

benefits conferred by the Visitor, who takes an interest in the temporal as well as spiritual welfare of emigrants quitting our shores:—

"Although we have had scarcely any frost or now this winter, yet, from the prevalence of north-westerly winds, the weather has been most unfavorable for missionary work on the Mersey. I have, however, managed to board most of the emigrant ships which have sailed hence since I wrote last. Besides, I have made good use of my time on shore in looking after intending emigrants at the various lodging-houses."

"It is deeply interesting to meet these poor people just as they arrive by train or steamer. Their countenances are often full of anxiety, care, and distrust. They constantly hear of friends who have been plundered or cheated; letter after letter from relatives in the colonies having forewarned them of the dangers incident to the sojourn of an emigrant in Liverpool."

"Many a time when I find a poor man in distress with a crowd of 'land-sharks' around him, does it come in my way to befriend him. In no single instance has an emigrant under such circumstances hesitated to place himself, his family, and luggage under my care and direction. It makes no matter what country he comes from—England, Ireland, or Scotland. So soon as I state that I am a clergyman of the Church of England, his face brightens, and he takes my advice."

"Many of the emigrants from the rural districts now inquire for me on their arrival in Liverpool, bringing letters from their parish ministers. I only wish they were all thus introduced to me; much valuable time would then be saved, which must now be spent in seeking them out."

"But the principal field for successful exertion is on board the ships, as they lie at anchor in the river. There all the passengers can be assembled; and now that they are completely cut off from the land, and entered upon their new, and, to them, strange state of life, I can apparently do more good amongst them in one hour than in a whole day amid the turmoil and bustle of the town. But during the late gales, and, indeed, since November last, it has been difficult to hold service on board ship. If the day be dry, we assemble on the main deck; the women and children generally sitting down, and the men holding on by whatever is next them as the vessel heaves and rolls. Sea-sickness often thins my audience."

The Rev. F. Burnes, Visitor of Emigrants leaving Plymouth, in a letter dated 21st February, 1859, gave some particulars regarding the new settlers, sailing in the "Palmyra," under the appointment of Government, to Sidney, for Norfolk Island.

"I regret to say, that, before the 'Palmyra' sailed on Sunday, 13th, the weather was so boisterous that I was unable personally to visit, after our farewell service, the interesting emigrants to Norfolk Island. My Scripture Reader, however, saw them as they were lying near our floating church. What I had seen made a most favorable impression; and I should say they will prove a very valuable acquisition to the islanders."

"I have to acknowledge the very kind grant of the six boxes of books, &c., sent last week; I am beginning to sort them, so as to be able to give suitable ones to those I think will most value and profit by them; our busy time is now coming on; and most acceptable they will prove, for the long sea voyage, and in their new home, to remind them of the ones they have left."

The Meeting was informed, that the Hon. and Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Carlisle had consented to preach the Anniversary Sermon before the assembled Charity Schools in St. Paul's Cathedral on Thursday, June 9, 1859.

Several letters of acknowledgment, including letters from the Lord Bishop of Colombo, the Rev. J. A. Pieritz, St. Patrick's, Berbice, and the Rev. F. O. Mayne, Chaplain, Peshawur, India, were laid before the meeting.

Mr. Mayne, writing from Peshawur, Dec. 21, 1858, said:—

"On behalf of the Churchwardens of Peshawur, and myself, I beg to tender to your Society our sincere thanks for the very liberal grant which they have made of books, to the value of £20, for the use of the British troops at Peshawur. I hope and believe that they will be of great service."

"As an evidence of the increasing sense of Christian obligation which is pervading the army, I may mention that in this station there are in Her Majesty's 81st regiment 152 men, and in Her Majesty's 94th regiment 230 men, who are contributing in monthly payments sums varying from 3s. to £1 4s. per annum, to Church Missions in the Bengal Presidency."

"The united number of communicants in the same regiments is indeed only about fifty; but a year ago, there were not five."

The amount already raised for the Special Indian Fund was stated to be £1458 6s.

#### SOCIETY FOR THE PROPAGATION OF THE GOSPEL IN FOREIGN PARTS.

79, Pall Mall, May 6, 1859.

The 158th Anniversary of the Society will be celebrated (D.V.) with the following arrangements:—

The Annual Meeting will be held in St. James's Hall, Piccadilly, on Wednesday, May 25th, at two p.m.

The Anniversary Festival will be celebrated in St. Paul's Cathedral, on Tuesday, June 21st, at half-past three p.m. The sermon will be preached by the Bishop of Bath and Wells.

The Annual Meeting in the City of London will be held in the Egyptian Hall, Mansion House, on Thursday, June 23rd, at two p.m.

The Rev. R. Dowson, the Society's missionary to the Indians in Vancouver Island, arrived at that place, on February 2nd. In a recent letter, dated February 15th, Mr. Dowson makes the following interesting statement:—

"I intend starting to-morrow upon a voyage of discovery to the north of the island in one of the H.B. Company's vessels. I expect to be about three or four weeks away. As the vessel I am going in is engaged in collecting the furs, I shall have a good opportunity of seeing something of the Indian population. She will also go as far as Fort Simpson, on the mainland, about 140 miles from the north end of Vancouver. Of this I am glad, as the Church Missionary Society have had a missionary schoolmaster there for the last year and a-half; and it will be a pleasure to him, upon his distant post, to meet, if it be only a few days, with one engaged in the same work. I should think Fort Simpson is one of the most distant (i. e. out-of-the-way) missionary posts we have. The communication with here is only twice a year, at uncertain intervals; and the whole population of Europeans from Navarino (sixty miles north from here) to Fort Simpson, including Fort Simpson itself, is not more than twenty."

"I shall be able to say something more definite about my own plans after I return from this trip. It is impossible here to come to any conclusion. Every one has a different tale to tell about the Indians; and the only thing is to go and judge for one's self. Of course I shall be obliged to leave my wife behind me here. I must not omit to

mention the extreme kindness of Captain Prevost, of H.M.S. 'Satellite,' who has indeed shown himself a true Christian gentleman. He has done all he can to help me in every way, both by his sympathy, countenance, and advice, and also with his boats, which last item, in a country without roads, and water almost the only means of conveyance, is no inconsiderable one. As I told you in my last the Indians at this extreme south end of the island are very few, very degraded, and very quickly vanishing off the face of the earth and so I must, if it be possible, try and find a point to rest my lever upon at some distance. I have learnt something of the Chinook patois which is spoken by the southern tribes (from Soke to Navarino); but it is merely a trading jargon, and each tribe has its own distinct language besides. The natives at the north end of the island are certainly a most intelligent race. Some of their handicraft productions are really wonderful, especially figures (likenesses, and good ones too), carved from a morse tooth, with no other instrument than an old nail, or, at the best, a hand knife. They are, at the same time, a most blood-thirsty set of fellows; and it is no uncommon thing for a chief or rich man to murder twenty or thirty of his slaves, merely to show how rich he is, and in what little esteem he holds his property. I have met with much so far both to dishearten and encourage me; but disheartened I am determined not to be; for the attempt to benefit 17,000 of God's neglected creatures can never be work thrown away; and I am content to abide in His promise, 'Go teach all nations'; and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world."

The Society, in pursuance of a resolution "to double the number of its European missionaries in India," has already despatched five clergymen, Graduates of Oxford and Cambridge, to that country, and is anxious, with as little delay as possible, largely to increase the number.

By another resolution, 'the Society stands pledged "to found new, and strengthen existing missions in the presidency" and other principal cities of India;' and it would mention Madras, Patna, Allahabad, Lucknow, Bareilly, Lahore, Ahmedabad, and Bombay, as places to each of which it is desirous of sending at once an efficient staff of missionaries and schoolmasters.

For the supply of men duly qualified to serve God in preaching the Gospel of His blessed Son to the heathen, not only in India, but also in China, Japan, and Burneo,—the Society makes its solemn appeal to the younger clergy to offer themselves for this great work of the Church of Christ.

#### CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The anniversary of the Church Missionary Society was held in Exeter Hall, on Tuesday, 3rd inst. The President, the Earl of Chester, was in the chair, and there were present the Duke of Marlborough, the Earl of Cavan, the Bishops of London, Winchester, Carlisle, Ripon, Grahamstown, Bishop Payne, (Liberia,) Lord H. Cholmondeley, Viscount Middleton, &c. &c.

The proceedings were opened with prayer, and after a preliminary address by the Chairman, the report was read by the Secretary.

The several resolutions were moved and seconded by the Duke of Marlborough, the Rev. T. R. Birks, the Rev. Mr. French (Missionary from Liberia), the Bishop of London, Bishop Payne, the Bishop of Carlisle, and the Rev. W. W. Champey.

The following is the financial statement of the Society:—