

night set free. It was a wonderful meeting, one of the most impressive sights that could be witnessed. Away on the mountain-side, apparently far away from the hum of city life, the vast multitude filled both slopes of a gentle valley, and clung to the crags overhead, yet as soon as the speaker began, perfect stillness reigned. Those at the furthest limits of the crowd heard even better than those near. The address was short, pointed, and soul-stirring, as fitted the occasion; so short, that when the final hymn was sung, we were inclined to say, "Is that all?" And yet it was long enough to be remembered throughout eternity by very many.

Open-air preaching is no new thing in Edinburgh. The stand in Parliament Square, where you have the quiet open space for the audience to gather, with the bustling High Street in front, is a well-known one. From the open windows of squalid houses opposite have been known to drink in words of salvation during former summers. Now, a meeting is held there twice a week in connection with the evening meeting in the Assembly Hall, and curious dilapidated men and women creep about the edges of the crowd, carrying away with them some text of Scripture or some snatch of sacred song. On Sabbath evenings, the Queen's park and the Meadows, besides many of the streets and squares of the town, are occupied; and interesting cases have occurred in connection with all of these. One city missionary, who frequently preaches out of doors, says he now seldom or never finds the service end without some good results. On one occasion there were twelve anxious souls, and having no better place of retirement, they resorted to a stable for quiet conversation and prayer.

GLASGOW.

In Glasgow there have been meetings of 2,000 at a time—a platform on wheels being wheeled in, large enough to accommodate speaker, harmonium and choir. A tent, holding 2,000, has now been purchased that the preaching can go on in all weathers.

There seems, indeed to be added blessing on all sorts of means, new and old. "No sooner is any plan suggested than success seems to follow," says a Glasgow minister. "A fortnight ago I begged of mistresses to take care of their servants; ever since, letters have been coming, the most remarkable this morning, recording the fruits of plain words spoken in faith and prayer."

CHILDREN.

In one of the Edinburgh Free churches where a week of meetings was held, the

new plan was adopted of having a children's meeting for three-quarters of an hour previous to the general meeting. Night after night the church was full of children, whose interest seemed unflagging, and who frequently remained to ask their teachers the way to be saved.

Where preaching will not do, singing succeeds; and the sweet hymns heard, or better still, practised and learnt by heart, may spring up hereafter in many a heart that resists every other influence. It is certainly a time for trying every means, new or old, with redoubled hopefulness—becoming all things to all men, that we may by all means save some.

STRANGERS' MEETING.

One of these fresh schemes which we hope will prove permanent sources of good, is the "Stranger's Meeting" for young men coming to Edinburgh. This is a meeting for tea, Bible-reading, and conversation held once a week under the auspices of the Young Men's Christian Association, to which all young men coming to town as strangers are cordially invited, that they may make acquaintance with the members, and get drawn into the circle of Christian friendship. Within four weeks of its starting about twenty-eight young men had availed themselves of its friendly invitation.

A Young Women's Association, providing Christian society and pleasant shelter in which friendless women may spend the evening, has also been set on foot in Edinburgh.

Though the poorer districts of our towns have not been shaken as much as more educated communities have been, yet there are signs for the better in that direction. A member of the Edinburgh City Mission Society told us that the monthly meeting previous to Mr. Moody's visit in November last, was one of the gloomiest meetings he ever attended. None of the missionaries could report a single conversion; it was nothing but lamentation, mourning and woe, over the vice and drunkenness that prevailed. At the next monthly meeting held a fortnight after Mr. Moody began his work here, there was just a streak of light across the gloom. At the April meeting it seemed like noon-day in comparison of what it had been before; every door stood open, even Roman Catholics were willing to hear, and it seemed as if this wonderful access to the people was the prelude of larger blessing among them when the fruit has time to appear. Fruit among the poor appears every day. At one of our meetings an appeal was made for Christian help in finding situations for those who never had a character all their lives till they got it from the Lord.