

life pleasant, for my children could come out to me *here*,—if these were sufficient to tempt me from Calcutta, I should never leave this colony. But my desire to be once more among the Hindoos, and actively engaged in that which I verily believe to be the most important work now carrying on on the earth, seems to increase every day;—and I trust a few weeks more will see me on my way to Calcutta. I had been so long accustomed to look on my life as near its close, that I could not for some time realize the prospect of years being added to it. But most truly do I thank God for having in His good providence, led me to engage in that work and in that field, which of all I have yet seen, I love the best.”

MADRAS.

Mr. Anderson writes home in good spirits. The prospect of efficiency in his institution, notwithstanding what he called the *casse tear*, is cheering. Let us humble ourselves under these tokens of the undeserved goodness of God, and give him thanks, and take courage.

Extract Letter from Rev. John Anderson.

Madras, 27th September, 1839.

“REVEREND AND DEAR SIR,—I love these poor Hindoos the longer I live among them, and the more I know about them. The young generation is ours, as we are very popular with them. And the Bible, the word of life, is the very book that they want, to be like the young Israelites who came up from the wilderness.—But for designing Brahmins and other knowing people, who poison their young minds, they would read and study it gladly with quite a delightful simplicity. They translate every word that they read into Tamil or Telooogo, under the eye of their teachers. Our success is a wonder to many, and a wonder to myself; our little flock being as it were in the wolf’s mouth. God has been on our side! On the 27th of May last, in the midst of their great annual festival, I opened the school in the Catchery, with eight or nine scholars. Then, for the first time, I saw the strength of idolatry among 150,000 people, from every part of India. But, instead of being dismayed, I was never so fully convinced, “that the stone cut without hands” would break their idols in pieces, and scatter them to the winds. In the midst of seeming strength they are becoming weaker and weaker. And our method though slow is sure; and will sap the very foundation of every one of their strongholds. Our parent school at Madras is as strong and healthy as ever, though our numbers have not increased. Our total number is 290.

To give you an idea of our usual daily work, we begin at half-past eight in the morning, and with a few slight intermissions, not exceeding an hour, are engaged till half-past five in the evening, in carrying out the details of the plan

we formerly mentioned to you; and we leave no stone unturned to further our grand end—the salvation of their souls.

BOMBAY.

The converted Parsee thus writes to the children of his revered and beloved teacher, in Edinburgh, in a strain of simple and touching, and most affectionate earnestness, which must commend itself to every heart.

Bombay 23th October, 1839.

“MY DEAR ANDREW AND JOHN,—Though I do not know you bodily, yet I believe I do know you spiritually, in our Lord, who knows every one of us; for we are the sheep of his own elected flock, for which he gave up himself to death; so we are called one in him.—Again, I also know you by your beautiful picture, which your dear papa, Dr. Wilson, showed me; and by seeing which, I felt very happy. I am fond of looking at it often and often, to please myself.

My dear young friends, how thankful should I be to our Lord, who brought me from darkness to the everlasting light; and who has showed me the only and true way, and who also has given me the unspeakable great gift of his Holy Spirit, to enable me to “hold fast that which is good,” “that I may not go down to the pit,” but be saved through him that loved us. Once I was one of the Parsis—a believer in the false prophet Zoroaster, and in false gods; but, what a providential God is our God, who brought me to the General Assembly’s Institution, and taught me His holy doctrines by His faithful ministers, and then brought me into His visible church! My dear young friends, I was totally ignorant of the English language, of the Bible, and of all the doctrines of the Christian religion, when I was admitted into the Institution by your dear papa. But I thank God, that by the divine assistance, I came to know my own ignorance sooner than others who were admitted before me. It has been said, in the Gospel according to St. Matthew, xxii. 14, that “many are called, but few are elected;” such is the case, I see between me and my fellows!

My dear brethren, I am at present dwelling with your dear papa; and I am learning theology and natural history with him. We look at the preparations of quadrupeds and birds, &c. for the examinations in zoology. I am beginning to learn mineralogy also, with your dear papa; and moral philosophy from the Rev. R. Nesbit; and natural philosophy, algebra, and chemistry from the Rev. M. Mitchell.

I long much to know, my dear brothers, how you are getting on in your studies, and what lessons you are learning now. May the Lord bless you, and may he pour his Holy Spirit on you; that you may learn soon to walk after the steps of your dear papa; for there is no other duty, which God requireth of men, great-