

be found more abundantly in the midst of us, and that the Lord will eventually give us in this respect greater enlargement. In the mean time, however, there must be further delay, and the Board solemnly call on the Convention to pray the Lord to pour down his grace upon our youth, that their hopes in regard to them may be speedily and happily realized.

While impressed with the belief that delay is unavoidable, the Board, however, has not ceased to stir all sources from which earlier aid might possibly arise. Setting out with the principle that christianity owes to heathenism in all the laborers that are sent forth by means of that organized effort which implies the nature and prayerful exercise of human intellect, such ripened powers as the superior resources of christianity combined with civilization afford, the Board has not felt itself at liberty to seek for a second representation of their cause in India except from the ranks of the cultivated as well as pious. Hence their sphere of research has been limited. There were however yet others to whom application might be made, and the Secretary has continued to the last his correspondence in all quarters that offered any promise. From one of the sons of Nova Scotia, and of Acadia College, now studying abroad, of whom hopes were entertained that he desired a missionary life, and of whose fitness in all respects the Board had received a strong impression, the Secretary has just received a letter breathing a most kind and pious spirit, but declaring the conviction of the writer that the general condition of his constitutional health forbade his indulging in the hope of such an undertaking as a missionary life; and the Board feel themselves again thrown back on the buds of promise that have occurred among the studious youth converted in our midst and still pursuing their career of preparation. May God continue to them that ardour of holy resolve which shall hereafter abundantly repay this Board and the Convention for all the painfulness of suspense and of delay.

On the direct field of our Mission the Convention will have seen from the letters alluded to, that a dark cloud at present lowers. Our beloved brother Burpe's health has greatly failed, so as to lead to the necessity of quitting Mergui as the field of his labour. He was until lately, as appears from the tenor of his letter again residing at Akyab in Arracan; and the members of the Convention will have observed doubtless with sincere and deep sorrow that his weakness from pulmonary disease had for some time so increased as to make one sermon only on the Sabbath a painful effort. As the physicians advised his return to this country in the event of his receiving no material benefit from his changing the place of his residence in India, this Board met on the receipt of the letters giving this information, and gave their sanction to his return in case it should become necessary, as well as directions for the forwarding of the needful funds.

The impression on the minds of the Board in regard to Brother Burpe's health has long been that the strong probability lies against his recovery. This impression has been strengthened by Brother