

principles and usages of the Church, gradually abandoning their hostility, condemning the grounds of their own separation, returning of their own accord to the principles and even the practices of the Church, and excluding of their own accord all that they think justly liable to give her offence. The result of the movement, therefore, is to strengthen and intensify the vitality of the Church, at the same time that it has lowered and weakened the vitality of every other Protestant body of christians in the land. And this has been done moreover, in such a kindly way as draws together, more and more nearly, those who have vitality enough to attract, and those who have not vitality enough of their own to resist the attraction.

But though the revival movement tried hard to keep itself alive, and make itself perpetual, it has not been able to succeed. A year ago, the tide was already at the ebb; and, notwithstanding the earnest and zealous efforts made by leading and devotedly energetic individuals, the mark of moisture along the shore has gone down lower and lower, until now, notwithstanding the agitations in Ireland and other countries, it is dead low water here. And yet the Church, sublimely indifferent to the risings and fallings of these fitful tides, begins her annual revival season on this day, with as deep and true a faith, and as hopeful a heart for the heavenly labour, as ever she has felt in the most excited of the years that have gone before. She has the power of continuous life, and therefore she may well leave the system of spasms and fevers to those who have not.

And they are beginning, at length, to find it out. More and more, those who are truly anxious for a religion that shall last them all through this life at least, cast in their lot with the Church. We have heard of one incident after another, showing how this conviction on the public mind is working itself into practical reality. In one case, a young man came to a clergyman of the Church to apply for Confirmation. Conversation with him drew out the fact that he had lately received serious impressions at a revival meeting: but his friends all told him that if he joined the denomination that had got it up, he would soon lose all the little religion he had! In another case, after a revival had been kept up for some time, its leaders were very grievously mortified and disgusted to find that all the converts they had made that were really, in their estimation, "desirable," applied to the Church clergyman, of their own accord, to be received into the Church by Confirmation. Cases of this sort are quietly occurring in every part of the country, and will make great changes in ten years.

Meanwhile, all this only adds weight to the heavy responsibilities of the Church. Let her clergy remember this, especially during this blessed seed-time of Lent. Let them plough deep; let them break the clods fine and small with frequent services, let them enrich the barren soil with all that the care and skill of man can supply, let them sow the clean and pure Word of God—the heavenly seed—in the hearts of those whom God's providence hath placed under their hand. And then they need not doubt that God will send the early and the latter rain, the showers of His grace, and the sunshine of His heavenly love, so that they shall gather in many sheaves at the coming harvest.—*Ch. Journal, N. Y.*

MONTHLY REPORT OF THE SOCIETY FOR
PROMOTING CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE.
67, LINCOLN'S INN FIELDS.

Tuesday, January 3rd, 1860.

The Ven. Archdeacon Sinclair in the Chair.

In pursuance of notice given by the Standing Committee at the last general meeting, the Board granted £500 towards the College at Graham's Town; the grant being made with the view of adding to the College a missionary department.

A letter was received from the Lord Bishop of Cape Town, dated Bishop's Court, Cape Town, Nov. 18th, 1859, on the subject of the Kafir Institution for the sons and daughters of chiefs, which was founded by Sir George Grey, and is now carried on under his Lordship's roof. The following are extracts:—

"I have purchased a fine property close to Cape Town, sufficiently near to enable us to avail ourselves of all the advantages of a city, and yet far enough off to escape its contaminations; with buildings upon it capable of accommodating at least one hundred children, and with two hundred acres of garden, arable, and pasture land at its back, and all in a perfect state of order, for £6000. This is just double the amount which I had at my disposal for this purpose, including your grant of £500, but I could not allow the opportunity to pass by. I had previously searched the whole country over, and could meet with nothing; and I was advised strongly by those whom I consulted to make the purchase. It really appears as if it was providentially prepared for such an institution as we are striving to found, having within it almost every thing needed for an industrial college on a large scale, and producing at this time a rental of nearly £300 a year. If you think that this benevolent Society can help me with any further grant towards completing the purchase, I need not say that I shall be thankful to have the matter brought before the committee.

"In every respect the work going on amongst these children is exceeding my expectations. A finer set of lads I would not wish to see. They are very happy and contented, very anxious to improve themselves, and they are making great progress in learning. There are now forty-seven living with me, of whom three are girls, under the charge of Miss Ainger, whose uncle you doubtless know. About ten boys are under instruction of a carpenter, ten under a shoemaker, and ten are learning to make clothes. They all go to church every Sunday, and take great interest in the services. Several of them are, I think, clearly under religious impressions. It was only this morning that I saw a letter from one who has recently left the institution to a brother here. It was nearly all about our Blessed Lord, and breathed a great desire to be hereafter useful to his countrymen. Some are taught drawing, others singing. I am very anxious, when I can, to get a printing press for them. Sir George Grey is at this time bearing the chief expense of maintaining the institution. I cannot therefore look to him to do much towards the purchase of the property. We are, of course, as yet only in our infancy; but, as far as I can at present see, the work seems likely to be greatly blessed. It is clear that if the Church is to send forth her missions into the interior of Africa upon any great scale, such an institution as we are striving to form will be essential. It is also clear, I think that Cape Town, the centre of our civilization, is the fittest place for it. I shall now leave the matter with you. If you can help us further I am sure that you will.

"I enclose you a letter from a very excellent young clergyman, asking for aid. Since I returned to the colony I have been on visitation, from which I have just returned, over the part of the Diocese where he is placed; and I can bear my testimony to the zeal and self-denial with which he is labouring amongst a long-neglected population. His work is not a large one, but it

is a very real one. I have felt ever since I went amongst his people—which I did for the first time three years ago—how grievous has been our past neglect, and how much we still owe to these poor settlers. The work there will, I feel convinced, grow from year to year. How we shall meet all the claims upon us in this land I know not; but this I see, that new openings present themselves every day."

The Standing Committee gave notice of their intention to move, at the next general meeting, that the sum of £500 be voted towards the object stated in the Bishop of Cape Town's letter.

The Bishop of Cape Town enclosed a letter from the Rev. Thomas Browning, Clan William, Cape of Good Hope, 8th November, 1859, requesting assistance towards the erection of a church at that place. The people, scattered over some hundreds of square miles, are stated to be generally poor. There are many Hottentots; and it is intended that the proposed fabric should be at the same time a missionary church for these people. Mr. Browning also requested a grant of Dutch and English books for his coloured school, besides a separate grant of English books for the white children, whom he teaches himself. Application for a further grant was made for a parochial lending library.

The Board agreed to grant towards the church £50.

For the schools and lending library, books to the value of £10, besides a few Dutch publications.

The Lord Bishop of Colombo, in a letter, dated September 30, 1859, adverted to the increased efforts in progress in Ceylon, for the diffusion of religious education among the native races in the Colony. He said,—

"The mass of the people can only be reached through the medium of their own language; for although in the towns the desire of English instruction is universal, this is not the case in the rural districts."

The Bishop, in a letter, dated November 10th, 1859, wrote as follows:—

"Wherever there are Clergy at work, whether European or native, to give constant and responsible supervision, schools ought to be opened in all the surrounding villages, that from each station, as a centre, the light and influence of our christian teaching might radiate largely, till all are brought to partake of its blessing. But this cannot be done without a large extension of the work of female education, which must for some time be nearly, if not wholly, gratuitous. For the sake of advancement in life, parents will give their boys an English education, and gladly contribute from their own resources to obtain it; but they will not do this for their daughters. Therefore both the pressure must come from without, and the means too, before we shall get the future mothers of the whole people under the influence of christian training and instruction. And their is every reason in the East why this should be attempted more earnestly and systematically, not alone on account of the early influence to be exercised over the future household and the earliest training of the infant children, but especially on account of the late influence of the mother through life over her own offspring. Among the Singalese this is far more powerful than among ourselves; and if quietly and judiciously used, may be made the instrument of much prospective and permanent good, under the guidance and with the blessing of God upon it."

The Standing Committee gave notice of their intention to propose, at the next general meeting, that £600 be placed at the discretion of the Bishop of Colombo, for the purpose of Female Education, with special reference to education in the vernacular languages.