

men in hospital, from April 1837 to January 1838, was ten per month; of non-temperance men, 24; the deaths in the ten months, of the former, were 2, of the latter, 33.

NEW CHURCH.—PROSELYTISM.

The foundation-stone of a new church, to be built opposite the Hindu College, was to have been laid on the 7th July, the Lord Bishop and the Archdeacon assisting. The church is to be built out of funds at the disposal of the Archdeacon, and the Rev. Kishna Mohana Banerjea is to be the pastor. The announcement, however, produced such a sensation amongst the directors of the Hindu College, that the ceremony was deferred. The *Englishman* states, that a representation came from the directors of the college, and another from the council of the Medical College, requesting a consideration of the eligibility of the proposed site; stating that as there is no Christian population in the neighbourhood of the two colleges, their spiritual wants cannot have led to the choice of situation; the building must, therefore, be regarded as one intended for proselytism, especially as a converted Hindu is to be the regular preacher; that, without objecting to any fair means used by the professors of the Christian religion to spread its doctrines amongst their heathen neighbours, it is desirable that no other important public improvement should be endangered in so doing; that there are plenty of situations where a Christian church may be placed, so as to be surrounded by a dense heathen population, if their convenience is sought, without building it in the vicinity of the principal site of liberal education, and thereby leading the Hindus to believe that a covert design exists of proselyting the pupils; that great apprehensions have been entertained by the less enlightened of their countrymen, that liberal education would lead to an abandonment of the faith of their fathers, and that this fear cannot be conquered, except by a rigid adherence to the principle of non-interference in matters of religion; that the Hindu College has produced a remarkable effect on its pupils, and is already an important instrument for the civilization of India; but if its objects were now to be frustrated by the fears of parents preventing them from sending their sons there, the great cause of liberal education would be endangered without any corresponding benefit to religion; for if the pupils are driven away from the colleges, there would very soon be no one to convert; and if once abandoned, the difficulty of again inducing the attendance of pupils would, in all probability, be insurmountable.

The *Hurkaru* adds: "We are sorry

to hear that Archdeacon Dealtry had fixed upon the proposed site for the new church, with the express intention of enticing the youths of the Hindu College from their present studies, and converting them to Christianity, by the example and precepts of a native preacher. A more injudicious proceeding, and one more calculated to overthrow the cause which he has at heart, could not possibly have been hit upon."

The *Reformer* (conducted by a reformed Hindu), in arguing against the proposed erection, observes: "In discussing this question, two considerations ought to be kept prominently in view; the first, the Hindu College is at present the best, the most efficient, and the most extensive instrument of enlightening the natives; and, secondly, that the erection of a Christian church in that locality would be injurious to this institution. If these two propositions be admitted, it would necessarily follow as a corollary, that the object which the clergy have in view ought to be abandoned. None, we presume, will dispute the first of these propositions. The success of the Hindu College in enlightening the people of this country has been established without controversy. The pastor elect of the church to be erected, the Rev. Kishna Mohana Banerjea, furnishes in himself a sufficient argument of what the college is capable of making the natives of this country. We shall, therefore, proceed to show how the contemplated measure would injure the institution. The generality of those who send their children to this institution have been brought up in the strict observance of the Hindu religion, and with all those notions of caste which have been known to operate so powerfully against any change of sentiment among them. It must be well known to all, that conversion is yet tantamount to expulsion from family and society. Whatever might hereafter be the notions of the enlightened portion of the Hindu community of the rising generation, that generation which entertains the notions we have mentioned has not yet passed away; its doctrines, absurd as they may be, are devoutly believed by millions, whose prejudices, however unreasonable, are pertinaciously adhered to. These facts are undeniable. Only a few years ago, when certain circumstances occurred to alarm the sensitive feelings of these people in this tender point, one short week saw no less than 145 pupils removed from the college. A remedy, a severe remedy, was instantly applied, and the danger which threatened the ruin of this valuable institution averted. No very material change, so far as we are aware, has since been effected in

the minds of these people; and, therefore, the same precautions against every measure calculated to awaken their dormant sensibility, and alarm their prejudices, should be carefully and jealously adopted by those who are sensible of the good this institution is effecting, and who have its interest at heart."

The trustees, it appears, have consented to remove the site of the church to any place within half a-mile to the north of the present site, and verging with a frontage on the same central road; the managers of the Hindu College agreeing to provide such a new piece of ground, and pay all expenses and law charges that have been incurred by the trustees and members of the Evangelical Fund, the ground to be provided by the managers of the Hindu College within one month, and to be equal in quantity and value to the land on which the foundation is now laid.

The managers of the college, though not sanguine of success, promise to endeavour to find out a suitable spot. They further state, that having learned that the express object of erecting this church is to attract the attendance of the pupils of the Hindu College, in the hope of their conversion to Christianity, they will deem it their duty to warn the fathers and guardians of the pupils of the college, in order that they may be prepared to adopt such precautionary measures as may appear suitable to the exigency.

The controversy on this subject has produced a bitter, we might say an uncharitable, attack upon the Calcutta press in the *Christian Observer*, and a retaliation from the *Hurkaru* not more severe than deserved.

EXPORTATION OF COOLIES.

A public meeting, convened by the sheriff, in pursuance of a requisition, was held on the 16th July, to petition the Governor-general in Council, for "the suppression of the present system of exporting coolies to the British colonies."

The Bishop of Calcutta proposed the first resolution; "that this meeting, having heard of the commencement, continuance, and extension of a system of exporting the natives of India to the British slave and other colonies, expresses its deepest regret that such a traffic should exist, and more especially that it should have originated in this port, believing the system to be fraught with unmixed evils to the so called 'free emigrants.'"

His lordship observed that the traffic, to say the least of it, was of a suspicious character. He did not like a trade in his fellow-creatures, and would do all in his power to put it down. Under the mask

of freedom and all that was good, the blackest deeds were perpetrated. He was ready to admit, that freedom of action should not be checked, but he asked if that principle applied to men who were so ignorant as not to be aware where they were going or what they were about? Where were the laws to protect them in an old slave colony, and from the tyranny of task-masters who had spent a whole life in driving slaves? These were the circumstances which had awakened his worst suspicions. He was, however, far from imputing improper motives to any; but when he called to mind what he had heard and read in his native land, as well as here, during the course of some forty years, regarding slave trade, all the horrors of those scenes recurred; and in reviewing the struggles of freedom against slavery, the battle of humanity against brutal oppression, he could not but behold with alarm, in this rising country, just at the moment when the dawn of freedom was about to burst upon her, the commencement of one of the greatest evils connected with commerce. These were the causes that created a suspicion in his mind, and had induced him to propose to go up to our paternal Government, and seek redress for the helpless coolies. When a servant was to be taken on board, a deposit of about a thousand rupees was required. He asked no more in behalf of the coolies; let their exporters do something of that sort, deposit even half that amount as a pledge for the return of the cooly to his native land, and the evil would in a great measure be remedied.

The Rev. J. Charles seconded the resolution in an eloquent speech. He stated that he rested his whole argument on the circumstance that the coolies in question were not in a condition to enter into the contract required of them in this case, and that if they did, they were not capable of defending their rights agreeably to the terms of that contract.

Dr. D. Stewart, who had lately thought the system one which, "as at present followed, possesses as many checks and is fraught with as much consideration for the emigrants, as is possible," begged publicly to proclaim his recantation. The exposures made during the last six weeks by the press of Calcutta, and before the magistrate of the Twenty-four Pergunnahs, were quite enough to convince any candid mind that these checks were inefficient; that in operation they were next to useless.

Mr. Osborne (editor of the *Courier*, which paper has defended the system), contended that the newspaper reports, on which so much stress had been laid, were not to be relied on, and the cases reported amounted at most to mere suspicion.

Capt. A. G. Mackenzie said, he had

ence, we believe, to the mode in which the Booteas manage their *dwaras*. The territory of Bootan is almost exclusively hilly. Under the former government of Assam, a certain portion of the plains belonging to Assam was made over to them for the cultivation of rice. These lands are called *dwaras*, and not only serve to feed the people, but also furnish Government with a large portion of its revenue, which, after all, does not exceed three lacs a year. These lands they were still permitted to occupy when Assam was conquered by the English. The lands, however, are strictly British property, which for a certain consideration they have the privilege of cultivating. But the mode in which the *dwaras* are maintained by the Booteas is such as to endanger the safety of the neighbourhood, and the British Government found it necessary to call upon them for a reform. They would agree to nothing; not even to forward a letter from the Governor-general to Lassa. The utmost jealousy was manifested at the arrival of the mission, which greatly interfered with its scientific researches; and the gentlemen were obliged to return by Turner's route, though it was well known that a shorter and better road to the plains was to be found. It is not improbable that the British Government will be under the necessity of resuming these *dwaras*, in which case a large portion of very fertile land will be obtained for cultivation; for it can scarcely be said to be cultivated at present.

The government of the country is most imbecile, and as it regards the people, disastrous in the highest degree—a many-headed, always changing, hierarchy, the members of which are perpetually at war with each other. The priesthood is a pampered, bloated body; the people, as might be expected, under such a tyrannical rule, indolent, false and vicious. The country is daily becoming more and more depopulated. Those who remain are constrained to bear their own burdens and those of the people who have saved themselves by flight. The bonds which unite men in society are daily becoming more and more relaxed; and it is not improbable that society itself will relapse into its original chaos.

The deputation of the mission will not, however, have been without its advantages. Our geographical knowledge of this part of the country will have been enlarged, and from Mr. Griffith's botanical researches, we expect a rich and noble feast.—*Friend of India*, June 21.

THE BONUS SYSTEM.

As many old officers, now in England, will be anxiously looking for intelligence of the result of the attempt to establish a

Bonus Fund, to enable them to settle the period of their retirement, we lose no time in proclaiming that there does not appear to be the *smallest chance of the formation of a retiring fund*. but that, on the contrary, a strong disposition has arisen in the infantry, to *resist and discountenance such funds in any shape whatever*. It is unnecessary to enter upon an examination of the various reasons which have been assigned for the almost unqualified rejection of what was until recently believed and asserted to be, with a great majority, a favourable project. The dislike to an immediate monthly tax for a remote benefit—the conviction that many old officers would retire without putting the army to any expense—the desire to encourage *regimental* retirement—the preference in some cases of a tontine,—the difficulty of collecting the required monthly subscription in corps, whose officers are absent or scattered—the assurance that few officers would or could retire while a war threatened our frontiers, &c. &c., have all been urged as so many reasons for declining to adopt any of the propositions which have been submitted to the army.—*Englishman*, August 22.

THE NEW CHURCH.

The following is a copy of the address to the Bishop from the professors, secretary and officers of the Medical College of Calcutta, with reference to the proposed new church (*see p. 140*):—

“ My Lord—We, the professors, secretary and the undersigned officers of the Medical College of Calcutta, beg leave most respectfully to submit the conclusions we are compelled to form, respecting the proposed erection of a church for Christian worship in the immediate vicinity of the Hindu College, and intended for the pastoral charge of the Rev. Krishna Mohun Banerjee, an ex-student of the Hindu College, and a convert from the Hindu persuasion.

“ We regard this measure as one eminently calculated to cause the withdrawal from the Hindu and Medical Colleges, and from the School Society's flourishing seminaries, of many students, who now crowd these successful seats of native education. We deem it so public and unequivocal a demonstration of intention to convert the youths of these institutions to the Christian religion, that a powerful re-action must take place among the Hindu priesthood, and the parents and guardians of these pupils, and that few will be allowed to continue their studies. We consider that, in the obstruction of the education of the Hindu youth, the intention of the founders of this church must also be disappointed, as it is very unlikely that any will be left to whom the

precepts of Christianity may be spoken. In making this declaration, we claim the indulgence of its being viewed as the expression of our conscientious opinions. While we deprecate a proceeding, which seems to us untimely and dangerous, we avow our earnest anxiety for the true moral regeneration of the natives of Bengal.

"We may be allowed to add, that, were we not acting in the spirit of true and upright conviction, we would not be guilty of the indelicacy of addressing the head of the Christian Church in Bengal, to ask his discontinuance of a measure, which it may seem his peculiar duty to promote. But we believe the shortest path to the great object of your lordship's mission among the Hindu nations—the object which we feel is uppermost in your heart—lies open through the education of their youth, and that whatever thwarts the progress of this, must postpone proportionately the march of their religious conversion.

"N. WALLICH, M. D., Prof. of Botany.
C. C. EGERTON, Prof. of Surgery.
H. H. GOODEVE, M. D., Prof. of An.
W. B. O'SHAUGHNESSY, M. D., Prof.
of Chemistry.

DAVID HARE, Secretary.

R. O'SHAUGHNESSY, Dem. of An.
G. EVANS, Curator of Museum.

"Medical College, Calcutta, July 6, 1838.

The church, it now appears, is to be erected one mile from the college.

INDIA MATERIA MEDICA.

Dr. O'Shaughnessy, as secretary to the Materia Medica Committee, has drawn up its first report, wherein is announced the discovery of Indian efficient substitutes for *quinine*, *tartar emetic*, *jalap* and *colocynth*. For tartar emetic, Dr. O'S. uses citric acid, with complete success; a kindred remedy to jalap he has found in the seed of the *ipomea carulea*; the *in-drayan*, which grows in the Delhi district, is considered to be the true colocynth, and a substitute for quinine is the narcotine of opium, which answers completely.

ORIENTAL LITERATURE.

At the meeting of the Asiatic Society, on the 4th July, a communication from Government was read, transmitting the sanction of the Home authorities for the disbursement of Rs. 500 monthly in the promotion of oriental literature in this country.

COAL IN MERGUI.

A letter from Dr. Helfer states, that he has discovered coal in great abundance in the province of Mergui, and in a locality

from which transport will not be difficult, at a cheaper rate than that at Burdwan, or at any other place in India. "I have finally succeeded," he says, "in getting coal—and, as if to make it good at once, after so frequent disappointments, I have found three different places at a great distance each from the other, and each containing coal of a different description—the one being brown or wood coal, the second promising to be glanz coal, the third excellent Newcastle slate coal."

ESTATE OF MACKINTOSH AND CO.

Abstract of Receipts and Disbursements appertaining to the Estate of Mackintosh and Co., from 1st February to 31st May 1838.

<i>Receipts.</i>	
Cash balance on 31st Jan. 1838	30,541
Proceeds of landed property	9,433
Ditto of Indigo	27,980
Remittances from debtors	28,066
Miscellaneous recoveries	135
Interest allowed by the Union Bank	257
Drawn from the Union Bank .. 54,797	
Less deposited .. 37,962	
	16,035
Co.'s Rs. ..	1,13,247
<i>Disbursements.</i>	
Advances for manufacture of indigo ..	23,213
Life insurance premiums	4,340
Assessment, durwan's wages, &c.	258
Office establishment and miscellaneous charges	1,283
Money borrowed re-paid	25,333
Ditto, but to be refunded	7,920
Law charges	1,263
Dividends paid	6,379
Balance	41,958
Co.'s Rs. ..	1,13,247

ESTATE OF ALEXANDER AND CO.

Abstract of the Accounts of the Estate of Alexander and Co., from 1st February to the 31st May 1838.

To advances for manufacture of indigo	32,993
Paid estate of Cruttenden and Co. on account of Bank of Bengal claim	1,45,141
Dividend paid	5,649
Refunded a sum realized on account of a party not indebted to the estate	2,133
Law charges	1,564
Office establishment	1,769
Repairs, assessment, ground-rent, durwan's wages, &c.	376
Advertisements, postages, and incidental charges	63
Paid to Union Bank	83,061
Less drawn	82,373
	688
Balance as per account	1,73,719
Co.'s Rs. ..	3,64,295
By balance of account last filed	1,17,067
Indigo factories sold	1,17,241
Realized from debtors	26,390
Indigo sold	86,832
Landed property sold	3,823
Rents realized	42
Co.'s Rs. ..	3,64,295