

past. A few days ago things looked dismal enough, when those of us who were well were chained to the bedsides of those who were ill, and my two servants were both in bed, and no one to kindle a fire or bring food. Rushing out from the sick room I had an eager crowd waiting to hear the Gospel, which is the power of God.

"We often wrote you that the indirect influence of missions is much greater than the practical results which submitted to statistics would warrant one to suppose. We claim to teach the true Gospel, and for a long time numbers have conceded our assumption, and confessed that they had ceased to believe the doctrines of their Churches; but in their own Churches they have had interests which they would have impeilled by throwing in their lot with us. A dispute with the Greek Patriarch of Antioch gave them an opportunity of joining us, and on the 11th October, 1874, I preached to a crowded audience in our church. Forms were brought in from the school room and placed in the aisles, and all the standing room about the doors and windows was crowded. People were hanging about the windows of the school-rooms to get looking in. I preached from Luke v. 17, and I believe the power of the Lord was present. There is inspiration in a crowd, especially a crowd that you feel may never have another opportunity of hearing the blessed Gospel, and my American friends told me I preached as if it was my last chance. No doubt many came, like the Pharisees, to see what was being done for others; but all seemed arrested, and we felt that if they all went back to their Church they would not go back just as they came. In the evening the crowd was there again, not so great as in the morning, but still the full of our church, and Mr. Crawford preached the most perfect sermon I ever heard, for the occasion, from Heb. iv. 14-16. The crowd listened, as they must have listened in apostolic times, to the new and glorious Gospel. On Tuesday evening we had to remove our prayer-meeting into the church, which we lighted with our own lamps. I opened the proceedings. Selim Meshaka prayed, then I lectured, M. Hanna prayed, M. Abder gave a short address on freedom by the truth, and then the meeting was closed with prayer.

"Sunday last Mr. Crawford took the morning service and I the evening. The crowd was not so large, but was calm, resolute and earnest, and many had Bibles, and turned up the texts to which we referred. We preach the Gospel to them, and only attack their former errors when they come in the way; and we show them the Scripture's doctrine, and ask them calmly if they will obey God or man.

"On Monday night twelve of these men called in my house, and wrote themselves down as Protestants. Last night at the prayer-meeting forty more put down their names. There will be a sifting, and the motives of these people may not be very pure in joining us, but our duty is clear, as I pointed out to our new Waly. The Gospel is just for such as these, and it is our duty to teach them its doctrines. Nine of these men were imprisoned for meeting in our school-room. I had an interview with our new Waly, Assad Pasha. He declared that he did not imprison the men for becoming Protestants, but for holding a meeting which he commanded them not to hold. He added, that of all the Christian sects he preferred the Protestant; and this he also said on the following evening. He also released the men to the Italian Consul, a Catholic. Assad Pasha promises well. I think we shall get on better with him than with his fanatical predecessor. We must not forget, however, that the Gospel works not by human might nor power, but by the Spirit of the living God. We are