

they begin to use it themselves than they generously put it at the disposal of the Minister and Elders for the use of the prayer meeting on Friday evenings.

It deserves notice that the school supports a boy at the Industrial School, has from its own former industry a partly endowed library, and contributes towards the *Dayspring Mission Brig*.

THE CONGREGATION OF ST. STEPHEN'S, ST. JOHN, have begun the schedule system to raise money for the Presbytery Home Mission. Several young ladies have given their services as collectors in the different districts. Three districts have been formed and two lady collectors will begin at once the good work in each district. We hope to hear of their efforts being crowned with a measure of success that will astonish even the most sanguine of its friends. Surely it will not be long before all our congregations will adopt this system of raising funds for our Missions, instead of trusting to the terrible uncertainties of the old plan of plate or church door collections. Let every one think of the effect of a stormy Sunday on the money raised for any scheme of our Church. What is to become of our Missionaries if they are to depend for their salaries on the chance and probabilities of weather, treacherous memories, and all the circumstances that go to make a full church an empty church on the particular day on which the collection is to be made?

WE understand that the Rev. James Bennett and Rev. R. J. Cameron, of St. John, have gone to visit the Presbyterian churches and congregations at Woodstock and Richmond, as delegates from the two Presbyteries of St. John. Their object is to endeavour to harmonize matters in these districts so that the people belonging to the two Presbyterian bodies may be induced to unite in calling and supporting one man instead of each getting a minister to perpetuate disunion, and drag out a miserable existence. We hope to have a full and satisfactory account of their visit in time for the January number of the *Record*.

The Ringing of the New Bell.

Thursday, the 9th of November, was an auspicious day in the history of St. Andrew's, Pictou. The readers of the *Record* will recollect that we drew attention, some time ago, to the fact that a movement was on foot for clearing off the debt of the church. This was set about in real earnest, the men of means coming nobly to the front and putting down their thousands. In the

meantime a bell was presented by Capt. David S. Crerar, to be rung when the debt was paid off and not till that was done. The Pictonians were equal to the task, and we take, with pleasure, the following paragraph from the columns of the *Standard*, giving the full particulars:—

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, PICTOU.

The congregation of St. Andrew's, in this town, has to congratulate itself on the fact that the debt which existed on the new church has been paid off. The amount of the debt was \$8,000, the annual interest of which was a heavy burden upon the congregation. Last winter it was determined to make an effort to pay off this debt. A meeting was called to consider the matter. After some discussion two members of the congregation, John Crerar and William Crerar, Esqrs., offered to pay a thousand dollars each, if two others would contribute an equal amount towards the extinction of the debt. This offer was accepted by William Gordon and Rodrick McKenzie, Esqrs. who came forward and agreed to the proposal. It was therefore finally arranged that these four gentlemen would pay a thousand dollars each, and that the rest of the congregation should make up the balance. A subscription list was at once opened and headed by the four gentlemen named above for a thousand dollars each. The balance was subscribed by members of the congregation with the exception of a few dollars, and on Thursday last at a meeting of the congregation the amount was paid in and the church declared free of debt. On this announcement being made the new bell presented by Captain David S. Crerar, was rung for the first time by the Rev. Mr. Herdman. On the same occasion a very handsome Bible costing \$40 was presented for the use of the pulpit by Miss M. A. Forbes, of Abercombe Point.

The Committee of the church made suitable acknowledgment of both these well timed presents to the church.

St. Andrew's Church, Chatham, N. B.

This church was re-opened for public worship on the first Sabbath of October last, having been closed for two months, during which it underwent a thorough overhauling. When it was at first decided to paint the whole of the inside of the building—walls and pews—it was never for a moment supposed that the work would assume the great undertaking it afterwards turned out to be. The Committee appointed to carry out the resolution of the Trustees, anent painting the church, sought out the