

*Different missionary bodies.*

The Baptist Missionary Society has twenty missionaries in Jamaica, occupying seventy-four preaching stations, and having under their care 24,777 members, 21,111 inquirers, and 9159 Sabbath-scholars. If to these we add those who come to chapel, and children who are very young, we shall have a community of at least 80,000 persons, or one-fifth of the entire population, who are more or less under Baptist missionary influence. The Baptist (native) preachers are coloured or black men, who were once class-leaders, and have broken off from the main body of the mission, and formed congregations of their own: their number is twelve, with twenty-five stations, and 8264 members and inquirers; they have no school. This body may be estimated at 10,000.

The Wesleyan Methodist Missionary Society has thirty-one missionaries, with 23,822 members and probationers, and 2664 Sabbath-scholars, and may be estimated as having under its care about 40,000 persons.

The seceding Methodists, or, as they call themselves, "The Wesleyan Methodist Association," have eight ministers, five local preachers, fourteen stations, and 4000 members; they receive no help from any Missionary or other Society in England, but are supported by their own friends and members alone.

The London Missionary Society supports eight missionaries, who have several schoolmasters and mistresses attached to the different stations, and a large number of children in their daily schools, who are carefully educated in the principles of the Christian faith.

The Oberlin Institute, of North America, furnishes six young men, four of them married and two widowers, who come out at their own expense, and are supported as preachers and schoolmasters by the contributions of the people who attend their ministry.

The two latter classes of ministers are Independents, and their united congregations number about 10,000.

The Jamaica Missionary Presbytery consists of eleven ministers, and six catechists, and has schools at every station. This religious body may be computed at 12,000 or 15,000.

The Moravian missionaries are eight, with a chapel and school at every station. Some of their congregations are large. Hitherto they have confined themselves within narrow bounds, but they are now branching out, lengthening their cords and strengthening their stakes. The number of Moravians, or of persons under Moravian influence, may be estimated at 15,000.

If we give to the sixty parish churches, chapels, and licensed school-houses of the church of England, an average of 700 persons each, (a large estimate,) we have Episcopalians 42,000. Our table then stands thus—

Baptists ... ..	90,000
Methodists ... ..	44,000
Independents ... ..	10,000
Presbyterians ... ..	15,000
Moravians ... ..	15,000
Church of England ... ..	42,000
Scotch Kirk (say) ... ..	3,000
Roman Catholics ... ..	2,000
Jews ... ..	5,000

Total 226,000

As the present population does not greatly exceed 400,000, this enumeration of different sects leaves nearly one-half of the people as belonging to no class of religionists whatever; and if we consider the natural unwillingness of man to pursue a religious course, and look at the surface of Jamaica, and observe how numerous its neglected districts, without a school or place of public worship for many miles together, both in mountain and plain, we shall not think the statement, however appalling, to be far removed from the truth. With all the religious care hitherto exercised, there still remains a dense mass of ignorance and superstition, which nothing but the pure light of the Gospel can chase away. More places of public worship must be built, more schools established, and a stronger interest felt and cultivated by the religious public in Great Britain before the West Indies will become, what we should wish to see them, a bright moral example to all the regions around.

*Schools.*

The Schools of Jamaica should be multiplied by the help of a paternal government, and efficient masters sent out from the normal schools at home. The children receiving instruction are estimated by the Bishop of Jamaica, according to a list which he obligingly allowed me to inspect, at 31,866, but this number is much too high. An actual inspection of many of the schools enumerated, leads me to conclude that the total number of day-scholars in all the schools of the land, cannot exceed 25,000, which is a sixteenth part only of the whole population. There are no schools more really useful than some of these which belong to the Micho charity. These institutions are perfectly unsectarian; they have already received considerable help from the home government, and are deserving of encouragement and success. Chapels, and school-houses, ministers, and teachers, are, however, but the apparatus of religion;