

2. 67 families are Roman Catholic or of the Scotch Episcopal Church, equal to

335

3. 68 families belonging to other churches, equal to

340

4. 185 families of no church even of any Christian name, equal to

925

Whole of the West-Port families 2055

There are 36 families formerly resident in the West-Port, and still attending the church, making in all 127 families, or 635 individuals belonging to the West-Port in connexion with its church.

6. And, in addition, there are 25 families removed to other towns, and other lands, who at the first were of the West-Port, and who left in connexion with its church, equal to

125

Leaving of non-church-going persons a reduced amount of 125 families, equal to

625

To the numbers that have been or are connected with the church at the West-Port may be added, as having died in communion with the visible church as members of our congregation, 25 families, or

125

Thus more than would fill the church twice over have, by our operations during the last five years, been reclaimed to church-going habits and the decencies of the Christian life.

And let it be remembered, that when 185 families are given as belonging to no church, resident at this moment within the bounds of the West-Port, our friends are grievously mistaken if they conclude that these have all along resisted our appeals and appliances. Of some, we regret to say, this is true. But the great majority have come to fill the dwellings rendered vacant by the removal of Christianized families to other districts, and by the ravages of disease and death among their demoralized predecessors, during the last year or two, or even during the last few months. And the pastoral attentions which we feel to be due to those already attending the Church, coupled with the very limited assistance that we enjoy from male and female visitors, render the case of such much more hopeless than when we first began. Here it may be asked, why do reclaimed families not continue to dwell in the West-Port, to witness for that Saviour whose name they so long taught their fellow-sinners to blaspheme? It must be crushing to the heart of a minister to see his very success driving away Christianized families, and their places filled by a new importation of moral and physical abomination, on which he has to begin anew.—And so it is. But there is something to be said on behalf of those that move away.—No man likes to have his eye fixed down night and day on the scene of his former degradation. Besides, family after family

have, at our entreaty, attempted to reside in dwellings contiguous to the low lodging-houses towards the foot of the streets, and have at length been driven off by the bacchanalian noise that has ascended at midnight from these dens of iniquity. We understand that a new police act has been obtained. We ask why is it not enforced?—And the decent inhabitants of the West-Port, of whom, blessed be God, there are not a few, re-echo the question. We remember how tremblingly a man, the head of a family, that had been constrained by our solicitations for a season to continue in his humble dwelling, came at last to say that the deed was done. He had removed that morning. But, said he, I have not gone far; only to Lady Lawson's Wynd. We asked him if that was all the help we were to expect from those whose present and eternal good we were labouring to secure. It was a Monday morning. "Oh, Sir!" he replied, "we could bear it no longer. They drank and sang, and cursed and swore, and danced during all the Saturday evening and all the Lord's day. We were engaged in family duty (it was the first time that we knew he had begun the practice of family worship), and they forced open the door, they howled and blasphemed, and reeled in, the floor, while we were on our knees; yea they kicked at the soles of our feet until we were compelled to desist and to rise. We came away with heavy hearts to church.—We had slept none all the night; and last night they did the same. And so this morning we flitted; for oh, sir! we could bear it no longer." What could we answer the man? We simply remind the privileged and the rich, that these revellers labour none; while the money that supplies them is obtained from these rich people on the streets and at their doors, and will be so, we suppose, until God give them grace to become Territorial visitors. Still it is to us a most pleasing reflection, that in many lands there are witnesses to the faithfulness of the God of all grace, whom He gathered into the fold of the good Shepherd by means of his servants in the West-Port. Some are in India, some are in Canada, in the United States, in South America, and in Australia; some are in England and some in the sister Isle. "The Voice from Ireland" bears evidence to the efficiency of catechists employed there, and of others whom the West-Port church has supplied. Obdurate must that heart be that does not rejoice and give thanks to God, that the West-Port, instead of sending out pollution on the earth, is furnishing from its bosom witnesses for Christ, labouring in the vineyard of the Lord in many lands, who are steadily bearing the gospel banner aloft in the high places of the field.*

* Reclamation has not precipitated from the West-Port only those that were sunk in sin ere our operations began. A medical