

much question, whether in any town of religious Britain, equal in extent of population to this city, an occasion so momentous, would have passed off with so much decorum and propriety. This will be as pleasing to the real friends of the negro in Britain, as it is to ourselves.

"In this neighbourhood, the people as far as I have been able to ascertain, are doing well, and have quietly returned to their work in the character of free labourers. I regret, however, to say, that this is not universally the case, owing to improper and unjustifiable interference. A combination seems to exist, to prevent the people going to work except for a certain rate of wages. Thus thousands of deluded people are prevailed on to lounge about, to the serious detriment of their families and the estates."

"ST. ANN'S BAY JAMAICA, August 3rd.—In the morning, we arose early, and blessed the Creator of that sun about to shine on happy Jamaica, now the land of peace, prosperity, and, best of all, of liberty. According to promise, I went to Ocho Rios, and held service at an early hour, to give all that could travel an opportunity of being present at the opening of our Chapel in this town.

"GRATEFUL HILL, JAMAICA, August 8th.—The first of August passed off admirably. We held watch-nights in two of our chapels, and ushered in the glorious day in silent prayer to God. It was more praise than prayer. The people could hardly restrain themselves before God. We rose and sung the Jubilee Hymn. But the scene is past description, such heartfelt joy and gladness beamed in every countenance."

"JAMAICA, MORANT BAY, ST. THOMAS IN EAST, August 2nd.—Long before nine o'clock in the morning of yesterday, our chapel was crowded to excess, and the people continuing to pour in from every quarter, we were obliged to make arrangements for another service to be held at the same time in a large place I had fitted up; but this was also soon found insufficient, and we were obliged to admit the people into the Mission House, every part of which was crammed almost to suffocation! I have under my immediate care nearly 2,000 negroes, who are members of society, and I am sure it will afford you great pleasure to learn that they intend to continue on the same properties, and work for their old masters. This shows that they have forgotten the past, and that at present a good feeling exists amongst them."

"BELIZE, HONDURAS BAY, July 11th.—A brighter day is dawning upon the church of this settlement. Obstacles which have long impeded the progress of saving truth will soon be removed forever. We refer to the termination of the Apprenticeship system and the Sunday markets. On the 29th ult., his Excellency Col. Macdonald, Her Majesty's Superintendent, called a meeting of the quondam proprietors of slaves, and warmly addressed them on the subject of immediate abolition. He stated the proceedings of the Imperial Parliament, and the general wishes of the people of Great Britain and Ireland on the subject. He appealed to them in the name of our young Queen, in the name of the army to which he belonged, many of whom had spilt their blood in defence of freedom, and who hated what he called 'the odious system of Apprenticeship;' and last, though not least, he appealed to that God before whose dread tribunal we must all be arraigned. He then requested a show of hands, and the masters were nearly unanimous in declaring that on and after the 1st of August all their people should be absolutely free. Before the meeting broke up, the Colonel gave three cheers for Queen Victoria. It then only remained to get the sanction of the Legislative meeting, which was given without opposition on the 9th inst.; so that the question between slavery in any of its forms, and freedom is for ever set at rest in this country. Several though unsuccessful efforts had been made to do away with the Sunday market. At their meeting on the 9th,

however, a despatch from Lord Glenelg was read, recommending that the proposition for abolishing it should be immediately carried into effect, and intimating that unless they complied it would be done for them elsewhere. This also was successful; and people now have it not in their power so egregiously to desecrate the Lord's day; nor have the same excuse for absenting themselves from a place of public worship. And here we cannot but notice the great kindness of Colonel Macdonald, who does every thing he can to facilitate our operations."

"BRIDGETOWN, BARBADOES, August 12th.—At Bridgetown, half past five A. M., we had a prayer-meeting, when 600 or 700 persons were present; at which meeting ardent praise was ascribed to God from hundreds of grateful hearts, for his wise and over-ruling providence in bringing to pass such a joyful event. . . . Our country chapels at Providence, Spights-town, and Belmont, Garrison, and other preaching places, were well attended, by unusually large congregations, that were remarkably attentive and devout, in religiously observing this ever-memorable day—the long-looked for West Indian Jubilee. The observance of this day in such a peaceable and religious manner throughout the colony, has far exceeded the expectations of the friends of entire emancipation, and surprisingly disappointed the enemies of freedom. Since the first of August until now, with very few exceptions, all the labouring population are going on as heretofore in their various avocations, and in some instances with more satisfaction to all parties. If I may judge for myself, from what I have seen and heard, I cannot hesitate to say, that upon the whole, the change is, in my view, as the pleasing aspect of cheerful spring, succeeding the desolate aspect of winter's gloom."

"LASOYE, DOMINICA, August, 2nd.—The legislature acted wisely, however, in declaring unrestricted liberty on the 1st of August, and, by proclamation of His Excellency the Governor-general, every church and chapel was opened yesterday for divine worship. At an early hour the chapel here was filled. I commenced service at eleven o'clock, and before I began to preach the place was literally crowded, the communion rail thronged, scores at the windows and doors who could not gain admittance, and large companies scattered about the premises. It is supposed that every person came to the house of God that was able. The late stipendary magistrate, Captain Kingsburg, (now a salaried local magistrate) attended, as also the managers resident in the parish. Almost all the Roman Catholics were present. . . . On only one estate has the loud dance been heard, and this by French persons unconnected with us; but not a drunken, or noisy, or riotous character has been seen, and I have every reason to believe that the people will soon commence to work cheerfully under the new system. Our prospects here are still cheering."

"ROSEAU, DOMINICA, August 14th.—According to a proclamation of the Governor-in-Chief, the day was observed as a day of public thanksgiving, and thus the negroes were taught to acknowledge the hand of Almighty God in their liberation, and had the opportunity of publicly testifying their gratitude to Him for their complete delivery from the last vestige of slavery. They seemed rightly to enter into the spirit and design of this appointment, and, when the glad morning arrived, they were seen flocking by thousands to the various places of worship, saying one to another with feelings of joy, 'The Lord hath done great things for us whereof we are glad.' . . . Some persons have entertained misgivings as to the effect of general emancipation on the interests of the colony, fearing that the people would refuse to work under the free system. Such fears will soon be removed by the event. It is true, indeed, that most of the people did not go to work the first day, nor the first week; a week's holiday they thought they must take to feel that they were really free; for 'they were like them that dream' and 'they believed not for joy;'