

men, women, and children—a goodly number having turned from their idols to serve the living God: this is, indeed generally speaking but in profession; yet a considerable number, it is hoped, with the whole heart. We are delighted, on several occasions, to see congregations of 500 persons have assembled in some of the chapels; decently clad, and conducting themselves in the house of God with the greatest decorum and propriety.

The schools we found, in general, in good condition; the children making rapid progress, as well the children of heathens as those of Christian parents; on the average, five or six, in each school read the Scriptures in Tamul; about 15 or 20 repeat catechisms, and answered such plain questions as we proposed to them on the meaning of Scripture and the general principles of Christianity. The girls' school, under the care of Mrs. Mault, is in an excellent state, and does her much credit: 12 of these girls learn to make lace, some of which is exceedingly well done; the children in this school and that called the seminary, both on the premises, are entirely supported, clothed, fed, and educated, from the proceeds of land given for this purpose, and the sale of the lace made by the girls. The seminary contains, as mentioned above, 31 boys, mostly small; a few approaching manhood: these latter may soon be useful to the mission, as readers of schoolmasters: two or three know English pretty well: this institution is in a good state. The printing establishment appears to be conducted with efficiency; some native youth are employed in it.

We are most highly gratified with the general aspect of this mission. The whole is exceedingly encouraging, and ought to awaken our most fervent gratitude and praise to a gracious God.

*Bellary.*

This is a town in the northern part of Mysore,—near 200 miles north of Seringapatam,—surrounded by many populous towns and villages. It is occupied as a military station.—The Deputation say—

Mr. Hand's one of the missionaries, has been very useful to the English at Bellary. Many officers and privates in the army, as well as civilians in the Company's service, we have reason to believe, have been brought to a knowledge of the truth by his labors; and many of them are now bright ornaments to the religion which they profess. He is most highly and extensively respected by the Europeans, as well as by his brethren in this country. Mr. Taylor, of Belgaum, Mr. Howell, of Cuddapah, and Mr. Walton, his assistant at Bellary, have all been brought into the missionary work by his instrumentality; and are all men worthy of the Society's esteem and confidence.

Mr. Walton, the country-born assistant, is very usefully employed in the mission. On Lord's Days, he preaches in Malabar, on the mission premises; on Mondays, in Canarese, in the town; on Wednesdays, in the evening, in the school-rooms—Thursdays, in the fort, in Tamul—Friday mornings, at a village, in Canarese—Saturdays, in the town, in Telooogo.

There are numbers of the heathens around us, whose minds, by our preaching and other means, have been so far enlightened as to see the folly of worshipping idols, and who do, in their hearts despise them. Many go further: they acknowledge it to be sinful, and readily admit the excellence of Christianity; but, from the dread of persecution, or the want of a living faith in the Redeemer, they continue to walk in the ways of their fathers.

*Surat.*

This is a large city on the western coast of the peninsula, 180 miles north of Bombay, said to contain 500,000 inhabitants. The following notices respecting the mission are taken from the Missionary Register—

There are in connexion with the mission, 5 schools, containing about 300 children. The missionaries have not yet succeeded in introducing female education. Two English services are held every Sabbath, and one in Guzerattee; besides a meeting with the school children. There are also four stated services during the week. Three persons have been baptised.

*Printing and Circulation of Books.*

The second edition to the Guzerat New Testament, in large type, is finished and much sought

after. An edition of the Old Testament, which the missionaries have revised, of a similar description, is projected. They have also printed 1,000 copies of a book of prayer, 28,000 tracts, and 20,000 school cards; and have distributed 4,000 portions of the Scriptures and 16,000 tracts.

*Journeys for Preaching, &c.*

At the commencement of 1827, Mr. Fyvie, the missionary, made a tour of eight weeks in the province of Guzerat; during which he distributed 2,000 Gospels and 6,000 tracts, which in most instances, were received with eagerness. He preached the Gospel to multitudes, many of whom seemed greatly astonished by the addresses and the prayers.

In December, and January following, Mr. F. took another journey; in which he travelled about 400 miles, and distributed 2,500 portions of Scripture, and 10,000 tracts. "My opportunities of doing good," he says, "were most abundant; and the attention of the people in general, very pleasing. The way in which the people listened and conducted their inquiries betrayed great dissatisfaction with their present system; and much anxiety of mind, to be fully instructed in the great doctrines of the Gospel."

*Salem*

A town containing 60,000 inhabitants, and surrounded by populous villages. On the Society's Deputation visiting Salem, they found so cordial a reception from a gentleman of the highest respectability, by whom much had already been done to make the inhabitants acquainted with Christianity, and who most urgently entreated that a missionary might be sent to the place, that they were induced to recommend to the Madras committee, that Mr. Crisp, who had been destined for Cuddapah, but whose labors were not required there, should be appointed to Salem: this met with the cordial acquiescence of Mr. and Mrs. Crisp; and they would enter on their labors about the 25th of October last. Already, schools containing not less than 2,000 children, are established in Salem and its vicinity, which are to be put under the superintendance of our missionary. From the report of the Deputation, the Directors cannot but think very highly of this new station, as promising to become one of the most important of the Society's fields of labor in Peninsula India.

ANNIVERSARY.

*From the Christian Register.*

BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.

[The sole object of this society, which was established in 1804, is to promote the circulation of the Holy Scriptures, without note or comment, both at home and abroad. Amongst the vice-presidents are several dignitaries of the Established Church, and peers of the realm; and the proceedings of the society are conducted by a committee of thirty-six laymen, six of whom are foreigners, residing in London and its vicinity; fifteen are members of the Church of England, and the remaining fifteen are members of other denominations of Christians. The auxiliary and branch associations of the society in England are about 2,160, and societies in connexion with it are found in every quarter of the globe. In England, it has published, at its own expense, the Bible, or integral parts of it, in twenty-eight languages. Altogether, the various languages in which the Holy Scriptures, or portions of them, have been published by the society, or are in progress of publication, exceed One Hundred and Forty; and upwards of Six Million copies have been circulated, at an expenditure, since the commencement of the institution, of nearly One Million Six Hundred Thousand Pounds.]

*25th Anniversary.—Wednesday, May 6.*

The annual meeting of this institution was very fully attended; Freemasons' Hall was crowded long before the business of the day commenced. On the platform were several dignitaries of the Established Church, and ministers of the Gospel from various parts, and a number of noblemen and gentlemen well known in the ranks of religion and benevolence.

Lord TEIGSMOUTH, the president of the society, took the chair. In opening the proceedings of the day, his lordship craved the indulgence of the meeting, on account of the increased infirmities which advanced age had brought upon him. "The experience," continued his lordship, "of twenty-six years has proved unquestionably the value of the institution; and the hopes indulged at its commencement, that the Divine Blessings would accompany it, have been amply verified. The history of the

rise and progress of the British and Foreign Bible Society is pregnant with interest. Established at an era when the open dissemination of infidel principles made it peculiarly desirable to promulgate the language of truth and inspiration, it proclaimed war against infidelity, superstition, and idolatry. Its principles were soon joyfully hailed; and so successful has been its example, that we now have the satisfaction of seeing Bible Societies established in every quarter of the globe. Through the exertions of this institution, the pure water from the rock of salvation has been supplied to the pilgrims who thirsted for it from all parts of the earth. Next to the Saviour, the word of God is the best treasure given to man, and to disseminate that word amongst those who are ignorant of its value, is to confer the greatest blessing which it is possible for man to confer on his fellow-man. The prosperity of the institution, however, is alone owing to Him who is the author of all good works. It is most encouraging and gratifying to know, that the demand for the Bible has always increased with the supply; and that the public liberality has always met the increased demand. Without presumption, we may hope, that the same God who gave birth to this happy spirit, will continue his influence over the hearts of the people. We may hope, that the streams of benevolence will still pour forth their supplies, that we may have an opportunity of fertilizing the barren places of the earth. From a perusal of the report, I am enabled to state, that it will afford equal, if not increased gratification, to any former report; and I have no doubt that our anniversary now, as on former occasions, will manifest that happy union of affection, kindness, and charity, which ought to distinguish those who are engaged in a labour of love."—(Applause.)

The report (read by the Rev. A. BRANDRAM, one of the secretaries) gave a most gratifying view of the proceedings of the past year. In Sweden, and the North of Europe, in Russia, Germany, and Greece, the operations of the agents had been very effective. More than 14,000 Bibles had been distributed in France by the Paris Bible Society. The societies at Calcutta and Madras had distributed nearly 17,000 copies of the sacred Scriptures. An edition of the Bible, in the Chinese language, had been extensively dispersed among the natives of China, who manifested the greatest anxiety to possess copies. In the West Indies and South America, the prospects were equally encouraging. Both in Scotland and Ireland, the report stated, the agents of the society had conferred most extensive benefits. On the whole, the number of copies of the holy Scriptures distributed within the year was above 365,000, being 29,000 more than in any former year. The receipts were 86,259*l.*; presenting an excess of 7,315*l.* over those of the previous year; but the disbursements were 104,132*l.* The society is under engagement to the amount of 28,532*l.*

The Bishop of LICHFIELD and COVENTRY came forward to move the resolution adopting the report. He was anxious to omit no opportunity of expressing his admiration of the society, feeling convinced, though many present differed in outward communion, that they all joined sincerely in praying, that the influence of that Book, which it was the object of the society to disseminate, might fill the hearts of all men. He congratulated the meeting on the report, which he thought the most interesting he had ever heard. Successful as the society had been, what had already been accomplished was only like the droppings before a shower. It might be compared to the levelling and ploughing of the first colony in the vast continent of America. They blessed God for what had been done; but the work must continue for years and for centuries, or it would fall short of its aim. Whether they considered what had been done in India, in America, or in China, all the accounts animated them to perseverance and increased exertion. "Let us," concluded the Right Rev. Prelate, "be indefatigable, but cautious, in our translations of the Scriptures; let us be self-denying and self renouncing in our triumphs, but disinterested and liberal in our contributions to this society. Thus, I trust, our institutions will rise, not like the tower of Babel, to the confusion of men, but like the mountain of the Lord, to bless and elevate mankind."

The Bishop of CHESTER, in seconding the resolution, thought it right to promise, that this was the first time he had taken any part in the anniversary