

"The Superintendent of the Castlebar branch of the Mayo district, thus writes to the Secretary in Dublin:—

"The Irish work in this district is encouraging; the word of Life in the vernacular language is obtaining entrance into the most retired parts of the mountain districts. The desire to learn to read the Scriptures is increasing. Places even desire schools, where, some short time since, there would have been no hope of succeeding. Many acknowledge that the blood of Christ alone can cleanse them from their sins. This takes place in the remotest and wildest mountain glens. The mountain of — is almost surrounded with that word which, it is hoped, will overthrow the wretched superstition prevailing there. Through a great part of this district prejudice is subsiding, and people take up God's word with less fear than heretofore."

"The Superintendent of the Erris branch of the Mayo district, reports:—

"I just write to tell you what occurred here yesterday. I was engaged in worship with my little flock in the workhouse at nine A. M., when suddenly the door opened, and in marched 20 or 30 Roman Catholics, the heads of families, all men. I asked them what brought them out, and they said they came to hear the word of God, and requested me to enter their names as Protestants! This they did in the face of persecution, for as they were coming down to the house they were pelted. I was very thankful to the Lord for the thing, for I trust it is his work. I would desire to have them removed, and employed on some land if possible. They cannot receive necessary instruction where they are, and are much persecuted."

"A Clergyman writes:—

"During the autumn of last year I was engaged by the Society in a missionary tour through the South of Ireland. In the open daylight, in a small town, situated just on the borders of the three counties of Limerick, Cork, and Kerry—surrounded by a wild district—in the midst of an Irish-speaking population, there met me on one occasion in the market-house, fully one hundred men, assembled from the districts all around—Irishmen, peasants as you would call them—some of them farmers, other of them labourers—professing Roman Catholics in their creed—and *not a single man there present who had not some portion of the word of God in the Irish tongue.*"

"Again, there was a ribbon captain, who used to march before more than a thousand men of his order, carrying terror wherever he went. He also, from a providential circumstance, was led to read the word of God—his soul was converted. He is now a meek and humble-minded Scripture Reader; and the following extracts from a letter, recently written by him, will show the influence of the Irish Bible upon the others, as well as himself:—

"The circulation of the Scriptures in this parish has been productive of much good in a two-fold capacity; because, in the first place, when there was a daring attempt made in the spring of the last year, through various parts of the kingdom, to overturn our excellent constitution, and substitute in its stead anarchy and confusion—the inhabitants of K—— bravely withstood this daring attempt; and when the Rev. Mr. B——, the priest, called a meeting to that effect on Patrick's day last, not an individual was found in the parish to second his outrageous views. It may be asked, How came that? I answer, It came from reading the word of God; and I shall show it plainly. This parish was formerly distracted by party factions; the party that ruled the parish were the M——'s, and having obtained the victory some years ago, they still continue to overrule the other party; and so it was on this occasion: a man named D—— M——, who is a man of property, and a man of intellect and physical ability, also a Bible Reader, *opposed the measure, and kept rebellion down*; had he not read the Bible, sure I am that he would have engaged in this wild scheme, and led hundreds on to destruction—but he reads his Bible, and by reading it, he has been taught to respect the laws and the "powers that be," knowing that they "are ordained of God." *Such is the effect of Bible reading in this place.*"