

THE PRAYER MEETING.—*A fact.*

—In a town in Connecticut, it had long been the custom of the church to hold a weekly prayer meeting; but as the church grew cold, the attendance became less and less, until a proposition was made to abandon it altogether. To this a pious old lady determined she would by no means agree. She spoke to one and another of the brethren on the subject, but in vain. "We have worn them out," said they, "and nobody will attend." Not satisfied, the old lady determined to go, though no one else went. Accordingly, on the next Wednesday evening she was seen at the usual hour approaching the school-house. She prayed, sung, and prayed. On the way home, she stopped at a neighbour's to rest. "Where have you been?" said the neighbour. "To the prayer meeting!" "To the prayer meeting?—I thought it was given up—who was there?" "Oh! God was there, and I was there: and it was a good meeting, and there is to be another next Wednesday evening." The story got abroad; Christians were awakened; and to her surprise she found, on the next Wednesday evening, the school-house thronged with those who came to pray for the outpouring of God's Spirit. H. M.

AN INDIAN SIMILITUDE.—An Indian and a white man being at worship together, were both brought under conviction by the same sermon. The Indian was shortly after led to rejoice in pardoning mercy. The white man, for a long season, was under distress of mind, and at times almost ready to despair; but at length he was also brought to a comfortable experience of forgiving love. Some time after, meeting his *red* brother, he thus addressed him:—"How is it, that I should be so long under conviction, when you found comfort so soon?" "O, brother," replied the Indian, "me tell you; there come

along a rich prince, he propose to give you a *new coat*: you look at your coat, and say, 'I do not know; my coat is pretty good; I believe it will do a little longer.' He then offer me a new coat; I look on my *old blanket*; I say, this good for nothing; I fling it right away, and accept the new coat. Just so, brother, you try to make your own righteousness do for some time; you loth to give it up; but I, poor Indian, had none; therefore glad at once to receive the righteousness of the Lord Jesus Christ."—*Christian Herald.*

## ANCIENT MS. OF THE GOSPELS.

—The Rev. J. H. Todd, F. T. C. D., gave lately to the Royal Irish Academy a short account of a MS. of the four Gospels, of the seventh century and in Irish characters, which is preserved in the Library of his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury at Lambeth. The volume is a small quarto, in the minute hand called *Caroline*, common to all Europe in the reign of Charlemagne, but now used only in Ireland, and known as the Irish character. The present volume appears to have belonged to Maelbrigid Mac Dornan, or Mac Tornan, who was Archbishop of Armagh in the ninth century, and died A. D. 925. By him it was probably sent as a present to Athelstan, King of the Anglo-Saxons, who presented it to the city of Canterbury. These facts are inferred from an inscription in Anglo-Saxon characters, (and in a hand of the ninth or beginning of the tenth century,) which occurs on a blank page immediately following the genealogy in the first chapter of St. Matthew. The discovery of this MS, and the satisfactory proof which facts afford of its Irish origin, are important, as adding another to the many instances with which we are already acquainted of the employment of Irish scribes in the transcription of the Scriptures