

the building at Palamcotte, and mentions also that she is soon about to offer herself for the usual Tamil Examination. Another lady who will have concluded her course of training at the Home and Colonial School at midsummer next, will join Miss Richards in the educational department during the ensuing season. The committee are still anxiously seeking for a clergyman's widow, or other lady of mature christian character and some experience, to undertake the general superintendence of the Institution.

*Committee of Correspondence.*—*Tuesday, February 20th.*—It was reported to the committee that Mr. Townsend Storrs, B.A., Catharine College, Cambridge, and Mr. William E. Rowlands, B.A., Wadham College, Oxford, were admitted to deacons' orders by the Archbishop of Canterbury, at Lambeth, on Sunday, the 24th instant.

The committee were much encouraged by receiving intelligence of the progress of the gospel in India, especially among the native army. A letter from Rangoon, mentions the conversion of a Mussalman Jemadar, of the 11th Madras N. I. His comrades at first refused to speak to him or cook for him, on which the commanding officer gave them to understand that he would allow no man in his regiment to be persecuted for his religion. "A few days afterwards their Subadār Major, a fine old Rajpūt, joined from Madras, and when he heard it, went up and shook the convert by the hand, saying that as the Jemadār believed in Christ, he honoured him for publicly confessing Him before the world." There are many other inquirers in the 11th regiment, some of whom have purchased Bibles. Two men of the 32nd M.N.I. have been baptized at Moulsmein. A letter from the Rev R. Clark, from Khairabad, Punjab, 3rd ult., speaks most cheerfully of the progress of the work among the 24th Sikhs now stationed there. "The feeling in the regiment generally is still favourable. There is no apparent opposition of any kind. All the native officers, without exception, attend our services, many of them regularly." A chapel has just been erected there at a cost of Rs. 1700 supplied from local contributions. The number of christians now connected with the regiment is nearly fifty, of whom sixteen are soldiers. Mrs. Clark has begun a Bible class among the women of the regiment. Such facts stimulate the committee to persevere in urging christian policy on the Indian Government, and to renewed efforts to obtain the removal of the ban that excludes the Bible from Government education there.

The Committee afterwards took leave of the Rev J. H. and Mrs. Clowes, appointed to the Ceylon Mission, circumstances having made a change in their original destination to East Africa desirable. The committee's instructions having been delivered to them by one of the clerical secretaries, and acknowledged by Mr. Clowes, they were addressed by the Rev H. J. Lumsden, Incumbent of St. Thomas', Marylebone, and commended in prayer to the favour and protection of Almighty God, by the Rev P. Booth, Rector of Little Wilbraham, Cambridge.

*Committee of Correspondence.*—*Tuesday, March 5th.*—Two candidates were accepted as Missionary Students on the usual probation of six months.

The committee designated the Rev. Townsend Storrs to the North India Mission, to join his brother at Lucknow, reserving for the present the location of the Rev. W. E. Rowlands, with a view to the Mission Church and Station at Colombo, Ceylon, should they not be enabled in the course of the next few months to appoint to this sphere a clergyman of longer ministerial and pastoral experience.

The following valuable letter from the Rev. J.

2 See "C. M. Intelligence," for last month (March.)

Owen, American Missionary, dated Allahabad, Jan. 4, was read to the committee.—"Your native pastor, the Rev. David Mohun, I know well, and have known him for several years. I knew him as a catechist at Slgra, and have great confidence in his soundness and piety. His congregation here, consisting of about 400 native christians, is one of the most interesting in the North Indian Church, and he is, I believe, a laborious and faithful pastor. When the Bishop was here, more than a year since, Mohun presented several of his flock for confirmation. It was a truly interesting scene. The other day I had the pleasure, with others, of attending an examination of the school, composed entirely of children of Mohun's congregation. The general superintendence and direction of this school is by no means the least important of his duties. I may mention that he has been living in my Compound for more than a year past, there being no other house convenient for him, and consequently I have seen much of him. He often comes to me when in perplexity or anxiety, and we have had much pleasant intercourse. Your committee have reason indeed to thank God and take courage for the Allahabad native church and pastor. May such be speedily increased a thousandfold throughout the land! The crying want in all our Missions is that of a native agency. When christianity becomes indigenous, I have no doubt its progress will be rapid."

The committee received a most earnest and deeply interesting appeal for the establishment of an English Mission among the Druses of the Lebanon, from Mr. J. G. Scott, a resident there. He points to the significant fact of the absence of atrocities where there were no Turkish soldiers; that there was no physical force in the country to prevent the Druses when victorious from exterminating or expelling the Maronites and other christians throughout the entire district, that all were entirely at their mercy for six weeks, and yet no wrong was done, no harm happened to any one after the fight ceased, and that the Druses behaved as friendly as ever to the christian population living amongst them. "The conduct of the Druses," Mr. Scott continues, "must not be judged of by the standard of civilized men, for they are semi-barbarians and heathen; but their rare courage, their endurance, their discipline and obedience to their chiefs under the most trying circumstances, and, above all, their wonderful magnanimity to their inveterate enemies when entirely in their power, all go to prove that they are a rare and noble race; and what would they be if brought under the influence of the gospel and regulated by its precepts?" The special call to undertake the civilization of these noble hill tribes, at least 100,000 in number, is to be found in their strong desire to have English schools and English teachers amongst them, their readiness to receive English books, their gratitude to England for having thrice, as they say, rescued them from destruction, and their "innate but mysterious clinging to the English"—a national characteristic which has been noticed in former times by Pages and others, who have even considered them to be a remnant of the Crusaders. Mr. Scott has carefully prepared a scheme for a Mission including fifty schools, at an annual charge of about £2000, accompanying these statements.

The committee are constrained to return the same answer to this appeal, as to many similar ones, during the last few months. They cannot engage in any new enterprises while their resources but inadequately provide for those already undertaken; but they also cannot incur the responsibility of withholding such statements as these from the knowledge of the church at large,

with whom the effectual discharge of the great missionary stewardship must ultimately rest.

*General Committee.*—*Monday, March 9th.*—The Society's receipts for the current financial year, from April 1, 1860, to Feb. 28, 1861, amount to £81,982, as compared with £91,500 during the same period of last year, and with £90,677, which is the average of the last five years. The expenditure of the same period has exceeded that of the corresponding period of last year by £12,284. More than £6,000 of this excess arises from the extension of the Society's Missions in India, and much of it will be carried to the account of the Special India Fund.

Additional receipts of the Special India Fund during the same period, £1858.

## THE EFFECT OF 'ESSAYS AND REVIEWS' AT OXFORD.

(From a Correspondent of the Guardian)

It is not impossible that your readers may be glad to form some idea as to the result hitherto of the great controversy of our day at that University which is popularly regarded as the intellectual water-shed from whence the stream has overflowed. Rightly or wrongly, people will talk of the Oxford "Essays and Reviews," and though it is easy to re-join that two of the seven writers are from the sister University, it is vain to deny that Oxford must submit to be saddled with the heaviest share of the opprobrium which this book has called forth. With very much of what is most mischievous in it she has been long familiarised—by homoeopathic doses, indeed, but still there it has remained, unexpelled, and productive of serious injury to her whole system. What, then, has been the effect on herself of the open avowal of those opinions which are now unhappily familiar to nearly every person who can read throughout the land, to say nothing of the multitudes of eager devourers of English literature on the Continent, in America, in India, and in our colonies? To photograph the aspect of the collective mind of a great University is indeed a hazardous attempt. A dozen different artists may present it to you from as many different points of view, and each will give a different picture. You can only trust to your photographer. The value to be attached to the performance will in this case be alone known to yourself.

It will be impossible to separate the various circles of the University into distinct groups, and thus what follows must be held to apply with more or less precision to the whole body. To that whole body, then, it may be safely asserted, startling as it may sound, the book in question has been productive of more good than harm. Granted that the wholesale diffusion of its numerous editions can only be deplored as regards the vast mass of readers into whose hands it will fall, and of whom a large proportion will, without doubt, be hopelessly biassed by its views, the case is very different where the remedy is at hand, and, in fact, was only not applied long before because the existence of the disease was not generally admitted. Things are now called by their right names at Oxford: it cannot be said that they were before the appearance of this book. The tendencies of teaching which came recommended by much that is alluring, by professions of free inquiry, of honest search after truth, of exploding old-fashioned prejudices, of using fearlessly the discoveries of modern times, and so on—the phrases will be familiar enough to most of your readers—have been unmasked; men see where they are going. Sermons preached before the University, of which a wag could say with a