

there is none more interesting and hopeful than the plan which has been adopted of Christianizing and educating the people. All associations formed without this element, may look in vain for success, as we have abundant demonstration from the history of past ages to show, that the Christian religion is the only real and permanent civilizer, besides, the repeated failures which have lately taken place, chiefly from want of attention to this "sine qua non." The experience of those connected with the educational department, has been, that though the natural talent of the African race is very varied, according to circumstances, here is still abundant reason to hope that, under the blessing of an all-powerful God, the plans now adopted will be ultimately crowned with success.

On the teacher's list there are upwards of one hundred pupils, though during summer months, the numbers are sensibly diminished, yet, during the whole year, there is a very good average attendance of children receiving a highly liberal education. But in the face of all this, how often is the advocate of anti-slavery principles met with the reply, "they are incapable of education, and totally devoid of that amount of intellect necessary to raise them to an equal standard with other civilized nations?" Thus, however, the testimony of experience denies. As I have admitted, their talents are various, but quite capable of improvement, and in some cases of a very high order. Of the African tribes, there are some, it must be allowed, very low, both as to physical and intellectual development; others again possess a high mental capability; and upon this mainly depends the difficulty on the one hand, and the pleasure on the other, which the teacher experiences in his labours among them. The circumstances of early life also very materially affect, for good or evil, the senior pupils and adults, of whom there is an evening class in the winter months, and to the unprejudiced observer, it cannot be a subject of very great astonishment, that the "cloven-foot" of a ruthless system of bondage, with all concomitant evils and tendencies, make some impression on the unfortunate victims of slavery. Let this evil, however, in as far as it may exist, rest on the head of the slave-holding oppressor, not on the slave. There is much reason for gratitude to God, when we consider the amount of good done in so short a time; but let this only be an incentive to future exertion, and we have no reason to doubt that the same God who "created all men equal," will soon deliver a long oppressed and seriously injured people from the hands of the oppressor, that they may rejoice in that freedom wherewith "the truth shall make them free."

If you would be kind enough to give this publicity in your next monthly publication, you will much oblige,

Yours, most sincerely,

RESTRICTED.

To the Editor of the Record.

SIR,

In the name of the Sabbath School of the First Presbyterian Church of Brockville, I inclose £1 5 0, to be divided equally between the following mission schemes of our Church:—

French Canadian Mission.....	£0 8 4
Buxton Mission and Synod Fund....	0 8 4
Jewish and Foreign Missions.....	0 8 4

The remaining one-fourth has been handed to the Treasurer of our Presbytery's Mission Fund. This is the "first fruits" of our Sabbath Schools' regularly organized missionary effort. It is the product of the monthly contributions of the children for nearly a year. As it is only a beginning, we expect that at the end of the current year the amount will show a respectable increase over the present year just ended. The children of our Sabbath School have been so far directed to the work of missions practically, and it is hoped that the habit of contributing will gain strength, and

that a foundation is being laid for usefulness on a larger scale in future years. The right value of money will be better understood, economical habits will be fostered, and thus the band of missionary agents will be increased for the diffusion of the Gospel. In the behalf and name of the Sabbath School,

Yours, &c,  
JOHN McMURRAY.

SOIRÉE—EGMONDVILLE.

On the evening of the 7th of March, according to previous intimation, the Soirée for a Sabbath-school Library was held in the church at Egmondville.

After the blessing was asked by one of the ministers, the large and respectable assemblage proceeded to discuss the good things before them. Room was so scarce in the church that a number were under the necessity of taking tea in an opposite building—thanks having been returned, the choir in attendance, headed by Mr Stevens, commenced the music; and then followed "the feast of reason and the flow of soul," which so well become such assemblies.

The Rev. W. Graham, pastor of the congregation, after some preliminary observation, introduced successively to the meeting the Rev. W. Creswell of Tuckersmith, the Rev. John Logie of Warrensville, and the Rev. Thomas McPherson of Stratford. Mr. Creswell read a paper containing some excellent observations on books and education; Mr. Logie took an interesting glance at the religious history of Sardina, and last, though not least, Mr. McPherson discoursed on 'Township, Pastors', Sabbath-School and Congregational Libraries. He made a telling speech, good in argument and interspersed with racy strokes of well-timed humour. The speaking and music proceeded alternately. The sum realised was £18 5s; and after thanks given to ladies and managers for their preparations, to musicians and assisting ministers, the proceedings were closed with praise and prayer. Many, doubtless, as they wended their way homeward, were desirous that such scenes of rational enjoyment might become as frequent as they have already become popular.

W. G.

OBITUARY NOTICES.

MR. GEORGE WARDROPE.

Mr. George Wardrope, formerly student in divinity in Knox's College, and for several years assistant teacher in the Toronto Academy, died on the 23rd of March. To those who remember him as a beloved companion, a few particulars connected with his death may not be uninteresting. About two years ago Mr. W. ruptured a blood-vessel in his lungs, which reduced him very low. However, he recovered slowly, and having spent a year in the western part of the Province without being able for any duty, he returned in the beginning of winter to Bytown, where he died in the house of his brother, the Rev. Thomas Wardrope. During his long illness he suffered little or nothing, complaining only of lassitude and indisposition to active duty. Even the day before his death he did not complain more than usual, and at last died so gently and calmly, that it was indeed falling asleep in the arms of the Redeemer.

Those who were acquainted with the deceased, while they rejoice in his gain, cannot but feel sad at his removal—not because he is gone, but because the work of the Lord has lost one who promised so fairly to approve himself faithful. In this, as in other things, God hideth himself, and displays depths of wisdom which man cannot fathom. Mr. W. is the fourth of the students of Knox's College that have within the last five years been called away before being allowed to enter on

ministerial work, viz., Messrs Muir, Scott, McKinnon, and Wardrope. The field before us is great, and the labourers are few, and God takes away those who, we think, cannot be spared; but our confidence is that the work is the Lord's, and he will send his own labourers in his own good time. Only let the Church be more earnest in prayer, and more active in seeking out, encouraging, and educating young men for the ministry, and let young men give themselves more unreservedly and heartily to the work, each individual Christian striving, as God may give opportunity, to bring about the answer we are taught to expect to the often-breathed prayer, "Lord, send forth labourers into thy vineyard."—(Communicated.)

ROBERT FERGUSON OF CARTWRIGHT.

The death of this promising young man took place at his father's residence, on the 5th January. Mr. Ferguson was the youngest son but one of Mr. Samuel Ferguson. This much loved and universally esteemed youth, was one of the brightest hopes of the church, of which his father has long been a ruling elder. From his youthful years, he gave evidence that within him there existed some good thing toward the Lord. His short life was much distinguished for a love of God's word, of which he had acquired much knowledge. He inherited much of a father's gift, in his love to associate with the people of God, and in his veneration and attachment for the ministers of God; nor was any thing more amiable in him than his affection for the family of which he formed a part. When he saw his end approach, it was most comforting to hear him call all the family around his bed, and, like a father in years, besides in grace, impart his dying blessing to them, especially, in way of request, that in life they should be found in Christ, and, so like himself, be ready to fall asleep in him at the hour of death. Toward the close of life, his spirit of grace became every day more manifest. It pleased the Lord to continue him throughout a protracted but not afflictive illness. But delightful was it to observe, that whilst the hand of disease was wasting his mortal body, the Lord was refining and brightening his immortal soul, that he might shine forever amid the peerless jewels of a Saviour's eternal crown. We rely much on the happy death-bed sayings of the sinner, but combined with these, which were many, such a gleam of heavenly radiance and beauty, lightened up the face of our young friend until the last, as to make it apparent that he was ripe for immortal glory. The blessed hope of heaven, lighted up for him the dark valley of the shadow of death, and inspired his dying bosom with such peace, courage, and confidence, that he was ready to meet death, and go into eternity, leaning on the arm of his beloved. He was indeed lovely in his life and blessed in his death.

R. B.

ADDRESS DELIVERED BY REV. ALEXANDER DUFF, D. D. IN THE WESLEYAN CHURCH, RICHMOND ST. TORONTO, ON THE EVENING OF TUESDAY. 11TH APRIL, 1854.

[We are indebted for the subjoined report of Dr. Duff's address to the Globe newspaper, the enterprising proprietors of which journal have conferred a benefit on the community, by the publication of such a full report of this and another address delivered by Dr. Duff during his stay in Toronto:—]

CHRISTIAN FRIENDS AND BRETHREN,—I desire not starting to lay a foundation for what is to be said, from God's own Word. You have heard already that if the Gospel is to reach any land, it must come from abroad. I desire to confirm that statement by divine authority. That di-