

regularly attend some of the weekly meetings, there are always strangers present from all ranks and classes. Among the church-members there is a fair proportion of truly godly people and several who develop a very praiseworthy spirit of Christian activity.

In the beginning of the year we observed the week of prayer by meeting every night in our own house, and we regularly numbered from forty to fifty. The spirit of inquiry and the tone of Christian feeling pervading the principal family circles is such that the pastor of this congregation must of necessity receive a strong impulse for activity through his ministrations among them. This, I think, is a good testimony for the congregation.

Among those with whom I meet from day to day there are earnest believers, who desire intercourse with their minister in order to add to their knowledge; there are others brought up in entire ignorance of the truth, who evince by their earnest desire for instruction and deep absorbing attention how much they covet this pearl of great price—There are children of tender years, who, with affecting solicitude, seek after their Redeemer; and there are middle-aged men, of great intelligence and good position, who mourn over a great portion of their life as completely lost, and have for months past set apart six or seven hours of each day for the study of the Bible. One thing I am persuaded of, and therein I do rejoice with thanksgiving, that the Lord condescends to be in the midst of us. This is all we need. He will perfect that which concerneth us.

The congregational work necessarily occupies much of my time, household visitation especially, the people being scattered over the length and breadth of both cities,—Pesth and Buda. But I have the decided impression that my Jewish work does not on that account suffer any loss. For not only have I set apart a considerable portion of my time strictly for Jewish work, but, also, through contact with so many quickening influences, freshness and vigour of spirit are communicated for intercourse with the Jews, such as a missionary will not easily receive by confining his labours solely to that people; and besides, looking back to my former field of labour, I feel, as it were, set free from many fetters and drawbacks, which, in a place like Constantinople, necessarily exist, entailing duties which only concern the external machinery, and are apt to wear out body and spirit, but have no bearing upon the spiritual part of the work.

The Jewish corner of the vineyard in Pesth continues to present many features of interest. How encouraging the attendance and interesting the work in the school is I need not here repeat. I rejoice that Mr. Moody will be the future channel of information respecting the school. Mrs. Koenig

having been requested by the Paisley Ladies' Association to superintend the industrial department, has undertaken the work since the month of October last. For our band of proselytes I commenced, soon after my arrival in May 1863, a weekly meeting for Bible reading, at which we freely exchange our thoughts on the portion under consideration. Our subject has been, and still is, the Epistle to the Hebrews. Proselytes and enquirers attend this meeting, and we welcome with pleasure a few stranger Jews each time. The number of occasional Jewish visitors has been large especially during summer.

Among these I may specify a Rabbi,—a man of great intelligence and learning,—dissatisfied both with the orthodox tendency of superannuated Judaism and with the modern Reformers. About a dozen have received regular instruction for two or three months, and have then disappeared; others have remained with me, and there are two among them I consider near the threshold of the kingdom of heaven, if not already within. The present number of regular inquirers and catechumens is six, of these two are females. These are all persons of excellent education. I had two sisters, but the younger is prevented coming though indisposition, and the second female inquirer is a young lady, engaged as governess in a leading Jewish house of this city. She is an orphan, and having attended church several times, was arrested and led to search the Scriptures.

I have just been applied to for instruction by four more, one being the son of a gentleman, who has a large educational institution, and for whom his own father applied. Besides two Sabbath and one week-day service, I conduct the above weekly Bible-reading meeting, a conference meeting with our teachers, and a fortnightly meeting for Scripture-reading and prayer with all the members of our mission. Another fortnightly prayer and business meeting with the elders of the church concludes the list.

### China.

REV. DR. HAMILTON of London introduces a very interesting Letter from China with the following remarks:—

The church members connected with Protestant missions in China now number about 2500. Of these 800, or nearly one-third, are to be found in Amoy and the rural villages around it—where, for the last ten years, remarkable success has attended the labours of the London Missionary Society, of our Dutch Reformed brethren from America, and the English Presbyterians. One of the most cheering features in this success is the circumstance that it has been to a con-