

the same influence, and with the very design of prejudicing the Jews, a figure of the Saviour on the cross, as large as life, was put up on the wall of the Lutheran church. The priests have tried frequently to stir up the Jews against the mission, and so far succeed, that there is bitter opposition to it among them. Yet, in spite of all this, God seems remarkably to bless the work. Mr. Hiscock never fails to get round him great numbers of Jews, when he goes down to their quarter; and has often preached the gospel to a crowd of them met in an open square. He has six persons at present applying for baptism; and there have been many baptisms of late years. If any place needed the gospel more than another, this city does. The Polish population is fearfully corrupt; theft, lying, licentiousness, revenge, flow down its streets. At the same time, it has every appearance of devotion; crosses and saints set up in every street. A Jewish lad said to us: "I believe in all the gods—the God Jesus, the God Mary, and the God of the Jews." He was evidently an infidel: but he expressed the real feeling of many, when he spoke of the gods of the city. Influenced, no doubt, by what they thus witness, under the name of Christianity, the Jews have refused to

send any of their children to a school which the government opened for them, and to which a Jew was appointed teacher. Because it proceeded from the Christians, they said, they would not send their children. I forgot to say, that the missionary is permitted to distribute tracts, and even Polish bibles, to the Jews. This may, through the blessing of the Lord, be a means of sending light to the natives; and so the Jews here would become on the scale of a single city what they are to be to the world at last, "a hearth of fire in a sheaf." We reached Breslau this evening. We have not had time to visit any Jews here as yet; but already we remark how liberalized the Jews of Prussia appear; they wish to be thought Gentiles. True conversion is the rarest thing we meet with. Jews, like other men, can pass through a hundred changes, and yet remain without the Holy Spirit. "Come from the four winds, O breath," (Ezek. xxxvii, 9,) is the prayer of the Church for Israel, put into her mouth by God himself. Mr. M'Cheyne desires to be remembered to you. We rejoice in the hope of soon seeing you face to face. Believe me, &c.

ANDREW A. BONAR.

ECONOMY OF INSECTS.

The practical energy of insects—estimating it by the magnitude of the effects which it produces—is surprisingly great; and, as employed in working out either trials or benefits to man, illustrates the wisdom and goodness of the Creator, and affords material of important moral instruction. Among the phases which it wears, or the connexions in which it is displayed, may be named combination, perseverance, and instinctive skill.

Combination renders many insects powerful, which, when viewed as individuals, are thought insignificant. The corn-weevil, which eats out the flour from grain, will speedily reduce the stores of the largest granaries to empty chaff. The white ant of the tropics sometimes, with as much effectiveness as fire or flood, sweeps away whole clusters of houses. The locust converts, in a single night, an entire district of vegetation into naked soil, and often, for days together, defeats the efforts of man to place a limit to its devastations. These instances, which might easily be multiplied, admonish man of his littleness, and teach him how dependent he is on God for protection against

even the most trivial and feeble foe. Often has he, in spite of the lapsedness of his condition, and the degradedness of his character, proudly called himself 'the lord of creation;' and yet he is frequently baffled by the exertions of a feeble tiny insect! How fervently then ought he to renounce his pride, and to practise reliance on the power and goodness of the Creator!

But insect activity—on the same principle of the divine government as the sublime agency of the lightning and the tempest—inflicts occasional disaster, only in connexion with a system for conferring general and enduring benefits.—Beetles sweep away an excess of vegetable production, which the health of animated nature requires to be periodically destroyed.—Tropical insects, by lodging their larvæ in the skins or carcasses of the larger animals, consume much of the corrupt animal matter which, if unremoved, would speedily infect the atmosphere with disease and pestilence. Flies, grubs, caterpillars, and all the little agents of petty annoyance which exist in our land, exert an essential influence, and act no unimportant part,