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# THE WESLEYAN.

## Missionary Intelligence.

(From Wes. Notices Newspaper, March 1851.) Wesleyan Missions in Southern Africa.

D'URBAN, FORT-PEDDIE .- Brtract of a Letter from the Rev. George Chapman, dated Graham's- Town, Oct. 21st, 1850.

THOUGH dating Graham's-Town, my preent communication will refer chiefly to D'Urban, Fort-Peddie, at which place, in consequence of the removal to Town for a season of the Minister stationed there, I have spent the last three months.

With the general character of our work at the D'Urban Station you are fully acquainted. I may, however, prior to laying before you a few extracts from my journal, remark, that at the "Post," as Fort-Peddie itself is termed, we have an European congregation, consisting partly of soldiers stationed there, and partly of English residents, with their families. At present we have no chapel there, but conduct service in a building lent for the occasion, meeting the congregation twice on the Sabbath-day, and attending other services in the course of the week. At the Station our congregations are exclusively native, being a mixture of Fingoes and Kaffirs ; the former, however, greatly preponderate. On the Sabbath the chapel is opened with the first dawn of the day, at which time a goodly number assemble to hear God's word ; the morning is then filled up by prayer-meetings and school duties. In the afternoon the people again assemble to hear from the lips of the Missionary the word of life; this is followed again by the school, and the day is closed with prayer and praise. On each morning of the week, as the day dawns, the chapel bell is heard calling together either those who meet in class, or who meet for prayer, or to hear God's word. To a stranger the effect is pleasing in the extreme, and on the mind of the native Christians is evidently attended with beneficial results. They see the propriety, ere the frame is wearied by labour, that the soul should be free; and feel that, prior to encountering the trials of the day, it is well to forvify the mind by the word of God and by prayer. To us who it is a source of higher gratification than can be expressed, to see so many of these once benighted and ignorant ones now walking in the light, and evidently striving to grow in grace, and in the knowledge and love of Christ Jesus our Lord.

Before leaving the Station, I met the classes, both at D'Urban and at the sub-Stations, for the purpose of renewing their quarterly tickets. The following extracts may serve, in some degree, to indicate to you the state of the classes, and also the progress of the work of God in the Circuit.

Fort-Peddie, Suuday, September 29th .---At the morning service, our preaching-room was crowded to excess, owing chiefly to the

the others, one and all, seemed in real ear nest for salvation. After meeting the classes, I spent some time in hearing and deciding a case which, but for the Christian conduct of the Teacher, might have led to much evil, and been the means of great discord in the peaceful little Society,

This location is about fourteen miles from the Station, the read to it being of the most wretched description ; losse stones, rugged rocks, and a redundancy of the mimosa thorn, with its prickles of from three to five inches in length, render the journey extremely tedious.

2d .- In the afternoon I baptised all the members (save one who was absent) of an European family ; the service was deeply interesting : the elder branches of the family were greatly affected, including those of the rising generation who had attained to an age to understand the nature of the solemn service in which they were engaged ; and each, from those of twelve years old and upwards, seemed fully resolved to consecrate themselves to the Lord. After the service we sang a hymn, but most of the young persons, eleven in number, found it difficult to find utterance ; yet, amidst many tears, they occasionally joined in offering themselves to the Lord. The sentiment of each heart seemed to be, "My Father, wilt thou not from this time be the Guide of my youth ?"

3d.-I preached at six A.M., to a good congregation. At eight A.M., I left for Cesina, where I met the class for tickets, and was much refreshed in spirit by the state of mind of the members, about half of whom enjoy a clear sense of God's pardoning mercy, and all the others seem in real earnest. The Native Teacher stationed here is a sensible man, and seems to find delight in his Master's service. At noon I returned to the Station, the day being excessively oppressive, a hot wind blowing over the parched land.

4th.-I was engaged all the afternoon with native Class-Leaders. In the evening I met the English class at the military post, and was cheered to find that one who met last week, for the first time, has since last Sabbath found peace with God : he is a private belonging to the 91st regiment. Another of his comrades met this evening an humble seeker of mercy.

6th .- In the morning and evening I preached at the Post, in the afternoon at the Station : it pleased God to cause the word to take deep hold upon many, who retired from the house of God in distress, saying, " If these things are so, ' what must we do to be saved ?" Many who hitherto have been but nominal Christians were in great bitterness of spirit, and cried loudly for mercy; while those who had believed were filled with joy.

10th .- I rose at dawn of day, and in the cool of the morning started for Newtondale, where I met the people, and gave tickets to the Society. Most of the members at this place are among the number of those who feel their sins to be a burden ; a few, however, could bear testimony to the fact of their acceptance in the Beloved. Mr Kidd, the Catechist, is labouring zealously and with considerable encouragement ; with the assistance of the native members, he has nearly completed a nice little chapel, conveniently situated both for himself and the people on the Station : personally he has laboured hard in the erection, beside having to superintend the labour of those who have wrought with him. The building, when finished, will afford accommodation to all at present on the Station, and will do credit both to the Catechist and his charge. It will be completed without assistance from 11th.-At a quarter before six A.M., I met a class for tickets ; in the afternoon, the Native Teachers; and afterwards, at the Post, the English class. The members recently added seem to be pressing towards the mark for the prize of their high calling. A poor backslider, also a soldier, came this evening. He seems truly penitent, and in To be continued.

## Correspondence.

#### JUDGE MARSHALL'S LETTERS. (Continued from Athenaum of the 2nd instant.) On Pauperism and Poverty.

In my previous letters, which treated of the relation between landlord and tenant, and the agricultural interest generally; also of labour and wages; and the manufacture, sale, and consumption of intoxicating liquors, in the United Kingdom, it was my design, to exhibit the principal causes which have long been operating to produce those effects, which, for ages, have embarrassed and injured, and are still deeply oppressing and afflicting the great bulk of the population .-Some of those effects have already been partially exhibited, but having stated and enlarged on those causes, it seems requisite to set forth and explain, in an equally detailed and comprehensive manner, the principal portion of their injurious results. The first that may be specified, as naturally proceeding from those causes, are,-pauperism, and poverty. These terms will not, here, be used as having the same import and meaning, as is generally the case. The term -pauperism, will be employed in the legal sense, as applying to all who receive parish relief; and by-poverty, must be understood, all those, who are in circumstances of want or distress, but do not receive such relief: not being legally entitled to it in the places where they are found in that situation. Of the first class, there are, as has already been stated, upwards of three millions, throughout the Kingdom, annually supported, in whole or in part, from the public rates. This number s nearly one eighth of the whole population. Indeed, a few years ago, the Home Secretary declared in Parliament, the astounding fact, that every tenth Briton was a pauper. The term "Briton," of course, did not include Ireland. The support of this enormous multitude will be seen to be most burdensome to the country, when we divide the population into families; and then view the proportionate number, who are taxed for their support. This, however, with the details concerning it, will, more appropriately, be included in a subsequent letter, which will treat of the subject of taxation in general.

Independent, nowever, of this burthen of taxation, the mere fact, of such a large proportion of the population of a country, being dependent upon others for their daily and scanty subsistence, gives a distressing view of its circumsances, with reference to general prosperity, and the ordinary comforts and enjoyments of life. But, in addition to these circumstances of depression and embarrassment, there are the hundreds of thousands. or probably millions besides, who are either more destitute than those paupers, and pine away life in secret misery, or who obtain a precarious and guilty subsistence, by plun-dering or imposing on others. These adnot only of the most populous cities and towns, but also, in about equal proportions, in the smaller towns and villages of the several countries composing the Kingdom. During the whole of my sojourn in those countries, this open and invariable exhibition of destitution and misery, was the circumstance in the aspect and condition of society in those countries, which arrested my attention, and excited my astonishment in the greatest degree. I was, of course, previously aware, that in those countries there were numbers of paupers, and destitute persons, but I was not prepared to behold them, lining, as it were, so many of the streets and lanes of the populous places, and also in every other part of those lands, never having seen the like open distress, either in my native country, or any of the other British Colonies I had visited, nor even in the larger cities of the American Union. In the beautiful and literary city of Edinburgh, especially, the modern Athens, as it is called, where I resided nearly two vears, such exhibitions greatly abounded .-When returning from public meetings, or on other occasions, at advanced hours of the night, I scarcely ever failed to see on the streets, some or even many of those destitute beings,-here a female with one child in her arms, and one or two beside her, with bare feet, on the wet and chilling pavement, in tattered garments, singing some plaintive ballad; in other places, parties playing on instruments, and at other conspicuous sta-

#### tions, individuals, or occasionally, even families, mutely exhibiting themselves ; all with the design of exciting sympathy, and obtaining those means of relief, which the passers by but very rarely afforded them ; not often openly venturing to solicit such alms, for fear of being driven away by the officers of justice, patrolling the streets. Similar exhibitions are frequent in every other town of the Kingdom, especially in Ireland and Scotland. In the larger cities and towns, there are multitudes : in some even hundreds of destitute and wretched children, who night after night, and in the most boisterous and piercing seasons, have not even the shelter of the inside of the lowest and most comfortless habitations, but are compelled to creep into open passages ; and there, or on outside steps of stone, to crouch down, and linger out in cold, and hunger, and wretchedness, the long and dreary hours. The following extracts, from valid authorities relating to this subject, will, in some degree, serve to show the extent of the poverty and destitution in the United Kingdom. The "Age and its Architects," states-" It is calculated upon competent evidence, that one-hundredth part of the population, or 150,000, live on the wages of mendicity. Supposing each family to consist of six persons, we have 25,000 begging families, and it is pretty fairly estimated, that they raise £55 per annum, each, or the total sum of £1.375.000 : one fourth of the average total amounts of poor rates. This calculation does not include the Irish mendicants, and yet they are in the proportion of one in three, to the English, even in the agricultural district It is believed that this is a constantly increasing class : that it is extending its territory, and increasing its population. The fact of its existence, is terrible, but more terrible still, the belief, founded on knowledge, that its increase on the part of agricultural and other labourers, is to be traced to the fact, that ' wages are not high enough for the price of provisions, or provisions low Thus, the enough for the price of labour.' ranks of vagrancy are perpetually filled, by those who did not, from choice, find their way there." And, again, regarding Manchester, the same work contains the following passage, being a part of Mr. Laing's Prize Essay, on the labouring classes-"The fact, that in a single year, (1839,) 42,964 persons, nearly one-sixth of the whole population, were admitted at different medical charities, and that more than one-half of the inhabitants are either so destitute, or so degraded, as to require the assistance of public charity, in bringing their offspring into

the world, affords a melancholy illustration of the condition of the working classes in Manchester." "In Leeds we meet with the same destitution and wretchedness." In an authentic Scottish publication in 1849, is the following article-" The population of Sweden amounts to about 3,500,000 souls, and ditional burthens on society, are day and has only three mendicants in every 400 night to be seen on all the streets and points, persons ; while in Norway, they reckon five out of every 100; in Denmark 4, in Wurtemburgh 9, in Switzerland 10, in Italy 13, in France 15, and in the British Islands, collectively, 17; although in England sepa-) rately, there are only ten." The statements and facts which have now been given, may suffice to afford some idea of the extent of the poverty and destitution which have prevailed in the United Kingdom, during recent years. It is next of importance to investigate and ascertain, as to the causes which have produced such injurious and afflicting results. These causes are numerous, but all must, at once, admit, that the consumption of intoxicating drinks, is the one by far the most prevalent and grievous. Such multitudes have been reduced from comparative independence and comfort, to pauperism or destitution, by this fatal cause, that it would be a waste of time to adduce individual instances on the point. In my preceding letter, several facts and official authorities were given, to show that at least nine-tenths of the public paupers, annually relieved in the Kingdom, had been reduced to their unhappy condition, chiefly or entirely from that cause. I may here mention some instances of poverty or destitution, through drink, in relation to communities, which came under my own more immediate knowledge. While residing in Scotland, I visited, by invitation, a village some miles from Glasgow, and became acquainted with the parochial schoolmaster there, who had

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been licensee forded the fo the village, general. He was about 1 of five to a that there that one of t gregations tl were fourto ting liquors were annua of those liqu whole popul ly from the funds which contributors had occurre the potatoe that the poo amounted to tioned, that population rates were then better statement. £385 of ra fourth" of t man of the charge, as the other c 285 familie spirit estab families, w tain all bel producing it at all su cumstances were in poor rates of worship tions. A estimate of be fulfilled bitants we structive 1 a ldress to following 8 Ministe 8 Schoo Making .C12( Library School in each, Clothing 20s. each. Fund for ment, at 10s. ness, &c., an at death of t Missiont For priz " Bo Rent of £2 5s, Poor rat In pas Alloa in

fact of all the European soldiers stationed here being present. The present company has been here but a few days. Their Captain was our fellow passenger to this country. He is, I trust, a real christian, and is evidently desirous of promoting the spiritual welfare of the men under his command. At his own expense he has opened a select and suitable library for the use of the soldiers. and has also commenced a day school for their children, and an evening school for the men themselves, several of whom appear to have derived benefit from the attention paid to their moral and spiritual welfare. In the afternoon I preached at D'Urban, from Matt. xviii. 15, 17 : a lengthy dispute among the native Christians was the immediate cause for the selection of this text. the Society's funds. In the evening I preached again at this Post : the Divine Presence was felt at all the services.

October 1st .-- I visited the Ggora, a native location, at which place we have a Teacher, an active and useful man : there are two classes here, one met by the Teacher, the other by his wife ; that of the former numbers nine full members, and thirteen | earnest. on trial; that of the other, six, all on trial. I was much pleased, on meeting them for the renewal of their quarterly tickets, with their state of religious experience ; severalt than 1,500. Including their assistants, nabore delightful testimony to their enjoymen of that peace which passeth understanding; 7,800.

The number of missionaries employed in heathen countries by the various denominations of Christians, is believed to be not less tive and foreign, the number will exceed

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