

preached a very appropriate sermon, and immediately after, the priest stood up, and facing the people, read an address in Singhalese, drawn up by himself; and immediately after, Mr. Foulter, our Assistant Brother, read a correct translation of the priest's paper, of which the following is a copy:—

“The address of Wallegedere Piedassi Tierrunnanse, Buddhist Priest of the Temple of Wissiddagamma, in the Rēygam Korle, delivered in the Wesleyan Mission Chapel, on Sunday the 18th of March, before the congregation, on the occasion of his laying aside his robes, and placing himself under the instructions of the Missionaries, as a Catechumen.

“MY DEAR FRIENDS,—It is now fifteen years since I was constituted a priest of Budha. For four years I held the office of Samenars, or assistant; after which I was elevated to that of Upasampade, by which I was invested with all the honours and powers of the priesthood. During this long period I was diligently employed in reading the sacred books of the religion in which I had been educated, in order to my being well informed on the subjects on which they treat, and to my obtaining the salvation of my soul. In addition to my own researches I had the counsel and instructions of several learned priests; but from all I read and heard I could derive no comfort to my soul,—the statements of the books in general being of a kind which I could not believe, because I could not reconcile them with reason.—From careful consideration of these matters, I have been brought to conclude, that neither I nor any one else can gain the happiness or salvation aimed at, by the worship of Budha; and my conviction is, that there is no truth in the system.

“While suffering under these distracting circumstances, I thought of speaking to a friend, named Don David de Alwis Wikkramasinha Guneskou Appohamy, schoolmaster of the Wesleyan Mission School in Wissidagamma, who I understood had some knowledge of the Christian religion; and while conversing with him on the subject of both religions in friendly but free debate for many days, I was at last fully convinced in myself that there must be a Creator of the world, a Saviour, and Forgiveness of sin; and came to the conclusion, that there was no salvation for my soul in any other that is professed in these countries but the Christian. With this persuasion I went to the house of the Rev. J. M'KENNY, in Caltun, and got a tract, containing the history of the Creation of the world, &c. which I carefully read; and after it a book called the Gospels. I was truly convinced that these writings were not of men, because wicked men would not write the good things which are therein contained, and good men, if written by themselves, would not have said that they were of God: from which I am led to believe that they are the holy Scriptures.

“It is also very evident to me, from many considerations, that the visible world could never have come into existence of itself, and that the God of heaven is the author of it, and not any other being.

“I do firmly believe what I have learned from the Holy Scriptures, that by the mere favour of God to sinful men, his only Son was given to be born of a virgin, and partook of human nature, in order that he might dwell among them, which he did, admonishing them, casting out devils, working many miracles, and suffering and dying the death of the cross, upon account of the sins of mankind. I believe that on the third day he rose from the dead and ascended up to heaven, and that he sitteth on the right hand of God the Father, and that at the last He will come to judge the world.

“To what I have already stated I wish to add, that I have a hope of pardon for all the sins I have committed during the time of my ignorance, from the Almighty God the Father, through the Saviour Jesus Christ; and that I shall get to heaven and enjoy all happiness there through the same Lord.

“The change of mind which I have experienced has, I believe, taken place, first, through the infinite goodness of God my Almighty Creator and

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