

ments. Old fashioned preaching is coming into demand. People scarcely know in whom to put confidence; and society in sheer self-defence is crying out for a return to a sounder morality. Lying and cheating are seen to be not only wicked but extremely inconvenient.

Even those who have chosen dishonest paths are finding this out to their cost, by their exposure and punishment. The price they have paid for their apparent success is found to be too great. Speaking on this subject the Rev. F. W. Robertson has said.

"The religious tradesman complains that his honesty is a hindrance to his success; that the tide of custom pours into the doors of his less scrupulous neighbours in the same street while he himself waits for hours idle. My brother, do you think that God is going to reward honour, integrity highmindedness, with this world's coin? Do you fancy that He will pay spiritual excellence with plenty of custom? Now consider the price that man has paid for his success. Perhaps mental degradation and inward dishonour. His advertisements are all deceptive; his treatment of his workmen tyrannical; his cheap prices made possible by inferior articles. Sow that man's seed, and you will reap that man's harvest. Cheat, lie, advertise, be unscrupulous in your assertions, custom will come to you. But if the price is too dear, let him have his harvest and take yours. Yours is a clear conscience, a pure mind, rectitude within and without. Will you part with that for his? Then why do you complain? He has paid his price; you do not choose to pay it."

It is fervently to be hoped that the sore misery and deep distress through which the civilized nations of the earth are now passing will not be in vain—that it will be the means of bringing men back to a sounder morality, and cause them to walk in the paths of recti-

The way of safety lies in self-examination—in amending what is wrong in our conduct—in earnest seeking for new life and strength from our Father in Heaven. Light will come out of the present darkness, and the power of truth be extended, if instead of giving way to recklessness or despair men are led to cry with earnestness and sincerity, "Search me O God, and know my heart; try me and know my thoughts; and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way of life everlasting."

OUR FOREIGN MISSION.

As the annual collection for this important scheme is appointed to be made next month, we beg to draw the attention of our readers to the duty of contributing liberally towards it. By referring to the amounts given by each congregation as printed in our last issue it will be seen at once that our interest in this scheme is not increasing as it certainly should be. This may be and probably is owing to the fact that we have no foreign missionary in the field, directly connected with our own Presbytery. During the last three years our contributions were paid, one half to Mr. Robertson in Erromanga for the support of native catechists, and the other half to Mr. Fraser Campbell for a similar purpose in India. These gentlemen are natives of this Province and personally known to many of our readers. It is surely better to have sent them the small sum collected last year than to have done nothing at all. If we had a missionary of our own no doubt he would receive our entire contribution. But until we secure such a missionary we cannot do better than send our help to the gentlemen above mentioned who are personally known to us, and in whom the church in general has confidence.