

the mission may make its entrance before the European power, since the great extension of the Dutch government in the years 1904-1909. It may be said that the heathen population of Malaysia is in the latter years more than ever accessible to Islam. The Rhenish Missionary Society is doing good work in the interior of the southern part of Borneo, in the countries along the Barito, Kapuas Murung and Kahayan Rivers. But the population on the banks of the Kapuas, Mahakam and Kayan Rivers is not yet being evangelized ; there Islam may exercise its influence without the least hindrance. From the reports of Dr. Nieuwenhuis we may learn that the population on the Kapuas River far towards its upper course are already converted to Islam, and Dr. Nieuwenhuis shows clearly that Islam is doing no good there. The missionaries of the Rhenish Mission Society declare that the Dayak population along the banks of the Barito, Kapuas Murung and Kahayan Rivers have already adopted so much from both Islam and Christianity, that they consider it superfluous to become either Mohammedans or Christians. They pretend already to possess that which is offered to them.

The missionary forces of the Rhenish Missionary Society are at present not sufficient to work regularly among the Mohammedans. Systematic missions among the Mohammedans of Borneo have not yet been started, as all the missionary forces are needed for the evangelizing of the heathen population.

As for the Isle of Nias (on the western coast of Sumatra), no influence of importance has been exercised on the heathen population by the Mohammedans of the coast. Just as in Central Celebes, the Christian mission has had here the advantage of being established before the Dutch government made its entrance. At present, Christianity is developing powerfully there, so that all the disposable