

considerably prevails, which only can be effectually reached by agencies that are strictly and properly *Missionary* in their character and modes of operation. To these sheep in the wilderness the Society has therefore deemed it a duty to direct its attention, and has for many years borne a humble and, it is hoped, a far from useless part, in the endeavours which have been made, on the behalf of Ireland, to promote the saving knowledge of Christ and the practical fruits of righteousness among such as already profess the pure faith of Protestantism; keeping in view, at the same time, the scriptural instruction, and emancipation from superstition and sin, of that large portion of our fellow-subjects who acknowledge the spiritual dominion of the Church of Rome.

In this work the Society employs *twenty-four* Missionaries, *six* Scripture Readers, and *twenty-six* salaried Schoolmasters. Their zealous labours during the past year have suffered no interruption, and, there is reason to believe, have in many instances been followed by very useful results. Several new congregations have been formed in the south and west of the Island, and several hundreds of persons, other wise almost or altogether neglected, have enjoyed the benefit of the means of grace. A considerable number of the children educated in the Schools are of Romish parentage; and the experience of every year affords increasing evidence of the usefulness of the School-establishment. All the Schools are opened and closed with prayer. The Holy Scriptures are the books chiefly used in giving instruction; and catechisms on the doctrines and facts of Scripture are committed to memory. In the Daily and Sunday Schools connected with the Irish Missions there are about 6000 children.

MISSIONS ON THE CONTINENT OF EUROPE, AND IN THE MEDITERRANEAN.

SWEDEN.—If the character of a Mission were to be estimated merely by the number of persons connected with it, as Church-members, a very high estimate would not be formed of the importance of the station occupied by the Society in this country. But it is not by such a criterion that this Mission is to be tested. Its beneficial effects are not so much apparent in the formation and enlargement of a separate Society or Church, as in the impulse which it imparts to the work of spreading pure and experimental religion in the National Church of Sweden. Its influence in this respect is highly salutary, and many who still remain within the pale of the establishment have been brought by the various labours of the Missionary to "taste the powers of the world to come." One of the evidences of the revival of the *spirit* of Christianity in Sweden is witnessed in the formation of the "*Swedish Missionary Society*," noticed by the Committee in the Report of last year. They have now to advert to the successful operations of that Society in promoting a Missionary feeling in the country, and in raising funds for the support of the Missionary-work. The success has far exceeded the anticipations of the Directors, and they are encouraged to commence the operations of another year with renewed zeal. For the present, they have judged it to be most prudent to divide their income among some of the older Societies which have Missionaries already in the field, and have granted £100 sterling to this Society, as a token of their good-will, and with especial reference to the benefits imparted by our long-established Mission in St. Bartholomew's, a colony belonging to the Swedish crown.