

which refers to the religious movement that is now going on in different parts of Ireland, produced, as the Committee are assured, by the reading of the Scriptures in the Irish language. As a specimen of the cheering intelligence which is continually received from that quarter, the following extracts are of interest:—

"The setting sun," it is said, "witnesses young men and maidens, old men and children, leaving their homes to steal, under cover of the shades of evening, to the lonely cabin on the mountain side, to search the Scriptures by the light of the bog-wood splinter. Daring and ferocious Ribbon-men meet with the strange book, and read it, and become clothed and in their right mind, and are found sitting at the feet of Jesus."

The Superintendent of the Castlebar Branch of the Mayo District, thus writes:—

"The Irish work is encouraging; the Word of Life in the vernacular language is obtaining entrance into the most retired parts of the mountain districts. The desire to learn to read the Scriptures is increasing. Places even desire schools, where some short time since, there would have been no hope of succeeding. Many acknowledge that the blood of Christ alone can cleanse them from their sins. This takes place in the remotest and wildest glens."

Your Committee would now turn your attention to the operations of your Auxiliary during the past year.

Mr. Smith, the Agent of the Society, has been constantly employed during the whole period in extending the cause by visiting nearly all parts of the Province and the Island of Cape Breton. In the course of his journeys he has visited the several Branch Societies, and urged them to continue and increase their exertions in this sphere of usefulness. He reports among the Societies an increasing zeal for the cause, and a returning confidence in their ability to assist in supporting it, and thus it may be hoped that ere long the efforts which have been made will result, not only in the increased circulation of the Scriptures throughout the Province, but also in affording means for the permanent employment of a Travelling Agent. In the course of Mr. Smith's tours in the month of November last, he met with a serious accident, which for a short time disabled him from the performance of his duty, but your Committee would gratefully state that by the blessing of the Almighty he was soon restored to his usual strength and was enabled to resume his labours.

He has furnished your Committee with a journal of his proceedings and several reports, an outline of which will be found in the appendix.

The period of Mr. Smith's engagement being about to expire this year, your Committee have corresponded with the Parent Committee to ascertain their views in reference to the continuance of the agency, and they have much pleasure in announcing that the Parent Committee have determined to continue their grant of £100 sterling for this purpose for another year. Your Committee have therefore, gratefully to acknowledge this mark of confidence, and to state that they have in consequence engaged Mr. Smith's services for the ensuing year.

Your Committee have also to express their obligations to the Ladies' Societies of this City, for their continued exertions in the cause of the Bible.

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