

of the different villages in December last: but these are nevertheless to be encouraged to attend during the hours of instruction, by every possible means; and, at the half-yearly distribution of clothing, those boys and girls, who are recommended by the Managers for regularity of attendance and general good conduct, shall also receive the allowance of clothing although not residing in the schools or maintained by His Majesty's Government.

The Gentlemen of the Church Missionary Society will, it is hoped, regularly visit the Schools at the hours most convenient to themselves; and examine into the improvement of the pupils, and the capability of the Teachers, as well as the moral and religious conduct of every one connected with the Schools. Any recommendation which these Gentlemen may make to the General Superintendent respecting pupils and masters, and any suggestion which they may consider as likely to improve these establishments as to these points, will be read with attention.

Half-yearly inspections of the progress of the children will be held, at which the Gentlemen of the Church Missionary Society will be requested to preside in their own District; and selection will then be made of those children, whose inclination and capability to receive instruction have been most apparent: and where, either from habitual idleness or from incapacity, but little progress has been made, the pupils, in such cases, will be given out to the most decent inhabitants, either by indenture or otherwise, for the purpose of being employed on their farms, and such children will cease to be maintained at the expense of the Government.

In all cases of flagrant neglect or ill-usage, on the part of any of the persons to whom children have been already or may hereafter be distributed, the Manager will remove such children from under the care of their adopted parent, and the person so offending shall never be allowed again to receive any child from the Schools.

By additional regulations it was ordered as follows—

The Scholars will be collected, as formerly, in a building adjoining to the Manager's residence; and His Majesty's Government will allow 2d. per day for each, from the 1st of March. The Managers are permitted to employ them on their farms, before and after school hours.

It is remarked on this arrangement—

We see now the former system of maintaining the children at the expense of Government introduced again, with this single exception in the manner of it, that Government, instead of giving out the food in rations to the guardians over the children, gives the money to those guardians, and leaves it to them to find food: but there is this important departure from the former system—that in choosing guardians for the children, the Missionaries are superseded by the Managers and Sub-managers. Here is Mr. Gatesman, residing within sight of the Leopold Schools, where the children live now again as they did formerly under the superintendence of Mr. Davey: Mr. Gatesman may go and examine them at that School, from nine o'clock to twelve, and from one to three: but let him not presume to meddle with them at any other time of the day, for it has been officially notified that "they are under the charge of the Manager, and with their sons no Member of the Church Missionary Society has any right to interfere, nor any connection whatever with them excepting their Examination and Instruction, according to the directions so clearly defined for the Deputation in this Colony by the Church Missionary Society in London."

This Society, however, puts such a different sense on the terms of its agreement with Government, and is so much alive to the evils which have already arisen from this arrangement, that the Committee have offered to His Majesty's Ministers to take on themselves the whole charge of the Schools; for it is most obvious, that Authority, whether concurrent or divided, if exercised by persons of opposite motives, principles, and habits, must bring on continual and injurious collisions. Government wishes, however, the present system to have fuller trial, but is ready to concur with the Society in establishing some defined regulations on the subject.

If the Labourers of the Society are not to have control over the children when out of school, a most favourable opportunity of bringing them up in the fear of God will be lost, as they cannot, in that

case, prevent the children from running into temptation and sin: if an essential alteration, therefore, be not made in this new system, the decidedly religious character, which has been given to the Schools, and to the Villages generally, will gradually disappear. It was undoubtedly meant in the arrangement with Government, and is clearly so implied, that the Clergyman of each Parish should possess such a degree of authority and power as would be requisite to maintain the interests of religion in the Parish; and in no way could he more effectually provide for the future prosperity of religion, than by guarding the minds of the children from the corrupt example of the adults, and putting them on a course of religious discipline and instruction from the moment of their quitting the Slave Ship, until they arrive at an age when they must provide for themselves.

The Governor, himself, appeared to be conscious that he had placed matters on a footing which was untenable; for Mr. Hacusel writes on the 13th of July—

His Excellency arrived from the Gambia on the 14th, and sent for me on the 7th, to communicate, and as he was pleased to express himself, to receive my opinion upon a New Plan, which he had formed for the education of the Liberated-African Children. He means to concentrate the Schools into three large Schools, one for each of three Districts into which he has divided the Villages—the Missionary to reside in a Government House, exclusively and permanently set apart for him, in the place where the School shall be—Bathurst to be the Station for the Mountains; either York or Kent for the Sea District; and either Hastings or Waterloo for the River District.

There would be advantages in this plan, with reference to the children landed from Slave Ships; but if these were to be collected together at three of the Stations, those children who have been born in the Colony and live at the other Stations with their parents would either remain uneducated or must be formed into separate Schools. But the death of the Governor, which took place a few weeks afterward, will probably lead to new arrangements.

From various parts of our last Volume we have collected the following notices relative to the labourers in the Mission—

Mr. and Mrs. Gatesman, Mrs. Pope, and Mrs. Taylor, (p. 182) landed at the end of Nov. 1826; Mr. Weeks, and Mrs. Pope, were married early in December; Mr. Weeks removed from Leopold, and then took charge of New Schools opened in the eastern part of Freetown; and Mrs. Taylor was appointed to the former Girls' School in the western quarter; Mr. and Mrs. Gatesman settling at Leopold. The health of several of the Missionaries requiring a visit to Europe, the Rev. John Raban (p. 223) left in the middle of January and reached England on the 16th of March—the Rev. John Gerber (p. 262) in the beginning of March, and arrived in the beginning of May—and the Rev. W. K. Betts (p. 342) left in the latter part of April, and reached England in the latter part of June. Mr. Gatesman died (p. 343) in the latter part of April: his Widow accompanied Mr. Betts on his return. The Rev. C. L. F. Haensel (p. 9) had arrived about the middle of February; and was now left, after the departure of Mr. Raban and Mr. Betts, in charge of Freetown. Mr. Pierce, Teacher at Charlotte, had left the service of the Society for employment under Government. The Rev. Thomas Davey, having been a limited to Priests's Orders on Trinity Sunday, left London, with Mrs. Davey, in the latter part (p. 342) of July, and landed at Freetown in the beginning of September; having been most liberally and kindly treated (pp. 651, 652) by Captain Owen, of H. M. S. Eden, who granted them a passage.

The Rev. W. K. Betts and the Rev. John Gerber embarked at Gravesend, on their return to the Colony, in the early part of November last, and finally sailed from Plymouth on the 16th. Mr. Gerber had visited the Continent where he had married; and was now accompanied by Mrs. Gerber. Mr. Thomas Heighway and Mrs. Heighway, with Mr. Edmund Boston, proceeded (pp. 503, 567) in the same vessel, to assist in the Schools. Mrs. Kilham of the Society of Friends, accompanied these Labourers; we mention here this zealous Servant of Christ though she belongs to another Community, because her object (see p. 343, 400) is directly subservient to the efficiency of the Society's exertions in Africa.

WESLEYAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

Victorious Issue of the present Conflict between Good and Evil.

Never did the Powers of Light and Darkness present themselves in a contest so wide-spread and so determined. It is no longer to a sleeping world that we call; but to a world awake for good or for evil. The aggression made on the territories of the common Enemy have roused his vigilance: the torches of truth have been carried into the recesses of Pagan, Popish, and Mahomedan Darkness; and the world is in a state of hope and fear. It is in this condition of things that the Church is becoming more eminently militant; and is taking up her more advanced posts, in which more is to be done, and perhaps more is to be suffered. But the noblest ambition is roused—the ambition of blessing men; of turning the world's darkness into light and its tumult into peace. The prospect is sublime; because the effects connect themselves so little with visible agency, and so much with God.

A few Societies, composed, for the most part, of persons little and unknown—contributions flowing in from ten thousand channels, but with a stream small and noiseless, having their hidden sources, for the most part, among the pious poor—men sent forth simply to preach Christ, to establish Schools, to translate the Scriptures, to converse with meekness and to persuade by example; scattered over vast continents and distant islands; few among the many myriads of aliens from God and Truth; here is no array of power, no consultations of worldly policy, no march of crusading armies; yet the slumber of ages is disturbed, the chain of the captive breaks, the clouds of error dissipate, the light of universal day dawns and the demons of idolatry and superstition retire before it, or brandish a feeble, though malignant, defiance.

Invisible as the secret and far-working power is, such a power is there; and it is the power of God. Invisible is that influence, which, spreading over the expanse of the waters of the ocean, rolls them in their bed, and heaves them in submissive tides upon their shores; yet who recognises not an Unseen Agency, and who bows not before its Majesty? So the Spirit of God has gone forth over the hearts of men; and the first genuine heavings of feeling and opinion are but preclusive of that mighty flowing in of Nations to the Church of God, predicted by the Prophet, at the sight of which she shall fear and be enlarged, and with prostrate awe acknowledge that this is the great work of God. If God then be for us, who shall be against us? In His name we have gone forth, and have not returned empty: in His name let us go forth again, to the prayers and the labours of another year; and doubt not, but steadfastly believe, that he who has never deceived our trust, will fulfil that word unto all His servants in which He has caused them to hope. To Him be glory for ever. Amen!

ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.

STATE OF THE ANTI-SLAVERY QUESTION.

Inefficiency of the Parliamentary Resolutions of 1823.

The sanguine hope, which the Parliamentary Resolutions of the 15th May 1823 excited, that EARLY, EFFECTUAL and DECISIVE measures would be taken to meliorate the condition of the Slave Population of the British Colonies, and to raise them to "a participation in those civil rights and privileges which are enjoyed by other classes of His Majesty's subjects," has been most painfully disappointed by the result. Year after year has passed away, without the adoption of those effectual and decisive measures for this purpose, to which the Government and the Parliament were then solemnly pledged. No adequate remedy has yet been provided for the great and acknowledged evils of Slavery. Five years have been wasted in fruitless negotiations with the men who feel interested in upholding those evils; and the prospect of their removal seems, at the present moment, as distant as when the pledges in question were first given.

Neither in Trinidad, which it was proposed should furnish a model of reform to the other Colonies, nor in any of the Colonies which have no Legislative Assemblies of their own, has the unquestionable power of the Crown been adequately exerted to give effect to its own declared purposes. In all of them, the reforms hitherto enacted have fallen far