

truth. Others, and a pretty good number, show remarkable aptitude and ability in their work; and would, I think, compare well with the general run of teachers in England. Within the last two years we have had a somewhat remarkable test of the relative power of these teachers. In several important districts the Government instituted "Model Schools;" and sent Dr. Milne to England to obtain first class teachers. But in three instances out of four, these schools have proved unable to stand alongside ours. The General Inspector wrote me the other day, and desired that I would close one of our schools, because it threatened to close one of the most successful of these "Model Schools."

About a third of the students now in the Mico Institution are Wesleyans; and in a recent competitive examination of candidates, for nine vacant places in the institution, five out of the nine were taken by Wesleyans, leaving but four to be divided between the Church of England, Baptists, Presbyterians, &c. With regard to the progress of the children in our schools, I may remark that the inspection by Government, and the principle of "paying for results," will be the best test. The third year of Government inspection is now nearly over. And, as far as I can gather, the result to us is, that while, on the whole, we stand on a level with the best of Jamaica day schools, we are considered to be worth three times the amount granted prior to the system of inspection being adopted. The result of inspection, each year, shows steady progress. Many of the schools are very scantily furnished; but we hope, very soon, to improve in this respect.

II. *Literary progress among the peasantry. What can they read?*—Many of the young men and women, and those of middle life, who have been trained in the day schools of the country, would be able to understand the class of books that are written for the peasantry and the simple folk at home. But a considerable portion of the people would be able to read, and understand, the current literature of the day that is read by the artisan and middle class people in England.

III. *What do they read?*—The Bible,

Hymn Books, tracts, small and cheap periodicals. Some supplied by Ministers, and others by the booksellers in Kingston.

IV. *Are our little story books understood by them?*—Yes, generally, and relished too.

V. *Why are not such books written in Jamaica, and adapted to the society and scenery of Jamaica?*—Generally speaking, our Missionaries have too much pastoral care, and too much travelling, to admit of this. We think it very important that something should be done in this direction; and have discussed this question, not only among ourselves, but with the Ministers and the leading members of other Churches. We cherish the hope that, before long, something of the kind may be done. There are difficulties in keeping a supply of books. Any minister who may order hymn books or periodicals from the Book Room is liable to a serious loss; and the discount is so small that it will not cover it. The consequence, I fear, is, that ministers have ceased, to a considerable extent, to import either books or periodicals, and vast numbers of our people have nothing to read. If ministers do not exert themselves to give the people of Jamaica a cheap and wholesome literature, nine out of ten of the people must be without it. And to a large extent our efforts to educate the people must be a failure. Can you suggest anything to meet our case?

VI. *Has education advanced since you left ten years ago?*—Schools have considerably increased in number. And if we may judge from the Government Reports for the last three years, we should conclude that they are conducted with more energy and success.

VII. *Social condition. How do the peasants live?*—By working upon sugar and coffee estates, and cultivating their own land. In the neighborhoods of estates where wages are regularly paid, and a spirit of enterprise shown by the planter, nearly all the laborers are engaged upon estates; reserving to themselves one or two days a week to cultivate their own land in the mountain.

VIII. *What proportion are laborers without land?*—In all the country parts the proportion is small. As a rule, the