

arduous, and I myself witnessed, in two cases more particularly, the whole of the Sabbath employed by them in the diligent instruction of the several classes in their churches, from ten in the morning till past seven o'clock in the evening. Nothing can exceed the desire of these poor creatures to benefit by religious instruction.

The following facts were also communicated by the Bishop:—

1. "Twenty-one new Chapels have been erected in the Diocese of Jamaica since 1825, and three only aided by pecuniary assistance from Government, or private individuals, viz.—In the parish of Kingston St. George's Chapel,—in St. Thomas's in the East, Golden Grove Chapel, erected by Mr. Arcedeckne, and endowed with 100*l.* per annum; and in St. Thomas's in the Vale Harewood Chapel, chiefly at the expense of the Earl of Harewood. All the rest have been built by the Colonists.

2. "Nineteen unconsecrated places of public worship are used pro tempore, with a view to the subdivision of parishes, and the formation of larger congregations.

3. "The following places of worship, viz.—Annotto Bay, in St. George's Parish,—Green Island, Hanover,—Darlston, Westmorland, are nearly ready for consecration. In the parish of St. Dorothy, Old Harbour Bay Chapel is roofed in.

4. "Sixteen Churches and Chapels are reported by the Clergy, at which the average attendance is much greater than the buildings will contain. The Bishop has lately been an eye-witness to these crowded congregations, when the church-yard were filled.

5. "The sum of 1570*l.* has been placed at his Lordship's disposal for the religious education of the apprentices on the properties of Saml. Mitchell, Esq."

GRATIFYING LETTER FROM THE REV. C. F. HALL, TO THE BISHOP OF JAMAICA—dated, March 4th, 1835.

"In compliance with your Lordship's request, I inclose a list of the names of the apprentices who have subscribed towards the enlargement of Chapels in this district; and in so doing, beg leave to show how voluntarily they came forward with the offer of assistance. On Friday, the 1st of August last, when there were upwards of 1000 of them assembled, I called the attention of the congregation to the inadequacy of the building to accommodate those who usually attended (it having seats for only 400 at the most), and was much pleased after service at seeing hundreds of them round about the vestry-room offering to subscribe money or labour, according to their means, towards the enlargement of the Chapel, and requesting that their names might be taken down, which I had said I was ready to do, and then did. Many of them who had not heard what I had said, but afterwards learned what was going on, came on the following Sunday, and requested that they might also be allowed to join with the others in giving assistance. Seeing the general good feeling, and wishing to avoid any bustle on the Sabbath, I told them I would go to the different plantations and give all of them who were willing to assist in any way an opportunity of saying so, and would then and there put down their names. This I afterwards did at several plantations, with the permission of the managers. Many at a distance have not yet subscribed; there are, however, nearly 1000 names, and I have no doubt several hundred more (indeed that nearly all the adult apprentices in the district) will give some assistance; for with the exception of about 4 or 500, the whole population, to the number of 4 or 5000 (including old and young,) are in connexion with the Established Church, and most of them are perhaps occasional attendants at the Chapels.

I desire now, my Lord, to acknowledge, and I do so with much gratification, the receipt of a letter of yesterday's date, from your Lordship's secretary, kindly conveying to me, under your Lordship's directions, your entire satisfaction with all you witnessed, during your visitation, in connexion with my ministry; and at the same time, as he requests of me a particular and precise description of the means which, with God's blessing, have produced so favourable results, I beg to state, that when your Lordship consecrated the Chapel, eight years and a half ago, there were but few who attended. The congregation was small indeed, and continued so for some time. I commenced, however, with teaching letters on the

Sunday before Divine Service, and after Service I baptized the infants, being very particular in instructing and lecturing the sponsors, who were almost entirely ignorant of their duty as such, they having scarcely ever been in a Church before, or in any way instructed. I afterwards instructed and prepared the adult candidates for Baptism, and expounded the second lesson or the Gospel of the day; during the whole of this time the small congregation remained in Church attentively listening. From that time to this I have pursued the same plan, and continue to dispense the word of eternal life to them in as familiar a manner as possible,—and the Chapel, is now crowded for two or three hours after Service. The congregation has gradually increased from 50, the first year, to 1200 at one Chapel, and to 1000 at the other, 800 of them being regular attendants; so that on Sundays there are as many and more, outside, as within the walls of the Chapel. The number of communicants has risen from none (or on one in the first year) to 255, every individual having been previously examined by myself, that I might learn his views with reference to the ordinance;—they all continue to attend to receive instruction previous to the Lord's Supper being administered, coming to my residence in their own time on the Saturdays, or on the evening of other days, whenever it suits them, when I speak to them in a plain and familiar manner, showing them the benefits to be derived by a worthy participation, and cautioning them against coming in an unprepared state: at these times they often give me an opportunity of reconciling friends, and pouring in words of consolation and advice. During the last four years that Mr. Douet, the Catechist, has been with me, the Sunday School has increased rapidly to seventy, (and the room can contain no more,) usually attending; there are, however, 200 of the congregation learning to read; 50 are reading in the Testament. Our Evening School at my residence is also increasing under Mr. Douet: 80 now belonging to it, 30 to 50 of whom regularly attend. The Day School (likewise at my residence), under a female teacher, partly paid by the Ladies' Society, is going on very well, being usually attended by 30 children; 12 or 14 of them are allowed (as a favour to several members of the congregation, and in order that they may be brought up properly, and be good examples in their families,) to remain entirely at our house, under the charge of the above mentioned female: they attend our family worship, when a hymn is sung and a short portion of Scripture is expounded.

"The Chatechist has eight plantations to attend; these I frequently visit, to lecture the adults and examine the children,—but the results of my teaching (such as they have been,) I would attribute, under Providence, after the preaching of the Gospel, to my having been so particular, from the commencement, in regard to the baptizing of adults, having always closely examined them as to their faith in the Christian religion, and their knowledge of its doctrines, previous to administering that religious rite, and also to my now requiring proper sponsors for the children. I would only now add, my Lord, that the increase in the number of marriages has been as great as in any thing else. The first two years there were 6 or 7, the third year 20,—they were doubled the next year; and this last year there have been 210, nearly 100 of them before the first August: immediately after that there were a great many solemnized."

RELIGION IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

Memorial addressed to his Majesty's Government, by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.

The Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge begs leave most respectfully to call the attention of His Majesty's Government to the state of the Colony of New South Wales and its dependencies, with regard to Religious Instruction.

The Society is at all times unwilling to do any thing which might seem to interfere with the province of government, but it feels itself called upon, by the urgency of the case, to bring the moral and spiritual condition of this Colony under their notice.

The Society begs to represent, that in the whole Colony of New South Wales there are only eight Churches, and so insufficient is the number of Clergy, that in seventeen of the counties, equal in extent to the same number of counties in England, only five chaplains are stationed; and that notwithstanding the

rapid increase of the population, no church has been erected since the year 1821, except one at Port Macquarie, while that station was occupied as a penal settlement. The foundations of a large Church laid by Governor Macquarie in the town of Sydney remain as they were left at his departure, though the number of inhabitants has increased to above 16,000, of whom more than 12,000 are Protestant.

In the interior which contains upwards of 30,000 Protestants, a few small temporary buildings have been provided at the expense of the Colony for the celebration of Divine Service; but these are generally appropriated to secular purposes during the week, and there are sixteen districts, containing a considerable population, which are destitute even of this miserable provision for Divine worship. Nearly the whole of these places are without schools; and unless some immediate steps are taken to supply this want of education, the mass of the population, which is now so rapidly increasing, will be left to grow up in ignorance and vice.

The Society begs to call the particular attention of His Majesty's Government to the fact, that of the population of the Australian Colonies, about 40,000 are felons and prisoners of the Crown, who have been convicted and transported from the mother country; which has thus been relieved to a considerable extent of the vicious and dangerous part of its population.

During the earlier progress of the colony, considerable expense was incurred by His Majesty's Government in providing means of Religious instruction for the convicts; but, during the last nine years nothing whatever has been done, nor any expense incurred, by the mother country, to provide for their spiritual wants. And the Society has been informed, upon the authority of the Archdeacon, that numbers of these unhappy persons are left altogether without the means of Religious instruction or consolation.

In many parts of the Colony, the spiritual destitution of the free settlers is equally great. Through many extensive districts they are unable to procure the rites of their Religion. The Sacraments are not administered except at long intervals. Marriage cannot be solemnized without so much difficulty, that notwithstanding every relaxation in point of form, parties are often unable to obtain it, and are living together without its celebration. Many children die unbaptized; and the apprehension of being deprived of Christian burial is found to prevail to a painful extent among the colonists who are at a distance from the stations. But the worst effect arising from this state of things, is the visible decline of Religious principle, and the progress of vice and irreligion in the colony at large.

The Society, willing to do every thing in its power to alleviate these evils, has recently placed a considerable sum at the disposal of the Archdeacon, but it is evident, that this sum will do very little towards providing for the exigencies of the settlers; and it is felt that in this colony, especially where there are so many prisoners of the Crown, who have been banished from their country for the public advantage, the Religious instruction of the people ought not to be left to the bounty of Religious Societies, or of private individuals.

The Society, therefore, most earnestly implores His Majesty's Government to take the spiritual condition of the colony of New South Wales into their serious consideration; and by the erection of Churches, with Schools attached to them, and the appointment of additional chaplains, to place within reach, both of the colonists and convicts, the blessings of a Christian education, and the comforts and consolations of Religion.

SELECT SENTENCES.

Let us fulfil,

What Heaven enjoins, and leave to Heaven the event.

Hannah More.

To have public ordinances, without CHRIST, is to be like the patriarch, with fire and the wood, but without THE LAMB for a burnt offering.

A head full of knowledge and a heart full of lust, will sink a man into the lowest hell.

Keep thy conscience pure, and God will be thy continual defence; and him whom God defends, the malice of men hath no power to hurt.—*Thomas a Kempis.*

Death is the enemy of nature, but the friend of grace.