

love. Their salt has lost its savour ; their zeal for truth abated ; or in what way are their good works not leading those that are without the Church to recognize her as the work of God ? The evidence of God's blessing on the Word preached to themselves is but too seldom alluded to ; nay, is it not the fact that when few or none of such evidences are to be seen, there is a general desire to conceal it, lest it should injure the standing of the pastor ? This we think is wrong. The congregation ought to know, and their attention be directed to it, as a proof of their collective and individual sins. Each individual member ought to test himself by questions such as the following :

Has my conduct been so agreeable to my profession as a Christian as to convince those with whom I have come in contact, that I am living unto God ? Have I shown my appreciation of the means of grace by waiting upon them as often as I had opportunity ? Have I had compassion on those who were wandering in darkness, and pointed out to them the true Light ? Have I acted kindly and brotherly towards my fellow Christians ? Have I said or done something, as God gave me opportunity, to lead men to turn from the error of their ways ? Have I been often and earnest at a throne of grace for grace to descend upon them ? Am I not careless as to whether they perish or not ? Such questions might not only be asked on such occasions as we refer to, but deserve to be treasured up in the memory, and made daily use of for self-examination. And if they were, is there not good reason for believing that there would be a blessed renewal of pentecostal times ?

The office-bearers of Churches should make the testing of themselves by some such questions a stated duty. They are the leaders in the congregation, who occupy a prominent position, from whence they can view all the movements within the Church and without it. They can see when the accessions to the Church are evidences of conversions, by men being drawn by what they behold in the lives of Christians ; or if it is by the direct blessing of God upon His word, read or preached. And they can discern when religion pure and undefiled is having free course, and is being glorified. They ought carefully to mark whether this evidence of God being in their midst is to be found, and if not found, to betake themselves to the Christian's most powerful weapon—all prayer.

In this way it may be expected that the Mission work would prosper at home and abroad ; and that it would no longer be a matter of reproach to the Churches that they only expected conversions amongst the heathen, and few or none amongst those where they are located.

Such may not be the best method of promoting the Missionary work ; yet it is offered that it may lead others to suggest something better. There is some great revival to take place in the Churches ere the world be converted to God, and whoever leads the van in this blessed work, shall, themselves, feel amply rewarded.

A LAYMAN.

THE LATE MR. ALEXANDER LAIDLAW, MONO CENTRE.

Died, at his residence, Mono Centre, on the 13th of September, 1873, Mr. Alexander Laidlaw, Senr. After a short illness, he peacefully passed away at the ripe age of 73. Born of religious parents, in Lanarkshire, Scotland, his was the ordinary education and training which belongs to his class in that much favored land. He was brought up to the employment of agriculture, and continued it through life with distinguished success. Early he