

much to assist their poorer brethren, but these form only a small proportion of the whole. The great mass of the people are of the middling and the working classes, and many of their stations are erected in districts where the people are in much poorer circumstances than those are who attend at our stations in these Provinces. They are made nevertheless to feel the necessity of doing what they can towards the support of ordinances which are for their own benefit; and we trust the example will not be without its influence here.

IV. Our fourth and fifth reports refer to a parish in the West of Scotland, which for generations has been notorious for the darkening and deadening effects of an almost uninterrupted prevalence of Moderation. The high rate of the contributions which are given by the few poor but willing friends of gospel truth in that parish, ought to put to shame the state of things in many of our numerous and more favoured congregations. While the zeal, wise and faithful diligence of the probationer that labours there, and the devoted zeal of those who actively assist him, are worthy of praise and imitation.

The Convener of a Committee of the Presbytery of the bounds says, —

I have to report, on the part of the committee appointed at last meeting of Presbytery to visit —, that having visited that station, and conferred with friends on the spot, the committee are of opinion, that no increase on the sum which this station has been endeavouring to raise—viz., £25 per annum—can in present circumstances be reasonably looked for; and for this plain reason, that whilst there are many more than fifty who attend occasionally on the ministrations of the Free Church in that parish, there are not more than fifty real and declared adherents, old and young; and, in order to raise £25, these fifty adherents must contribute at the rate of 10s. each, [observe, not each family, but each individual.] which is a very high average, and much above the ordinary rate of contribution amongst adherents of the Free Church generally.

And further, the committee are of opinion, that those who have the charge of collecting the contributions of the adherents of the Free Church in —, are most active and zealous in the cause—not only contributing largely themselves, but sparing no exertions to secure the contributions of others; so that if, on any occasion, the £25 are not fully realized, the failure is in no degree to be ascribed to any slackness on the part of those who have the charge of matters, but is very

much owing to the high rate of contributions amongst a people who have hitherto never been accustomed to give anything for the support of a gospel ministry.

V The Pro-secutor labouring there writes,—

This station engaged to send £25 yearly to the Sustentation Fund; but previous to my coming here, 15th December 1849 it had fallen very considerably short of implementing its engagement. At the end of my first quarter we were able to meet demands; at the expiry of the second we had just £6 in hand—our evening sermon having been some time given up. From this sum we had to pay £1 to defray local expenses.

On receipt of my salary, I added £1, and sent you £6, which is yet short of our stipulated sum. This was our last contribution. You will be satisfied, I think, that we are doing our utmost when we state, that in order to raise the sum engaged to be paid, our people have to give on an average 10s. each yearly, for we are a very handful. I must mention also, that while our congregation is increasing on one side of the house, it is decreasing on the other.

The bulk of our half-resolved adherents is growing, but the body of our membership is diminishing. Very recently we have lost two families, and I have great fear of a third, by the exercise of a faithful but most affectionately administered discipline. These members were in the habit of attending church about once a month—not oftener. On being admonished and quietly dealt with, they darted off, and told us they could get sermons elsewhere—meaning the Establishment. Thither they have gone, and are safe now till their dying day from all molestation of this sort.

This parish, by reason of a dead Moderate ministry, unbroken and undisturbed since the days of Samuel Rutherford, is sunk in a most appalling condition of ignorance and ungodliness. The most dark featured accounts that ever reached you regarding it, were not an exaggeration of the simple truth.

When a preached gospel begins to take effect upon the people, and not till then, will our funds increase.

From the Missionary Record.

CALCUTTA.

Extract Letter from the Native Convert, Bunka Behari Basu, to the Rev. Dr. Duff.

[It is now well understood that one grand object contemplated by the Indian Missions of our Church, has been the