

and under such a sun as ours, the fatigue is very great, but the prospect of meeting beloved brethren, after a year's ministerial toils and trials, and of 'asking each other of their welfare,' renders the journey lighter; and, on this occasion in particular, we have felt 'it was *good* for us to be there; and we have all returned to our spheres of labour 'thanking, God and taking courage.'

"Nearly ten hours were occupied in hearing reports from every church and school under the superintendence of the Synod. I question if these hours could have been more profitably spent; and a more interesting document could not go hence than the observations of the brethren on their difficulties, their trials, and their encouragements. Every item of expenditure and income is detailed, and if need be canvassed; any peculiarity in plans of usefulness is mentioned; and any apparent fruits of our labours are, in a humble and thankful spirit, specified. These details furnish available data for any practical scheme of economy and retrenchment; but it is really due to us by our churches at home to study more carefully all the facts connected with our position, for they would then have to acknowledge that all the ministers here are *incessantly* and *excessively* anxious to lessen your expenditure on our Jamaica mission; nay, *I warn you* that some of us are 'even consuming ourselves,' from Sabbath to Sabbath, with zeal about this very matter.

"Our churches (to dismiss 'the outward things of the house of God') are evidently in a most interesting and hopeful state at the present moment. No minister's 'heart is failing him;' we are all, on the contrary, *full of hope* that the Lord is about to 'arise and plead his own cause;' and that 'the time to favour our Zion, yea, the set time is come.'"

"A public meeting, in connection with Revivals, was held in the evening, and the church was filled by a most intelligent and devout-like audience. Mr. Watson presided, and in a beautiful opening address related some of the incidents connected with the great revival in America. The devotional exercises of this meeting were peculiarly powerful, and it seemed as if a melting and subduing influence was at work in the hearts of both ministers and people. Two addresses were delivered: one by Mr. McLean, on the nature and desirableness of a revival of religion; and the other by Mr. Gillies, on the means by which it will be obtained. Both addresses were admirable—nothing being aimed at but the immediate spiritual good of the hearers. The Lord enabled the last mentioned brother to speak very faithfully and affectionately to *his brethren in the ministry*; and as, like Mr. McLean, he spoke out of the fulness of a very warm heart, his words were 'with power.' We give God thanks for having enabled the Mission Board to procure for Jamaica, and to send out to us, such choice spirits as some of the brethren more recently associated with us have proved themselves to be. And in this connection allow me also to name our beloved brother, Mr. Boyd of Rosehill, who led our devotions at the close of the meeting in a manner that will long be remembered; there was such unfeigned humility, such simplicity and fervour, such appropriateness in confession and supplication, and such holy boldness, that we felt we were on 'holy ground,' and that we were brought *near to God, even to his seat*. Yes, we all felt that the Lord had heard our supplications; and I have the fullest confidence that that meeting will be looked back to by not a few as a Peniel, as a Bethel, as the beginning of months to their souls."

"We had an application from the Free Church at Falmouth to be received into connection with our Synod. They at present worship in a handsome chapel, and have school premises, and a very excellent school, taught by a devoted and zealous Free Church student, a Mr. Somerville. The Lord has greatly tried this congregation—one minister after another having been taken from them. Falmouth is declared, by those who know it best, to require very much one or two efficient *resident* pastors; and the field would seem to be promising—130 members are connected with the church. The Colonial Committee of the Free Church have recommended this measure; and we resolved, after hearing a deputation, to remit the matter to the Northern Presbytery, requesting them to entertain favourably any more formal application, and to correspond with the Mission Board on the whole subject. I may remind you here, that our brethren on the north side of the island have been, as far as they were able, supplying the Falmouth pulpit; and further,