

so numerously by the clergy of all sections of the Church, is the most conclusive evidence that we may enter with safety upon measures of amendment, as the existence and manifestation of this strong conservative feeling will be our best security against frivolous changes or dangerous innovations."

ORDINATIONS.—The September Ordinations, on Sunday last, have added largely to the Ministry of the Church. The following is a summary of them:—Canterbury, 16 deacons, 16 priests; Chester, 10 deacons, 10 priests; Chichester, 8 deacons, 1 priest; Durham, 5 deacons, 9 priests; Exeter, 2 deacons, 9 priests; Lincoln, 5 deacons, 4 priests; Llandaff, 4 deacons, 6 priests; Worcester, 16 deacons, 16 priests; Manchester, 2 deacons, 12 priests; Norwich, 6 deacons, 1 priest; Oxford, 11 deacons, 6 priests; Peterborough, 6 deacons, 3 priests; Ripon, 13 deacons, 16 priests; Salisbury, 12 deacons, 7 priests; St. David's, 4 deacons, 6 priests; Litchfield, 13 deacons, 10 priests. Total, 133 deacons, and 129 priests, making altogether an addition, on one single occasion, of 262 to the Ministry of the English Church at home.—*N. F. Churchman.*

THE HEATHEN AT CAPETOWN.

We now give remainder of Mr. Lightfoot's interesting report. It will be seen with pleasure that the congregation of his Mission Church are affording the best proof of the value they set upon his ministry, and of the sincerity of their own profession, by liberal contributions to his support. The Society, on its part, has (as already announced) undertaken to provide half the salary of a second missionary to the heathen of Capetown:—

"The work of the mission thus proceeded during last year (1859) in a quiet, prosperous manner, unaffected by such an event as the epidemic of the year before. Easter and Whitsuntide were important times in our history, as at each of those seasons a number of the catechumens, having passed the period of their probation (usually six months) in a satisfactory manner, and having moreover acquired a fitting amount of knowledge, were admitted by holy baptism into the Church. But the events of the several Sundays in the month of December were of so much importance to our mission that I may, perhaps, be allowed to refer to them more in detail. As the confirmation had been appointed for the second Sunday in that month, it had been decided that on the Sunday preceding, such of the catechumens as were prepared for baptism should be brought to the font. Accordingly, on that day I was enabled to present thirty of my adult catechumens, who were then baptised and received into the Church by the Dean. I may remark that, including the result of this baptism, the number of persons who had been admitted into the Church, being the fruits of its mission during the twenty-one months it had been in operation, was 105. The mixed character of the population residing in Capetown is well illustrated by the fact that among the persons baptised on the 4th of September, at least eight different nations were represented.

On the following Sunday the confirmation took place, and among the great number then confirmed, I was enabled to present before your Lordship seventy-four candidates, whom I could conscientiously recommend as fitted for the reception of the solemn rite. It was judged expedient that about thirty others should be deferred until another opportunity. Sunday, the 18th, was of most importance to myself, personally, as being the day of my ordination to the priesthood; but on that occasion I was encouraged and comforted

by the reflection that I had the prayers of many persons, only recently called out of darkness and unbelief, to whom the event of the day had been carefully explained, and were present in the Cathedral, prepared to add their Amen to the petition that God's Holy Word might be spoken by my mouth among themselves and their still unbelieving brethren, 'with such power that it might never be spoken in vain.' Afterwards also I received another assurance of their kind sympathy, in the form of a handsome present, and an accompanying address. The sentiments expressed in the latter, as I was assured, were their own, although they had sought the assistance of one better qualified than themselves to reduce their thoughts to a formal shape.

The last Sunday in the month, Christmas Day, was also a very important time for us, as on that day thirty-eight of the members of the mission received their first communion. Others who were not able to attend on that occasion became communicants on the following Sunday. I can only hope and pray that all of them by their conduct and conversation may continue to be pleasantly associated with what I now look back to as the most anxious, yet still perhaps the most happy month of my life.

During the three past months of the present year our progress in a somewhat different direction has been no less marked. I mentioned at the commencement of my report, that soon after my arrival here, I was struck with the fact that the ministers of the different coloured congregations in the town seemed more occupied with the care of the persons with whom they were already connected, than in opening out fresh mission work. I may remark, in passing, that this is not so much the case now, additional labourers having been secured by them. But my own experience has convinced me that all missionary exertions here must, if they progress at all, speedily reach this state, where the persons already collected need all the care and attention which a single missionary can bestow. However willing and anxious to do what is right the poor people here may be, there is a sort of inherent weakness, or instability of character, in all the African races whom I have met with (including the brown, mixed race, native of this place), which requires special care and watchfulness on the part of those who are set over them in the Lord. I do not of course mean that we have yet nearly reached the position in which we dare not carry on the assault, because in our rear the work of edification needs all my care. But it is clear that if we progress as we have done, that condition must sooner or later be attained. In order to be prepared for it, it has been my desire throughout quietly to lead the members of our Mission Church here to make such sacrifices as in the end may render our work self-supporting, and so leave the amount of my present stipend available for another labourer in this important field, where there is already a promising opening to be discerned. During the last year as much was raised from the offerings in church as sufficed to pay the rent of the building used as a School Chapel, the expense of lighting (which will appear a considerable item when it is remembered that the building was used on an average four evenings a week,) as well as a small salary for an assistant teacher. But this year I hope they will do much more. Since Christmas they have purchased a harmonium, £10 of the expense having been raised from among themselves. The offertories during the three months have amounted to about £9. This sum, with the school pence from the children, will be employed in paying rent, &c. But in addition to this it has been determined to raise among them a portion of my

stipend. A meeting was held, and two officers, of the character of churchwardens, were chosen, the one an African, who is by trade a bricklayer's labourer, and the other a negro, who is a coolie, or labourer at the wharf. The circumstances of the people, and the extreme dearth of provisions, were then taken into consideration, and ultimately it was determined that all should be invited to subscribe, the amount to be settled by each subscriber, according to his own position. It was thought desirable, however, that a minimum should be agreed to, and this was fixed at, in the case of single men, 1s. a month; married couples, 1s. 6d. a month, single women, 9d. a month. The subscriptions vary in amount from the sums named to 3s. and 1s. a month, a very considerable amount for these poor people to give. About 100 individuals, or families, at once enrolled their names, all being connected with the mission, and subscriptions amounting to about £7 a month are promised. All this is of course valuable as testing in some degree the reality of their profession.

Having thus sought to lay before your Lordship a succinct account of the progress which this mission has been enabled to make, I cannot do better, in conclusion, than express my earnest hope and prayer that what has been effected may be put as the first fruits of a rich spiritual ingathering yet to be obtained among the lanes and alleys of this city."

NATIVE FEMALE EDUCATION IN SOUTH INDIA.

(From the Mission Field.)

There is probably no agency better calculated to raise the character of the Hindoo population than that of boarding-schools for girls. All who have heard of Mrs. Caldwell's school know how important an instrument of good it is; and not a few have contributed towards its enlargement. The following report from Mrs. Caldwell is now published with a view to extend this feeling, by showing the spread of a wholesome christian influence in the families into which these girls pass after they leave the school at Edeyenkoody:

"Through the liberality of the *Christian Knowledge Society*, and also of the *Society for the Propagation of the Gospel*, we have been enabled during the past year to place the benefits of a christian boarding-school education within the reach of a larger number of children. Previously to last year we received an allowance from the *Gospel Propagation Society* towards the support of twenty scholars; but by the aid of local resources, and through the kindness of private friends, we were enabled to keep thirty girls, and sometimes more than thirty. Owing to the great increase lately in the price of food, &c., we were afraid of being compelled to reduce our numbers, when the timely aid above referred to arrived, and we were enabled, to our delight, to augment our numbers to fifty. We selected at once twenty scholars, leaving a few vacancies for any special cases that might afterwards come to our notice. On the day we made the selection, we had all the girls learning in the two higher classes of our various village schools brought into Edeyenkoody, in order that we might select the best, and it was quite amusing to see the eagerness of some of the mothers and friends of the competitors. Some, of course, were doomed to be disappointed.

It would have been more easy to select a hundred than twenty. We could not help contrasting the feeling of the people on this occasion with what it was when we first established the school. At that time we could not have ventured, as we