

HERE AND THERE.

"I hope to enjoy his society greatly in heaven, but I don't care to see any more of him here on earth than I can help." So said one Christian of another to a third person. When asked what he meant, the speaker explained that, although there could be no doubt of the reality of the piety of the person spoken of, it had failed so signally thus far, to eradicate, or even modify essentially, some disagreeable traits, that few persons could be expected to take real enjoyment in his society, however much they might respect him for his excellences.

The conversation suggested three things worth remembering:—First, the duty of the follower of Jesus Christ to commend his religion by cultivating a genial spirit and pleasant manners; second, the possibility that, if a fellow Christian does not seem to us to be all that he ought to be, his shortcomings may be due, in part, to our failure to make his acquaintance fully enough to appreciate his best side thoroughly, and in part to the evil influence upon him of our own bad example; and thirdly, the fact that in the blessed life to come those who have truly loved and served the Lord will have been emancipated from their lingering bad and disagreeable habits, and will find that they have far more in common, both with their Redeemer and their fellow-disciples, than they ever seemed to have on earth.—*Congregationalist.*

PROTESTANTISM IN SPAIN.

Concerning the progress of Protestantism in Spain we have some interesting information recently made public by the Evangelist, Juan Fuente, of Granada. He is the son of a Catholic family in Northern Spain, was intended for the priesthood, and studied seven years in a seminary, and then became a convert to Protestantism.

He states that on Palm Sunday, 1869, the first Evangelical Church in Spain was dedicated in Madrid, and that, since that date the Gospel has been progressing, though slowly, and meeting constant opposition. About sixty larger or smaller societies have been formed, which are under the direction of missionaries or pastors, and in all the larger cities of Spain there are fully organized Protestant congregations. Many denominations are en-

gaged in this work. The Scotch and English Mission Societies are, however, taking the lead, and, have scattered thousands of Bibles and Testaments through the land. The number who have openly embraced the Evangelical faith are from 12,000 to 14,000, to which must be added a large number who have connected themselves without such a public profession. Fuente estimates the whole number of Protestants in Spain at present to be from 26,000 to 30,000 souls.

The return of the Bourbons has been a serious blow to the Gospel work, and systematic attempts are made by those in authority to undermine the cause and prevent the further spread of Protestantism, although freedom of worship is officially permitted by the State. In nearly all large cities are found Protestant schools, which have a total attendance of over 7,000. The wealthier congregations, like those at Madrid, Barcelona, and Seville, aid in the support of the schools of the poorer congregations, such as is in Granada and Cordova. Fuente himself, two years ago founded an evangelical society among the gypsies in the poorer part of Granada, among people who formerly had no religious training whatever. But when he had established a school with an attendance of 100 pupils, and was conducting regular services, the rabble was aroused against him and the police were repeatedly compelled to protect him and save his life. Frederick Friedner, the veteran Protestant missionary in Spain, is still there doing a noble work.—*Independent.*

Fiji.—Some fifty years ago an appeal was made to the British people in the form of a letter with the heading, "Pity Poor Fiji." At that time the islands were given up to heathenism—heathenism of a very barbarous and offensive kind. The appeal was heard. The Wesleyans sent out missionaries at once. Quite recently the jubilee of the Christian Church in Fiji was celebrated. It appears from the reports brought back by deputies who took part in the jubilee celebration that there is not now a heathen on the island. Among no people in modern times has the triumph of Christianity been so complete, and it is claimed that out of a population of 102,000, 95,000 are Wesleyans. The Roman Catholics, who have been in the islands since 1846, claim a large proportion of the balance.