

of the vineyard, that He has been pleased to send new labourers into His harvest. Instead of three Missionaries labouring, as in 1830, and taking the oversight of the congregations in the Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Ramnad, and Tinnevely provinces, there are now nine in the collectorate of Tanjore and Trichinopoly only.

"In the distribution of the village congregations, in connexion with Tanjore and Trichinopoly, into distinct parishes, each having its own minister, the charge of the district now known by the name of the Erungalore Mission was assigned to me about the beginning of 1843; and after about a year spent in weekly journeys from village to village, the site on which the Mission Bungalow, Church, and Schools are now erected, adjoining the village of Erungalore, was selected as affording the best advantages for communication with the other villages in connexion with the district, and as being also at a convenient distance from Trichinopoly (14 miles), on which the missionary is solely dependent for the articles of daily consumption as well as for his letters, and in time of illness or necessity for medical advice or other aid. The experience of seven years has proved the correctness of the estimate formed on this subject.

"The affairs of this Mission at the beginning of 1844, were such as might have been expected. The prayer-houses and schools erected in almost every village, being in every instance but one, viz.: the Church at Veraloor noticed above, built of clay and covered with thatch, and having been constructed more than ten years before, were wholly or in part destroyed. By the aid of kind friends, and with the assistance of the Christians, these buildings were repaired at a cost of about 400 rupees. Having no place of abode in the district, I was obliged to visit it from Trichinopoly, and for more than a year after my appointment to this Mission I had to travel from thirty to seventy miles every week, crossing and re-crossing each time two large rivers; and while engaged in spiritual duties connected with the congregations and schools under my care, my attention was also necessarily directed to the erection of a Mission-house and Girl's Boarding School, and subsequently, a Church and Boys' Boarding School at the station. I was enabled, however, to take up my residence in the district by the end of 1844, and in February of the following year, when my Mission was visited by Bishop Spencer, I had the pleasure to present 310 candidates for Confirmation, which his Lordship, in consideration of the wide extent of the district, was pleased to hold in two different villages, viz., at Poothoocottah and at Erungalore; on the 11th February at the former place, and on the 18th of the same month at the latter: on which occasion the Bishop also kindly laid the foundation-stone of the Church to be built to my father's memory at Erungalore.

"In October, 1845, I opened a Boarding School for Native Girls, which was built entirely at the expense of friends in

India and in England, who liberally contributed towards this object, and continue still to assist in promoting female education in this district. Fifteen girls are maintained as boarders in this establishment chiefly by a grant from the Madras Diocesan Committee of the S. P. C. K., and a few attend regularly as day scholars, including whom the number of girls receiving instruction in this institution amounts at present to 22. As this school is adjacent to the Mission-house, it receives our daily attention, and the conduct of the children, I am thankful to be able to add, has been such as to afford us much satisfaction. With a view to receiving more boarders into this school, I am having it enlarged, and when the improvements now in progress are completed, they will add both to the durability and accommodation of the building.

"In February, 1846, I was removed to Madras to take temporary charge of the Vepery Mission, and the Rev. Mr. Guest was appointed to this district. His attention was directed to its temporal as well as spiritual interests. Under him the building of the Church, was considerably advanced, and a Boarding School for boys had also been commenced, which on my return to this station in August 1847 was carried on, and completed in December, 1848. This school was opened in March, 1849, and is now attended by 20 boarders and 6 day scholars. Mr. Snall, who was sent by the M. D. C. S. P. G., is at present the head master, and I have every reason to believe that by his patient and persevering attention to the interesting charge committed to him, this school will eventually prove, under God, a blessing to my Mission.

"I feel thankful to be able to record the measure of success it has pleased the Lord to grant to my labours in this field. About two years ago a large number of Roman Catholics, in a village about ten miles to the south of Erungalore, embraced the Protestant faith and delivered over to me the images they had in their blindness worshipped with divine honours. Their conduct since they have joined our Church has been such as to confirm my belief of the sincerity of their new profession; they have indeed met with severe trials, both from heathens and from their almost equally ignorant and bigoted neighbours the Romanists, in consequence of their having become Protestants, and they have up to this time been prevented by heathen opposition and Romish intrigue from erecting a Church in their village. In another adjoining village also some have enrolled their names in our list, and have given me a piece of ground upon which to build a house of prayer for them. But, in general, conversions of large bodies of natives are not to be regarded as affording matter for special encouragement; many come and go without feeling the responsibilities which attach to them as individual members of the Church: they are usually influenced in such cases by no higher motives than conformity with their leader, whom they think they are bound to follow, right or wrong. But the conversions of a few single indi-