

island, I would say that so far as I can see, only a very few exhibit any symptoms of spiritual life. The population of the island is, I understand, somewhat about 1,400 or 1,500. They are not a church-going people. There is sermon generally once a fortnight in the parish church. On the vacant Sabbath our attendance is about one hundred; while on the Sabbath in which there is sermon in the parish Church, it is not more than forty, and sometimes, if the weather be wet or stormy, about thirty. I have continued preaching on Sabbaths, sometimes two Gaelic sermons, and sometimes a Gaelic and an English one when required. We hold a prayer meeting every Sabbath evening which is very well attended, and I am glad to observe the apparent earnestness with which some of the men plead for the outpouring of the Spirit, and for the conversion of sinners in this place."

Such was the state of matters in October last. Referring to the changed state of things which began to manifest itself in the months of January and February following, the Rev. D. McRae, of Oban, thus writes:—

"The excitement in Lismore at present (February 28th) is very great. The inhabitants of the island are attending in great numbers on the preaching of the word. Mr. Wood is at present preaching on week evenings as well as on Sabbath, and I am told he has sometimes 200 hearers. This is a wonderful change in Lismore, where the people would have been months together without sermon, previous to the time when our Station was planted there."

And again, in a communication of later date, he goes on to state:—

"Mr. Wood is labouring with great fidelity and diligence in his Master's service, and he is encouraged by the numbers who now wait upon his ministrations, and by the success which appears to attend the preaching of the gospel among them. A very remarkable change indeed has taken place in the aspect of things in Lismore of late. There are about 1,500 inhabitants on the island; and it is delightful to know that there are but few houses, if any, where family worship is not observed. In many cases the younger branches in families are, in this respect, performing the duties which had hitherto been neglected by the heads of families, and, all may now be said to be a praying people. To this general result other denominations have rendered good service: at the same time, it is manifest to all, that the weekly and district prayer meetings in connection with our Station, together with the regular dispensation of a preached gospel by our agents, have been the means of preparing the way for the general revival that has now happily visited this interesting island of the sea. Such, indeed, is the state of things in Lismore at present, that if sermon, or public religious exercises be announced in any part of the island by any party, the people assemble in great numbers, many of whom are 'pricked in their hearts,' and, anxiously saying, 'What shall we do?' All party feeling and distinction seem for the present to be thrown aside and lost sight of, and 'the one thing needful' engrosses the attention of all