

Of the eleven families who did not observe family worship, there are three in which some of the children have been received into the fellowship of the Church. With one exception, in the families of adherents I have not found the duty attended to." The reports regarding the religious training of children are far from being favourable.

Ninth question : "How is the Sabbath observed in your locality, and especially by those connected with your congregation?" The Sabbath is generally well observed by those in connexion with congregations. By mere adherents, and many young persons in families whose parents are members, it is profaned by walks of recreation." And some mention that there is improvement visible.

Tenth question : "Is the discipline of the Church faithfully administered?" According to the answers generally, it is. One or two report that they have had no case calling for its exercise. Another says, "There is not the strictness that is desirable." Another replies, "That it is administered with more, he thinks, than usual strictness;" and adds, "But a serious obstacle against its effect is the somewhat lax discipline of other churches around, especially other denominations." And another remarks, generally, "For various reasons, it cannot be faithfully administered."

To the last question proposed by your Committee, "Do you observe any change in the moral and religious sentiment of the general community, resulting from the preaching of the gospel and the maintenance of Christian ordinances?" one sends the following reply : "There is much more respect shown to religious ordinances. A number who had been living without any profession of religion have declared themselves believers in Christ, been received into the Church, and had their children baptised." A second says, "There is less intemperance, less profanity, less Sabbath-breaking, greater interest in ordinances, and in many cases a genuine religious sentiment." A third says, "There is a marked change in the outward observance of the Sabbath since we had the stated ministry of the gospel; also the sins of drunkenness and swearing are on the decrease; and upon the whole, we think that a radical change has taken place in the religious sentiment of many among our community." A fourth says, "The moral and religious sentiment of the community is unquestionably improved, and by such means as the question specifies. The claims of religion are more thoroughly felt, the duties of morality are better respected, and the heaven of Christian worth is gaining ground. But, oh! there is room for higher, warmer, wiser, holier endeavours of minister, elders, and our church members." And, to close, one who has laboured now for many years in the vineyard of Christ, who has experienced, we may well suppose, many of the trials, and realized many of the comforts of pastoral work, says, "Judging of the zeal and of the religious feeling of the people by their willing and large attendance on the Lord's day, and occasionally on week days, on the preaching of the word, they would seem to be a very religious people; and there are some who truly fear the Lord, while others are only an imitation." Most of the answers are of the same tenor. One says, "The change is slight if any;" another, "that he cannot say that he perceives any improvement;" but nearly all speak more favourably.

Such is the Report which your Committee crave leave to submit. They regret that they have not had the means of making it so full as they could wish, and so worthy of the subject as it deserves. May they take the liberty of saying to any brother whose path is beset with obstacles, "Trust in the Lord, and be of good courage, and he will strengthen your heart." Yea, and he will bless the work of your hands : for "He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bearing his sheaves with him." To those whom God is prospering, we would say, "Labour and labour with growing energy, faith, and love, in endeavouring to guide souls to the cross, and to build them up in their most holy faith." And to all whose names