

with the prospect of employment as teachers and readers.

"*October.*—It is with much thankfulness that I recal the impressions made on my mind by a sojourn in Ireland during the past summer. Some had said, that as time tried it, the system pursued by the Society for Irish Church Missions was to a considerable extent a failure, and that, in many localities, where the promise of spiritual fruit had been richest, the ingathering was scanty and its quality little worth. That there has been no retrogression is shewn by the following returns made to the Committee in London, and published by their authority:—'The daily schools are 102, with 4530 on the roll; the Sunday ragged schools are attended by 2602 additional, of whom a large proportion are adults. The services for divine worship have increased during the last six months: in January, there were 315 English services and 30 Irish; in June, there were 404 English and 35 Irish. In January, the congregation attending them amounted to 26,671; and in June, 35,241. The same number of agents who in January paid 10,617 visits, in which they spoke to 33,318 persons, in June paid 13,728 visits, and spoke to 45,887 persons.'

"All I saw and heard was most reassuring and satisfactory. In the County of Limerick, where the Irish Society labours, I saw marks of progress. At Askeaton, the Rev. G. Maxwell has gathered a school of 25 Roman Catholics in the spite of much opposition; the children had learned a very considerable amount of Scripture, and were improving in every respect. In the city of Limerick, through the exertions of the Rev. B. Jacob, nearly 100 boys and girls of the most neglected class had been brought under humanizing and Christianizing influences. Every Sabbath above 100 adults join them, who are individually taught passages from the Bible, and attend a service arranged to meet their circumstances. On the first Sabbath, after nearly all

had dispersed, one boy remained seated. He was asked why he not go. 'Oh, sir,' he said, 'just me sit a little longer here, for I ne spent such a happy day.'

"*Galway.*—In this town, the work of evangelization has been making steady progress under the able superintendence of the Rev. G. Brownrigg, in connexion with the Irish Church Missions, and although considered one of the most impracticable places in the country, Mr. Brownrigg preaches there every Sabbath to between 200 and 300 converts young and old; 200 usually at his weekly controversial class; and 150 children in the day schools, who appear to be improving fast. The infant schools was particularly interesting—many of the little things were so pretty and poor; they answered remarkably well; and some who could just scarcely intelligibly repeated short texts quite correctly,—thus dedicating childhood's first lispsings to Him who took little children in His arms and blessed them. The teacher said, most of them got more other food than that given in school.

"*Asasleagh.*—With this Mission have for four years been connected, and it has been a great pleasure to have in any way helpers of those who are personally engaged in the Lord's service there. The direct mission labours have been so cordially supported, and with so much judicious perseverance followed up, by the Rev. David and Mrs. Plunket and Mr. Aldridge, that the young people were drawn to the school in 1847, now in many instances filling situations of trust with credit to themselves and joy to those kind friends who, after days of trial and discouragement, commenced and persevered in the Christian labours. The day school is attended by about 50, nearly all children of converts. From 8 to 10 girls and boys, whose parents had gone elsewhere and were willing to leave their children, are boarded