

showers from its venerable crest, down upon the smiling farms which teem with fruitfulness at its feet. Though the day of my visit was a working day, a general holiday was taken, and at 11 o'clock in the forenoon I preached to a good congregation, and baptised about a dozen children. I afterwards visited several families, dined at "the quarter," and in the evening returned to St. John's, where I preached and baptised four children, and then descended the hill on which this village stands, and reached the "Bottom," thoroughly fatigued with the labours of the day.

9th. (Sunday.) This morning I preached again in the Dutch Church to the largest congregation I had seen in the Island. There were persons present from every part of the Colony. I had a good season in the pulpit, and after preaching I baptised six or eight children. Before I dismissed my hearers, I thanked them for the hospitality and kindness so generally shewn me since my arrival in the Colony, but expressed myself unwilling to be satisfied with anything short of the salvation of the souls of the people. I said that this my was chief object, all others were merged in this; and if this object was not attained, however much kindness they might shew me, and however thankful for my visit they might express themselves, I should nevertheless remain greatly dissatisfied, and consider that I had yet done nothing, and that my visit to the Colony had not been attended with the desired results. That I might not remain in ignorance of any little good which my visit produced, I said that after the congregation had retired, I would gladly hold a little further intercourse with any one who really felt a desire to flee from the wrath to come, to be saved from their sins. Eighteen persons remained;—six men, and twelve women. With these I conversed closely on religious things, and found them all (excepting three) truly awakened to a sense of their sin and danger, and each anxiously enquiring "what shall I do to be saved?" The three with whose state I was not satisfied, I rejected, after a faithful reproof, warning, and admonition, and the rest I formed into three small classes. I read our rules, and with extended exegetic remarks, and gave each of them a copy, and after this they pledged themselves to walk accordingly, by the grace of God, and "faithfully to watch over in love, and to provoke one another to love and good works." May God guide these people into the saving knowledge of his will, and may this little flock be soon increased a hundred fold to the praise and glory of His name. Amen. I had engaged to preach again in the evening, but the "Eagle" on her way up from St. Thomas to St. Eustatius, called in, and summoned us on board, and that evening we left the hospitable roof of his Honor the Commander, and after a rough passage of five hours, in a deeply laden vessel, we reached our home in safety.

Saba, lies about 20 miles leeward of St. Eustatius, and contains a population of about 1,800 souls. Of these about 300 are whites. The people occupy the three villages I have mentioned, and a few scattered hamlets in different parts of the Island. There is no Christian Minister in the Colony, and the moral state of the majority of all classes, but especially of the slaves, is therefore most deplorable. Their religious instruction is totally unprovided for, and each of the thousand slaves in this Island may look the Committee of every Missionary Society in Christendom in the face, and appropriate the language of the Psalmist, and bitterly exclaim, "No man careth for my soul." The present opportunity of establishing a mission in this Island is most favourable. A Lieut. Governor has recently been appointed for St. Eustatius who is very friendly to our mission, and a constant attendant on our ministry, and would rather encourage a Mission in Saba, than throw obstacles in its way. The Commander of Saba, and all the respectable white inhabitants and proprietors, strongly urge us

to occupy that Colony as a Mission Station, whilst the little Society already formed there, seems a pledge which God has given us, to be with us if we will but walk in at the door which He has so evidently opened before us. That society cannot exist without religious ordinances. It must perish for want of a minister or pastor, unless you send it one; and if it perish, shall we be clear of its blood? A single man, of robust health, of steady habits, and quenchless zeal for the salvation of souls, would, by the blessing of God, be of incalculable benefit to Saba, and might be supported at little or no expense beyond his ordinary allowances. The Society, which he would soon increase, would cheerfully contribute according to its ability, and considerable support might be also derived from others in the way of donations to the mission. Promises have been made to this effect, but, whilst I entertain a hope that in many cases they would be fulfilled, I lay no stress whatever on these promises as an inducement for the Committee to send out a Missionary to Saba. The ordinary sources for a supply would be more prolific, in proportion to the number in society, than they are in St. Eustatius, for the mass of the people in Saba are in better circumstances. It is impossible for the St. Eustatius preacher to give much attention to Saba. He could not visit it oftener than once in three months, and then he must hire vessels at considerable expense; and leave his congregations at home without a preacher, which would be attended with such irregularities as would be displeasing to the people, and highly injurious to his work.

In St. Eustatius we are just recovering from the effects of a gale of wind, from which we suffered considerably on the 2nd of this month. Some property was lost, but no lives. The Mission House and chapel were not injured, but fences, &c., were blown away. A few dollars have repaired the damages. We have lately gathered a few souls here, and are encouraged in our work. H. CHERSEBROUGH.

THE EXPOSITOR.

Psalm xli. 6.—The words of the Lord are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.

THE allusion is to metal that has passed through a very severe refining process. The words of God are so pure as to have no alloy whatever in them. "Purified seven times," means *perfectly* refined, seven being a number frequently expressive of perfection, perhaps, because on the seventh day God had completed the world.

The words of Jehovah are holy in his precepts, just in his laws, gracious in his promises, significant in his institutions, true in his narrations, and infallible in his predictions.

Deut. xxxiii. 6.—And ye shall be left few in number, whereas ye were in number as the stars of heaven for multitude; because thou wouldst not obey the voice of thy Lord thy God.

In the siege of Jerusalem, there died one million of Jews, and more than ninety thousand were carried away captive; and having afterwards provoked the Romans by their rebellions, they persecuted them nearly to extirpation; to which, if the tens of thousands who were slaughtered year after year, in every country, be added, it appears wonderful that there were any remains left.

As this prediction concerning the Israelites, compared with its accomplishment, demonstrates the divine inspiration of the Scriptures, how should the example of that people warn all who hear and see these things, not to provoke the Lord to anger, by disobeying his commands, and despising his Gospel.

Psalm xix. 3, 4.—There is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard. Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.

The words "*there is*" and "*where*" are supplied; hence the proper reading may be, "no speech nor language, their voice is not heard." This is very beautiful, and has been noticed by many biblical students.