

In *Foreign Parts* (besides numbers and other occasional undertakings, and benefactions for special purposes) the SOCIETY has, for many years, and at very great expense, sent out, supported, and aided Missionaries to preach the Gospel to Europeans and native in the *East Indies*: and it has contributed largely towards the printing of the Scriptures and other books in several Eastern languages; and also to the establishment and encouragement of Charity Schools, and the erection of Churches, in that quarter of the world.

In 1710, the SOCIETY undertook the superintendance of such charities as should be entrusted to them, for the support and enlargement of the Protestant Mission at *Tranquebar*; in pursuance of which resolution, they published, the same year, a Proposal inviting benefactions for an impression of the New Testament in *Portuguese*, and to enable them to set up Charity Schools among the Heathens in *MALABAR*; both which were speedily effected: and a correspondence was settled with many persons of worth and influence, in the most eminent places subject to Great Britain, in *India*. Since that time, the Mission has gradually been extended to *MADRAS*, *CUD-DALORE*, *TRITCHINAPOLY*, and *TAN-JORE*.

To the assistance derived from this SOCIETY, it has likewise been, in a great degree, owing, that the Missionaries have been enabled, at different times, to translate and publish several editions of the Scriptures, the Book of Common Prayer, Psalter, and many Books and Tracts connected with religion and civilization in the *Tamulian*, *Bengalee*, and *Portuguese* languages; in which department, as well as in every thing else relating to those Missions, the views of the SOCIETY were for many years, very successfully promoted by the active services of their lamented Missionaries, the Apostolical Swartz and Gericke.

In the year 1720, the SOCIETY extended their regard to the Greek Church, in *Palatine*, *Syria*, *Mesopotamia*, *Arabia*, and *Egypt*; and, for their use, printed in the Arabic language, an edition of above 6000 Psalters, 10,000 New Testaments, and 5000 *Catechetical Instruction* with an *Abridgement of the History of the Bible* annexed.

In 1809, the SOCIETY became liberal contributors to an edition of the Holy Scriptures in the Arabic language, originally undertaken by the late Professor Carlyle of Cambridge. Recently opportunities, so much wished for, have occurred, for disposing of these to advantage. The British Consul at *ALEPPO*, Mr. Barker, has engaged to lend himself most readily to this service; and in *Egypt* the Consul-General, Mr. Salta, is equally disposed, to give every facility in the prosecution of so desirable and important an object. Copies of the work have accordingly been forwarded to these gentlemen for distribution.

In addition to the above three-fold division of the principal designs of the SOCIETY, there yet remain some other undertakings, of a more specific character, highly interesting to every sincere friend to Religion and his Country, which cannot therefore be passed over in silence, even in a brief abstract like the present.

From a very early period of our operations the spiritual necessities of the ARMY and NAVY have constituted one important department of the SOCIETY'S concerns; and from its stores copies of the Holy Scriptures, and certain religious books, have been granted to both those great national Establishments.

In consequence of a representation recently made by the Chaplain General, to the Secretary at War, his Majesty's Government have been pleased to place at the SOCIETY'S disposal a certain sum annually, which sum is to be applied to the furnishing the troops stationed in *INDIA*, with Bibles, Testaments, and religious Tracts.

With regard to the NAVY especially, the SOCIETY has for a great many years, been accustomed regularly, and at a very considerable annual expense, to furnish gratuitously to the Commanders of vessels, on their special application, for the use of the crews under their command, Bibles, Common Prayer Books, Psalters containing the Church Service, and some short select religious Tracts, in a certain proportion to the number of each ship's company.

And while these, together with similar applications from the Commanders of the Shipping of the *Hon. East India Company*

have been of late years rapidly increasing, so the very great increasing charge upon the funds of the SOCIETY; the Board have had peculiar satisfaction, in observing, that this branch of Charity has through the Divine Blessing, in many instances been productive of very salutary effects.

In the year 1812, the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, in token of their approbation of the SOCIETY'S past services in this department, and with a desire that the benefits of Christian knowledge might be still more extensively diffused throughout the NAVY, through the medium as heretofore of this SOCIETY, were pleased to direct a communication to be made to the General Board, that their Lordships had ordered the Commissioners of the several Dock yards to receive such books as shall be sent to them by the SOCIETY, on the suggestion of the Chaplain General, and to form depots; which book, are from time to time to be given to the Captains of his Majesty's ships in the proportion directed by their Lordships.

The attention of the SOCIETY has been recently turned, and their bounty extended to the crews on board the revenue boats and cutters, forming a chain round the coasts of England and Wales, for the prevention of smuggling. Grants have been made, to each boat and cutter, of Bibles, Testaments, Common Prayer Books, together with the SOCIETY'S selection of Bp. Wilson's Sermons, and other religious Tracts.

In like manner, from the earliest times, the attention of the SOCIETY has been directed, as occasion required, and their means would allow, to the religious wants of the poor and afflicted in HOSPITALS, PRISONS, WORK-HOUSES, ALMS-HOUSES, and other public institutions. But, more especially in late years, and with regard to those establishments of this nature which were not provided with any proper fund for the purchase of Books, the SOCIETY has extended to them likewise its grants of gratuitous supplies to a very large amount; and still further, within the same period, it has invited the making enquiries generally, through the Parochial Clergy and other members of the SOCIETY, into the wants of the indigent and labouring classes, in all parts of the kingdom, in order to a supply of those deficiencies, so far as the means reposed in its trust shall allow, by grants of the Holy Scriptures and other Publications of the SOCIETY, at the usual reduced prices.

The sources from which the SOCIETY has hitherto been enabled to carry on all these, and other important and extensive designs, have been the annual subscriptions of its members, together with the *Legacies*, and occasional donations of very many pious and charitable benefactors; and the General Board, as is here stated, having recently adopted very considerable enlargements of their beneficent and gratuitous undertakings, this step has not been taken, but in the humble reliance and trust, that the same gracious PROVIDENCE, which for so many years has enabled them to carry on their designs for PROMOTING CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE, and edifying the body of CHRIST, will still furnish the means whereby those objects may be pursued with increased activity and vigour.

And, while we express reverently this our assumed reliance in the Divine protection, and add our persuasion that the above statement of the designs of the SOCIETY will not have been made in vain, but will call forth in its behalf the cordial aid of many pious and public-spirited benefactors, it must not be omitted, that among the instrumental means for the accomplishment of these its expectations, and for success in all its undertakings, the SOCIETY looks, with peculiar hope and satisfaction, to the zealous aid and co-operation of the DIOCESAN and DISTRICT COMMITTEES, which in almost every Diocese in England and Wales have been established, under the direction of our Prelates; and which still continue to spread rapidly into almost all parts of the kingdom.

In addition to which, Committees have been established in the Dioceses of *Man* and *Nova Scotia*; and recently, under the auspices of the Lord Bishop of *Calcutta*, a DIOCESAN COMMITTEE has been instituted at *Calcutta*, and DISTRICT COMMITTEES at *Madras*, *Bombay*, and *Ceylon*. Thus has a regular channel now been opened, through which the benefits of the SOCIETY are more largely diffused, than heretofore, over the vast and populous regions of *INDIA*.

LIVERPOOL, SEPT. 11.

Particulars of the loss of the Brig *Sine*, of Boston.

The brig *Sine* Captain Doake, sailed from this port on Monday week for Boston. Thirty-two passengers were embarked on board of her. About ten o'clock on Wednesday night, whilst the two vessels were standing on opposite tacks, she unfortunately ran down the brig *Dash*, bound from *Barmouth* to *London*. The *Dash* sunk almost instantaneously. Her crew consisted of five persons, two of whom were saved by the exertions of Capt. Doake and his crew, and the remainder were unhappily drowned. The *Sine*'s bowsprit was carried away by this lamentable accident, and the vessel seriously damaged by the violence of the shock. Captain Doake, being incapable of prosecuting the voyage with his vessel in this shattered condition, determined to return to *Liverpool* to repair. But new misfortunes awaited the ill-fated vessel. Between four and five o'clock, the Captain, worn out by his previous exertions and anxiety for the fatal accident which had occurred, retired to his cabin, after having left the brig in charge of the mate, and giving him strict injunctions to keep a sharp look-out, and to call him before she got up with the *Skerries*. The vessel continued on her course till about half-past seven o'clock, when she struck on the *Platters* off the *Welch* coast, near to the *Skerries* lighthouse. The water rushed in with great rapidity, and the vessel was sinking fast. At this dreadful conjuncture, Captain Doake, who had hurried on-deck as soon as she struck, ordered the ship's boats to be instantly cleared away. She had only two, the one a long-boat, and the other a very small one. The long-boat was speedily filled, but only a few persons got into the small one; for, before the whole of the people on the wreck could embark, both boats were cut adrift; the persons on board of them fearing, we suppose, that, if they allowed all to embark, they would be so much crowded as to endanger the lives of the whole. Captain Doake, who had been actively and anxiously engaged in transhipping the passengers, and the mate, a seaman, and many passengers, were thus abandoned to all the horrors of their impending fate. The scene which ensued was awfully affecting. The brig was now nearly under water. Death stared the unfortunates on the wreck in the face. Mothers were seen clinging to their unhappy children in all the agony of maternal despair, piercing the air with their shrieks, whilst the helpless children cling to their distracted parents, looking to them for aid which they could not yield. At this awful moment, the small boat put about and returned towards the vessel. This afforded the people on the wreck a gleam of hope. But it was transient; no entreaties could prevail upon the persons in her to come alongside to rescue their companions. At length the vessel went down, in less than half an hour after she struck: Captain Doake was saved by the boat, which also picked up the mate, who was almost lifeless, two children, two women and one man. The remainder, consisting of a Mrs. Moore and her four children, Mr. Croft and her child, Mrs. Latham and her two children, Mr. Robinson and Mr. Taylor, were swallowed up by the remorseless waves. The long boat was still in sight, making towards the *Welch* coast; but Captain Doake pulled off the land, in hopes of meeting with some vessel which might rescue him and his companions from their still perilous situation. A ship was in sight when the *Sine* struck, and clewed up her topsails, as if intending to render her assistance, but made all sail when she went down. The forlorn voyagers, after towing some distance, were taken up by a pilot-boat, which, perceiving the imminence of their danger, had come, with praiseworthy alacrity, to their succour. They then made sail after the long-boat, with which they soon came up, and took the people on board. They shortly afterwards fell in with two brigs, bound for this port, between which the survivors were divided, and safely arrived here on Friday. Many of them were in a most forlorn and helpless condition, some having been roused from their beds by the striking of the vessel, the suddenness of which and the confusion incident to it, allowing them neither time nor thought to dress themselves. Their immediate wants, we have been informed, were relieved by the humanity of our excellent chief magistrate. A subscription has been

since opened for the relief of such of them as have been reduced to a state of destitution by this sad calamity; and we shall be happy to receive the contributions of the benevolent for this humane object.

Most of the unhappy sufferers, it will be perceived, were mothers and their offspring. The history of the voyage of some of them is sadly affecting. The husbands of two of them, Moore and Croft, are now in the United States, and had sent for their wives and families. Some scenes truly affecting took place during the time the vessel was sinking. An unhappy man saw his wife and two children perish before his eyes, without being able to afford them assistance. A little boy, belonging to one of the women, was about being put into the boat, but refused to go, saying he would remain and die with his mother.—*Mercury*.

ON THE UTILITY OF THE BAROMETER AND THERMOMETER AT SEA.

Extract from "Meteorological Observations on a Greenland Voyage, in the ship *Resolution* of *Whitby*, in 1811," by Wm. Scoresby, jun. M.W.S. taken from the 2d Vol. of *Memoirs of the VERNERIAN NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY*.

Having given a meteorological register, carefully kept by myself, on a voyage from *Whitby* to *Greenland*, and back, I may be permitted to annex a few remarks on the great utility of the Barometer and Thermometer at sea. When these instruments are well attended to, they will seldom fail to enable us to predict any great atmospheric change; and if the oscillations of each instrument be connectedly studied, not only the strength of the coming wind, but its direction and continuance may be guessed at, and with very considerable accuracy. An extract from my private journal will strikingly prove the truth of the above assertion.

"On April the 5th, 1811, lat. 70 deg. 49 min. and long. 7 deg. 15 min. E. the barometer had stood at 29.88, for about thirty-five hours; the mean of three observations of the thermometer during the day, was 11 2-3 deg. the wind blowing a fresh gale from the northward. At noon on the following day, we had a moderate breeze of wind at north-west, which, towards evening, increased to a fresh gale, exceedingly variable and squally, accompanied with thick showers of *flacky* snow. At 3 P. M. the thermometer had risen to 17 deg. and at 6 P. M. to 27 deg. This remarkable rise of 17 degrees of temperature in nine hours, made me suspect a south-east wind was about to prevail, and because the barometer had fallen to 29.50, a severe storm might be expected. Since the barometer stands highest on E. or S. E. winds, had it not fallen we should have expected a storm, on its veering from N. W. to the opposite quarter; but, when accompanied by a fall of near four-tenths of an inch, a most violent gale would be likely to ensue. I walked the deck somewhat alarmed at the awful appearance of the sky, in the short intervals of the showers. At one time, a strong light, like that seen reflected on the horizon by the rising or setting sun, appeared stretching from the N. N. E. to the E. S. E. but more correctly corresponding with the phenomenon of the *ice-blind*, which is a strong light reflected from the ice into the atmosphere above it, and in clear weather is almost always seen when at the distance of fifteen or twenty miles from any compact body of ice. This white light, I soon ascertained, did not proceed from any ice.* The sun was neither in the same quarter nor opaque.

"In the midst of a thick shower, (wind still N. W. to N. N. W.) I observed the snow to clear away to leeward, which assured me of the wind being about to shift. Immediately all hands were ordered on deck to attend the sails, and every man at his station, awaited the event. In about ten minutes, a shivering of the sails was observed, and instantly afterwards they were *flab* aback: the wind whilst blowing a fresh gale, had veered from N. N. W. to E. S. E. We steered by the wind N. E. ward for an hour and a-half, when the snow began to abate, and the wind of a sudden so increased, that we were obliged again to raise all hands to take in, and still further reduce the sails: with our utmost exertions, we were but just able to save them from blowing away. The wind now blew so furiously, that all sails were furled but a small storm topsail and close-reefed main-topsail; and which, though new sails, we often expected could not withstand