

As years pass on and family circles are broken and scattered, the remembrance of happy times at home will be very delightful. In Whittier's lovely pastoral "Snow-bound," nothing is more beautiful than his description of one and another who, sitting by the radiant fire, told stories of childhood or of wild adventure. Life goes on, and we drift apart, but the thought of a hearthstone where father and mother, aunt and uncle, friends and neighbors met, will shine like a star over its desert places.

Every household is in a certain sense a pioneer, even though it exists in a close, crowded city street. It can go out and make ways of its own. The pattern it sets will be repeated and improved upon, perhaps on the other side of the globe. No home lives only to itself. It lives for all humanity. The evenings you and your children spend this winter may set things in motion which will go on, and on, and on, till the books are opened before the great White Throns above.

### THE WANT OF SELF-CONFIDENCE

There are some who never seem to believe themselves capable of anything; they see others press forward to attempt and achieve and shrink back into a desponding inactivity. Having no faith in themselves, they undertake nothing and effect nothing. If they are convinced of some fault or bad habit, they have so little hope in being able to cure it that they scarcely make an effort. If some avenue of usefulness and honors opens up before them, they draw back, almost sure that they should not succeed, and decline to enter. If some duty presses urgently upon their conscience, they try to quiet its promptings by pleading inability. Thus their lives pass away in uselessness, their faculties do not develop, or their characters improve, their abilities are wasted, they dwindle into insignificance, and all this, not for lack of power, but for lack of confidence and courage that would set that power into good practical working order.

### CHURCH SCHEMES.

Rev. Dr. Somerville sends us the following comparative statement of receipts for schemes to February 12th, 1910.—Only two weeks remain until the close of the financial year. The subjoined comparative statement shows that the amounts received are considerably in excess of last year at the same date, but there is cause for anxiety regarding Knox College, the Home, Foreign, French and Moral and Social Reform Funds. Presbyterian Clerks who collect from the congregations their contribution for the Assembly Fund should see to it that the money is forwarded before February 28th, because congregations which do not contribute to the Assembly Fund are not entitled to receive the Minutes of the Assembly for the year. Treasurers will kindly see that all contributions are sent in allocated as soon as possible, as the Church accounts will be closed on February 28th, and money received later will not be included in the year 1909-1910.

	1909.	1910.	Feb. 28
Knox College . . . . .	5,570	6,153	\$22,000
Home Mission . . . . .	104,154	107,922	350,000
Augmentation . . . . .	19,798	20,557	52,000
Foreign Mission . . . . .	81,919	92,990	285,529
Widows' & Orphans' . . . . .	9,939	9,320	15,000
Aged and Infirm . . . . .			
Ministers' . . . . .	14,544	11,627	19,000
Assembly . . . . .	4,637	3,298	8,000
French Evangelization . . . . .	12,314	11,518	25,000
Pointe-Aux-Trembles . . . . .	9,270	8,963	19,500
Moral and Social . . . . .			
Reform . . . . .	2,823	4,693	11,000
Unapportioned . . . . .	27,925	67,287	.....
	\$292,893	\$343,738	\$686,820

### AN APPEAL BY W.H.M. SOCIETY.

To the minister and session of every Presbyterian church:

In view of the fact that in the enthusiasm of the forward movement for missions some important part of the church's missionary activity might unintentionally be overlooked, thus causing regret later, the Board of the Women's Home Missionary Society (W.H.M.) humbly requests that when the men of your church meet together under the inspiration of the missionary movement to discuss your congregation's missionary obligations, and to formulate a missionary policy for your congregation, that the work of the W. H. M. S. shall be considered as a part of the missionary work of the church, and that in the canvass of the entire congregation women be given an opportunity to contribute to its funds.

If as a result of the canvass you should find that some form of organization as a part of the W.H.M.S. is desirable, we shall be glad to welcome it into the society. If not, we shall be pleased to receive as members of the general society all who may contribute through your missionary committee the sum of one dollar and upwards annually to our funds. If you have already a branch of our society in your church, we trust that through the movement its membership and funds may be increased.

Beginning in 1903 with hospital work at Atlin the work of the society now includes hospital work at seven points, the support of eleven fields, educational work, and a large amount of domestic work. The charter of the society under the General Assembly provides that under the direction of the Home Mission Committee the work of the society shall advance as the funds permit.—President of the Board, Mrs. John Sommerville; secretary, Mrs. Donald Macdonald.

### GREAT NEED OF CHRISTIAN TEACHING.

In a sermon published in the "Western Watchman," of St. Louis, U.S., edited by Father Phelan, we find the following significant admission:—

"The greatest problem that confronts the church in the United States to-day is what to do with her young men. We have met all the other problems very successfully, but that problem still remains unsolved. Our young men are going to destruction; our Roman Catholic young men are often the worst in the land. In every great city of the United States the Roman Catholic young men are often the worst in the city, and the Irish Catholic young men are the worst of all. Ask the police, read the newspapers; it is the same sad story. The young law breakers in St. Louis and every other American city in great part bear Irish Catholic names. Take all the notorious so-called gangs of this city, and they are made up in great measure of boys of Irish Catholic parents." ("Boston Citizen," Jan. 1.) We have been often informed that the confessional was the great safeguard of morals, and how frequently have Protestants been held up to execration for taking their religion from the Bible, instead of from Moral Theology as taught in the Confessional. Of course, Roman Catholic young are keen-witted enough to see that in their church money is everything. "Blessed are ye poor, for yours is the Kingdom of Heaven," has no place in Mediaeval Theology. The Bible having been turned out of the schools, where is the Roman Catholic young man to learn the teaching of Christ?

A. T.

### TORONTO.

A native Chinese missionary in the person of Mr. Ma Wah, a graduate of the Toronto Bible Training School, has been appointed to work among the Chinese of Toronto. The appointment was made yesterday at the final meeting of the Presbyterian Foreign Missionary Committee. Other appointments made were:—Miss Margaret R. Gay, a graduate of the Ewart Training Home, and a member of St. John's Church, to serve at Honan, China. Mr. R. Scofield, a graduate of Manitoba College, Winnipeg, to work in Y.M.C.A. and evangelistic work at Indore College, India; Mr. Hugh MacKenzie of Winnipeg, to serve in the mission field at Honan, China. Very satisfactory reports were received of the work among the Chinese on the Pacific Coast under the leadership of Rev. Ng Mon Hing, and of the work among the Jews in Toronto under Rev. S. H. Rohod. The latter work is so promising that the committee will at once seek to raise funds to erect a new building for the work at the corner of Elm and Elizabeth streets. An evidence of the success of the industrial work in India was contained in a report that contracts for the manufacture of furniture for the Government schools had been accepted by the Mission Board. Two acres of land have been purchased in the town of Kongmoon in South China for extensions to the mission equipment, and on it the Board will erect a hospital and other buildings. One of the most gratifying announcements was of the formation among the Canadian missionaries and native teachers and elders at Honan, China, of a presbytery. This step follows that of a federation of all the Christian churches of North China, which has for its ideal a united Christian Church in China. Mr. Jas. M. Menzies and Dr. Fred Auld, who leave for Honan in the summer are both to be supported by a prominent Montreal Presbyterian.

As might be expected, the January Fortnightly Review is largely devoted to political and Imperial questions. Hence we have articles on The Naval Issue; New Estimate for \$200,000,000, by Archibald Hurd; Imperial and Foreign Affairs, by W. S. Lilly; Liberalism and the Future, by S. Brooks; Naval Agreement Delusions: A Letter from Berlin, by R. C. Long. Then there are several important subjects, apart from those above noted, treated by leading writers of the day.

Blackwood starts out well with a January number rich in good things. Among the outstanding articles are The Development of Germany; The Higher Side of My Office Life, by Sir R. Anderson, K.C.B.; The Indianman, by David Hannay; Mr. Balfour and Signor Croce. In "Musings Without Method," current subjects—political and otherwise—are treated in a specially bright and attractive style. Altogether, the January Blackwood will be found a very readable issue of this old-time favorite. Leonard Scott Publishing Company, New York City.

The Lutheran Church in the United States has nearly 2,200,000 communicants and owns property aggregating over \$55,000,000 in value; the benevolent offerings last year were more than \$2,306,000.

Rev. N. D. MacKinnon of Milverton has received an unanimous call from Caledonia congregation. Stipend offered is \$1,000 a year, free manse and one month's holidays.

The Rev. W. W. McRae has taken leave of his charge at Beaverton, after a brief but useful pastorate. He goes to an important field at Caron, Sask., where he will find an enlarged sphere for his best efforts. Not only is Mr. McRae a virile preacher, but he will be found ready to take his full share of the duties usually devolving on a public spirited citizen.