

informed, that on the Monday I saw him, in the evening, he complained of a sore throat, and ate no supper, when he appears to have had a strong presentiment that death was not far distant. His conversation abruptly took a solemn turn: he at once gave charges to his family, and told them that his earthly career was ended. They, on the other hand, not dreaming of so mournful an event, seemed not to have entered into his feelings, mildly rebuked his apprehensions; upon which he said, "I have done." He then took himself to his sofa, and the family soon after retired. About two at night, one of his daughters calling and not receiving an answer, went to awake him, when he was found to be a corpse. How fleeting is human life! as a vapour so soon passeth it away, and we are gone. J. W. is a loss both to his family and to the congregation. To the former he was always kind and affectionate: to the latter he was useful by his steady, persevering example. He was active in business, "sergent in spirit, serving the Lord;" and thus he gave testimony that diligence in lawful callings is no hindrance to attention to religious duties. In this point of view I endeavour to improve his death to the congregation. He was punctual at morning prayers, was generally known and sought after as an industrious mason and stone-cutter; above all, he was an humble Christian. He used often to say, "I can't do any thing by myself, but I look to the mercy of Christ to help me." Thus passed this humble follower of Christ from a world of toil and sorrow to a world of rest and peace.

KISSEY VILLAGE.

under the charge of the Rev. W. Young. His journal, up to the 29th Sept. 1855, has been received, and we give the following extracts from it.

CONGREGATION—COMMUNICANTS.

The regular and attentive congregations attending divine worship twice on the Lord's-day, for the past six months, have been encouraging. The average attendance is 780 in the morning, and 450 in the evening, including children. The Wednesday-evening service has not been so well attended throughout the rainy season. Although it is gratifying to the servant of Jesus Christ to see, from Sabbath to Sabbath a constant, attentive, and orderly congregation assembled before him in a country like this, yet when he attempts to reckon up the success which has attended his labours, there is much cause for humiliation and prayer; for humiliation, because of his defective ministrations; for humble prayer for a larger measure of the quickening, the life-giving Spirit, to bring home the preached gospel of Christ to the hearts of the hearers.

The constant and regular Sabbath-day ministrations, the stated religious instruction of the number of classes into which 731 converts at my station are divided, visiting the schools, pastoral visitation from house to house, special visitations of the sick, cases of church discipline and government, secular and ministerial duties, all partaking much of monotony, seem to circumscribe the bounds of the Missionary within his own immediate station. He cannot well leave his people, even for a little while for rest and quietness; and there is danger of settling down in a routine of business in such a debilitating climate as Sierra Leone. He must go habitually to the throne of divine grace, and derive fresh and constant supplies of the spirit of Christ, to resist the temptation and feeling of disaffection to his work as an every-day matter of course, and of esteeming the glory of Christ in the salvation of the souls of his people of less importance. The Missionary, as well as others, needs time to refresh his own mind with reading and meditation, that he may teach the divine truths of Christ by his own experiences, in the meekness of wisdom, and with humbleness of mind, to his people.

The number of communicants is 424. Of some of them I must confess I stand in doubt of their Christian sincerity; for, looking at them in the light our blessed Lord gives us, "by their fruits ye shall know them," one of the distinguishing marks is absence from the public means of grace, and also from our religious meetings. A large majority, however, are an example to the flock in constancy of obedience to the word of the Lord, and endeavour to glorify Him in sincerity of love.

ENDOWMENT OF NATIVE CHURCHES IN INDIA.

The Tinnevely Mission has long been the receiver of the overflowing bounty of English Christians. It has been in existence, more or less completely, for a century, during which it has experienced ever increasing support. Some forty years since the Mission was divided into districts, over which European clergymen were sent to preside. Nazareth was one of these districts. In it were baptized the most early Christians, and it has enjoyed longer almost than any other district the care and expensive support of the mother Church, and so the English societies are now justly beginning to look to the native Christians to support their own Church; and self-sustentation is the idea on which every Missionary in the province must, more or less, keep his eye fixed. As the spirit of religion is to be kept alive by the Christians themselves in their hearts (by a diligent use of the means of grace), so it

is but right that all the external appliances of that religion should be supported by themselves. Some societies have already been obliged to withdraw that support which for years they have been in the habit of giving to the Indian Church, and which is more imperatively called for in other neglected vineyards. The time will come when this help will necessarily be taken from all our Missions. Aaron and Hur cannot always support the arms of Moses. To prepare for this time, which is surely coming, and to give the Christians of Nazareth a helping hand at starting, it is proposed to found the "Nazareth Endowment Fund."

For six years past it has been the custom to hold annual collections in every village of the district, during the joy of the Easter week. The natives themselves give liberally, and their donations have been largely increased by the benefactions of a few European friends to the Mission. So that latterly, these collections have realized annually a sum somewhat exceeding Rs. 800.

Hitherto the money thus collected has been spent in supplying the wants of the district, in building substantial churches and school-rooms, in purchasing gongs and bells, and consolidating the material part of Christianity. Henceforward it is proposed to make the money that may be realized from time to time the basis of a sinking fund, which will go on gradually accumulating till the interest alone shall maintain the future Catechist, and supply the other wants of the Nazareth Mission, rendering it in a few years independent of continued aid from its Mother English Church.

The Nazareth district comprises seventeen villages, and in them there are in connexion with the Mission 4,147 persons, of whom 2,793 have been baptized. During the past year 83 adults and 129 children were baptized. The number of communicants is above 400: 791 children are receiving Christian instruction, boys 426, and girls 365. Sunday schools are kept in all the villages, and are satisfactorily attended.

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