

JAMAICA.

SAV-LA-MAR.

Several important services were held on the glorious occasion of celebrating the anniversary of FREEDOM in the order following:

On Friday evening, 31st July, a special prayer meeting was held to implore the blessing of God on the intended services.

On the morning of the ever memorable *first of August*, before it was possible to read, a hymn was sung by the sea side: a portion of Scripture was then repeated, and an address given. The minister walked into the sea followed by seventy-two persons who had repeatedly been examined as to their repentance towards God, and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, who were baptized "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." It was truly delightful to see among the assembly, persons of all denominations—Jews, Gentiles, Churchmen, and Dissenters. At the close, the Doxology was sung, and the benediction pronounced. After this service, the congregation assembled within the walls re-erected as a temple for our God. After a prayer presented by the minister, that appropriate hymn of Cowper's was sung:

"God moves in a mysterious way," &c.,

apparently "with the spirit and with the understanding also." The songs of thanksgiving were gratefully presented, and we have reason to believe accepted by our Father in Heaven. Free will offerings were presented between the services of the day, and a large concourse again assembled at eleven o'clock. This interesting service was commenced in the usual way; after prayer, singing, and reading the Scriptures, a special prayer was offered for the blessing of heaven to rest on five of our brethren (formerly slaves) who had been selected by the church to fill the office of deacons. After another hymn was sung, portions of Scripture read, and prayer offered, a very striking address was delivered from these words—"He strengthened himself and built up all the wall that was broken." Every eye beamed with gladness, and every heart seemed intent on this memorable occasion. The address simply but powerfully went to show the faithfulness of an unchanging God, and the various ways by which the heart and hands of this devoted minister and people had been strengthened under a series of extraordinary afflictions and distress. According to previous notice, the attention of the assembly was then drawn to the *ordinance of baptism*, when a succinct view was given as to its nature and tendency, illustrated from Scripture examples. The school children then rose and sung one of their lovely hymns, and the congregation was

dismissed, after which a bun was given to each child. The deacons and their wives, with the school-masters at Fuller's-field and Sav-la-mar, dined with their beloved pastor and family, and thus closed the 1st of August, 1840.

On Sabbath morning, the 2nd, a prayer meeting was held at the usual time. The next service, at eleven o'clock, when an immense company was again gathered, a very striking and animated discourse was delivered from the words, "Who are these that fly as a cloud, and as doves to their windows?" The sum of which was a lively representation of the way in which the prophecies were being fulfilled, and the happy situation in which we are placed, actually seeing so many crowding to the Hill of Zion. At two o'clock, the five deacons entered upon the duties of their solemn office. The newly-baptized received the right hand of fellowship, and were thus added to our number. The ordinance of the Lord's Supper was administered, which closed the services of that day; and of a truth, "It was good to be there."

On Tuesday, the 4th, bowers were erected at Fuller's-field, and every preparation made for the ordinance of baptism during the day, and in the evening a prayer meeting was held, preparatory to the other services. On Wednesday morning, at six o'clock, seventy-five persons were baptized, the first of whom was the sister of the pastor, who had been for years a member of the Rev. Thomas Binney's Church in London, whose mind had been exercised on the subject for a considerable time; and requested she might be permitted to form one of the number to be baptized. Another was a young female from Fuller's-field School: it is hoped that many will follow her steps, and form a noble band of devoted Christians from that interesting Seminary of youth. About 800 persons were present at the prayer meeting which was held in the chapel. Next service at eleven, the chapel was filled to excess, though it has double the accommodations it had in August, 1839. At two o'clock, the five friends there chosen to the office of deacons were introduced into office, and the newly-baptized received into the church. The ordinance of the Lord's Supper was administered, and all were ready to exclaim, "What hath God wrought!"

ST. JAMES'S.

A series of meetings of the most interesting description took place during the memorable month of August, at the various stations connected with the Baptist Church at Montego-Bay, in commemoration of Freedom.

On Saturday, the 1st of August, services were held at Montego-Bay and Shortwood.