

sold or given during the year, 200 copies of the Scriptures, and 1,000 religious publications.

In connection with our mission in County Kerry there are five preaching stations and seventeen daily schools, of 250 scholars, seventy of whom are Romanists; and our agents enjoy many opportunities of profitable intercourse with their Roman Catholic neighbours.

Parsonstown, or Birr, as it was called in the early days of our mission, has long possessed much interest for many who love Zion; and certainly not less now, associated as it is with the sacred memorials of those who long lived chiefly for its sake, and the fruit of whose labours and prayers flourish there with the memory of the just. These fruits are in the schools where nearly 1,000 children, about one-half Romanists, have been made acquainted with saving truth—in the Sabbath congregation of nearly 100, one-half of whom once belonged to the Church of Rome—in 304 families to which our agents have access, having one or both parents Romanists—and most conspicuously and triumphantly, is a goodly number, once blind and bigoted devotees of the Man of Sin, whose sincerity has been proved by sore temptation and trial, whose faith groweth exceedingly, and whose abounding charity and patience, show that God is fulfilling in them all the good pleasure of His goodness, and the work of faith with power.

Even in poor Romish Ireland, Connaught long had a sad pre-eminence in darkness, Popery, and poverty; and famine and pestilence in 1846 and 1847 seemed to have completed her ruin.—These proved, however, only dark hours before the coming day. Those who knew Connaught only before 1846, would scarcely know it now. A change has passed over it so great and good as to furnish a wondrous illustration of His power who brings light out of darkness, and good from ill.

The number of labourers is, we acknowledge, small for a whole province, and for representing the missionary zeal of a whole church such as the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, yet still twenty missionary agents, lay and clerical, labouring in thirty-four large districts, is at least a beginning, and we trust an earnest, hopeful, and good, of what Presbyterian Christian enterprise will do for the benighted West. Having daily, industrial, and Sunday-schools connected with our stations; circulating largely the Holy Scriptures, 2,000 copies of which the Bible Society last year gave us, visiting from house to house, preaching a pure and plain Gospel, and having in a less or greater degree access to Roman Catholics by all our agents; we certainly lack no opportunity of doing good in many and varied ways, and the success which God has in time past graciously bestowed, we receive as a happy pledge that He will yet give much more. That success is seen in the improved dress, manners, cleanliness, order, whole appearance, and character of the pupils of our schools; in our congregations increasing in numbers, respectability, liberality, vital religion; in the habits, and homes, and exemplary character of the living, the peace and triumph of the dying; but it lives and flourishes also where the missionary may never see it, away in foreign lands, among men who have never heard the humble missionary's name; and it will live and flourish immortal, where the great Redeemer shall see of the travail of His soul and be satisfied; and His faithful missionary shall be satisfied too, though, on some distant skirt of the great harvest-field he may have lived, and laboured, and died, unnoticed and unknown.

Though we count by hundreds members of congregations, benefited by our missionary labour, yet what are these, or even the thousands of our pupils, Romanist and Protestant, in comparison with the multitudes who still kneel before the idolatrous mass—the dark and deluded throng who press onward to the devouring grave. Here, in the trackless bog, lives a poor girl whom the teaching of the Sabbath-school has united to Christ; there, on the lone mountain side, an aged father is dying, and over him the missionary, who brought him to Jesus, is blessing God for this triumph of His grace; these in the world's estimation are of little worth, yet they are more momentous than the conflicts of armies, more glorious far than the spoils of war.—*Missionary Herald*.

#### FREE CHURCH—INVALIDED MISSIONARIES.

The condition of our Missions at present is surely one which may well fix the attention and draw forth the prayers of every well-wisher to heathendom. Amid