

If any one's heart sinks in view of the obstacles which now oppose the introduction of the gospel, we beg such to consider, that in each of the present stations of the Chinese mission, there is now much more labor to be performed—labor essential to the cause—than can possibly be accomplished by the present members. If the facilities were greater than they now are, where are the missionaries that could seize upon them and employ them for the Lord? Where are the books to circulate, the men to distribute them, the preachers to explain them? And may we not safely hope that the same wise Providence that has hitherto opened the way before his servants, will continue to remove the impediments as they press into his service, and need a wider door of entrance? It will be safe to trust the almighty Savior, and go forward. The sentiment of one who had trusted the Lord may well be the motto of all the true servants of God: "When the Lord commands a work to be done, I see no obstacles; and he has commanded to preach the gospel to every creature." To the Spirit of the Lord therefore, we look for the removal of all existing obstacles; to him also we look to make all present facilities availing, by preparing the hearts of this nation for the reception of the gospel of Christ.

ART. V. *Religious intelligence: Report of the mission at Batavia: notices of the Burman mission.*

We have received from the Rev. Walter H. Medhurst, missionary, and Mr. William Young jr., assistant missionary, a detailed report of the missionary operations at Batavia, for 1834. We present them our hearty thanks for so obligingly furnishing us with this very satisfactory report. It includes the space of a year and reaches down to last October. We shall make such extracts as our limits allow. On the subject of *preaching*, the report states: "The English services at the chapel have been a sermon every Sabbath morning and evening, and an address every Thursday evening. In these engagements our lamented brethren Lyman and Munson took a share during their stay in Batavia; but since then this labor has devolved on us. The children in the day and orphan schools, who regularly attend these services, are making great progress in knowledge, and some of them display a great degree of seriousness and attention, which is quite encouraging; while the children of the mission family give hopeful signs of being somewhat impressed with a sense of the importance of religion, and the necessity of giving up their hearts to God.

The *Malay services* at the chapel have been a sermon on Sabbath noon, and one on Thursday evening, with the meeting of a Bible class every Wednesday afternoon. The attendance on these exercises is better than on the English services, and the results are encouraging, showing an addition of one member, four catechumens, and

six adult persons baptized in the course of the year. The congregation has generally consisted of country-born and native Christians, who use the Malay language, to whom are added some native soldiers from the eastern islands, our own servants, and a few poor. Those who have been baptized from among the troops, were formerly heathens, without any religion, of whom five have been added this year to the Christian church.

The *conversations* held with the Malays and Chinese in their shops and markets have been regularly kept up, and a portion of each day set apart for these exercises. The object aimed at is to visit every part of the town and suburbs in regular rotation. Thus the same place seldom comes round above once or twice a year. Hence the persons who hear the gospel are many though each individual does not hear it often, and the knowledge of Christianity diffused by this means is great. Though the impression produced is less likely to be deep and lasting, still under present circumstances, and in so wide a field, it seems the only way in which the mass of mind allotted us to cultivate can be wrought upon.

The *distribution of tracts* has been carried on at the same time with these occasional conversations; and a book, presented at the close of such a conference, is generally better received and more attentively read than if the same had been casually given. The number of tracts distributed during the past year has been as follows: in the Chinese language, 13,137; Malay 6119; native 4213; Dutch 3044; English 450; German 290; French 245; and Armenian, 6; making a total of 27,841. Of the Chinese tracts more than seven thousand were sent to Mr. Gutzlaff for circulation on the eastern coast of China; the remainder, with those of the other languages, have been distributed, some in and near Batavia, and some sent to Sourabaya, Sumenap, Samarang, Padang and Penang.

The tracts and books *printed* at this station have been more than in any preceding year. The returns of the printing-office show the works issued; thirty-two books of all kinds, Chinese, Malay, Native, English, Dutch, and Dutch and Malay; averaging forty-four pages each. The number of copies printed in all is 28,000, by the process of lithography, block printing, and movable types. In a few cases, pay was received from various sources for printing; in a few others, the paper was furnished by the Religious Tract Society; but in the greater number, the whole expense of paper and workmanship is borne by the London Missionary Society. Of the above works three Chinese and two Malay are original compositions, principally got up during the past year.

BERMAH. By the kindness of the Rev. J. Taylor Jones, at Bankok, we have received the latest information from Burmah. It consists of extracts from letters of the missionaries in that country, dated the 1st and 17th of February, 1834.

Mr. Kincaid is still at Ava, where he has baptized three natives and one country-born. A good deal of persecution has been raised in Rangoon; the pastor, a native Burman, has been imprisoned and

disburdened of sixty rupees. All who go near Mr. Bennett are seized and punished. The word of God has begun to take effect among the Karens above Rangoon. Five were baptized before the above difficulty, and there are about thirty who appear to be sincere Christians. The Psalms are in press; the translation of the Old Testament was finished yesterday. (The first complete edition of the New Testament in Burmese was issued from the press in December, 1832. Since that period, a digest of the Scriptures in scriptural language has been published.) Brother Mason is making great progress in the Karen language. A deputation from a Karen chief has just arrived, requesting me to come up and examine himself and several of his people with a view to baptism. The following table may afford you some satisfactory information; I have just made it in order to send home.

"Table of persons baptized in Burmah during the year 1833.

	Burmese.	Karens.	Foreigners.	Total.
Maulmein,	10	16	18	44
Tavoy,	2	14	3	19
Rangoon,	5	5	1	11
Ava,	3			3
Total,	20	35	22	77
Before baptized	128	257	131	516
Total	148	292	153	593

"Of the Burmese converts, eight have been excluded,—two in Rangoon, before the war; two at Tavoy, and four at Maulmein; besides three or four in Rangoon on whom sentence has not been formally pronounced. Of the Karens, two have been excluded in this district, and a few others stand suspended."

ART. VI. *Journal of Occurrences: Arrival of the hoppo's family from Peking; liberation of Sunshing.*

Hoppo's family. January 1st. The arrival of the new hoppo's family at Canton is reported. They come from Peking, and are said to amount to two hundred in all, and all Mantchou Tartars. If we may judge by the number of this train, we may suppose that the post of hoppo of the port of Canton is well thought of at court, or he would not retain such a suite of servants and expectant followers.

Sunshing. January 21st. To the universal joy of the foreign community, the hong merchant Sunshing or Hingtae, was this day liberated from the confinement which he has suffered since August last. The price which he finally paid for his freedom, we know only from uncertain rumor; that rumor makes it a sum worthy the consideration of the high imperial officers.—All this suffering and loss have befallen him, because Lord Napier came up from Whampoa in the boat of a ship for which Sunshing was security;—an act entirely unknown to the unfortunate hong merchant, and equally beyond his power of prevention had he been apprised of it.

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ART. I. *The Mongols: their conquests; Genghis combines the tribes and extends his dominions; his sons follow him; Kublai subdues China; Hulagu adds Persia to his empire; Batu advances into Europe, and conquers Poland; Tamerlane comes to the throne, and consolidates the empire; takes Delhi and defeats Bajazet; dies, and the empire of the Mongols falls to pieces.*

Few of the nomadic tribes that emerged from central Asia have extended their ravages so widely as the Mongols. In vain do we attempt, at the present day, to trace out the origin of all the tribes comprehended under the general name of Mongols; nor is it easy to account for the remarkable impulse which led them to aspire after the dominion of the world. As a nation, they were rude, scarcely having knowledge of any country beyond their own dreary deserts; having few wants, they could satisfy them without recourse to rapine; their martial spirit was not excited by their domestic feuds; their weapons of war were inferior even to the Chinese. All they could boast of was their swift horses, hardy and inured to want, able to carry their riders to the distant parts of Asia without endangering their lives, or hazarding their safety in the territory of the enemy. Poor as they were, without even a cottage to shelter themselves from the rigor of winter on the elevated steeps of the north, possessing nothing but cattle, they had little to lose by adventure, every thing to gain; and the world lay before them. To whatever part they chose to emigrate, the change was necessarily for the better. With scarcely a village or city within the circumference of thousands of miles, there was little to fix them on their native soil, or to bid them return when they had forsaken those barren regions. In addition to