

At the time of writing, though alightly better, he is still very low, and it will be many weeks, should God spare his life, before he will be able for work. We ask the prayers of all of our friends on his behalf. Mr. Bourgois has been connected with the Pointe-aux-Trembles Schools for upwards of twenty-four years. We know not how so valuable life a could be spared from this work at the present time, and we earnestly pray that God may be pleased to raise him up and strengthen him for many years of further service at Pointe-aux-Trembles.

The session now closing has been one of the most successful—if not the most successful—in the history of the schools. The attendance has been one hundred and seventy three (108 boys and 65 girls), of whom ninety four came from Roman Catholic homes. About eighty of the pupils are members of the Church. Twenty-eight of them have been brought to Christ during this school session. The pupils' prayer meetings and the meetings of the Christian Endeavor Society have been seasons of great spiritual blessing to many.

Three young women of the advanced class and ten former pupils of these schools, some of whom have Normal School diplomas, and also fifteen young men, three of whom are in the fifth class at Pointe-aux-Trembles, and the others pursuing their theological studies or teaching, are being employed by the Board as teachers, missionaries and colporteurs during the coming summer. Some of the fields to which they go have not seen the face of a missionary for six months, the Board being unable to provide winter supply. They are rejoicing in the prospect of having, if only for a few months again, some one to lead and guide them in the way of truth.

The financial year closes on the thirtieth of April. Nearly \$4,000 are still required to pay salaries of teachers and other expenditure in connection with the schools. Thus far, through the liberality of friends, we have been enabled to end every year free from debt, and we have confidence that it will be the same this year, and that the Sabbath-Schools and friends who are supporting pupils will forward their contributions, and that the friends of the work generally will provide us with the funds necessary, PRIOR TO THE THIRTIETH OF APRIL. With the fullest confidence we commend these Mission Schools as worthy of the hearty sympathy and support of our Christian people.

Yours faithfully,

ROBT. H. WARDEN.

Contributions should be addressed to the Box 1169 Post Office, MONTREAL.

The India Mission Field.

At the Synod of Hamilton and London, Rev. Mr. Fraser Campbell addressed the members on the Indian field. The work was going on steadily but there were still millions of people there who had not yet heard the gospel preached. Seven ministers from Canada were working among the people, one doctor not a minister, and 14 unmarried ladies, besides the missionaries wives. This was the whole force of Canada, a force so inadequate that it was resolved to cut off all of Central India east of the 77° thus leaving this part open to other missions. There still remained a country nearly as large as Scotland and densely populated, as the field of labor for this very small body. Different methods of work are followed. Time did not allow to speak of more than one. That which has resulted most largely in conversions is the evangelistic in the Central stations, the surrounding villages and, during the cool season, the more distant places. During the hot and wet seasons it involves unwise exposure and is almost impracticable to tour. There are three great seasons in India, the hot season, the wet and cold. For about nine months, therefore, the work was confined to central points where, however, the work was greater than one man could do. During three months so far as other work permitted, the missionaries went out through the country. But there are still many places where the gospel of God was never preached. As to results the statistics unexplained, did not correctly make known the facts. On the one hand there are included among the communicants, helpers and their families who have come from other missions, and some who have been baptised may probably not be truly converted. On the other hand some of the converts of this mission have gone elsewhere, and some profess faith in Christ and change of heart who have never been baptised. Further there are persons who confess various degrees of convictions of the truth of Christianity and whose lives are affected thereby. There are also many who acknowledge its excellence and say that it will become the prevailing religion of India. And besides all this, higher ideas

of God and of human life and duty are permeating and uplifting the minds of many who do not acknowledge Christianity as their source, though we know it to be so. Time did not permit speaking of the greatness of the need, the opportunities lost for want of men to open new stations, men offering to go and no money to send them, while multitudes are passing away who cannot be happy without God and have no chance of obtaining that knowledge of Him in Christ which is necessary for eternal life.

The Canadian West.

At the recent meeting of the Synod of Hamilton and London Rev. Dr. Robertson delivered an address from which the following striking statements have been reproduced: "A deficit of \$10,000 was probable this year. It was proposed to pay 75 per cent. of the amount due the western missionaries. This was not a satisfactory state of things. When the missionaries start on their work they are promised a certain sum. This they would not get. With nothing to depend on the work of the men could not be done successfully. Paying 75 cents on the dollar was like the habits of shady organizations. It was not right. The deficit was caused by the great falling off in donations and legacies. Neither the living nor the dying seemed to have much to give this year when compared with last year. The work had to be extended. Ten thousand dollars a year were promised from the Old Country for a forward movement, so the work had to go on. The church should be a Canadian church and not Scotch as some people thought it. Icelanders, Germans and other nationalities sent petitions for missionaries to the Synod at Winnipeg last year. Granting as many of their requests as possible led to the extension of the work, which accounted for the increased expenditure last year. There were still thousands of born Presbyterians who have no missionaries within hundreds of miles from them. No falling off had taken place in the work on account of the deficit. The gospel was preached in 675 places in the Northwest. In the last thirteen years the membership had increased from 1153 to 10,050. Thirteen years ago the contributions to the fund amounted to \$15,000 and now reach \$234,000. Dr. Robertson gave several incidents showing how the good work had progressed. Proceeding, he showed how the lack of religious teaching in the Western States had led to such evil consequences, and hoped that Canada would not neglect her west. In the States there were only 20,000,000 people going to church regularly. We do not want such a state of affairs here. Do the good work in the country and there would be nothing to fear for the church in the towns and cities.

You whose peace of mind is often torn and destroyed by unsatisfied ambition, did you read those touching remarks of Prince Bismarck's the other day about happiness? He said that the really happy moments of his life had been very few. He was happy when he shot his first hare, and he was happy in the peace of his home and the quiet of his own garden. And the other things the world wide fame, the adoration of his countrymen, the brave fights and brilliant victories, the unique honors, the unlimited power—these brought no real joy or lasting happiness. Bismarck is by no means the first to discover the fact that simple pleasures and homely delights are the purest, most lasting, most satisfying. Simple tastes are better than long purses, a contented mind is better than a lofty position. Successful journalists, earning their £2,000 a year, would tell you that their greatest happiness was in the publication of their first article, for which they received five shillings paid with infinite reluctance by an obscure editor.

Rev. J. W. Mitchell of Thorold Ont. writes.—'Many of your readers will be interested to learn that instructions have been received in Britain to proceed at once with the building of the New Day Spring. She is to be built on the Clyde and by this time is on the stocks. She is to be of steel, 3 masted, schooner rigged 130 ft. long by 23 ft. in breadth and 11 ft. in depth. She is to be finished by September. Dr. Paton has completed a laborious tour of the congregations of Tasmania and was to have sailed from Australia for the New Hebrides about March 7th with the young missionaries. He will spend some time on his own island Aniwa. Dr. Paton's third son Frank has been appointed a missionary to the New Hebrides and expects to be located on Tanna. His brother Fred. is already at work on Malakula. I have a set of beautifully colored slides, 75 in number, illustrative of Dr. Paton's work which I will loan to any congregation on very easy terms. They have been sent out to me from England for that purpose.