

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

Letter from Rev. A. R. R. Crawley.

Messrs. Editors,

A few prefatory remarks seem necessary. It is a settled principle with me to give full and explicit statements on all subjects. When, however, Bro. C. informed me that he had deemed it requisite to dismiss Mung The Nau from ministerial service, on account of worldliness, I suggested, that possibly mild and faithful admonition might, by the Divine blessing, tend to arouse him speedily to a sense of spiritual things; and that it might, therefore, be advisable to defer the publishing of this fact till such further trial should have been made. It is pleasing to learn from the following, that this native preacher, converted through the labors of our beloved Brother Burpe, though for a time partially eclipsed by the earth, now seems to be in clearer light, and is employed by a missionary brother, under favorable circumstances, and "doing very well."

Ever yours, C. TUPPER, Sec.

Aylesford, Sept. 28th, 1860.

HENTHADA, BRITISH BURMAH, June 18th, 1860.

My dear Dr. Tupper,—Your letter of March 20th has come to hand,—thanks. You acknowledge the rec't of mine of Oct. 28th, 1859. Since then I have written you as follows:—viz:—Jan. 2, '60, on rec't. of the £100 stg. Feb 1. March 15th. April 3rd, on rec't. of the second exchange of bill for £100 stg.,—all of which I trust have been duly received.

Respecting Mung The Nau's case, I reasoned in this way; the churches at home supported him, they have, therefore, an undeniable right to know all about him, if he ceases to be employed for them, as their agent, they ought to be informed of the disconnection and its reasons. And, even looking at it in the light of expediency, I think it most advisable that publicity should be given to the case. For myself, I have no fear at all, that a knowledge of the trials and reverses met with in the work, will have the effect to damp the zeal or diminish the offerings of those at home who put a true enlightened, Christian interest in the evangelization of the teacher. I think, however, that you have been led, perhaps from a want of sufficient explicitness on my part, to regard Mung The Nau's case more seriously than the facts warrant. If I recollect rightly, I stated that "worldliness was his besetting sin." I should have added that if I could have stationed him where he would be under my immediate supervision, I should not have felt it necessary to dismiss him. But, as I had already two assistants with me at headquarters, men of such standing, and piety, and tried faithfulness, that I felt it would be inexpedient, owing to my frequent absence from the town on visits to different parts of my district, to displace either of them—my only course left was to dismiss him. Since he left me he has been employed by Mrs. Ingali at Rangoon, and being constantly with her, accompanying her in all her itineraries, and visits from house to house, he is I understand doing very well, and sustains his high character as an able preacher to his countrymen.

It is my intention to keep the brethren truly and fully informed of the exact state of this mission—their mission, it may rightly be called, since it owes to their contributions, and may I not add, to their prayers, so much of the prosperity which places it among the most interesting and most promising missions in Burmah. I want them to have such an intimate acquaintance with each assistant and his labors, as well as with their missionary and all his trials and joys—that they shall be able to exercise towards the mission that true Christian sympathy, which finds expression in frequent importunity at the throne of Grace. Respecting the assistant who is to be maintained by Brussels Street Juvenile Missionary Society, I think I have already written you—but in case I may have overlooked it, I will mention here, that his name is Mung-Yan Gin. His station, for the present, is Taing Daw. For the sake of clearness I will give you again a list of the preachers with their stations.

- KO AING, } Henthada.
MOUNG LONG, }
MOUNG KYAW, } Toung-long Loo.
MOUNG WIKE, } O-Po.
KO-CHOKE, } D'noo-byoo.
MOUNG YAN GIN, } Taing Daw.
*KO OUNG BAN,
†MOUNG TBA DWAY.

When the brethren at home read that one assistant has been dismissed, and another suspended, they must remember that these preachers ought not to be judged by the same standard that ministers of the Gospel are amenable to. It must be kept in mind that they are men who

*For reasons mentioned in a letter, recently written to the Christian Messenger, this assistant has been temporarily suspended. But my hopes are so strong that he will soon be returned to the work, that I include his name in the list.

†This young man, though not strictly an assistant, being still quite young, yet gives so much promise of becoming, in a short time, an able and devoted one, that, anxious to keep him constantly near me, that he may profit by every opportunity for gaining instruction, I have employed him to accompany me in all my tours as one of the boatmen. He has also attended the assistant's class one term.

have been converted from heathenism and idolatry at different intervals within the last six years. That these men, anxious as they are to tell their countrymen that they have found a Savior, have done and are doing a great work—and a work which the missionary alone would be powerless to accomplish, there can not be a shadow of a doubt. Must we then feel discouraged, must we think of drawing back from the work, and withholding our prayers and contributions because there are occasionally individual cases of unfaithfulness among these men, all of whom a few short years ago were degraded worshippers of wood and stone, and are now but converted heathen? There can be no truth plainer than that a heathen nation can be evangelized, only through the instrumentality of agents raised from among the people themselves. Burmah must be converted by Burmese. And I do feel thankful that during the brief history of the Henthada mission so many have been found willing to give up the prospect of emolument in business, and in the service of Government for the despised work of making known a crucified Saviour, and that the means of maintaining them have come from my own native land.

Faithfully yours, A. R. R. CRAWLEY.

For the Christian Messenger.

The Rev. Mr. McKinnon.

With reference to this individual's letter published in the Wesleyan of the 5th inst., I have to say, that when he learns to conduct himself as a gentleman; to say nothing of the Christian minister, I will be prepared to reply to him. Since my slight acquaintance with him last Spring, I had entirely dismissed him from my thoughts. His letters in my possession as well as that published in the last Wesleyan, amply show to those cognisant of the facts that truth and honorable dealing are not to be expected of him.

"Christless abuse and personality" he charges me with. To this I most emphatically plead not guilty. I am not afraid to leave it to the whole congregation who heard me. Every candid man present would acquit me, not so with the Rev. gentleman's reply on Sunday evening however, for the warp and woof of it was "personality and abuse" of myself. It was quite evident to those present, that he was writhing under the lashes of truth applied to him on the previous evening. He manifested by his language and temper, that he felt worsted. I scattered all his "premises and inferences" to the winds, by the testimony of the most eminent scholars belonging to every Christian denomination.

He did challenge the Baptists, in about the following language, "I am prepared to meet any Baptist, clerical or lay, either in public disputation or the Press, upon the subject of which I have been treating to-night," and refers to it in a note to myself two days afterwards, in the following language, "What am I to understand? Do you propose to act upon the challenge which I gave on Sabbath evening, viz:—That I was prepared to meet either in the Press or in public disputation any person who had objections to offer either to my premises or the inferences drawn therefrom; if so this is my reply,—I am prepared to meet—certain conditions being observed—any Baptist brother, lay or clerical, in public, and sustain the positions which I assumed in my sermon."

To my ears this sounds very much like challenging the Baptists.

He says that if I reply, that he will publish the correspondence, &c. Well, now I have noticed him, at least, if I have not replied, and I would say to his reverence, Do publish that correspondence. I should like much to see the pages of the Wesleyan graced with such interesting communications. Don't be afraid of injuring my feelings. Everybody who knows me is aware that I make no pretensions to Scholarship. I know nothing of Grammar, Orthography, or Punctuation, nor were these the subjects of discussion, but Baptism, about which I do pretend to know something, and whenever the Rev. McKinnon or any other clerical dignitary will put forth such nonsense, and swagger and challenge as he did in my hearing, I will meet his statements just as I did in this case.

He intimates that I feigned myself sick, in order to avoid a discussion. This, one can only characterize a Jesuitical dodge to cover his own retreat—for retreat he did, most ingloriously.

He and his brother Ryan evidently thought that because we had not a man of such profound learning among us, that they could have things all their own way, but they must learn that Baptists do not commit the keeping of their souls to the clergy, but they believe in personal knowledge and personal religion, and are always ready to defend, upon Scriptural grounds, the doctrines they hold, and with truth in our hands, we feel that an illiterate stripling like myself could put a hundred McKinnons to

flight. And in conclusion I would say to Mr. McKinnon, in all kindness, that whenever he will assure me that he will conduct himself like a Christian, and discuss the subject of baptism, and not grammar or punctuation, I am and ever have been ready to meet him, by having one week's notice.

Yours faithfully, W. H. ROGERS.

Pugwash, Sept 28th, 1860.

[We publish the following article at the request of the Birmingham Ladies Negro Friend Society, expressed to us through the Rev. Charles Spurden, Principal of the Baptist Seminary at Fredericton.

It affords a sad commentary on the deep depravity of human nature. After the expenditure of so many millions to put a stop to this infernal traffic in human beings, to find it still existing to such an extent is most lamentable.—Ed. C. M.]

The Slave-Trade as it is.

FORTY THOUSAND SLAVES ANNUALLY TO CUBA.

The committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society would earnestly call attention to the following facts:—

Since 1815, Great Britain has expended, upon an average, more than one million pounds sterling, annually, or in other words, more than forty million pounds sterling, in attempting to put an end to the slave-trade.

On Friday, the 8th of June instant, Lord John Russell made the following statement in the House of Commons.

"It is unfortunately true that the slave-trade is still extensively carried on to Cuba. I believe from thirty thousand to forty thousand slaves are annually brought into that island from Africa, and it is perfectly true that this trade is carried on in contempt and violation of treaties between this country and Spain.

The Slave-trade Papers last published set forth in what manner this abominable trade in men and women is at present carried on. It is more perfectly organized than it has ever been at any previous stage of its history. This is how it is done.*

Joint-stock companies, designated, "Expeditions to Africa," are formed by some of the wealthiest firms at Havana, New York, Boston, and New Orleans. These transactions are not so public, that the shares of these slave-trading companies are quoted on the Exchange at one thousand dollars each. The capital thus amassed is placed in the hands of an agent, who employs it in the purchase of convenient vessels, and the obtaining crews for them. These are usually composed of foreigners, but who have lived so long in America that they have acquired the manners and the appearance of Americans.—They are provided with protections, purchased from Americans; and when the vessel on board of which they are shipped is cleared at the Custom-house, their protections are shown with the papers of the vessel, which is cleared as bona fide American. Her register, however, and papers are usually obtained by fraud. One thousand dollars is the ordinary price for a complete set. They are so well got up that they not unfrequently deceive officers of the United States' cruising squadron. The slaver usually proceeds to the Havana. Here she takes on board her water, slave-coppers, slave-deck, and often a cargo of rum and muskets, to barter for slaves. In many cases these slave-trading vessels have two crews: one apparently American, the other designated as passengers. Some have correct American papers. At the Havana, however, they receive their Spanish "passengers;" and immediately before shipping, the Spaniards take charge of the slaver, though still hoisting the American flag. Arrangements are made for the reception of the American crew in a legal trader, or in a vessel conniving at the traffic, but not directly engaged in it. Then they start on their voyage.

Slavers proceeding to the west coast of Africa are generally consigned to one or other of the veteran slave-dealers formerly employed in the Brazilian trade, or to Portuguese and American agents. These men have charge of the barracoons, purchase slaves, and watch the cruisers. The money and goods for the purchase of the slaves have been previously sent out to them in vessels not liable to capture. These agents employ every device to put the British cruisers on the wrong track. They telegraph the position or change of each vessel along the coast, and in the neighbourhood of cruisers light fires upon shore, the smoke of which, as a signal of danger, may be seen fourteen miles out at sea. If the coast is clear, the slaver runs in and lands her super-cargo, then puts off to sea again, raising well off the land, and returning to ship her slaves some twenty days after arrival. On standing in for this purpose the fires warn her of danger.

On reaching Cuba, every arrangement is already made for landing the slaves and carrying them off. Days before the slaver is expected, look outs are posted to signalise her coming.—Sometimes the Government steamers are employed to transfer the negroes from the slaver to the shore. Here they are received by their new owners, and hurried away at once to the plantations. The registration is evaded by obtaining false cedulas, which cost from £5 to £7 10s. each.—The whole of the Cuban authorities connive at the traffic, and receive bribes for so doing.

The profits of the trade are immense. Formerly, if one vessel in three escaped, the result was a gain to the slave-dealer. Under the new system of joint-stock slave-trading speculations,

the chances of loss are greatly diminished, for the more vessels that are despatched the smaller the risk. It is calculated that if one out of six escape, the proceeds arising from the sale of the cargo of the remaining vessel leaves an immense profit, after paying all expenses. In 1857, the profits of the slave trading companies were estimated at fourteen hundred per cent.

The returns of the naval officers on cruiser service, and of H. M. consuls, show that about one-third of the number of vessels engaged in the slave-trade are captured every year. The famous traffic has thus been reduced to the level of an exact science. In two months only, March and April, 1848, fifty vessels cleared out for coast of Africa, from Havana, all equipped for the slave-trade, and others were ready to follow. For the year 1858, the number of clearances had greatly exceeded those in previous years. Each vessel carries, on an average, six hundred and fifty slaves; some one thousand, some only three or four hundred. The average number computed to be landed in Cuba, from each, is six hundred. They are sold at an average price of £200 each, but are bought on the south coast for £4.

The naval officers declare that, under the present system of carrying on the trade under the American flag, "every exertion to suppress the traffic is unavailing." They say that "the most undoubted slavers, under American colours, have been visited by her Majesty's officers, had been left unmolested, because their instructions did not permit of their proceeding to search."—Commodore Wise writes thus, to the Secretary of the Admiralty, on the 4th July, 1858:—

"With regard to the slave-trade on the west coast of Africa, and the progress made towards its suppression, I regret to state my belief that it is now conducted on a scale fully as formidable as it was ten years back."

Rear-Admiral Sir F. Grey thus writes to the same gentleman, from Sierra Leone, on the 11th February of the same year.—

"In conclusion, I have only to remark, that for many years back, the prospect of putting down the slave-trade has seldom been less encouraging."

And thus, Commodore Wise, to the Secretary of the Admiralty, dating from Lagos, 28th October, 1858:

"In the coming year, I feel convinced that the most vigorous efforts will be made by the trans-Atlantic slave-dealers; and if they extend their enterprise to the Bights of Benin and Biafra, farewell to the remuneration and rapidly increasing trade which is now carried on on that coast. The above are painful truths, but must necessarily be disclosed."

Again, Rear-Admiral Grey, to the Secretary of the Admiralty, Simon's Bay, 12th November, 1858:

"It is impossible to disguise the fact that the present aspect of affairs is more gloomy than it has been for many years, and that the duty imposed upon her Majesty's officers has been rendered much more difficult by the cessation of all co-operation on the part of France and America."

Her Majesty's Commissary-Judge writes as follows, to the Earl of Malmesbury, dating from Havana, 31st December, 1858:—

"The enormous increase of the slave-trade, within the year this day ended, has doubtless occupied your Lordship's attention, since the extensive preparations for its being carried on upon an extended scale were reported by me long ago but there seems to be no diminution of the activity and means which are employed by the slavers, whose efforts are encouraged by their continued success, and their finding no difficulty in landing and passing the newly-imported negroes on through the country to the States. Such is the nature of corrupt arrangements which the power of money enables them to make with the Spanish authorities."

The Earl of Malmesbury had previously written to Mr. Buchanan, British Minister at Madrid, dating from London, June 23rd, 1858, to the following effect:—

"These reports,* which are confirmed by others received from her Majesty's naval officers, leave no room for doubting that the slave-trade is now carried on, in Cuba, to an extent little, if at all, inferior to that which prevailed before Spain bound herself, by treaty, to put a stop entirely, and for ever, to the traffic in slaves in the Spanish possessions."

Evidence of this nature might be multiplied, but it is unnecessary. It is sufficient to have the Foreign Secretary's admission that "from thirty-six thousand to forty thousand slaves are annually landed in Cuba," and this, after more than forty years effort to suppress the traffic, and the expenditure of upwards of forty millions sterling, besides the loss of thousands of lives, and numerous costly vessels-of-war.

The time has arrived when something must be seriously attempted to put an end to this awful state of things. The Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society have suggested to Lord John Russell to demand of Spain the immediate cessation of the slave-trade, or to intimate that Great Britain will require the reimbursement, with interest, of the £400,000 compensation-money paid to Spain in 1817 for her discontinuance of the traffic, and the cessation of diplomatic intercourse. They appeal to the friends of humanity throughout the country to aid them in this direction. Public opinion is powerful. Let it declare itself on this subject.

27, New Broad-street, E. C. London, 13th August, 1860.

*The foregoing statement is condensed from the despatch of Commodore Wise to Rear-Admiral Sir F. Grey, and is dated from on board the Vesuvius Cabinda, August 6th, 1858.—Slave-trade Papers, 1859. Class A. page 176.