Men and women make all sorts of excuses and he must needs be a wise fisher of men who would catch them. Parents, though wide awake to the advantages of the Day School, either oppose or are indifferent to the Sunday School and the boys and girls are clever enough to make the most of this to avoid attending.

To secure suitable teachers is the second task. Our available Indian workers for the most part have more the need of being taught themselves than the ability to teach others. This can easily be understood and is not by any means a reflection upon them. In time this difficulty, we trust, will pass away.

To this important work much thought and effort was devoted during the year and it is now in a much more satisfactory state than ever before. The number of schools and scholars has increased—the latter has almost doubled—and the interest of the teachers has been much quickened.

We are greatly indebted to Mrs. Arbuckle, a Scotch lady of Couva, for patient and painstaking labor on behalf of Miss Fisher's class during her absence. Her efforts have won the regard of her scholars and those who are fellow-laborers with her. We hope to have her henceforth as one of our permanent Sunday School workers. Ten Catechists were employed during the year and the usual methods of work adopted.

Three Bible women were also employed during the greater part of the year. They aimed at doing for the women and girls what the catechists do for the men. From this new venture encouraging results have followed.

Over 100 women are under instruction and many homes have been cheered and brightened by their visits.

Regular weekly prayer meetings are held by the people in four districts. We have been much cheered by this step in advance over past years and take it as an evidence of quickening and developing spiritual life.

Such in brief outline is the history of the past year so far as words and figures can present it. Underneath all is the quiet working of the Holy Spirit through whose aid and blessing alone our efforts can be effectual.

STATISTICS OF COUVA FIELD FOR 1896.

Canadian Missionary	1
Ordained Natives	0
Catechists	10
Bible Women	3
Baptisms, Adults	41
" Children	44
" Total	85
Marriages	7
Canadian Lady Teachers	1
Schools	10
Boys on Roll	489
Girls "	180
Total " (Quarterly)	669
Average Daily Attendance	403
Total enrolled for the year	904
Communicants last Report	88
Added in 1896	5
Died	2
Removed	0
Suspended	1
Sunday Schools	14
In good standing, Dec. 31st, 1896	90
Number on Roll	551
Daily Average	299
Contributed by Proprietors	£210. 0s. 0d.
" Native Church	110. 0s. 0d.
Average Conrtibution per Communicant	£1. 4s. 4d. or $5.84

REV. S. A. FRASER,

Missionary, with Dr. Grant, in the San Fernando Field.

SECOND ANNUAL REPORT.

I took charge of Princestown district in May, when Mr. Macrae left on furlough to Canada. I still continued the management of the finances of San Fernando field, and Mr. George Grant took my place in visiting the schools and thus greatly aided his father in the work.

In Princestown, which was a comparatively new field to me, I was greatly assisted in the visitation of the schools and in the general management of the work by the zealous and trustworthy, by Mr. C. C. Soudeen.

We carried on the work very much along the lines laid down by Mr. Macrae. This field is in some respects an exceptionally difficult one, but under the blessing of God and by daily effort and constant watchfulness on the part of many of our workers, steady progress has been made.

For statistics and particulars see Mr. Macrae's report.

Returning to San Fernando. By mutual arrangement my report of work in this district is to consist largely of statistics which will perhaps be dry to some, but to the more thoughtful will give food for reflection. Dr. Grant will report on the general features of the work including particulars about Sabbath Schools.

A good many changes have been made in our list of catechists during the past year. Nehal Singh, one of our college students, went to Grenada early in the year to assist in Mission work among the Indian people of that Island. Later, Rameshwar went to Demarara in response to an appeal made by Mr. Slayter for a catechist to hold the ground until the arrival of Mr. Cropper. Telik Singh, who had been a successful catechist in Oropouche and La Fortuna some years ago and returned to India, came back to Trinidad in October, and as again taken up work in La Fortuna. He is a strong man and I have no doubt will do good work. Baldeo one of our senior college students, commonly known as the deaf pundit, died in October, after a long illness which he bore with Christian patience and resignation. Our catechists have generally been very faithful and have overtaken a large amount of work.