

in the public schools, a passage which produced a marked effect was expressed thus: "If the five hundred thousand children in the schools in Ontario to-day could be convinced that alcohol is a danger to be guarded against, the victory would in no long time be achieved." This is a tribute by first authority to the power for good of the public school. How important that our public schools should be controlled and conducted by men and women of high character, and that the curriculum of teaching should be of the right kind. The work of the public school teacher is not sufficiently recognized by the Church, by the Christian community. Moral principles ought to be instilled into the young mind in school as well as at home, and if the five hundred thousand young Canadians now on the school rolls of our country were convinced that evil thoughts and practices are a danger to be guarded against, the progress of religion and morality would be made easy and sure.

A day was given to the Christian Endeavourers at the camp. It is a gratifying thing to note the interest manifested in temperance in a temperate living personally, and in the safety of others—by the young people of the land.

Apropos this interest the following paragraph from The Mid-Continent excites some suggestive thoughts:—"People often sing, 'Where is my wandering boy to-night?' but the truth is, when the parents went to church or temperance meetings this 'wandering boy' also left home and joined his associates on the street corner. The parents are singing this song and shouting, 'Down with the saloons,' while they are giving their boy full liberty to do as he pleases. And he generally lives up to his privileges. This is one phase of a large subject, and it is a phase which should be looked squarely in the face. However ardent people may be in supporting the cause of temperance, they may by their very neglect, by their shortcomings in home training, help to foster the liquor traffic. Their plain and manifest duty is to nip the evil in the bud by wise and careful training of their boys in all that is excellent and lovely and of good report. In the work of temperance reform everyone must build over against his own house."

Home Mission Fund. THE necessities of the Home Mission Fund brought before the Church by Dr. Cochrane's circular, which we published last week, appeal very strongly to the liberality of the people. The work of the committee has been regarded at all times as of the utmost importance, the upbuilding and extending of the Church resting very largely upon it. The western field is of special interest. Year after year mission stations become regular congregations and their place is taken up by other stations which minister to the needs of the new settlers who come in to occupy our vacant lands. The importance of providing the means of grace to these is exceptionally great, for on the character of the first settlers will depend in a high degree the character of the populated plains of the North-West when it will comprise many provinces and hold the political and commercial fate of Canada in its hands.

Ministerial Qualifications. IN the very citadel of Scottish Presbyterianism, Aberdeenshire, an alarming innovation has been introduced which should receive the attention of the Association for the Protection of Probationers without delay. It appears that vacancy committees have taken to issuing circulars in the following terms:—"The congrega-

tional committee request that you will confidentially favor them with information on the following matters regarding Rev. Mr. who has applied for the church of

—(1.) Age. (2.) Height. (3.) Physical strength and health. (4.) Personal appearance and manners. (5.) Father's occupation. (6.) Freedom from defect or deformity. (7.) Voice—whether loud, low, harsh, monotonous, whining, drawling, squeaky, provincial in accent, distinctly heard in a large church. (8.) Popularity in his present situation, causes. (9.) Sunday school work. (10.) Music—does he sing or play on any instrument? (11.) Visitation—does he visit in the parish where he lives, and do you believe, if appointed, he would visit the whole parish twice a year? (12.) Temperance—is he an abstainer from spirituous liquors; or if not an abstainer, does he abstain from spirituous liquors in his ministerial visitations; and is he strictly temperate always at other times, and has he always been so?" We expect next to hear of an enterprising Aberdonian at the head of a bureau of enquiry, giving out information regarding ministerial candidates on an approved business plan.

News From Uganda. The Christian Leader is informed that letters have been received by the Church Missionary Society from Bishop Tucker in Uganda, in which he says that as many as forty of the Protestant chiefs have expressed their willingness to dispense with domestic slavery. The Bishop writes in terms of warm satisfaction with this fresh evidence of the progress of Christianity among the natives, and he attributes it in no little measure to the wide circulation of the New Testament, or portions of it, in the vernacular. With regard to the agreement alleged to have been come to between the Protestant and the Roman Catholic leaders, the Bishop does not say much. The memorandum, which has been published, is at the most only a provisional agreement. The Bishop intended to confer with the chiefs respecting the redistribution of territory before coming to a final decision. He further says that the Roman Catholic Bishop made somewhat large demands.

Persecution at Sorel. It does not appear that the authorities have taken any steps to investigate the recent persecution at Sorel, Quebec, and to bring the real offenders to justice. For holding Protestant views on religion and for discussing these views with the people, Mr. Gendreau was fined in the Recorder's court. This was followed by a tirade against the missionaries in which the local priest employed language of so outrageous a character that the Bishop ought to have censured him. But no civil nor ecclesiastical authority has apparently interposed. A case so serious should not be allowed to drop out of sight. Even in the Province of Quebec Protestants have the common rights of citizens and the wealthy Protestants of Montreal should see to it that their poor brethren in Sorel or elsewhere in the province be not deprived of common justice.

THE SCOTTISH METRICAL VERSION OF THE PSALMS—The metrical version of the Psalms in our Bibles was compiled by a committee of ministers appointed by the General Assembly in 1647, the groundwork being the versions of Frances Rouse (1643) and Wm. Barton (1644). The Revision was approved of by the General Assembly which met in Edinburgh on Nov. 23, 1649, and by the Estates Committee, Jan. 8, 1650. It was then ordered to be used on and after May 1, 1650. Some copies of the Psalms printed by Evan Taylor, Edinburgh, and dated 1650, contain these documents.