

Our Trinidad Mission.

MR. CHRISTIE'S REPORT.

THE Couva field is the latest brought under cultivation by our missionaries in Trinidad. We give below Mr. Christie's fifth report, which is interesting and encouraging. Mr. Christie is now entitled to his furlough, and will be leaving Trinidad when this is being read, to revisit a portion of the Church, and will (D.V.) be present at the meeting of the Assembly at Ottawa.

COUVA.

The past year has been a favourable one for our work, as far as regards weather, as we have been very little hindered by the rain; and though it has been an unhealthy season, I am thankful to be able to say that I have been enjoying almost uninterrupted good health. A large amount of work has been done and seed sown.

PREACHING THE GOSPEL.

The principal point of interest in the work of preaching was the opening of a small church for Hindustani service, in May. As this, however, was referred to in the *Record*, and in your Board's last report to the General Assembly, I need not enter into particulars about it. The attendance at the church has averaged about 50, chiefly christian adults, many of whom have come regularly from long distances, some from five to seven miles.

My Sabbath work for a great part of the year has been as follows, and this is the plan on which I wish, as far as possible, to carry on the work in this field:—1st, a service at Spring School House, at 9 a.m. This is at one extremity of my field. 2nd, at 12 noon; the principal service in the church, in the centre of the field, followed by a Bible class for adults taught by myself; and Sabbath-school for the children taught by one of the school teachers. 3rd, a service at one or more places on Mr. Burneley's estates, at the other extremity of the field. In addition to these, the usual weekly services in the hospitals, and on estates, have been kept up by myself, the catechist and some of the teachers. I am sorry to report that my catechist Balaram has returned to India; but Mr. Douglas at Indore has promised him work as a catechist immediately on his arrival, so that although we miss him here, we feel that he is still engaged in the same work. I am supplying his place as well as possible by the teachers, who give a part of their time to the work of a catechist. In addition to the preaching, religious instruction is given on the sabbath in the bible class, at which I have had an average attendance of twenty adults, and in three small sabbath-schools conducted by the

day school teachers. During the year, I baptised six adults and four children, and received of regular contributions, \$40; special, \$50; most of which went to the church building fund.

SCHOOLS.

This important part of our work shews progress. During the year I was enabled by the kindness of some of the planters, to open a branch school in connection with both Exchange and Esperanza schools, the teacher spending half the day at each place. In this way 40 or more children have been brought under instruction without any increase in the cost. There are in the Couva field at present seven good rooms, well furnished with desks, &c., which besides being used for school purposes, are available at any time for preaching services. Instruction in the Bible and Catechism is given in each of the Schools every day. A cheering sign in this part of our work this year, has been the return of a number of children who had formerly been at school, but who had been withdrawn, for various reasons, and had become seemingly lost to us, but who are now coming back, very anxious to learn.

The report for the year shews in the Couva field, 242 children on the Roll. 130 daily average attendance, being an increase over last year of 95 on the Roll and 47 in attendance.

Respectfully submitted,

THOMAS M. CHRISTIE.

Approved by Mission Council, Dec. 24th, 1878.

FORMOSA.

LETTER FROM REV. G. L. MACKAY.

Toa-liong-pong, 12th December, 1878.

ON the 17th ult., I left Tek-chham and walked to Liong-lek in order to meet Mr. and Mrs. Junor. I arrived after dark and just before entering the town, nearly fell headlong over a broken bridge on a heap of stones below. I was sorry not to find them there, but learned the next day by letter the cause of their delay. Wednesday and Thursday I spent healing the sick and preaching the gospel, and when so engaged Mrs. M. arrived from Ang-mng-kang. Friday I went to Lam-kham, and on up the table land towards Goko-khi and there met Mr. and Mrs. Junor on their way down. I soon learned from them how they were delayed and annoyed by provoking Coolies at Tamsui. Well, I turned about and we all hastened towards Liong-lek and were sitting in the inn about dark.

The next morning we proceeded to Tek-chham, and spent Sabbath and Monday in the chapel there. The attendance was very good in the evening when we met for service. Tues-