

INSTITUTIONS FOR THE TRAINING OF NATIVE ASSISTANT MISSIONARIES AND SCHOOL TEACHERS.

This feature in our Missionary operations is one which has attained a position entitling it to special notice in our Annual Reports. For this purpose we have detached from the accounts of the different Stations the information lately communicated, so as to present the whole in a consecutive and complete form.

1. At Colombo, in South Ceylon, one of the Missionaries, the Rev. A. Kessen, B. A., has been appointed Rector of the Native Normal Institution, under the Central School Commission, appointed by the Ceylon Government. The examination of this Institution was conducted by the Bishop, at a late visit, and elicited considerable applause from its successful working.

2. At Auckland, in New Zealand, this country, in 1820, had only one Missionary, and no members till 1830, then only two, and in 1836 only 20, but now 3571. A grant of 190 acres of land has been obtained, and from funds obtained in the Colony, substantial buildings have been erected, the principal front of which presents a fine specimen of Gothic Architecture. The premises are spacious and convenient, occupying a commanding position above the surrounding country, and immediately surrounded by seven acres of cultivated land. The Institution was publicly opened by the Lieutenant Governor, and nine single, with one married man, have been admitted, all recommended by the Missionaries as persons likely to be useful, with proper qualifications for the work of the Ministry. They are already employed occasionally on the Sabbath in preaching the Gospel, as opportunities offer, and often in circumstances among their own countrymen, when the regular Ministry could not find so ready access.

3. In the Friendly Islands, which Mission was established in 1820, and with a return of only five Members in 1827; we have also an Institution for training Native Teachers, in which seventeen persons are receiving instruction. Eleven of these are Head Teachers in the Vavou Circuit, and two men, with their wives, have qualified themselves as Teachers of Infant Schools, and some are training for Assistant Missionaries. They possess a pair of Globes, with Grammars, Lexicons, Greek Testaments, &c, and everything requisite for extended and successful operations.

4. In Fejee,* also, a similar Institution, but on a smaller scale, has been commenced. Five persons are going through a course of

* Fejee, in 1832, had only two Missionaries; in 1836, a first return of 576 members, now numbers 1070.