

THE

PANOPLIST,

AND

MISSIONARY MAGAZINE UNITED.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

JUNE 1, 1811.

VOLUME III. NEW SERIES.



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1811

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No. 1.

JUNE, 1810.

VOL. III.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

THE following Memoir was composed by the Baptist Missionaries in Bengal, for the purpose of giving authentic information with respect to their progress in translating the Scriptures into the languages of Asia. As they had received liberal pecuniary assistance from this country, as well as from Great Britain, they sent this memoir to their friends and patrons on both sides of the Atlantic. We have been favored with the original communication, by the politeness of the gentlemen in Philadelphia, to whom it was addressed.

Very dear Brethren,

Two years have nearly elapsed since we had the satisfaction of laying before you and our fellow Christians in Britain and America, the state of those Translations of the Sacred Scriptures in which Divine Providence has enabled us to engage; and although we have received no intelligence from you relative to the manner in which the plain statement of facts therein given, has been received by those who love the Lord Jesus and feel an interest in the diffusion of his Holy Word, our persuasion that a work of this kind cannot be uninteresting to those who long for all nations to be blessed in Him, is so great, that we feel ourselves encouraged to lay before you and them a *second* statement, describing the progress of the work during these two past years. In doing which it may perhaps be the most intelligible mode to follow the order laid down in our last memoir.

2. The translation of the Scriptures into the *Bengalee* language, comes first then before us; and we have, respecting this, the satisfaction of stating, that after sixteen years labor, the *whole* of the sacred Scriptures is completed in that language; the translation of the remaining volume of the Old Testament having been finished for some time, and two or three sheets alone remaining to complete the printing. We desire to mention this with the deepest gratitude to the God of mercy, who has enabled us thus to complete *one* part of the work which he had been pleased in his providence to commit to our care. As it affords opportunity for further improvement in the translation, we would notice a *third* edition of the Bengalee New Testament in folio, which we are printing principally for the sake of using the Scriptures in public worship; but as the assemblies for which a book of this size is adapted are at present not numerous, we are printing only 100 copies. This third edition of the Bengalee New Testament is advanced to the middle of the Acts of the Apostles.

3. In the *Orissa* language the New Testament is printed off, and nearly the

whole of the book of Psalms. The New Testament contains 976 pages in 8vo. and the expense attending this edition of one thousand, including paper, wages, the wear of types, &c. &c., amounts to about 3,500 rupees. It may not be esteemed irrelevant to the subject if we add, that the God of all grace seems to be opening a way for the *distribution* of the sacred volume in that district: a member of our church, an Armenian, born in this country, who has labored nearly two years with much acceptance among the natives of Bengal, having devoted himself to the work of God in Orissa, is about to remove thither with his wife, who is a member with us, and his family. He is now under a course of instruction relative to the language, of which, on account of its near affinity with the Bengalee, a few months will probably put him in possession. Thus almost the moment the New Testament is translated and printed in this language, does the great Head of the church appear to be raising up means for its being brought into effect!

4. In the *Telinga* language the New Testament waits for revision and printing, the whole being translated, and a beginning made in the Old Testament. Relative to printing you may recollect, dear brethren, the step we took more than a year ago; namely, that of sending to you for a fount of types from Figgins: the specimens we saw of his Telinga type being so beautiful that we thought it better to send for a fount from him, than cast them ourselves; especially as this would leave our letter founders at liberty to proceed with other founts equally urgent and which could not be obtained from England.*

* Since writing the above, we have received letters from the society stating the price at which Figgins would cast them; which being much higher than the price they would cast here, we have forbidden them, and are casting a fount on the spot from Figgins's specimens corrected by a Telinga Pundit.

5. In the *Kernata* language the progress made is nearly similar to that in the *Telinga*, the New Testament being ready for revision and a commencement made in the Old. In our last we mentioned, that the alphabets of these two countries are so nearly allied as to render only an addition of a letter or two to the *Telinga* necessary, in order to adapt it for the *Kernata*. These additions to the *Telinga* alphabet we can easily make ourselves.

6. Relative to the *Guzeratee*, circumstances principally of a pecuniary nature, have compelled us to put a stop to the printing of the New Testament for the present, and slacken in the work of translation. On these circumstances it is needless to dilate, and perhaps unprofitable.

7. In the *Mahratta* language circumstances not greatly dissimilar have compelled us to proceed slowly with regard to printing. We are happy in adding however, that the four gospels are nearly printed off, and that we have now a hope of being able to proceed with increased vigor. It was observed in our last statement, that the whole of the New Testament was translated, and part of the Old.

8. The operation of the same circumstances has also affected the printing of the New Testament in the *Hindoostanee* language; yet through divine goodness we have been enabled to complete the better half of it, and we hope to be able soon to finish the whole. The call for the New Testament in this language is constantly increasing, and we have reason to believe the version will be pretty generally understood.

9. In the language of the *Seeks* the whole New Testament now waits for revision; and we have not only completed a fount of types in their peculiar character, but have made a commencement in printing. We hope therefore that divine goodness will, at no very distant period, enable us to present the Sacred Oracles to this singular people, in their own language and character.

10. The *Sungskrit*. In our last we had occasion to acquaint you with our beginning a translation in this extensive, copious, and highly venerated language. We have now the happiness of adding that the whole of the New Testament is printed off; and that in printing the Old we have proceeded as far as the middle of *Exodus*. The New Testament contains somewhat less than 600 4to pages, and the expense of printing this edition of 600 copies (which in our last was by mistake said to consist of a thousand) has been about 4000 Rs. Both the translating and the printing of the Old Testa-

ment are advancing with a considerable degree of vigor.

11. Relative to the *Burman* language we have much reason for thankfulness. Our brethren Chater and F. Carey are assiduous in studying the language, and diligent in the work of God; and from the letters of our brethren it seems probable that the sacred Scriptures, when printed, will be received by the natives of that country with no small degree of readiness.

12. In our last we stated a number of encouraging circumstances relative to the *Chinese* language and translation. We feel much satisfaction in being now able to mention others equally encouraging. The proficiency of the youths engaged with brother Marshman in studying the language, of whom one is in his 17th, another in his 16th, and the third in his 10th year, has been such as to attract the attention of the Right Hon. the Governor General: and the liberal and judicious manner in which his lordship noticed it in his annual speech to the college of Fort William both this, and the past year, renders it needless to say any thing more on this head; except merely that two examinations of their progress have been held, one in February, 1808, in the presence of the Rev. D. Brown, and another in September by John Harrington, Esq. President of the college of Fort William, and Dr. John Leyden, whose acquaintance with the languages of China and the neighboring nations exceeds that of most gentlemen in India. Before these gentlemen, the three youths, among other exercises, held a disputation in the Chinese language. The Report of the examination was appended to the Annual Report of the College of Fort William, by order of the Right Hon. the Visitor. We have also to mention with gratitude, the goodness of Providence, in erecting for us a Chinese Foundery, if it may be so termed. More than eighteen months ago we began to employ under Chinese superintendance, certain natives of Bengal, for many years accustomed to cut the flowers used in printing cottons; and have found them succeed beyond our expectation. The delicate workmanship required in their former employ, fits them admirably for cutting the stronger lines of the Chinese characters, when they are written and the work superintended by a Chinese artist. Of the execution, you will soon have an opportunity of judging from the original text of the 1st volume of Confucius, printed off with a translation in a quarto of 724 pages, and now waiting for a preliminary Dissertation on the Language. We many months ago began printing a newly re-

vised copy of the gospel by St. Matthew, to the middle of which we have nearly advanced, although the difficulty of afterward correcting the blocks, causes us to advance with slow and careful circumspection. The New Testament is printed in 8vo. on a size resembling that of the works of Confucius, so common, and so highly venerated, among the Chinese. Two pages are cut on one block; when printed off, the page is folded so as to have the two blank sides inward, in the manner of the Chinese. The blocks are made of the wood of the tamarind tree. We have also retained another learned Chinese to superintend the cutting of the characters, and examine the translation with brother M. After the latter has gone through it in various ways with Mr. Lassar, he carefully examines it again with this learned Chinese alone, causing him to read it, and give his idea of the meaning of every sentence and character: as he has not the least previous acquaintance with the sense of the passage, (being unable to speak a sentence of English,) brother M. has an opportunity of marking the least discrepancy from the original, and of canvassing such passages anew with Mr. L. which is constantly done, previously to their being written for engraving. It may be observed also that as this man boards with us, he has no connexion with Mr. L. and indeed from a disposition common to the generality of Asiatics, is sufficiently disposed to find fault with his work if opportunity offers; this disposition however, is kept within due bounds by brother M.'s examining the dictionary with him for every character to which he ascribes a sense different from that in which it is used in the copy under revision. Thus, dear brethren, has divine Providence favored us with the means of acquiring this difficult language; with those to study it whose youth and collateral studies fit them peculiarly for the labor; with the means of counter examining the translation; and with a press to carry forward the printing of it to any extent. May the Lord enable us to improve these advantages to the advancement of his cause. It may be proper to add that in translating, we are advanced as far as the Epistle to the Ephesians.

13. Providence is at length opening the way for our commencing a translation in the language of *Boutan* and *Tibet*, which two countries indeed, have the same language and alphabet. Our brother Robinson has devoted himself to this department, and has made two journeys to that country in the latter of which he was received with the greatest kindness by the Katma or Soobah of Boutan. He brought from thence the alphabet which agrees exactly with that given by P.

Georgius in his *Alphabetum Tibetanum*, and printed at Rome by the *Congreg. de Propaganda fide*. The language appears to have an affinity with the Chinese. The alphabet, though the letters are of the Nagree form, resembles far less the Sungskrit alphabet, than the alphabetic outline which constitutes the initial sounds of the Chinese language, (which you will see described in the preliminary Dissertation on the Chinese Language.) The language is in a great degree monosyllabic, and as there is a constant intercourse between that country and China, to which indeed it is said to extend, it is probable that these two languages may reciprocally throw light upon each other. Brother R. is waiting for boats to depart with his family in this arduous and benevolent undertaking.

14. Thus, dear brethren, have we laid before you a brief sketch of the state of the translations at the present moment. On reviewing it, you will perceive that in the Bengalee the sacred Scriptures are completed. In the Sungskrit and the Orissa the New Testament is printed off, and a commencement made in printing the Old; in the Mahratta and the Hindoostanee the New Testament is nearly completed; in printing the Guzerattee, the Seek, and the Chinese versions a commencement is made, and in the Telinga and the Kernata the New Testament waits for revision, while in the Burman a most pleasing prospect is held out, and a translation into the Tibet language is about to commence. Thus in one language are the whole Scriptures printed, in three the New Testament is printed off, in two more nearly half of it completed, in three more put to press, and in two others waiting for revision.

15. The advancement made in the article of *types* is also worthy of being noticed as another mark of the favor of Providence toward the undertaking. Previously to sending the last memoir we had been enabled to complete founts in the Bengalee, Nagree, Orissa, and Mahratta characters, which with the fount of Persian received from England, enabled us to print versions of the Scriptures in seven of the languages spoken in India. This statement however shews that we have since been enabled to provide the means of printing them in three more, namely, in the Seek, the Burman, and the Chinese, which enables us to print the Scriptures in ten of the Oriental languages.

16. In our last memoir we laid before the public an account of all that we had received for the purpose of translations from the beginning, with the manner in which it had been disbursed. There then appeared in our hands a balance of

Rs. 12,371-5 as-6 p. We now beg leave to lay before you for publication the sums we have since received and the disbursement we have had occasion to make, on account of the translations. Both these accounts appear in one view, in the following statements.

Dr. Translations of the Holy Scriptures.

	<i>Sa. Rs.</i>	<i>as.</i>	<i>p.</i>	<i>Dolls.</i>	<i>Cts.</i>	
1801. To 2000 Bengalee Testaments, 1st edition, on Patna paper, 8vo. 900 pages	10000	0	0	5555	55	
— 500 Matthew's Gospel in Bengalee, ditto, 118 pages	250	0	0	138	89	
1802. — 1000 Pentateuchs, ditto, 732 pages	3000	0	0	1666	66	
1803. — An edition of 900 of Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Solomon's Song, ditto 400 pages	2000	0	0	1111	11	
— 900 of the Psalms alone, ditto, 220 pages	337	8	0	187	44	
1805. — 465 Matthew's Gospel in Mahratta, Nagree type, (quarto) 108 pages	465	0	0	258	33	
— Bengalee Pundits' wages for 7 years, down to December, 1806	1680	0	0	933	33	
— The Hindoostance, Persian, Orissa, and Mahratta Pundits' wages from March, 1803 to April, 1806	2021	0	0	1122	78	
— Eight months' wages for Pundits in the different languages, including the Chinese, from May to December, 1806	3703	14	3	2057	61	
1806. — 1500 Bengalee Testaments, 2nd edition, on Bengalee Paper, 8vo. 900 pages	4500	0	0	2500	00	
1807. — 10,000 Luke, Acts, and Romans, ditto, 264 pages, at 12 As.	7500	0	0	4166	67	
— Seven months' wages for Pundits in the different languages, including the Chinese, from January to July	3485	7	7	1936	34	
— An edition of the prophetic books, 8vo. 660 pages, 1000 copies	2500	0	0	1388	89	
	Sicca Rupees*			41,442	13 10	23,023,60

Contra. Cr.

	<i>Sa. Rs.</i>	<i>as.</i>	<i>p.</i>	<i>Dolls.</i>	<i>Cts.</i>
1799. By Cash received from the Edinburgh Missionary Society	2000	0	0	1111	11
1800. — Cash collected from 1798 to 1799	1600	0	0	888	89
1801. — Ditto - - - 1799 — 1800	9142	15	1	5079	42
1802. — Ditto - - - 1800 — 1801	164	0	0	91	11
1803. — Ditto - - - 1801 — 1802	9258	2	7	5143	42
1804. — Ditto - - - 1802 — 1803	140	13	0	78	23
1805. — Ditto - - - 1803 — 1804	184	9	5	102	56
1806. — Ditto - - - 1804 — 1805					
Received from England by way of America 9818 <i>Sa. Rs.</i> 0 <i>as.</i> 0 <i>p.</i>	10387	14	9	5771	07
In Books, &c. 569 <i>Sa. Rs.</i> 14 <i>as.</i> 9 <i>p.</i>					
Amount received from America in Sept. 1806.	2858	12	0	1588	10
Ditto in October	4139	0	0	2299	45

* A Sicca Rupee is equal in value to about 55 1-2 cents.

	Messrs. Alexander & Co. from the fund raised in India	5100	0	0	2833, 34
1807.	Ditto for 7 months from January to July	3900	0	0	2166, 66
	2398 Dollars* from America	4938	0	0	2743, 33
	Amount received, Sicca Rupees	53,814	2	10	29,896, 69
	Expended	41,442	13	10	23,023, 60
	Balance in hand, Sicca Rupees	12,371	5	0	6873, 09

Dr. Translations of the Holy Scriptures.

		Sa. Rs.	as. p.	Dils. Cts.	
1807.	To five months' wages for pundits in the different languages, including the Chinese from August to December	2,363	1	2	1312, 82
1808.	— Twelve months' wages for pundits in the different languages, including the Chinese from January to December, with sundry extra expenses	5,333	2	9	2962, 87
	— Chinese Stationary	600	0	0	333, 34
1809.	— Seven months' wages for pundits in the different languages, including the Chinese, from January to July, with sundry extra expenses	3,709	9	2	2060, 88
	— Cutting 22 Chinese blocks at 7s	154	0	0	85, 55
	— An edition of the New Testament in the Orissa language, 8vo. 976 pages, containing one thousand copies	3,500	0	0	1944, 44
	— 600 Sungskrit Ditto 4to. 552 pages	4000	0	0	2222, 22
	— An edition of the historical part of the Old Testament 8vo. † containing 1,500 copies	4,500	0	0	2500, 00
	Expended	24,159	13	15	13,422, 12
	Balance in hand	5,630	15	11	3,123, 45
	Total Sa. Rupees	29,790	13	0	16,550, 57

Contra. Cr.

1807.	By Balance of former Account,	12,371	5	0	6873, 09
	— Messrs. Alexander & Co. from the fund raised in India, from August to December inclusive	1,500	0	0	833, 33
1808.	— Contributions from sundry gentlemen	316	0	0	175, 55
	— Cash received for Chinese Stationary.				
	— Messrs. Alexander & Co. from the fund raised in India, and Mr. Grant's legacy	7,303	8	0	4057, 50
	— A Contribution	300	0	0	166, 66
1809.	— Messrs. Alexander and Co. on account of the British and Foreign Bible Society fund	8000	0	0	4444, 44
	Total of amount received Sa. Rs.	29,790	13	0	16,550, 57

* A profit was made, it seems, by making the remittance in silver.

† The sheets of this volume are not yet collected, we are not therefore certain respecting the number of pages.

17. We intimated at the close of the last memoir, that the expense we had incurred in printing a part of certain versions, and providing materials for printing several others had in a great measure exhausted the balance which appeared in hand. Although supplies from you have not yet reached us; the good hand of God has provided supplies for his work in a manner almost totally unexpected, and which calls for our warmest gratitude. Within three months of the date of our last memoir we learned that God, whose care is constantly exercised over his sacred word, had, unknown to his most intimate friends, inclined the heart of a worthy friend of ours, Mr. Grant, to bequeath, a few months before his death, the sum of ten thousand rupees to the fund for translations of which we were the fundees. Of this sum you will perceive that we have received between six and seven thousand rupees.

18. Another supply also deserves to be mentioned with peculiar gratitude. That gracious Providence which about three years ago stirred up our worthy American brethren to contribute, unsolicited to the support of this good work, has since sent supplies from another quarter, equally generous, and no less reasonable. We allude to the 2000*l.* which the Bible Society were pleased to send out for this purpose in the last year, and of which we have received a thousand pounds. For this act of love to our common Lord, and regard to his sacred word, we intreat you, dear brethren, to present our warm and cordial acknowledgements to the Committee of the British and Foreign Bible Society.

19. These unexpected and reasonable supplies, together with a few donations from certain gentlemen in India, form the whole of those means by which we have been enabled to carry forward the work since our last memoir: and of this you will perceive that a balance of Sa. Rs. 5630 or 703*l.* sterling, remains on our hands; which however is more than absorbed in the expense incurred by the versions of the Old and the New Testament now in the press; to say nothing of the founts of types we have cast, and which, for reasons mentioned in the former memoir, we do not feel at liberty to carry to the account of the translations.

20. Nevertheless, dear brethren, we feel no kind of anxiety on this head. It is not on our own account that we desire supplies, but merely to spread the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ by disseminating his sacred word among the nations around us, now sitting in darkness and in the region of the shadow of death. And we feel confident that while we labor conscientiously and prudently to ap-

ply to this purpose whatever he is pleased to give us, he will never fail to afford supplies for the work, either through the instrumentality of those who favor his righteous cause, or by means of the labor of our own hands. In whatever way it be given, to him alone be the glory and the praise.

21. So far indeed, very dear brethren, from feeling discouraged, we cannot but call on you to unite with us in blessing that gracious God, who from such weak and slender beginnings hath been pleased so to carry forward the work amidst every discouraging circumstance (and these have not been few,) that by his goodness in providing assistance in the work, in continuing health and strength to go forward therein, and providing supplies often as unexpected as they were seasonable, that not only is the whole of the sacred oracles published in one language, but in *three* the New Testament is printed off, in *two* more is nearly half of it printed off, in *three* others put to press, in *two* more waiting for revision; while for another the types are prepared.

22. Nor does the idea of numerous imperfections unavoidably cleaving to a first attempt damp our gratitude or fill us with discouragement. Not to say that without a *first* attempt, a second and more correct edition can never appear; when we consider the labor of selecting appropriate *words*, often of ascertaining *grammatical rules*, and in some instances, of almost forming a system of *orthography*; we cannot but feel that in the greater part of these languages the *first* attempt notwithstanding its imperfections, has completed more than half the work; and while it almost insures a second, speedily following, the labor attending the revision of a second edition with an increased degree of knowledge, is so gradual, so easy, and pleasant, that when compared with that of first wading through the untried stream, it scarcely seems to deserve the name. This is particularly the case when a method is adopted which we have in contemplation; namely, that of sending a copy of each version of the Scriptures to every gentleman of our acquaintance in any degree conversant with the language in which it is printed; and respectfully intreating his candid remarks thereon. From the aggregate of these remarks (which few will refuse to communicate,) as from a multitude of lights brought into one place (even though some of them should resemble a taper,) we hope by the divine blessing upon steady and diligent observation for a course of years, to send forth the sacred word at length in its purest and loveliest form.

23. In our last we laid before you a sketch of the probable expense attending

the completion of the translation and printing of the Old Testament in *one* and the New Testament in *ten* languages, namely, the Sungskrit, Orissa, Hindoostanee, Telinga, Kernata, Guzeratee, Mahratta, Seeek, Persian, and Chinese languages. As a lapse of two years by bringing us nearer the termination of the work must of course enable us either to confirm or correct this sketch, it may not be unpleasant, perhaps, to some of those who wish well to Zion, if we briefly review the statement before given. It was stated respecting ten of these translations, the Chinese being excepted, that the sum of three thousand rupees annually for the space of *four* years would furnish what merely related to the *translation* of them; and that about *forty-six* thousand rupees more, would complete the printing of the ten versions. Relative to the article of *time*, no one acquainted with the nature of the work, will be surprised to find four years too short a period for printing the whole of the ten, especially when on examining the cash account for the two last years, he perceives that after the expense of the Chinese is deducted (which was not included in the ten) we have not possessed the *means of applying* three thousand rupees annually to retain assistance in these ten languages; two thousand annually being all we have been able to allot to this department for these two years past. Whoever considers however, that for this sum of *four thousand* rupees, *three* of these ten versions have been so completely revised as to be actually printed off, and five more of them brought to the press, will not think it improbable, that (though the printing may require several years longer,) the expense of revising and completing the other translations may be covered by little more than the remaining eight thousand rupees of the statement.

24. Relative to the estimate given for *printing* the case appears still more clear, the Sungskrit New Testament, having fallen somewhat below the quantity of letter press given in the former estimate as has the fourth or last volume of the Bengalee Scriptures; and although the Orissa has exceeded the number of pages by more than two hundred, we have still been able to bring the expense within the bounds prescribed.

25. Respecting the other two versions of which we gave an estimate, the Persian and the Chinese, as the former is removed from under our care, it would of course be improper for us to say any thing farther on that part of the subject; but relative to the *Chinese* we are enabled to speak with much greater precision than we could two years ago. From calculating how many pages of the origi-

nal the blocks of the Chinese already cut have included, the probability is, that 700 of these blocks will nearly complete the New Testament. These, although they contain each nearly 300 characters, we are able to get engraved for something below eight rupees each. Seven hundred multiplied by this number gives 5,600 rupees: so that it is quite probable that 6000 rupees or 750^l sterling will complete the engraving of the whole New Testament in Chinese*. When this is done, any number can be thrown off at pleasure. We are of course as yet unable to say how many copies one block will bear to have taken off. It is not impossible that the number may be ten thousand. If it be however, *half* that number, at so moderate a price can Chinese paper be obtained in Calcutta, that considering the number of copies the version will be cheaper notwithstanding its being the first, than any version of the New Testament which we have hitherto been enabled to print.

26 Thus, very dear brethren, have we in a simple and unreserved manner laid before you and the friends of religion in Britain and America, the state and progress of the translations in our hands; our expenditure, and the manner in which the God of mercy has hitherto applied us with means; our future hopes and expectations, and the ground on which they are built. And this we do with the utmost confidence, knowing that relative to support in this great work, you and the friends of religion with you, are willing to do even *more* than we desire. We only add our earnest prayer that the joys and consolations which arise from the sacred word may dwell richly in your hearts; and, mingling with, while they constantly increase, the inexpressible pleasure arising from constant and unwearyed endeavors to impart to others the blessings contained in the sacred volume, constitute that solid enjoyment which the world can neither give nor take away. We are, most affectionately yours,

(Signed) WILLIAM CAREY,
JOSHUA MARSHMAN,
WILLIAM WARD,
J CHAMBERLAINE,
J. ROWE, in behalf of all
the brethren.

Serampore, Aug. 14th, 1809.

* By an article in the *Literary Panorama* for April, 1808, it appears that the expense of engraving in Britain a Chinese MS. Harmony of the 4 Gospels, was estimated at \$5000. sterling. On this scale the engraving of the whole New Testament must have exceeded 7000. sterling, which is nearly ten times the sum engraving it in India will cost.

THE following letters from Dr. Carey, and his brethren, to their correspondents in Philadelphia, give a very intelligible and succinct account of the progress made by the Missionaries in Bengal, so late as November last, both in translating the Scriptures, and preaching the Gospel.

Calcutta, Nov. 9, 1809.

THE Lord has been very gracious to us as it respects his work here, so that it is scarcely possible to overlook his hand; and I do not know of any period since the Mission began, which was more encouraging than the present. There has been, within the last sixteen years, an increase of thirty-one ministers of the gospel in India (including two at Rangoon) besides those who have been removed by death, or who are gone to Europe. Of this number five are Clergymen of the Church of England; seventeen are Baptists, (including three Hindoo ministers;) one is a Presbyterian, seven are Independents, and belong to the London Society; and two, I believe, are Lutherans. N.B. I forget that one of our Independent brethren, Mr. Carey, is dead, this will reduce the number to thirty-one. Besides this number there are four who were here before that date; and there are also three Missionaries in Ceylon, and one in China, making the whole number thirty-nine. Five Churches have been established in Bengal, one of which is divided into two branches, viz Calcutta and Serampore. The others are at *Fassore*, where brother C. Carapit Arctoon, an American, called to the ministry by the Church at Calcutta, is settled; *Cuteva*, where brother Chamberlain is settled, (brother C. lately baptized twenty-four European Soldiers, belonging to one regiment, stationed at Berhampore, about forty miles from Cuteva, and has probably baptized more before now, as several others were inquiring;) *Goamalty*, where brother Mardon is settled with his little Church; and *Dinagepore*, where brother Fernandez resides. The greatest number of the mem-

bers of this last Church live at, or near, *Sadamahl*, about twenty miles from *Dinagepore*, where my second son, *William*, is settled. Brother *Moore* is gone to *Patna*, or rather, to *Boahipore*, near *Patna*, where there is a pleasing prospect of his raising a congregation of Europeans. Brother *Robinson* is gone to settle about eighteen miles north of my son *William*, on the borders of *Boutan*, in which country he will attempt the introduction of a mission; and brother *John Peters*, an American, called to the ministry by the church at *Calcutta*, is only waiting for a conveyance, to go to *Orissa*, to begin a mission there. Brother *Chests*, and my son *Felix*, are settled at *Rangoon*, in the *Burman Empire*, where they have met with as much encouragement as could be expected, and indeed much more than we did expect. They are studying the language, and have begun to preach in a broken manner to the *Burmans*. At *Calcutta* the Lord has enabled us to erect a place of worship, which is tolerably well attended, and about fifty persons sit down there to the Lord's table.

This is a rapid sketch of the present progress of religion in India: small when compared with the population of the country; and when compared with the abounding Idolatry, almost imperceptible. But who hath despised the day of small things.

The gospel is not yet sent to *Nepal*, and there is only one Missionary in *China*; nor is it yet sent to any of the islands in the *Indian* or *China* seas, *Ceylon* excepted. These islands are numerous, and some of them very large.

What has been done in translating and finishing the Bible in the Oriental Languages, will best appear from the table annexed.

State of Printing and Translating the Bible, November 9, 1809.

	Translated to		Printed to	
	<i>N. Testa.</i>	<i>O. Testament.</i>	<i>N. Testament.</i>	<i>O. Testament.</i>
Sungakrit,	The whole	Ch. vii.*	The whole	Exodus xxx.
Bengalee,	Ditto	The whole	Ditto	Ditto
Orissa,	Ditto	Job to Jer.	Ditto	Job to Isa. viii.
Hindoostanee,	Ditto	Job to Mal.	Rom. xii.	Not begun
Mahratta,	Ditto	Job to Prov.	John's Gospel	Ditto
Seek,	Ditto	Genesis	1st sheet compos'd	Ditto
Chinese,	Ephesians	Not begun	Mat. xii.	Ditto
Guzeratee,	Acts	Ditto	Not begun	Ditto
Telinga,	The whole	Gen. to Job	Ditto	Ditto
Kernata,	Ditto	Genesis	Ditto	Ditto
Burman,	Uncertain	Not begun	Ditto	Ditto
(1) Persian,	Ditto	Ditto	Matthew	Ditto
(2) Malay,	The whole	The whole	The whole	Whole Am. 1758
(3) Tamil,	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto
(4) Malayala,	Acts	Not begun	Not begun	Not begun
(5) Cingalese,	Uncertain	Uncertain	The Gospels	Uncertain.

I have this year been very ill with a fever. For several days my life was despaired of, but the Lord had mercy on me, and raised me up again, and I am now as well as before my illness.

WILLIAM CAREY.

* The copy is imperfect here.

(1) By Rev. C. Martyn and N. Sabat. (2) Printed by the Dutch Government, 1755. (3) By the Missionaries on the Coast. (4) By the Syrian bishop. (5) Uncertain. All the other translations are in our hands. May the Lord enable us to finish them.

Serampore, Nov. 21, 1809.

MY DEAR SIR,

The cause of God with us, after all the opposition, and the hundreds of various kinds it has met with, is still evidently progressive. I cannot but compare it to a little leaven hid in meal, which secretly operates till the whole is leavened without any external aid. Such seems the case here. In Bengal, ten years ago, there was only one place in which the word was made known to the natives; last Lord's day I recollected nine, which I will specify, Calcutta, Serampore, two places in the district of Jassore, Cuteva, Berhampore, Goamalty, Dinagepore, and Sadamah; to which we may add Rangoon in the Burman empire, where a mission is now settled, and Boutan on a mission to which brother Robinson left Serampore with his family a few weeks ago. Then we had

no one native who, baptized himself into the death of his Lord, made known the gospel to his countrymen; now we have at least ten who feel a delight, in being thus employed. Then the Scriptures were in a train of translation into one language only; now they are finished in that one language, and in a train of translation into ten others, (besides what other Christian friends are now stirred up to do,) as you will perceive by the accompanying memoir drawn up at the request of the brethren, and sent to Europe in September last.

J. MARSHMAN.

Serampore, Nov. 21, 1809.

MY DEAR SIR,

We received the whole of your communications by our dear friend Maylin, & Co. with the boxes, in-

voices, &c. in safety. Be assured, dear Sir, that your most kind and generous attention to our dear friends, to our mission at all times, and to the real cause of God amongst all denominations of Christians, has impressed us with sentiments of affection and gratitude for you which can never be erased.

We thank you for taking so generous a part in procuring for our friends a free passage in the Atlas.

The subscriptions so generously raised in the United States for the translation, are a great encouragement, and relief to us in this work, upon which a Gracious Providence has so wonderfully shone; and if it be possible to convey to the subscribers the deep sense of gratitude we feel, or to any considerable number of them, we shall be truly happy. We send to Dr. Staughton and you, not only an account of the sums so generously subscribed in America, but a memoir respecting these translations, which we hope will be satisfactory to the patrons of the work in the United States. The mode you have taken in remitting the subscriptions, is very agreeable to us.

No new steps have been taken by the Honorable Company's Government here respecting us, either in one way or another; but we are not restricted in our labors in the manner we feared we should have been. We should be glad of a public toleration, but if we may not obtain this, we must look up to *him*, who has all power in heaven and on earth, for protection and support in prosecuting the work he has given us to do.

Very dear Sir,

Your most affectionate and

Highly obliged Brethren,

W. CAREY, J. MARSHMAN,
W. WARD, J. ROWE.
