

of the Free Church in South Africa. He died here this morning after a short illness of a week, from an attack of pneumonia with bronchitis. Mr. Laing landed in South Africa in 1830. He has therefore been nearly forty-two years a missionary. He pursued his work day by day with wonderful perseverance and patience. One of the most marked features of his life was, the entire absence of ostentation. For the praise of man he seemed to care absolutely nothing, while ever ready to encourage others by approbation, when it was deserved. He was one of the best, and most gentle, and genial of friends—patient with all, and beloved by all.

It appears that, 800 children are in attendance upon the Mission School instruction in Lebanon. In Pesth, 200 Jewish children receive instruction in all subjects, including the narratives and the doctrines of the Gospel of Christ.

In a letter from Amsterdam, Mr. Van An del refers to the baptism recently of four Jewish converts, three of these being sons of one of the old proselytes. On the occasion the church was filled with about 2,000 hearers. Earnest addresses were delivered, and the newly-baptized persons were cordially greeted and received as members of the mission family. Such services cannot take place without important general results; and Mr. Van An del writes, that on this occasion many were deeply impressed.

Dr. Mitchell, of Calcutta, reports the baptism of a Mahomedan medical student, and the employment of another, baptized some months ago by the mission, as assistant to Dr. Templeton. He also quotes from the report of the Church Missionary Society in Calcutta, as follows:—

“Some few months ago, a native of respectable position and good education came to us, not as an inquirer, but as a *believer*. He was a man of mature age. As a boy he had studied in the Free Church Institution, and there he had first heard those glorious truths on which he ultimately came to repose his soul. The living seed was sown in his heart, and it never entirely lost its vitality.”

Mr. Small, of Bombay, by taking Butler's Sermons as a text book, managed to keep up a Sabbath class of about twenty intelligent students, before whom Bible truths were regularly brought. He laments the great increase of drunkenness among the natives of Bombay.

The *Kaffir Express*, published at Lovedale, takes the Griqua Church, in New Griqualand, and with it many others severely to task, for failing in the Christian duty of supporting Gospel ordinances.

IRISH PRESBYTERIAN MISSIONS.

Mr. Scott, of the Damascus mission, among many other interesting items of intelligence, communicates the following account of a Syrian Young Men's Society. “Two years ago, I suggested to one of our teachers the advantage that would arise, if a Young Men's Society were organised. He consulted with some of his acquaintances, and they agreed to make the attempt. They commenced, however, too ambitiously, and the affair speedily collapsed. Last Spring we determined to renew the experiment, and we called a meeting of young men in our school-house, drew up rules, and composed a Society, with president and other officers. The Association was unsectarian, and literary and scientific, instead of religious and theological. I agreed to act as president, and so the scheme was got fairly afloat. Our first meeting was successful. A paper was read by Mr. Saleem Meshaka, on “The education of women,” and a lively discussion followed. Since then we have met regularly once a month, and the interest in our proceedings seems to be increasing. At our last meeting about seventy were present. What will most