

beauty of the character; by this method, a large number of punches will be saved. Also, when a punch is injured in striking the matrix of any character, it may very frequently, after a little dressing, be used to strike matrices for similar characters of a fewer number of strokes.

About 400 rupees have been subscribed, and nearly 200 punches have been cut: the funds remaining in hand will not admit of much further progress; but the work will proceed just as far as funds are provided. With the requisite funds, about four punches could be cut per day, supposing five men to be employed—the agreement with the work-people being to give entire satisfaction in every punch or else to recut the same.

It is worthy of particular notice, that if we could proceed no farther than we have done, a very great object is obtained; for the 200 characters (nearly), which have already been cut are those which most of all are wanted; and they can combine with type made in the common way, viz. by cutting the character on tin. But every contribution of 68 cents will carry us one step farther; and thus we intend (D. V.) progressively to advance, to the number of some thousand punches. Whether our progress be more or less rapid we leave for our friends to determine. It is hoped that all who feel interested about China will help in this work; a most herculean work, requiring the aid of very many; and a most blessed work, fraught with good to one-third of the human race.

Penang, 31st October, 1833.

SAMUEL DYER.

* * Contributions will be thankfully received by the Editor of the Chinese Repository, Canton; by the principal of the Anglo-Chinese college, Malacca, and by Mr. Dyer, Penang.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

SIAM.—Letters from Bangkok dated on the 22d of September have recently been received from Mr. Jones who was still alone in that field of labor. The Rev. Stephen Johnson and family left Singapore for Siam on the 14th of Nov., and returned to the same place on the 31st of December; the vessel in which they embarked having been unable to proceed on her course against the monsoon. The opportunities for correspondence between Singapore and Siam appear to be few. The *Jemsetjee Jeejeebhoy* and three other Surat ships had arrived in June, and were still in Bangkok when Mr. Jones wrote; since their arrival, sugar had risen from 8 to 13 *ticuls* (about 62 cents) per *pecul*.

Klin, a young native who was formerly employed as Siamese compositor in the printing office at Singapore, has been for some time past engaged in preparing types from such materials

as that country affords; and he is now making preparations to print the *Siamese history* in 25 vols. The amount of each volume will be the contents of one of the Siamese black books, which are formed of thick paper folded backwards and forwards into from 30 to 35 folds. Chau-fa-noi, the king's half brother is also preparing several *peculs* of type for printing.

P'hra Meh-tap the commander-in-chief of the Siamese military forces had gone with a number of vessels for the purpose of removing several thousand more Cambojans to Bangkok, so to release them from the terrors they suffer through fear of the Cochinchinese. This is a specimen of the manner in which Cochinchina and Siam respectively partition Camboja, and give protection to its inhabitants! The commander-in-chief returned on the 24th of September, and brought with him about a dozen boats each con-

taining nearly 60 persons, men, women and children. Others were still to follow.

With respect to his own labors and engagements, Mr. Jones says:

"I have from 10 to 30 patients daily. For some my prescriptions have proved successful, so much so that patients have come 15 days journey to consult me. Last Sunday we had more than 20 Chinese; the others were Peguans, Arabs, Burmans, Portuguese, and Laos. I wonder that we have so much success in this business since we know so little about medicine.

"Binty (a Chinese baptized by Mr. Gutzlaff,) and his associates continue their weekly meeting at our house for Christian worship in Chinese: present last Sunday twenty, a greater number than usual. Some of them, so far as I can judge, give pretty good evidence of being true converts. One has solicited baptism; but as I cannot examine or instruct him, I have deferred it. You can hardly imagine how much we need a Chinese missionary, or how much I wish there were here even an interpreter only. They are mostly (to use Mr. Gutzlaff's orthography,) Tio-chew people who visit us, though we have some of almost every dialect.

"At present, we have a good deal of intercourse with the Burmans; I think I have given most of them a general outline of Christianity; but I fear no fruit has yet sprung up. Mrs. J. and I have spent most of to-day among them. I visited their monastery (I can think of no better name); it contains from 40 to 60 priests. In conversing with the head priest, I asked him in what state those who went to *Nighan* (commonly translated annihilation) existed? Holding up his finger, and giving it a puff, he said, 'in just the state of an extinguished candle.'

"Some of the Siamese seem friendly to me, but on what ground, their general character gives room to suspect. I have visited several of the nobility. One of the P'hra-klang's sons has offered to build me a house rent free, if I will come to his neighborhood; but if I were to be houseless till it is done, I fear I should suffer the peltings of many a monsoon."

COCHINCHINA.—Rumors of insurrections and disturbances in Cochinchina still continue to reach us from

various quarters. "The Christians in all the provinces," says the editor of the *Singapore Chronicle*, in his paper of the 2d ult., "who were protected by *Ta-kong*, (recently an officer of high rank and great influence, but now dead,) and who had nothing to expect from the king but punishment, fled to the fort of Saigon; and 700 of them, at the taking of *Dong-nai*, defended themselves heroically and did great execution among the enemy. *Thay*, (one of the leaders of the insurgents,) sustained all the attacks of the royalists, and even made several very successful sallies. Being as politic as brave, he gained an advantage over his brother-in-law, who commands in Tonquin, and created a division by exciting a rebellion in that quarter. The king was obliged to remove a great part of his troops from the south to the north; but the result is not yet known. There is, however, reason to suppose that the revolt in the north will be more serious than that in the south; and if the communication between the two revolting parties could be effected by sea as well as by land, the king will have much to dread. The centre of Cochinchina is not quiet either; some suspicions, perhaps false, have been attached to the king's brother, and he has been condemned to carry a chain, though he is allowed to remain in his own palace.

"All the Christians are persecuted excessively; and several have been condemned to death. Of this number is Mr. Gugelin, a French missionary who was at Saigon with *Ta-kong* and who was returning to *Hue* to take his leave before departing for Macao. M. Jacard and father Odorico were prisoners at *Hue*, and there are strong reasons for suspecting they have already been executed."

MALACCA.—We have before us several letters and papers from Malacca, some of which are dated as late as the 6th ult.; they afford us a variety of intelligence, especially concerning the college and schools, and encourage us to expect more information from the same sources.

An earthquake occurred at Malacca on the 24th November at half past 3 o'clock P. M. The trembling of the earth continued nearly a minute, and shortly after an indistinct rumbling noise was heard, like distant thunder in the direction of Sumatra. During

the whole evening," says our correspondent, "there was hardly a breath of air; and just previous to the shock, the atmosphere was sultry and oppressive; and we noticed an unusually thick, smoky sky over the sea, westward; this gradually disappeared after the earthquake and rattling noise, and the sky became clear and tranquil, and soon a cool land breeze set in, which made the night comfortable. Probably all we have experienced here are but the effects of a sudden eruption of some volcano in Sumatra. Two of our servants who are advanced in years, remember two former earthquakes at Malacca, both more severe than the present.

"Our minds were much awed by this display of the majesty and power of the Almighty. When he arises in his great power, he can make the earth shake and tremble as easily as the leaf is moved by the wind. Some of the Chinese and Malays when they felt the shock, immediately began to pray and call upon their gods with much noise and confusion."

"P. S. On referring to a chart, the only volcano I find laid down in Sumatra is one near to mount Ophir, 150 or 200 miles south-west from Malacca. Probably its renewed heavings and fiery belchings shook the earth and made the hearts of men quake at this remote distance." Shocks were felt at Singapore at the same time as at Malacca.

Our limits allow us room here for

only a remark or two concerning the schools and mission. There are already several schools for boys, and a few for girls; and had the missionaries "*the means*" they could open many more immediately. The Rev. Mr. Tomlin, who for almost two years has been acting for the principal of the Anglochinese college, intends soon to open a new school on an extensive scale, which shall include boys of different nations, such as Chinese, Malay, Portuguese, &c.; it is to be modeled after one of the best and most successful schools in Calcutta. The Rev. J. Evans has entered on his duties in connection with the college. Mr. E., we understand, has for many years been accustomed to the business of education, having, while in England, been professor of the classics, mathematics, Hebrew and Arabic, successively; and trained a number of pupils for Oxford and Cambridge.

BATAVIA.—We are indebted to the kindness of the Rev. Mr. Medhurst, for a copy of the "Report of the Mission station at Batavia for 1833;" and of a "Journal of a voyage from Batavia to Sourabaya and Sumanap on the islands of Java and Madura, during the months of July, August, and September 1833." Copious extracts from both these documents shall appear in our next number; suffice it to remark here, that the mission amidst many discouragements and hindrances is enjoying great prosperity.

JOURNAL OF OCCURRENCES.

CANTON.—Since the 9th inst., this city has presented a scene of festivities, rejoicings, and congratulations which is usual throughout the Chinese empire during the holidays of new year. In the mean time there has been an *unusual* amount of suffering, especially among the lower classes of the inhabitants. Great numbers of the poor, who were rendered houseless and penniless by the inundation last August, have perished during the winter. No one can describe the wretchedness of some of these sufferers: and none but an eye-witness can conceive of it. Morning after morning, and in the same place, we have seen two three, and four dead bodies; and in the narrow compass of a few rods we have seen at noon-day more than 20

individuals stretched on the ground half naked, and either senseless or writhing in the agonies of death caused by hunger. No man cares for their bodies; none for their souls.

His excellency, *Lo-tac-keou*, the literary chancellor of Canton, hung himself in his own house on the morning of the 26th inst. We may give some particulars of the case hereafter.

Banditti have again appeared on the hills at *Lcen-chow*, carrying terror and destruction in every direction. Governor Loo has ordered troops and supplies to the field; the result of the expedition is yet unknown in Canton.—We have Peking gazettes to the 2d of December: but they contain nothing of special interest.