

remained pitched in the midst of their encampment several days, and were treated with the greatest consideration ; so that we really feel we have a place in their hearts, and they in ours. Will this brief and simple account not stir up many of God's people to care for them, and plead for the time when the desert shall blossom like the rose ?

At the place lastly mentioned we met a Bedawee from the very centre of Arabia, who could read, and begged most eagerly that I would give him a book, which I did. However, those who can read are very rare.

Entreating the prayerful interests of the many in the West so peculiarly blessed and privileged of God, on behalf of this land, and specially of the desert, I am ever yours faithfully,

W. MACKINTOSH.

*Damascus, Syria, Jan. 23.*

**THE AWAKENING IN SCOTLAND.**—The following is from the pen of the Venerable Andrew Bonar, the friend of Mr. McCheyne, and his companion in his tour through the Holy Land. The work going on under Moody and Sankey, is well described in this letter, which our readers will not consider too long. Some of the remarks of Mr. Moody are striking from their boldness and contrariety to the literary refined style of preaching that was becoming too common of late in the pulpits of Scotland.

"The kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force" (Matt. xi. 12), was said of John the Baptist's days. In answer to such prayers as he sent up during his thirty years in the deserts of Judea, the Holy Ghost was at work, and everywhere men were found in right and real earnest about salvation. You might have seen them thronging the road to Jericho and the wilderness, leaving home, comforts, business, friends, intent on the one great matter that filled their minds day and night. "The

kingdom of heaven suffereth violence ;" men pressed into it with all the eager determination with which soldiers press into an assailed city (like 'oomassie)—"and the violent took it by force." Those who were thus intensely earnest snatched, as the word means, the kingdom at once, as the robber does the purse he covets, seizing his opportunity. All this we see before our eyes in the present time of revival ; men are truly in earnest, and they catch the gift of God at once, while the cold formalists wonder and dispute against sudden conversions, "not knowing the Scriptures nor the power of God."

When I closed last week's letter, I mentioned various places in Scotland where God was working. There are many other districts equally interesting. At Aberuthven, near Auchterarder, almost every house in the village has some one under its roof awakened by the Spirit. In Dumfriesshire, at Lockerbie and at Moffat, not less than seventy in each place have been awakened. Near Glasgow, not Chryston only, but other places, such as Kirkintilloch, are shaken. At the daily prayer-meeting last Monday, it was stated that there had been not less than 300 inquirers and converts in the inquiry meeting in Free St. David's on Sabbath evening. A friend mentioned that at Dalmellington, in Ayrshire, a work had begun ; seven had been lately converted. Dr. Black, of United Presbyterian Wellington Church, gave extracts from a letter from England, showing a work begun in a district where there had been no special means. Mr. Moody read from letters just received, accounts of friends brought to Christ. Mr. Wells, of Free Barony Church, stated that he had a list of seventy persons in his congregation who had received blessing during the meetings. Mr. Barlas, of United Presbyterian Church, Belgrave-street, stated cases occurring in his district. Mr. Taylor, of Free Church, Kelvinside, spoke of this last week as the happiest