repeated efforts have been made to fill the vacancy, it yet remains unsupplied. The consequences have been, in some respects, unfavourable. The churches of that country have been accustomed to contribute, through our agent, a large portion of the funds appropriated for the support of our missionaries among them; but for the want of such an agent, the supplies for our treasury from that source have very much diminished, and a contraction of our operations has necessarily followed. Seven missionaries have nevertheless, labored there different periods of time. They have supplied 27 stations and out-stations, and baptised 74 persons. At London a meeting-house has been completed, which is well filled with an intelligent congregation, and a revival of religion has been some time in progress among them. Those missionaries who remain in our services occupy some of the most prominent places, are useful, and, to a good degree, successful.

A few important openings in this portion of the Province present themselves to our attention, where there is much necessity for the labors of able ministers of the gospel—men sound in the faith and consistent in practice, capable of exerting a leading influence, and giving a proper tone and direction to public sentiment and feeling, in communities of diverse national origin, character, and religious training. The prosperity of the churches in the province, and their harmonious relations with those of the United States, require an affectionate and liberal interest in their condition and wants.

MISSIONARY ORDINATION.—The Rev. W. T. Bidwell was ordained as a Missionary to Burma, at the Bedford Street Baptist church, New York, on Wednesday evening, August 13. The ordination sermon was by the Rev. Dr. Dowling, of Hope chapel; charge by the Rev. Mr. Biddle, of Connecticut, father of the candidate; bond of fellowship by the Rev. Mr. Stone, pastor of the church; and prayer of ordination by the Rev. Duncan Dunbar, of Philadelphia.

Mrs. Judson.—Letters received at Boston, mention that Mrs. Judson (Fanny Forrester) was at Cape Town, Cape of Good Hope, on 26th May, and in good health. She was to leave soon for England, on her way homeward.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

SANDOWAY MISSION.

The Magazine for August contains a very interesting letter from Mr. Abbott, dated Jan. 1851. The annual meeting of the Karen pastors, native preachers and elders, was held in December. The statistics for the year 1850, as gathered from the reports of the churches, were as follows: Churches, 44; native preachers, 47; baptized, 529; excluded, 14; deceased 161; converts not as yet baptized, 123. The 44 churches do not include several little clusters of christian disciples in various places, not organized as churches, but who have worship regularly on the Sabbath, and aid more or less in supporting their own preachers. Many of these have houses of worship, and have established Sabbath schools. In addition to the baptisms reported, nearly one hundred were baptized in the vicinity of Pantanau, making over 600 during the year, all of whom are connected with christian congregations.

Disease, during the last year, made fearful ravages among the Karens. It is thought that as many as 400 of the native christians died, the greater number by cholera. This includes the 1501 mentioned in the reports of the churches above named.

The native preachers are multiplying. Three brethren were ordained during the meeting, and a fourth was expected, but he was detained on his way to the meeting. There is also a large class studying in the Theological School at Maulmum. One native preacher died during the last year.

The Christian Congregations, says Mr. Abbott, are exerting a good influence upon the heathen multitude about them. "The proud, pharisaical Boohist, the polluted idolater, the wicked of all classes, are reading the blameless, virtuous lives of the Christian Karens, and are becoming more and more convinced that a religion that can produce such fruits is divine. Not a few Burmans are already attracted to the truth by that blessed influence."

The churches are making a good degree of progress in respect to supporting their own pastors.—Thirty of them contributed the last year on an average, twelve rupees and seventy baskets of rice each, for this purpose. Besides this the churches have contributed 50 rupees towards the support of two or more preachers to labor exclusively among the heathen.

Mr. Beecher writes that it had been necessary to discipline one of the members for disorderly conduct.

Mr. Van Meter writes that the two Karen churches have suffered greatly from the ravages of the cholera, and one had been almost destroyed through the tyranny of the rulers. Yet they "had much occasion for joy and thanksgiving on account of the good tidings brought in many of the letters from the churches."

A good spirit was manifested in general, and there was some very encouraging indications among the people. One native assistant was ordained.

ARRACAN MISSION.

Mr. Knapp gives an account of a tour in Kamee Jungle. He found the people very ignorant and much addicted to gross vices. The professed disciples were in a very bad state, many of them taking part in the drunken carousals of their drunken countrymen. He met with some hopeful inquirers, and baptized one Burman convert. A large number applied for baptism, but it was feared without any just conception of the Christian religion. They seemed to think that to receive baptism would make them disciples, and if disciples, they would go to heaven, but gave no evidence of repentance for their sins.

Letters from Akyab, Arracan, announce the death, on the 24th of May, of Mrs. E. R. K. Knapp, wife of the Rev. H. E. Knapp, of the American Baptist Mission. Mr. and Mrs. K. had been a little more than a year in the country.

MERGUL.

Messrs Brayton and Harris have made a tour through a region of country hitherto unexplored by the missionaries. They met with but a cold reception from the people who are Karens. They visited a large village called Prathoo-wan.

Widely scattered in the surrounding region there is a numerous body of Karens, subject to a spiritual chief, who lives in great seclusion somewhere among the mountains, and wields almost absolute sway over the people. On their return by a different route the brethren found some villages where the word was listened to with much attention and apparent interest. Mr. Brayton remarks that "whoever enters this field must not go expecting to find the Karen with ears and mouth wide open to receive the truth, and ready on the first proclamation to flock about the standard of the cross, he must make up his mind to labor hard and with untiring zeal."

BASSA MISSION.

A letter has been received from brethren Vonbrunn and Crocker, who write that they still continue to preach the Gospel to their benighted people. The school is sustained and the children are improving in their studies. One person has been hopefully converted and has made a public confession of faith in Christ. One of the old members of the church died on the 7th of March. He breathed out his life praying his Heavenly Father to receive his spirit.

GERMANY.

Mr. Lehman writes that the churches in Prussia are enjoying prosperity. In Eastern Prussia the movement is spreading so as to excite some opposition among the enemies of evangelical religion.

At Vienna, seventeen persons (nine men and eight women) have been imprisoned for holding a religious meeting. It is said that the men will be kept in prison ten or twelve weeks, unless some providential deliverance appear.

FRANCE.

Accounts from this mission are very encouraging. Though the times are evil, yet the mission seems to enjoy the protection of Heaven, and pursues its way without disturbance. In Mr. Foulon's field the work is prosperous. "The grace of God," says Mr. F., in a letter dated May, "was greatly manifest toward us yesterday. We buried with Christ by baptism thirteen persons. Fifteen were to be baptized, but two of our brethren were prevented by sickness." Mr. Lefevre expects soon to baptize four. Mr. Lepoids has some candidates waiting for the ordinance; and Mr. Creun is calling for help in his field of labour. Yet the work is but begun, and a vigorous effort is yet to be made, if France is to be evangelized. "The results of efforts made here," says Mr. W., are truly cheering. Six years ago, there were not more than six evangelical Christians in Mr. Foulon's field; now there is a church of more than fifty members, and a state of things, in one sense, truly evangelical."

Dr. Devan, in a letter dated Lyons, June 15, gives an encouraging account of the several stations in his department, which he has recently visited, and says: "I am reminded that one year ago, this day, I administered the first baptism in the Department of Loire. To-day our number is twenty-three—thanks unto Him from whom alone all prosperity comes."

SIAM.

The *Heroine*, having on board Mr. and Mrs. Ashmore, was hailed about the 2nd of March. All well. It is presumed they arrived at Bangkok some three months since.

HONGKONG.

Mr. Dean writes, under date of April 18: "One Chinese was baptized last month, and four more are proposed as candidates for the next communion season—one from Hongkong, one from Long Island, one from Tukia-wan, and one from Chek-chu."

Mr. Johnson was married, on the 3rd of April, to Miss Lumina G. M. Wakker, recently of Watergrassmeers, near Amsterdam.

MAULMAIN.

Mr. Wade, in a letter dated March 27, announces that he has accepted the charge of the Burmese church formerly under the care of Dr. Judson. The church he states, was constituted in 1827; since then 240 have been added, 46 excluded, and 49 died; leaving its present number 145. Two native assistants are supported by it, and five by the mission.

ASSAM.

Mr. Brown writes, April 12, from Sibsagar, that one or two instances of conversion had occurred. Death had entered their circle to mingle sorrow with their joy. Thuk-ni, wife of Nidhi Levi, after an illness of about a month, died in peace. Mrs. Stoddard had been dangerously ill, but was restored.