

ed, had we time and ability to do justice to the subject, but we are unlearned men that address you,) what a heart-rending view might be given of the religious and moral character of the inhabitants of this island ! Our eyes have seen it, but with what we have said, we must leave it to your own imagination to draw the melancholy picture. From this statement, we hope also, you will see what our wants are. We want ministers of the Gospel, who can preach in Gaelic and English, both able and willing to labour abundantly, who will teach from house to house, be instant in season and out of season, content with coarse fare and homely lodgings—none else should come here. We are in want of religious schoolmasters, capable of teaching our children the different branches of common learning, and also able and willing to wait upon them on the evenings of the Sabbath, in order to teach them the first principles of the oracles of God. Were such preachers and teachers to visit or reside amongst us, we could promise them but little temporal reward ; but we hope the Master whom such do serve, would give them many souls for their hire, and an eternal reward infinitely exceeding the powers of human calculation. We are in want of religious books, Gaelic and English, such as are sound and savoury :—these are seldom to be had upon the island, and when offered for sale, the price generally demanded puts it out of our power to purchase them. Were you to have the Christian compassion upon us, to send us a few of your old Divinity books, such as you have read yourselves till they have become familiar to your minds, and are now, perhaps, lying upon your shelves covered with dust, we would read them in our social meetings on the Sabbath, from house to house, and from settlement to settlement, and hope that, by the blessing of God accompanying this exercise, religious knowledge would be greatly increased, and much spiritual profit reaped by immortal souls.

Dearly beloved brethren and countrymen, we have ventured to lay before you this very imperfect statement of our spiritual wants, from a persuasion that the Christian inhabitants at large of our mother country do not know them, and never had their attention rightly called to send us help ; and, surely, a cry for help, so loud and so urgent as ours ought to be considered, cannot be made to the head-quarters of the king of Zion, and no help be sent. Send us ministers, if ministers will come, but let them be of the right cast. Those who are old and experienced would do best to set things in order, if their stay were even the shorter. And plain pious men, capable of teaching children on the Sabbath evenings, might be of infinite service to the rising generation, and to others also ; and valuable