

the Sandwich Islands, which is printed every Saturday, under the above title; and which in size and appearance, surpasses the first commercial paper that was printed in this city fifty years ago. It is filled, as other papers are, with the news of the day, advertisements, notices, commercial intelligence, &c. &c. But fifty years ago, what was the state of these Islands? What were they when they were first discovered by the great English Navigator; and what did they continue to be until less than twenty years ago, when a company of Missionaries under the direction of the American Board of Foreign Missions carried them the Gospel? They were barbarians, in the fullest sense of the term. They offered human sacrifices to their dumb idols—they had no written language—and knew nothing of the arts of civilized life. But now, behold the change! The worshippers of idols have become the worshippers of the true and living God. Churches are erected—schools are established—the Sabbath is observed—institutions are formed on the model of civilized and Christian societies—parts of the Bible have been translated into their language, which, with a number of tracts, are very extensively read—and, as a further evidence of their rapid advance, a weekly sheet is issued, and which, no doubt, will be as well sustained as many of the papers that are published in this boasted land of intelligence and freedom. Can any one look at the contrast in the condition of these Islanders, as exhibited by a review of their history for the last fifty years, and then consider the agencies which have been employed in their reformation, and still continue sceptical as to the benefit of Christian Missions?

ENGLAND.

REVIVAL IN LINCOLNSHIRE.

*Extract of a Letter from the Rev. Mr. Mars-
ton.*

“It was about this time that the attention of British Christians was directed in an unusual degree to a revival of religion. Hinton’s admirable Sermon, on ‘the Means of a Religious Revival,’ and some excellent papers in the New Baptist Miscellany, together with ‘James’ Pastoral Letter,’ ‘Fletcher’s Sermons,’ &c. caused a deep and practical solicitude for the revival of religion amongst our churches. The periodicals of the day contained numerous accounts of protracted meetings held in America, and of the results of those meetings; the interest taken in them was considerably increased by the publication of the ‘Revivalist’ (a small work which has greatly assisted the cause),—by ‘Colton’s

History and character of American Revivals,’—and by the Lectures of Dr. Sprague. One Monday evening I was reading to my people a narrative of a protracted meeting on a small scale, the whole plan was given, and it appeared so simple and practicable, that at once I announced my intention of holding a meeting of the same kind. Unknown to me, a similar announcement was made to his people by my friend Dr. Perry, of Boston, and to my great surprise, the next letter that I received from him contained an invitation to assist him in holding revival meetings in his place of worship. The meetings were held, and in the words of the pastor, ‘it seemed as if God was there, overawing the mind, and banishing every irrelevant thought by a more than ordinary display of his glory.’ The example thus set by the church at Boston, was followed by all the churches which constituted the Lincolnshire Home Missionary Society, and thus the bond of unity was cemented still more closely; but this was not all—the Lord was pleased to give testimony to the word of his grace—sinners were awakened by the repeated and faithful appeals which were made at the meetings—the undecided were brought to decision—and several were added to the churches who ascribed their first impressions, under God, either to the sermons which were preached, or to the addresses which were delivered. A marked difference was soon perceptible in the members themselves, which was evidenced by their increased spirituality of mind, and devotedness to God; those of them who had in the first instance been roused to activity by the Home Missionary meeting, (they were revival meetings in miniature,) became still more excited by the protracted meetings, and manifested a greater anxiety to lay themselves out for usefulness. Meetings of this description have been held for three successive years—they have therefore ceased to be an experiment, the issue of which might be doubtful. God has stamped upon them the broad seal of his approbation, and their good effects have been witnessed not only by ourselves, but also by members of other bodies. A copious measure of divine influence has been poured out in answer to the prayers of his believing people—for without the descent of the Spirit, and a humble dependence upon God, all efforts will be fruitless; but when we diligently use all the means with which we are favored, and at the same time rely upon God for success to crown our exertions, we may rest assured the blessing will not be withheld, since the Lord himself has said, ‘My word shall not return unto me void.’

“Having thus endeavored to show you the connection which there has been between Home Missionary efforts and revival meet-