

God of Sabbath a loud and thrilling cry for mercy. In many places business was partially suspended. Mills were closed for several days in succession. In one establishment 150 were struck down. Convicted persons rushed into the towns and paced up and down the streets with the Bible in their hands crying for pardon. During three, six, and even eight nights, many never went to bed. A clergyman in Derry stated that he did not lie down to rest for four nights, and just as he was retiring on the fifth night, he was called from his house to a company of persons who had fallen down in the road. A gentleman in one of the towns had assured the speaker that for three days there was the incessant sound of praise and prayer in the streets. Then came those days when vast assemblies met for hearing the word of God and prayer. Wherever a preacher stood up, multitudes flocked round him and hung on his lips. The simple prayer of a plain Christian melted an entire congregation. Christians of a day old preached with as much freedom and power as if they had been in the ministry twenty years. Meetings were prolonged far into the night, and often did the morning sun gild the mountain tops before the sounds of devotion died away. Vice retired to its lurking places, and drunkenness was almost unknown. In Ballymena, a place notorious for its drinking habits, a gentleman stated that for four months he saw only one drunken man in the place. The vast aggregate meetings of last summer had ceased, but had been succeeded by a number of smaller ones. The churches had grown in numbers rapidly, and every individual to whom he had addressed inquiries bore testimony to the steadfastness of the converts. Very few had fallen away. From personal conversation with the converts, he (Mr. Kirtland) had received the impression that their religion was of a type superior to that of persons who are brought to God under ordinary circumstances. The converts had such clear conceptions of the way of salvation, such entire reliance on the sacrifice of Christ, such vivid realisation of their acceptance, such exalted views of Christian character, such intense earnestness, and, in many instances, such peace and joy, that his lips were sealed, and he seemed to shrink into very small dimensions in the presence of those babes in Christ. In taking farewell of that favoured province, his heart swelled with grateful emotion when he thought of what God had wrought. Let men call it hysteria, or catalepsy, or anything they liked. If hysteria is instrumental in raising the standard of public morals, in emptying prisons, in making the magistrate and policeman's office almost a sinecure; if it makes people sober, chaste, and holy; if it fills them with peace and joy; then he would to God that England and the whole world might be visited and laid prostrate by the same mighty agent.

The Rev. FRANCIS WILLS, would first glance at the circumstances which called for this special effort. The Irish revival had now become a household word. During the past year, there had been a great religious awakening throughout the north of Ireland, and a very great revival of true religion in those who were in a cold, or lukewarm, indifferent state. This awakening might be traced back to 1856, as the result, under God, of the persevering labours and agonising prayers of one English lady, who, in the summer of that year, visited Ballymena, and, in her domiciliary visitations, endeavoured to arouse the people to a sense of their spiritual condition. The first manifest proof of the good work took place in a man who lived in the village of Kells, near to Ballymena, Nov. 3rd, 1856; and from the moment of this man's conversion, he, with a few others who were in earnest, ceased not to pray and labour for the good of others until, in the early part of the year 1858, it became manifest to the eyes of all that the Lord had begun a glorious work in the parish of Connor; numbers were savingly converted to God; the work moved on as a mighty wave, sometimes noiselessly, at other times like the roar of Sinai, that made the most sceptical "fear and quake." From Connor the work extended to Ahoghill, Ballymena, Ballymoney, Antrim, Belfast, Coleraine, Londonderry, and throughout the whole province of Ulster. In all these places, the ministers of the Gospel of every denomination, were occupied day and night in ministering comfort to the distressed, in directing inquirers to the Lamb of God, and in preaching to the people who assembled by thousands to hear of the Saviour of sinners. The result of all this was, the exhaustion of the strength and energies of many of the ministers and pastors of the churches, and the earnest appeal from many parts of the country, and especially from those in connection with this society for help. The pastor of the church worshipping in Kingsgate Chapel was one of the first commissioned by the committee to go and tell the thousands of perishing souls in Ireland that "God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten son Jesus Christ, that whosoever believed in him might not perish, but have everlasting life." He (Mr. Wills) visited Belfast, Ballymena, Coleraine, Giant's Causeway, Bush Mills, Portrush, Port Stewart, and Londonderry, but was stationed principally at Coleraine, visiting and preaching in the surrounding villages. After a few days, when he had become acquainted with the manners and customs of the people, he had the privilege of preaching the Gospel to some hundreds of persons. They generally had two or three public services every day, besides elementary visitations and private conversations with individuals, and public services every Lord's day. He visited Londonderry, and found there some friends holding a conference in reference to the formation of a Baptist interest in that city, whose population was nearly 25,000. He visited and preached at Port Stewart, Roselich, Ballysally, and other places. At Coleraine, a prayer-meeting, presided over by the various

ministers of the town, was held every morning in the townhall, which was just completed. In Killowene, he held a Bible-class of deeply-interested and attentive young women every afternoon; he also held a class on Monday evenings in a store, and soon had crowded congregations; and whether in chapel or school-house, storehouse or factory, barn or granary, town or country, village or hamlet, hundreds flocked to hear, and many were often melted to tears at the relation of the agony of Gethsemane, or the sufferings of the cross. Many a time, after he had been speaking for hours, would the people leave a heavy sigh, and say, "Aye, now, and has he done? O, we would like to remain a little longer on that hilltop Calvary?" He had often been struck with the earnestness with which those who had been converted would desire to spread the fame of Jesus abroad wherever they went. The results of the revival, as far as he had witnessed them, both in their moral and spiritual aspect, were highly satisfactory. He did not see an intoxicated person during the whole month he was in Ireland; 2,124 copies of the Scriptures were sold in one small district in three months, 1241 being paid for them. Many, very many, half-hearted, lukewarm, indifferent professors experienced new life, and every place of worship was well filled with anxious and attentive hearers.

Correspondence.

For the Christian Messenger.

English Correspondence.

From our own Correspondent.

Manchester, May 19th, 1860.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

THE KINGDOM OF NAPLES.

The little island of Sicily has become the centre of attraction now. It is pretty certain that the devoted champion of Italian liberty, Garibaldi, with a respectable force of 2,000 men has safely landed at Marsala in Sicily, on May 12th, that he or the native insurgents hold that town,—that the royal troops are in possession of not more than the two towns of Messina and Palermo. The rising population seem to be well provided with arms and ammunition. It is said that there has been a recent arrival of arms on the south side of the island, from the Levant. It would be interesting to know who supplied them. The French press is ready enough to charge England with complicity in Garibaldi's descent on Sicily, but I am inclined to the opinion that that charge is only a ruse of the French Government to turn popular attention from its own doings in the affair. The state of Naples is said by the latest telegrams to be alarming. We have for weeks been treated with repeated reports that Naples and Sicily were quiet, and the people were calmly pursuing their occupations, that the Court and nobility were enjoying themselves in their usual pleasures; but now trade is paralysed, unoffending people shot down by the police, the troops disaffected and even refusing to march, and the Court is in such consternation that already the plate, jewels, and valuables are packed up in anticipation of a peremptory order from the sovereign people for the hated Bourbon to quit the country. The rapid success of Garibaldi will kindle the flame of rebellion throughout the Neapolitan dominions. A rumour appears to day that troops have left Tuscany and passed through the Roman States into Naples, but this appears so unlikely at present that I merely give the rumour.

IN ROME.

Things look strange. There is General Lamoriciere declared to be at the head of the military department, yet all power of action is centred in other officials. I am not sure that this General's position at Rome is not one of the deep tricks of Napoleon to prevent Rome from lending any aid to Francis II of Naples. Let the revolution drive out the present sovereign and then France may step in as a fast friend to the popular cause to prevent Rome or Austria assisting, and thus get an easy and cheap victory over the whole of Italy.

RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

It has been known for some time that Russia has congregated a respectable force in the South, and is supposed to be preparing a fleet of war-like vessels in the Black Sea, and lastly Russia has boldly declared that she has some settlement to make with the "sick man" again at Constantinople. But this time it is no attempt to win over some of the great Powers, but to induce all the great Powers to come to a fair understanding on the matter. The oppression of the Christians by the Moslems is a ready excuse for this interference, but nobody thinks it is the real cause. France and Russia seem to be on most amicable terms just now. Perhaps they are concocting some scheme for rearranging the "balance of power."

FRANCE.

The diplomatic "dodge" has sooner settled the Savoy question than I expected. The pro-

tests of Switzerland and even the hasty assembling of the German government under the fear of French invasion are now almost forgotten. Louis Napoleon looks out for larger game than a few miles on the banks of the Rhine. A few days will put a new phase on foreign affairs. Every body seems to be on the tiptoe of expectation, wondering what will be the next scene. The Count DeMontemolin and his brother have been pardoned for their treason to the throne of Spain, and allowed to retire to Paris to live in peace. They have probably made their last attempt to regain the crown they claim.

It appears that France and England are leagued against Turkey in a demand for £120,000 indemnity for the Jeddah massacre. France will stick to England so long as she can gain an advantage by so doing. France has been playing the big brother to us a long time, but I dread a future quarrel. It is not certain, in the case of a European War that we shall be on the same side with our present Ally.

Mr. Cobden reports favorably of the zeal and progress of the French Commission to settle the custom's duties in accordance with the new treaty, and the English are making large preparations to supply the French market with our manufactures. Trade here continues good. Some decline has taken place in the prices of some goods, but not to any serious extent, nor so much as the fluctuations in the Public Funds would indicate. It is the unsettled state of Southern Europe in the first place and next to that, the fear of a bad result in the discussion on the paper duty coming on Monday night in the House of Lords which makes the public timorous.

The rapid though late Spring will tend to cheer us in all respects, and a few favorable telegrams from Paris would soon set us right.

HASTINGS.

For the Christian Messenger.

School examination—Educational meeting.

Dear Messenger,—My only apology for trespassing upon your popular pages is, my love for progress, and the request contained in the resolution below.

By particular invitation, I recently attended an Annual Examination of a common school taught in Hammonds Plains by Mr. R. O. B. Johnson, a graduate with a first class diploma from the Normal School at Truro. The exercises commenced at 1 o'clock, P. M. and closed about half past five. I did not arrive in time to witness the examination of the junior classes, but was informed by Mr. Dakin, the teacher at Bedford and others present, that it was very satisfactory.

The branches in which the pupils were examined were, Reading and spelling, English Grammar, Geography, Mental and Sate Arithmetic, Anatomy, and Physiology. As the system has only been forty-two weeks in operation there, I think that the teacher and pupils have richly merited the meed of praise. In fact, the school would not suffer by comparison with any under the circumstances I ever witnessed.

It was through my influence that they employed a teacher from the noble institution at Truro, and although they give a much higher salary than has been usual in that locality, yet I believe they are now prepared to admit that the highest priced articles are not always the dearest.

It has been an exceedingly trying time to the people in the Plains this year and half past,—they are generally coopers, and in consequence of the failure in the fisheries, their trade has been comparatively worthless—moreover, from the prevalence of scarlet fever, sore throat, and measles, almost every family has been visited with sickness and death, which circumstances will make it difficult for them to continue the school as they desire.

At the close of the afternoon services, Mr. Norman Hays, a senior pupil in an appropriate speech on behalf of the school presented Mr. Johnson with a neat little gilt Bible, as a token of the appreciation of the faithful services of the teacher; Mr. J. made a very touching reply.

In the evening quite a number attended an educational meeting. The number would have been greater if the meeting had been properly notified.

After calling me to the chair, the meeting was addressed by the Chairman, Messrs. Dakin, C. Bezanson, S. Thomson & others, on education. The following resolutions were unanimously adopted, they will show the light in which they regard the teacher, and the system on which he has so successfully taught. The Hammonds Plains people are doing a work in the cause of education that would do honor to a wealthier community:

Resolved, 1.—That in view of the dreadful malady which has bereaved many a fond parent and caused their hearts to bleed; that this meeting unitedly join in prayer to Almighty God for the restoration of health to this community.

2.—That as evident success has attended the exertions of the teacher and trustees during the first year, that the school be continued for the ensuing year.

3.—That Mr. R. O. B. Johnson be the teacher, and that he receive the salary of £100, to be raised by voluntary subscription.

4.—That a vote of thanks be presented to the subscribers for their liberal aid during the past year, and that they be solicited to continue their subscriptions for the ensuing year.

5.—That a vote of thanks be presented to the Rev. Mr. Porter for the interest he has taken in the cause of education.

6.—That a vote of thanks be presented to Mr. Dakin for the interest he has taken in this school.

7.—That the chairman be requested to send an account of these meetings to the Journal of Education and Agriculture, and the Christian Messenger for publication.

T. H. PORTER.

Sackville May 1860.

For the Christian Messenger.

Home Mission Agency.

MR. EDITOR,

I left Halifax on Friday the 12th inst, and came to Fall River settlement about twelve miles from town. Here are a few Baptist brethren who have no stated preaching among them, and, therefore, are glad to hear a sermon occasionally from ministers who in their journeying happen to pass that way. They have a meeting house, unfinished, but comfortable in warm weather. Owing to a misunderstanding in reference to the meeting-house, I announced a meeting for the evening in the schoolhouse, where quite a number gathered, and listened with apparent interest to the word of life. I introduced the Home Mission and obtained subscriptions to the amount of \$8 50 and left the list with Mr. S. W. Britton to collect.

Saturday 12th.—Proceeded to LOWER STEWIAKKE, taking the Gaysboro road, and passing through the beautiful farming district of Gay's River settlement.—The churches at Upper and Lower Stewiacke have been for some time past without an under shepherd, but they have now engaged the services of the Rev. J. Miller, formerly of Halifax. The circuit is very large and the church members scattered; yet there is a growing interest, and a large and important field presents itself, inviting the energetic and untiring labors of the faithful man of God. A Missionary Society is in operation which promises efficient aid at the coming Associations.

Sunday 13th.—Preached in the morning at Lower Stewiacke to a good and attentive congregation, and in the afternoon at St. Andrews, in one of those small low school-houses which, notwithstanding the improvements introduced of late, are still allowed to remain in many parts of the county.

We do not feel disposed to despise "the day of small things," but do earnestly long for the day when we shall see all our rural districts supplied with roomy well-ventilated school houses, and those old seven by nine cabins, either converted into pig-sties, or disposed of as public nuisances so that our youth may not be exposed to contagion while pursuing their studies, nor our ministers, to suffocation while preaching in them.

Monday 14th.—Went to UPPER STEWIAKKE and visited several families—obtained subscriptions to the amount of about \$18 00 (\$14.00 paid) over and above what they pay into the funds of the society in operation among them.

Tuesday 15th.—Visited BROOKFIELD and held a missionary meeting. Attendance small but as large as could be expected.

Bro. Miller was there and aided the cause by enforcing the necessity of increased exertions in the Home Missionary enterprise. Our meeting was one of considerable interest and we hope beneficial results will follow.

Wednesday 16th.—Proceeded to Truro and Onslow—called on brethren Dimock and Scott and learned from them that the Home Mission is not forgotten by the enterprising churches of those places; but that they are already at work gathering in their funds which will be forthcoming at the approaching Association.

Thursday 17th.—Visited UPPER LONDON-DERRY where there is a church of some forty members under the pastoral charge of the Rev. Mr. Thompson. A meeting was announced for the evening, but the notice being so short it was but thinly attended, and it was thought best to make another appointment for next week, where the claims of the Mission will be presented and probably a Society formed.