

here, to say the least of it, doubtful, these poor people have no other religious instruction that I know of than one English clergyman resident in Caradoc.

In the township of Ekfrid and Mosa, which are both well settled, there are a great many Scotch, particularly in the former. These are chiefly Highlanders from Argyle, many of whom are Baptists, but the greater number belong to our church. It has not as yet been in my power to preach in Gaelic—a circumstance which I particularly regretted when visiting these people, few of whom, I believe, profess a sufficient knowledge of English to enable them fully to understand a sermon in that language. There are evidently many in both these townships, notwithstanding the deadening influence, too generally manifest, of a long destitution of religious ordinances, who are eagerly thirsting after the means of grace—and it is impossible for me soon to forget the more than common ardour with which some of that number crowded round me at the close of Divine service to express their gratitude for my visit. One little circumstance which occurred immediately after sermon the last time I preached at Ekfrid, was peculiarly affecting. Returning from the place of meeting in company with some of these worthy people, one old man, whose deep, humble, retiring piety, it was very evident, no less than his limited knowledge of English, had hitherto kept him back from taking almost any share in our conversation, as if suddenly overwhelmed, on this occasion, by a tide of feeling which he could no longer repress, lifted up his hands to Heaven, and, with a tremulous and most touching voice, exclaimed, in the strong, glowing, and almost inimitable eloquence of his own mountain tongue—"what are we, oh Lord, what are we, that thou shouldst ever have put it into the hearts of any of thy messengers, thus to turn their backs upon their kindred and their country, and encounter the perils of the dreadful ocean, and search us out even in the midst of this wide waste wilderness, and bring salvation

to our very doors, and make our poor hearts glad again with the good news of thy grace, and thy mercy, and thy wondrous, oh wondrous, wondrous love towards the very chief of sinners! is it not strange," he added, "is it not passing strange, that our hearts are not more thankful for such miracles of goodness?" "Strange, strange indeed!" responded two or three others who stood near him, and who seemed at once to have caught the impulse which this unexpected burst of simple but heartfelt eloquence from their, in general, rather taciturn neighbour had suddenly communicated. The people of Ekfrid and Mosa together, about two years ago when visited by the Rev. D Mackenzie, Zorra, made very considerable exertions to obtain a minister between them—since that period their numbers have so far increased, particularly in Ekfrid, that that township alone could now, I think, easily support a minister—for the probable number of its subscribers is at present scarcely less than 125. The township of Mosa, on the other hand, could, I find, furnish about 80 subscribers, which number added to that which might be obtained from the adjoining township of Zorra, would, no doubt, fully equal or even surpass the amount of subscribers just imputed to Ekfrid. Here, therefore, are two openings for Gaelic preachers, each of which, from the rapidly progressing character of the settlements, the perfect salubrity of the climate, and, above all, the real piety of several of the people and their great esteem for Gospel ordinances, is in the highest degree not only important but promising and inviting. And when it is considered that our poor people in these remote districts, many of whom are sunk in ignorance, are every day exposed to the pernicious influence of the wildest fanaticism on the one hand, and the grossest irreligion on the other—the former, for example, teaching them to ascribe to the saving operations of the divine spirit certain artificial, of course, but violent shakings and other convulsive motions of the body, which resemble more the effects of an opposite in-