

pointing out to him the way of salvation. If the conversion of this sinner proves to be genuine, of which I cannot doubt, it will be another striking comment on the words of Paul in Rom. ix: "So it is not of him that willeth or runneth, but of God who showeth mercy." My soul is filled with wonder, love and praise. One such display of sovereign grace compensates for a thousand revilings from the world.

March 25.—Have been at the police office. A complaint had been made against me and br. V. by a citizen, for seducing one of his sons to leave the Lutheran community. I was questioned if it was my intention to baptize the person alluded to. I replied in the affirmative. I had to hear some bitter things from the person who examined me.

This case, though it will probably cause us much trouble, is highly interesting, and just shows, that opposition to the gospel, and especially persecution, will, if its subjects are of the right stamp, only promote its growth in the heart. The case is simply this: One of our brethren became acquainted with the young man in question. He found him a youth who feared God, but who needed one to show him the way of God more perfectly.

Our brother began to visit his parents, and in their presence he stated what he and we hold to be scripture doctrine. The parents and other members of the family were so much pleased with the first interview of our brother, that they requested him to renew his visits, and our brother did so. In the meantime one of their sons had begun to attend our preaching and carefully examine the New Testament on the points of difference between us and the Lutherans, and was fully convinced that he had been quite in the dark as to Christ's command to all believers to be baptized. He also got a clearer view of the doctrine of free grace, and was graciously delivered from the spirit of bondage, under which he had labored. The consequence was, that he decided to join us. As he felt exceedingly happy in the acquisition of the truths referred to, he was probably not quite so prudent as might have been desirable in advancing them. When his parents discovered the change in his sentiments, and his intention to join us, they were enraged. They sent for their different relations, who, when they had come, did not employ the most gentle means to bring our young friend back from his "heresies." When this proved fruitless, the minister was sent for. The consequence of this interview was, that when the minister had left, a younger brother declared, that as the learned pastor had not even attempted to sustain himself from the New Testament, the truth must be on the side of his brother, and that he should go with him

to his place of worship. This enraged the parents still more, and they applied to the civil authorities to prevent their joining us. Both the young men were taken by police officers from their home, and escorted to the *stadt-haus*, where they were detained for five hours, and threatened with imprisonment, &c., but in vain. The Lord was their strength. They boldly confessed their faith in Christ, and told the authorities, "You may take off our heads, but we shall never give up our faith in the Saviour." They were then permitted to go home.

27.—Received an order from the police not to baptize the Kirsings, (the name of the two young men alluded to,) or any other person belonging to this place, either on Hamburg or other territory, on pain of being, without fail, forthwith imprisoned.

28.—Had another threatening injunction from the police, not to conduct any religious meeting nor to participate in the same, on the same penalty as in the preceding prohibition. It appears from this that the authorities are in earnest to attempt to suppress us. May the Lord stand by us in the trying hour.

29.—Lord's-day. I was fully prepared for the prison to-day, as I shall never desert the standard of the cross, to which I have sworn eternal allegiance. In the morning I did not attempt to preach, but commenced expounding Acts iv., as I expected every moment the police would break in upon us. All, however, went off quietly, and we were greatly blessed in meditating upon the above chapter, the contents of which were so much adapted to our circumstances.

Of course we expected for a certainty the unpleasant visit in the evening; but again the Lord was better than our fears;—the service closed without any interruption. Most of the members assembled again for prayer, at different places, later in the evening. About thirty brethren and friends met with me at a member's house, where we pleaded our cause before the Lord.—*American Bap. Missionary Mag.*

## CEYLON.

### BAPTISM AT COLOMBO.

The following extract from *The Colombo Observer*, of Jan. 15, 1840, will be perused with pleasure:—

On Sabbath day last, we had the pleasure of witnessing one of the most heart-cheering spectacles that, in this heathen land, can be presented before the eyes of a Christian, anxious for the conversion and salvation of his fellow-men, and the spread of the glorious and life-giving gospel of his Redeemer. We allude to the admission into the church of Christ by baptism of seven individuals, who