164 MISSION WORK IN ROSSENDALE.

Nutthurst parrish, about Two milles from Horsham," seems to represent a man of substance, but persecution may have greatly reduced his means of livelihood.

Mission Work in Rossendale, Lancs.

The Society of Friends became an element of power in these valleys about the year 1650, and afterwards continued to exercise a great influence in relation to the young. Perhaps they are the only Society of Christians who established Sunday Schools in Rossendale before the close of the 18th century. Although the Society of Friends was the first to establish Sunday Schools in Rossendale their work seems to have been superseded in the course of thirty to forty years. The Friends established Night and Sunday Schools at the Meeting House, Crawshawbooth, about the year 1793, a few years after the time Sunday Schools were established by Robert Raikes at Gloucester. The Friends taught reading, writing, and arithmetic, and this Sunday School was continued in the village in a separate room from the Meeting House, until about 1830 or 1835. Wooden plates for eating from were provided for the use of children who came from a distance on the Sunday and as early as 1794 to 1795 the Friends established a library for the young in connection with their week night and Sunday School. Extracted by Robert Muschamp, of Radcliffe, from Sunday School Work in Rossendale; its History and Progress : being a paper read at the Baptist Association, Waterburn, June 13th, 1878, by John Spencer, F.G.S., of Goodshaw.

Believe it from one that hath too many years experience of both [wars and private contentions] in armies and garrisons; it is as hard a thing to maintain, even in your people, a sound understanding, a tender conscience, a lively, gracious, heavenly frame of spirit, and an upright life, in a way of war and contention, as to keep your candle lighted in the greatest storms or under the waters.

RICHARD BAXTER, Saints Rest, iii. 14.