

celebrated. The question of wages, it must be owned, is one of considerable difficulty, and our missionaries have been called upon to use their influence with both classes, the employers and the labourers, to adjust it to mutual satisfaction.

KINGSTON, JAMAICA, *Aug. 3, 1838.*

My very dear Sir,—

The ever-memorable day has passed, and passed peacefully, happily, and I hope piously. I should like to have written to you on its close, but was too much exhausted with its delightful labours, and yesterday was also a busy season. In passing the streets and lanes of our city, on the evening of the 31st ult., as the sun retired for the last time from a land of slavery, expressions of thankfulness, and mutual congratulation, met the ear from all directions. "Thank God—freedom is come—I give you joy"—were the welcome sounds that floated on the breeze. Several places of worship were open at midnight, in which the assembled multitudes listened to suitable addresses, or chanted the funeral dirge of slavery at the moment of its decease, and hailed the birth of freedom with songs of praise. There was no rude or noisy mirth. A number of small parties continued during the night to serenade our citizens, and some of them treated us with instrumental as well as vocal music; and, though they stole my sleep, which I could ill afford to lose, in prospect of a laborious day, I willingly forgave the theft. The pieces I heard sung were mostly sacred, consisting of some of our well-known and beautiful hymns, such as those beginning, "Jesus, lover of my soul;" "All hail the power of Jesus' name;" and "O'er the gloomy hills of darkness."

We commenced our services in Hanover-street at half-past three in the morning. From thence till day-light the time was chiefly occupied in reading the Scriptures, singing, and prayer. The congregation was large; God was with us; and the spirit of prayer was evidently enjoyed. Four members engaged who had all been slaves; and I never remember hearing them pray with more feeling or propriety—a chastened emotion of gratitude seemed almost to overpower them; and, on one occasion, nearly all the congregation were in tears, not of sorrow, but of grateful adoration, for the distinguished boon which the Giver of all good had conferred. The recognition of Divine power in the change effected, was very prominently evinced in their prayers; and most fervently did they bless God for the missionaries, whom they viewed as instruments in the great work. At

half-past ten I preached to a crowded audience, from Psalm cl. 1, 2. In the afternoon, we took a view of the origin and progress of West Indian slavery, with the means employed for its abolition; that the mind might be furnished with incentives to gratitude, from a survey of the miseries they had escaped, and the methods by which their redemption had been accomplished. The services of the day were concluded by a discourse in the evening on John viii. 36. On each occasion, the privileges and duties that would arise out of this new state of society were fully and faithfully set before the people, to which they listened with the greatest attention.

In the chapel at East Queen-street, service was conducted all day by our esteemed brother Mr. S. Whitehorne; who is now labouring to supply that church, in addition to the duties of his school.

I mentioned in my last, if I mistake not, that I proposed having a tea-party among the members of our church, on the evening of the 1st of August; but they preferred devoting that day to religious exercises, and have the party on the second. Accordingly, about 500 of the church and congregation sat down last evening to a social dinner. A large booth was erected for the purpose, in the chapel-yard, Hanover-street, under which the tables were placed, and the ends of the booth ornamented with branches of the palm-tree, tastefully interlaced and decorated with flowers. The party sat down about six o'clock, and separated a little after eight. Several toasts were given; one to "Our beloved Queen," our present Governor, the Earl of Mulgrave, Lord Sligo, Mr. Sturge, and others. The whole was concluded by singing, "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow." Greater order and decorum there could not have been; not the slightest disturbance or unpleasantness occurred.

The same evening, an immense concourse of people assembled a little out of the city, to witness a display of fire-works, transparencies, &c.; and it ought to be recorded, for the credit of the community, that not a single instance of riotous or disorderly conduct took place. Between eight and nine o'clock the great mass of the people returned home; and by ten there was scarcely one to be seen. There has been no uproarious mirth among the multitude, but the whole has been a scene of chastened joy.

Mrs. Tinson has been spending some time at Yallahs, and is still there, chiefly with a view of promoting the interests of the school. From her I have received, this morning, an interesting account of that station. As I could not leave Kingston at that season, I sent my worthy old friend, Mr. Graham, our senior deacon, to conduct the services, and preside