

to plunder and violence. By the end of the year 1853, Messrs. Niven and Cumming, who had gone home, returned to Caffraria with a view to resume their Missionary labours. But they found that their former stations were all disposed of, and could not be occupied by them in Missionary work; and in February, 1854, Mr. Niven reported that the prospect of Missionaries being allowed to resume their labours in any part of British Caffraria, there was reason to fear, was for the present at an end.

In the year 1856, matters appeared to be settled down into a peaceful and promising state; and the Board of Missions indulged the hope that the Caffre Mission might yet be established under better auspices. They now intimated their willingness to send out Mr. Tiyo Soga, who having returned to Scotland and completed his education, it was expected would be licensed and ordained about the close of the year, and that they would take steps to secure another ordained Missionary to accompany him. Accordingly, about the beginning of 1857, the Rev. Messrs. Johnston and Tiyo Soga, were ordained to the holy Ministry, and designated as Missionaries to Caffraria, where they arrived in July that year. They met with a cordial reception, and, in particular, much curiosity and surprise was excited among the Caffres about their countryman Mr. Soga, so much altered and improved by education, preaching in their own language, and so eloquent and zealous in the cause of Christ. The latest accounts speak most favourably of the success and bright prospects of these devoted Missionaries.

It may be noticed that when these two were ordained, other five Missionaries were ordained with them—one, the Rev. Mr. Whitecross, destined for the Caymanas, and the others, the Rev. Messrs. McLean, Forbes, Boyd and Gillies, destined for Jamaica. Great interest was excited throughout the Church, but especially in Edinburgh and Glasgow, on the occasion of these seven Missionaries being about to depart to their several places of destination, particularly in reference to the Caffrarian, a man of great talents and acquirements and of genuine piety. The Rev. Mr. Edmond again exercised his poetic gift in composition of a beautiful poem, dedicated to these Missionaries, and entitled, "THE SEVEN." We quote five stanzas also from this production:

Brothers, to the swart race sent !
 Brothers, to the Lord's work lent !
 Go the way your Master went,
 By the Spirit driven ;
 To the desert and the war ;
 To the kloofs and isles afar,
 Where the spoilers' strongholds are,
 Valiant go, ye Seven !

He who once from Olives' crest,
 Parting to His glorious rest,
 North, and South, and East, and West,
 Sent His own Eleven !