

obstacles in the way of moral improvement—the absolute prohibition of female education among the natives—is now giving way. Miss Cooke, a lady from England, having devoted herself to the work, has within eleven months obtained children to require fifteen schools for from 40 to 50 girls in each.

“In South America, Mr. Thompson has obtained decrees from the authorities in Buenos Ayres, in Chili, and in Peru, for the establishment of Model Schools for training masters in all the principal cities and towns. He has also got free permission to print the Scripture Lessons. Thus having obtained independence* they are making the best use of their privileges.

“In various other nations of the earth the system has been received, and education is spreading with accelerated rapidity.”

This monitorial system was the one adopted by the British and Canadian School Society at the outset. Of its merits they entertained no light opinion.

“Being convinced of its superiority on account of the christian simplicity, liberality and charity of its principles, and its admirable adaptation to a community composed of so many different religious denominations, as well as its economy and the facility of its support for the benefit of the children of the poor and labouring classes of society, your Committee,” notwithstanding, “would by no means cherish that species of complacency in that which has already been achieved, which would induce them or you to rest satisfied without renewed and persevering exertion. Our gratification must arise, not from the hope of ceasing to labour, but from the certain prospect of labouring with success; that moral darkness and its consequent irregularities, rudeness and destitution of comfort shall be removed, and that in the use of proper means that faithful Providence on whom we ought to rely for success, will fulfil his promise and ‘make darkness light before us, and crooked things straight.’

“As a proof of the flourishing state of the School, your Committee beg leave to notice that, within the last two months, Mr. Hutchings, the master, has been under the painful necessity of refusing admittance to no less than 50 children, chiefly Canadians, for want of room. This circumstance your Committee consider as a very loud call on the Society, and on the inhabitants generally, to show their wonted liberality in contributing towards the erection of a school-house sufficiently commodious for the education of 600 children. The expenses attending such a school, conducted on this system, will not be greater than one containing only half that number. It is one of the advantages of this system of education, that with the increase of the school the comparative

*The independence of Chili was secured in 1818, that of Peru in 1821.