

About the beginning of September last, our esteemed friend Mr. Farquharson, on his return from Perthshire, remained with us about a week, and delivered a discourse every evening. His close application to the conscience excited a good deal of interest. A night or two before he left us, when the people were retiring from service, a woman with a child in her arms, could not refrain from giving vent to her feelings. A few words were spoken to her, suitable to her case; and in a day or two after, she was rejoicing in Jesus Christ her Saviour. As Mr. F. had been long absent from his flock, he could not at that time remain longer with us; however, he promised to visit us again as soon as possible, and as soon as he arrived at Tírce that he would send to our aid Mr. McLean, who had been supplying his place during his absence.

When Mr. McL. came, we continued labouring with increased energy. We did not expect that the people would continue long to turn out in such numbers; but in this we were agreeably mistaken, for they were daily increasing. Our chapel was almost full every night, and generally on Sabbath evening we had no room for them, so that some had to stand without at the door and windows. We did not keep our meetings, under the name of revival meetings, nor did we mention how long we should continue them; we wished to be guided as Providence and circumstances would direct. We gave no exhortation to the people that they should be continued for any length of time,—only, we mentioned when they were about to dismiss that (D. V.) we would have a meeting next night. However, when we saw the eagerness of the people to hear, and the word taking effect, we pledged ourselves, while they would continue to hear, that we would continue to address them as long as we had strength to do so. Thus we continued for ten weeks labouring every night except Saturdays, and the desire of hearing not diminished.

The preaching in general was of that sort which is calculated to arouse the careless, by giving them a view of their own character as ruined and lost,—lying under the guilt and curse of a violated law, from which no transgressor can escape with impunity without giving full satisfaction, or incurring its fearful penalties. False refuges were pointed out and exposed, and the artillery of truth brought to bear upon them;—such as waiting for a day of power,—their professed willingness, but want of ability to believe,—doing their endeavours, &c. &c. A full and free salvation through Christ and him crucified was pointed out to the most guilty as the only refuge, and all, without exception, were invited to come and be saved.

*The effects produced.* Some at first made light of what they heard; but soon their attention was arrested; they listened with solemnity and anxiety; there was no remarkable visible excitement; every thing went on very quietly. Sometimes an involuntary sigh was heard, and the tears, in large drops, were seen rolling down their cheeks, and some bowing down their heads upon the seats, and covering their faces to screen their feelings. Anxious inquirers were requested to come to my house, that we might converse with them about their case individually. For several weeks we had a number of such almost every night; many of them under poignant conviction, so that they could not suppress their feelings, and some in such agony of mind, that we could not converse with them till their burst of feeling had abated. Some, while directing them to the finished work of Christ, received immediate

peace, others continued days and weeks before they submitted to the truth. We went to see an old woman between 60 and 70, who appeared to be almost distracted about the state of her soul. When we entered her house, she said, "You did well to come. Oh! what shall I do?" Mr. L. said, "You must believe." "O," she exclaimed, "I will believe, I will believe! come and tell me what I am to believe." When the glad tidings were declared, she obtained peace immediately; and all night and next day she was rejoicing in Christ with joy unspeakable. There were several similar cases,—some of them for nights could not get much rest with joy. One individual who had been anxious about the state of his soul, came more than 70 miles to see a brother; they went to bed together, but could not sleep, when his brother simply explained to him the plan of salvation; his mind was opened to understand it; instantly he leaped out of bed praising the Lord for his salvation. Others who came to town on business, and peeped into our meeting, and some who listened at the windows of our chapel, went away with the arrows of conviction in their consciences. When it was noised abroad what was going on at Oban, the country people crowded every night to hear the Word; some of them from 4, 6, and 8 miles' distance. On Sabbath some came as far as 12 and 16 miles. When the truth began to work it operated like leaven in families and among their neighbours. There were two brothers,—the younger, one night after attending our meetings, became much alarmed about his soul, and seeing no way of escape, was much dejected in his spirit; after a restless night he met his brother in the morning in the barn, who, noticing him very sad, inquired what was the matter with him. "O my sins!" was the reply. "Your sins," said his brother, "surely you are not such a sinner as that!" "O yes, I am!" "God help me; then, if your sin, who are so young, be such, what must my sins be!" They are both now rejoicing in Christ. An intimate companion of these young men, not aware of what had happened, came to spend a night of merriment with them. However, in coming near the house, instead of hearing the sound of mirth and laughter as usual, he heard the voice of prayer. He was so much alarmed with what had taken place that he did not know what to say; he did not enter the house, but returned home in an awful state of mind, and on the way knelt down beside a stook of corn, where he prayed to God for mercy,—the first prayer he ever offered in his life. He did not continue in that state many days, when God had mercy upon him, by directing him to the finished work of Jesus Christ.

For some weeks it seemed as if the fear of God had fallen on the inhabitants in general. The meetings and their effects were the general topics of conversation; so that the minds of all classes seemed to be absorbed by them. A comedian, who happened to come round at that time, made application for the Mason's Lodge; but the gentleman to whom he applied, properly and promptly refused to give it, observing that the minds of the people at Oban, at that time, were taken up with important matters of a different kind, which evidently was the case. New-year's-day, which used to be spent in revelling and dancing, &c., was kept by us as a day of humiliation. We had a prayer-meeting and two sermons in our chapel; and no noise as usual was heard in our streets, neither in the day nor in the night-time, no more than if it had been Sabbath.

The characters on whom impressions were made