

The week-day school, some time ago established, continues to give general satisfaction, the present number of pupils being from 70 to 80. Two week-day schools in Harray and Birsay, conducted by young men connected with the congregation, having about 40 pupils in each, are also in a satisfactory state. There has been sermon pretty frequently during the year in some of the remoter districts of Sandwick, and in several of the surrounding districts of Birsay and Harray. "Upon the whole," Mr. McGowan writes, "looking at the circumstances of this Congregation at present, and calling to mind our condition in former years, though we are not without our causes of grief and humiliation, we have abundant reasons to thank God and to take courage."

**ROUSAY.**—The membership of this Congregation, under the ministry of the Rev. John McLellan, is 170; and the general audience, when the weather is favorable, 250. The weekly fellowship-meetings continue to be maintained with regularity and interest. There are four stations,—one distant from the Church six miles; two distant three miles each, and one in the island of Eagleshay, where Sabbath schools, and monthly missionary prayer-meetings are held. The schools have an agreeable regular attendance of 200, and the attention and diligence of the scholars are commendable. The prayer-meetings are generally crowded, and much interest is manifested. There is a week-day school in Rousay of 20 pupils, and another at Eagleshay of 30,—the latter greatly aided by J. Baikie, Esq., the proprietor, and both deriving assistance from the first Congregation of Ailua. The library now contains 212 volumes; and the readers are in proportion of one to each family in the congregation. Owing to the great distance of a large proportion of the members of the Congregation, and of the inhabitants of the Island, both from our place of worship and that of the Establishment, there is frequent Sabbath evening and week-day sermon, which is the more necessary, as the weather, more especially in winter, renders the attendance of the people impossible. Many in the remote districts of Rousay, and in the adjacent smaller islands, have thus opportunities, very seldom otherwise obtainable, of hearing the gospel. When such opportunities are presented, the attendance is always good and encouraging. "The weekly meetings for prayer," writes Mr. McLellan, in a communication lately received from him in reference to the state of the Congregation, "although not quite so numerous from local causes, as in the two preceding seasons, contain as great a number of the members of the congregation as formerly; and from the regularity with which they are held, notwithstanding the badness of the roads, and the storminess of the weather in the winter period, there is good reason to hope that such meetings are regarded as seasons of sweet communion. I may state that at one of the meetings, at which I happened accidentally to be present, I felt very much interested in the devotional exercises, which were conducted in part by some of the young men who joined the church under my own ministry. My thoughts