

ever appealed to, they will cheerfully contribute a little to aid their brethren at River John.

G. M. GRANT.

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

THE LATE PROFESSOR ROBERTSON OF LEINBERGH.—On Sunday week, a memorial sermon was preached by the Rev. Laurence Macbeth, in the National Scotch Church, Halkin Street West, Belgrave Square, with reference to the late Professor Robertson, "his life, his work, his worth, and his pre-eminent and disinterested services to his native country." The *Times* says—"A considerable number of Scotch Members of Parliament and other distinguished Scotchmen, among whom were Sir George Clerk, Sir C. McGregor, Mr. P. Blackburn, Captain Gordon, Mr. Millar, &c., were present. The neat little church, which has recently been enlarged by the addition of a commodious gallery in order to accommodate the rapidly increasing congregation, was well filled by a highly respectable auditory. The preacher referred at some length to the great exertions made by Dr. Robertson to promote the endowment scheme of the Church of Scotland,—to constitute 150 new parishes and 100 missionary stations in destitute districts, to be afterwards erected into parish churches. For this purpose a sum of £500,000 was requisite; and Dr. Robertson, by his extraordinary activity, energy, and self-sacrifice, had succeeded in raising £450,000. Of the remainder £43,000 is to be collected in Scotland during the spring; and the balance, £7,000, is expected to be contributed in London. For this purpose a meeting is to be held in Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, about the middle of next month, at which the Duke of Argyll has consented to preside. The Dukes of Buccleuch, Montrose, and Roxburgh, with other peers, many Members of Parliament, and eminent merchants and others, have promised to attend. The Rev. Mr. Macbeth, who deserves great credit for initiating and organizing the movement in London, stated that he had also received assurance of very liberal subscriptions from a variety of quarters. It is hoped that the sum originally contemplated will now be raised, and that the completion of this great Christian enterprise will be recognized as a fitting memorial of one of the worthiest of Scotland's great and good men."

WASTING AWAY.—The native races of the Pacific islands are rapidly becoming extinct before the progress of civilization. The gradual decay of the Sandwich Islanders has long been noticed by the missionaries. The Maoris of New Zealand, who in 1851 were estimated at 200,000 by Sir George Gray, by the census of 1858 numbered only 50,000. In Tasmania, there were more than 5,000 natives

in 1803, but now there are less than a score. The native population of South Australia was 3,540 by the census of 1855; in 1860, it was 1,700. In Victoria, there were nearly 5,000 Australian aboriginals in 1848; in 1860, there were only 1,768.

INGENIOUS TORTURE.—It is related of the Marquis de la Fayette that, when undergoing a rigorous imprisonment, he was subjected to the constant supervision of a sentinel. A hole was cut in the door of the small cell, and by night and by day a human eye looked through that loophole upon the prisoner within. He afterwards related the awful sensation produced by the consciousness of that eye's clear, ceaseless gaze.

"Being observed
When observation is not sympathy,
Is just being tortured."

When the poor prisoner sank to a troubled slumber—when he started from his hard couch—when he partook of his prison fare—when he raised his eyes to heaven in supplication, still he was there—the eye of a fellow mortal. And so severe was the nervous suffering arising from the sense of perpetual observation, that the man though brave and much enduring, confessed that all other troubles and persecutions seemed light in comparison.—*Good Words.*

CHURCH AND CHURCH-GOERS IN NEW YORK.—The number of churches in this city, as shown by the last census, is 253, and they are capable of seating an average of 1000 persons each. The value of the churches is an average of \$42,670 each, or a total of \$11,518,460. In 1850 the number of churches was 214, with a capacity of seating an average 1,024 persons each. The average value of each church was \$42,050, making a total valuation of \$9,089,900. The population of the city in 1850 numbered 515,547—2,404 persons for each church, a little more than twice as many as the churches could accommodate. The present population of the city being 814,354, there are now 3,218 persons for each church, which is more than three times as many as there is church accommodation for. Thus, it appears that while in 1850 one-half of the people of the city could be seated in church on a Sabbath—always supposing them properly habited to pass inspection by the Sexton—at the present time but one-third of the people could enjoy that privilege. In the Third Ward there is one church; in the First and Fourth, two; in the Second and Sixth, three; in the Eighteenth there are twenty-six; the number in the remaining Wards ranges from seven to twenty-one.

A LOST THREAD.—The minister of a parish about two miles from Kilmarnock suddenly stopped in the middle of his discourse on Sabbath last, and after remarking upon the difficulty of preaching while his hearers were laughing and inattentive, dismissed the congregation.—*Agrshire Express.*