

we bid it God speed. We quote Article IV of the Constitution of the Society.

"The duty of Missionaries and Scripture readers shall be to visit from house to house, in the respective districts that shall be assigned them, read the Scriptures, engage in religious conversation, and urge those who are living in the neglect of religion to observe the Sabbath and attend public worship. They shall also see that all persons possess the Scriptures, shall distribute religious tracts, and aid in obtaining Scriptural Education for the poor. By the approval of the Committee they shall hold Meetings for reading and expounding the Scriptures and prayer, and shall adopt such other means as the Committee may think necessary for the accomplishment of the objects of the Society."

The Mission was founded about ten years ago mainly through the exertions of our lamented friend, the Rev. G. N. Gordon, who was the first City Missionary here, and whose labours still bear fruit. The present Missionary is a devoted, intelligent, and thoroughly evangelical Methodist; and we are glad to hear that the work is prospering in his hands. During the last year he made 1795 visits to the houses of the poor and the religiously destitute. He prayed and read the Scriptures at 1155 of these visits; and 1466 were to distinct families. He distributed 1145 Tracts. This certainly is a good account of one man's labours; but how sadly inadequate to the wants of the city and its suburbs! Another missionary, and another, should be on the staff. There would be more than work enough for three. We observe that the amount of money raised for the Mission last year was £123. What is this among all the evangelical churches of this city? We believe that another £100 would secure the services of another efficient workman; will the money be forthcoming?

We trust that the Presbyterian congregations of this city will not relax in their exertions to rescue the lost, or attempt to shift the burden on any other shoulders; but there is more than work enough for us all!

"MUSCULAR MISSIONS."

In the Established Church of England there are several "Schools" divided off from each other by lines of demarcation more

or less distinct. We read of the "High School," the "Low School," the "Broad School," and the "Muscular School;" the latter being little else than the newest phase of "Broad" Churchism. This "Muscular" School has its head quarters in the Universities; and its distinguishing feature is an exaggerated regard to physical development and the things that pertain to the body. Boat-races and rifle practice are in the estimation of this school as much religious exercises as preaching or praying; and the *body* is well nigh as valuable as the *soul*. These "Muscular" christians have tried their hand at Foreign Missions. Ordinary means and the results of experience were nothing to them; they were to proceed on new, fresh, and attractive principles and to carry everything before them.

A Bishop inspired with this new spirit, went to South-eastern Asia, to Labuan. His Lordship, instead of proclaiming the old fashioned "glad tidings" that were wont to move the savage heart, made the savages acquainted with the merits of his breech-loading rifle! Instead of sending to the "Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts" an account of souls saved by his instrumentality, he tells them in glowing terms how many pirates he has managed to shoot with his admirable revolver. This Bishop's account was received with horror by the bulk of Christians in England. To think of a minister of Christ shooting twenty or thirty men, whose souls he was sent to save—the thing is horrible. No wonder that a Divinity Professor of Cambridge should say;

"We should listen with shuddering if we heard the wild Indian, even in the haste and fervour of unpremeditated speech, dwelling on the murderous efficacy of the tomahawk; and with what feelings can we read a cold, deliberate epistle, written in the quiet of the closet, and intended for extensive circulation, in which a Christian bishop dwells with exulting minuteness on the destructive properties of the modern revolver? Christianity needs no such aid! no such defenders! Her cradle was indeed bathed in blood; but it was the blood, not of her slaughtered foes, but of her own sons, her own martyrs! It is only as you divest religion of everything associated with the fierce passions of men, that you can show it, in its true and lovely light, as 'first pure, then peaceable.'"