

Missionary Record.

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COLONIAL CHURCH AND SCHOOL SOCIETY.

THE Report gives copious details of the work carried on by the various Missionaries and other Agents of the Society, from which we make some extracts. In reference to Canada, there is the following view of the Romish Church in that quarter:—

"As to the number of the Romish priests, to say that they exceed the whole of the Protestant denominations, including the Church of England, would be far beneath the truth; their name is legion; wherever you go, in whatever direction you travel, you are certain to cross a priest, a Jesuit, or a nun. They are to be found in every direction, and the Popish places of worship are conspicuous everywhere, with nunneries, convents, and schools innumerable. They are said to be built only six miles apart on each side the banks of the St. Lawrence. The Romish Church is richly endowed, and some of the best estates and property in the province belong to that body. Some idea of its power and influence may be formed from the fact, that the greatest part of the common school fund, voted by Government, and to meet which an equal sum must be raised by the people, falls into its hands. Yet, it is openly stated, that these schools are, in most cases, in a wretched state, both as to acquirements and discipline; and that, in many of them, persons are placed as teachers who cannot even read, but who spend their time in teaching the children the Romish Catechism by rote. Some of the nunneries are exceptions to this, and the secular education is so good, that many nominal Protestants are tempted to send their children, by which means several have become perverts. A painful case of this kind was related to me by a member of the Canadian Legislature. It was that of the daughter of a naval officer, who was sent to a nunnery school at St. Hyacinth, and who returned to her parental roof a zealous Papist. On his remonstrating with her, she consulted the priest, who, to his shame be it spoken, gave her the means of quitting her home for ever. The people of the place were so enraged at this, that the priest had to leave the place for personal safety."

"January 1.—Attended Church in the morning; inspected the Romish Cathedral in the afternoon, a building which will, I am told, contain 20,000 persons, and with which 200 officiating priests are connected."

In Nova Scotia, it appears that 3 Clergymen, 6 Catechists and Schoolmasters, and 4 Female Teachers are employed:—

"On the appointment of the Right Rev. Dr. Binney, as Bishop of NOVA SCOTIA, in the spring of last year, your Committee urged the claims of the Society on his Lordship's patronage and support. Reserving his answer until he had had an opportunity of personally testing its working in his own Diocese, it is the more satisfactory to report that, shortly after his arrival at Halifax, his Lordship testified his approval by accepting office as Vice-President of the Parent Society, and as President of the Corresponding Committee in the Colony. His Lordship has further manifested his interest in the Society by an annual subscription to its funds, and by ordaining its long-tried Agent, Mr. Alexander."

"With these prospects of increasing usefulness, your Committee readily acceded to an application from the Rev. A. Jordan to be transferred to this Colony. He had been sent to NOVA SCOTIA as a Catechist ten years ago, and was removed from thence to MALTA on account of his health, the restoration of which created a desire to return to the original scene of his labors in connexion with the Society. Mr. Jordan was cordially received by the Bishop, and has been stationed at Country Harbour, one of the most destitute districts on the eastern shores."

"Thus, in this Colony in which, for so many years, its operations have been confined to lay agency, the Society has now two ordained Missionaries."

"In a letter received from the Bishop, his Lordship states:—'This Diocese is indeed very much in need of additional aid, and I shall be thankful for any truly zealous men whom the Society may be able to send.'"

"Arrangements are in progress for establishing a Model School at Halifax, which may be the means of training an effective body of Teachers."

Rev. Mr. Alexander, of the Eastern Shore, thus writes of the fruits of his labours:—

"June 18th.—Held Divine Service again at half-past nine, A. M. The congregation consisted chiefly of females and children, only four being men. After service, visited, catechised, read, and prayed with two families. In one family which I visited, I perceived a wonderful change since my visit last autumn. The man and his wife were sorely afflicted during a great part of the winter, so that they could not assist each other. The woman thought death was drawing near, when she began to despair of salvation, and for several weeks was out of her right mind, took no notice of any one, not even of her small children. However, it pleased the Lord, after many weeks, to restore her to her right mind. She was directed to the Word of God, not by any individual, but by the Spirit of God. She read, she prayed, and finally obtained a calm and peaceful mind. During the sick interval in her mind, her children became much distressed about 'their mammy.' When she came to herself, she immediately, as it were on a sudden, commenced instructing her children, six in number. Of these, four can now read, and repeat their catechism. This has been effected, I think, since last March. Indeed, a greater change in a family of

children, I have seldom, if ever witnessed. When I visited this family last autumn, the children would scarcely approach me, and if they did, it would be with heads hanging down, and perhaps crying aloud, and with difficulty I could sometimes get them to speak; but to-day when I entered the house, I saw cheerful countenances; books were produced, lessons read, questions answered; and all done in so pleasing a manner, that it astonished me. A new nature appeared to possess the whole. Father, mother, children, all happy! Nothing less than the grace of God could have effected this. May He preserve and keep them all from the power of the enemy, and carry on the good work which He has begun."

Rev. Mr. Jordan speaks of a visit to a secluded Christian:—

"November 25.—Went down this morning to the mouth of the harbour, about two miles, to visit a poor woman who was very ill. She is about seventy years of age, and appeared to be a humble Christian. Her whole soul seemed to be absorbed in contemplating the mercy and love of God. She is well acquainted with the Scriptures, and has clear views of the way of salvation. I was surprised to find a person of so much scriptural information in such a desolate place. No one, she said, had called upon her to give religious instruction for three years, and the increasing infirmities of age had prevented her attending service, when held in the Harbour; but a Bible and Prayer-book, which had been her father's, had been her constant study, and God had blessed her while thus engaged. I was much encouraged and profited by my visit to this poor Christian."

Mr. Yewens, Schoolmaster & Catechist, at Shubenacadie, thus writes:—

"I am truly pleased to be able to mention one beneficial effect that has flowed from these services here, namely, that some kinds of Sunday labor, that used to be not uncommon among the people who attend, have now quite ceased."

"During the last three months I have held over fifteen services, and have distributed 1,497 tracts. On one occasion, as I was going to hold a service, a young man came to meet me, wanting to buy one of the tracts I had previously lent him. Of course I told him to keep it without paying for it."

"August 17.—Left home early this morning for Five Mile River, a distance of fourteen miles; in the church at which place I read the morning service and a sermon. The congregation, numbering about ninety, were very attentive, and responded pretty well. In the afternoon went to Rockville, four miles, and held a service, at which eighty persons were present."

"Monday, August 25.—A year having passed since I commenced the Day-school, a meeting of subscribers was held this evening at the School-house. All expressed themselves highly gratified with the progress of the children in the school. One, a very decided Presbyterian, also spoke in commendation of the Sunday-school. The Day-school is but small, and has been so for a long time, a great part of the young people being often kept at home to help in farm work."

Youth's Department.

DEPARTED INFANTS

"In their mouth was found no guile."

FORTH, as the birds of spring they come,
Around our hearts they twine,
With all their growing, winning charms,
Like tendrils of the vine:

Yet oft, while wrapp'd in cloudless joy,
They feel the morning ray,
And feeding on the dews of love,
They fleet like dews away:

Sweet, hissing tones were on their lips,
Affection's tenderest wile,
The simple want, the cherish'd name,
But not the sound of guile:

So, all unharm'd by falsehood's snares,
That haunt our earthly race,
Before the Great White Throne they stand,
And see our Father's face.

And in His Temple, day and night,
Do serve Him, void of tear:—
Oh, Mourner! let thy infant's bliss
Check thy repining tear.

POWER OF A MOTHER'S NAME.—A Young Man entering Prison.—A writer in the Boston Times describes a visit to a penitentiary at Philadelphia, and gives the following sketch of an interview between Mr. Scattergood, the humane warden of the prison, and a young man who was about to enter on his imprisonment. Few will read it without deep emotion.

We passed on to the ante-room again, where we encountered a new comer, who had just reached the prison as we entered. He had been sent up for five years on a charge of embezzlement.

He was evidently attired in the latest style of fashion, and possessed all the nonchalance and careless appearance of a genteel rowdy. He twirled his watch chain, looking particularly knowing at the couple of ladies who chanced to be present, and seemed utterly indifferent about himself, or the predicament he was

placed in. The warden read his commitment and addressed him with:

"Charles, I am very sorry to see thee here."

"It can't be helped old fellow!"

"What is thy age, Charles?"

"Twenty-three."

"A Philadelphian?"

"Well, kinder, and kinder not!"

"Thee has disgraced thyself sadly."

"Well, I an't troubled, old stick."

"Thee looks not like a rogue."

"Matte' of opinion."

"Thee was well situated?"

"Yes, well enough."

"In good employ?"

"Well, so, so."

"And thee has parents?"

"Yes."

"Perhaps thee has a mother, Charles?"

The convict had been standing during this brief dialogue perfectly unconcerned and reckless, until this last interrogatory was put. Had a thunderbolt struck him, he could not have fallen more suddenly than he did when the name of "mother" fell on his ear! He sank into a chair—a torrent of tears rushed from his eyes—the very fountain of his heart seemed to have burst on the instant! He recovered partially, and said imploringly to the warden:

"Don't you, sir, for God's sake, don't call her name in this dreadful place! Do what you may with me, but don't mention her name to me!"

There were tears in other eyes besides the prisoner's, and an aching silence pervaded the group which surrounded the unfortunate convict.

The black cap was drawn over his eyes—he was led to an adjoining apartment and stripped, and shortly afterwards he reappeared on the corridor.—He passed silently in charge of a deputy-keeper to a lonely cell in a distant part of the prison, the door creaked on its hinges, he disappeared, the chain dropped from the outside bolts, and Charles was a close prisoner for five years to come.

We left the prison with heavy hearts, relieved, however, by the reflection that this was one of the best devised institutions of its kind in the world, (notwithstanding the libels of Charles Dickens,) and that its administration in the hands of Mr. Scattergood secured to its unfortunate inmates the most "equal and exact justice."

A QUEER KIND OF REVENGE.—There was once two boys in the same class at school, who were so far as scholarship was concerned, pretty nearly matched.—We will call one of the boys Thomas, and the other Isaac. Thomas got to the head of his class; for some reason or other—history does not inform us what—Thomas got angry with Isaac, and kicked him harshly and severely. At first the injured boy thought he would strike his school-fellow in return. But he checked his angry feelings, and hit upon another plan of revenging the insult. "I will study as hard as I can," thought he, "and get to the head of my class, and keep there, and look down on Thomas, and punish him in that way." Well, the lad carried his plan into execution. He applied himself so closely to study, that he not only got ahead of the boy who had injured him, but of the whole school. And that is not the whole story. He became in after years, one of the great scholars that the world ever saw. Reader, that was Isaac Newton. What do you think of the way he took to revenge the insult he received? Don't you think he showed more wisdom in this course, than he would have done, if he had struck his school-fellow a hard blow?

Selections.

DUKE OF WELLINGTON.

"But, as we have said, the leading and pervading idea of the Duke's mind was the sense of duty. In the common meaning of the word, the Duke was not a man of prejudice. He might have a distinct and very impregnable personal sense of what was right and reasonable, but he always accepted facts and a changed position, and worked in deference to them. He might think the bargain a bad one, and he might say so in language idiomatic and intelligible to a fault; but he always made the best of the bargain. He was just as likely to have served under Richard Cobden, had the Queen's service demanded it, as he did serve with the worthless indigenous Generals of Spain. He asked, and with no little bitterness, the famous question, How was the Queen's Government to be carried on? and yet he knew it to be right and honest, and loyal to help to carry it on, and to keep in office the very men whose