

to take part this year. The service is entitled "The Dew of Thy Youth," and is bright and instructive. The readings are aptly arranged and all the music is taken from our "Children's Hymnal." While full of variety it is yet so simple that any school can "go through" it with little or no previous rehearsal. At its late meeting in London the General Assembly unanimously adopted the following resolution:

"The General Assembly learns with pleasure that 'Children's Day' is growing in favor with the Sabbath schools of the Church, and recommends its still more universal observance, with the use of the service prepared by the Committee."

The Committee would venture to make a special appeal this year in order to enable them to wipe out the debt that is resting upon them. We have good reason to hope that this accumulation of deficits will grow no larger, since our income last year very nearly met our expenditure, but it would relieve the Committee from much anxiety and some of its members from heavy financial obligations incurred on behalf of our work, if the whole could be paid off this year. Accordingly, the following plan is suggested for adoption by all our schools:

Collection envelopes will be sent to every school using the concert service with the request that they be distributed to teachers and scholars as soon as they are received. Parents and friends of the work, especially those not connected with the Sabbath School, but willing in this way to shew their interest and appreciation, will be asked to contribute and the amounts given will be enclosed in these envelopes and handed in at the "Children's Day" service. A very slight effort will meet with a liberal response, and the Committee will be relieved from a discouraging burden. They would earnestly request all friends of the work to lend their assistance in securing a hearty response to this appeal. There are many who could easily donate large sums and would do so if they realized the importance of the work of the Committee. A brief summary of last report has been sent to every minister and superintendent, and additional copies can be obtained from the Convener.

The hearty observance of "Children's Day" cannot but result in good every way. Will you, dear reader, do your part in making it a success. You can do much by interesting the young people you know in the occasion by attending yourself, by speaking an appreciative word to the Superintendent and teachers, and by making some scholar glad with a liberal donation to the collection envelope. Should there be no observance of the day in the Sabbath school in which you are more immediately interested a subscription sent direct to the Convener will be thankfully received and promptly acknowledged.

All remittances of money should be sent to the Convener, Rev. T. F. Fotheringham, 107 Hazen St., St. John, N.B.

Rev. Andrew Murray.

The author of "Abide in Christ" hardly needs an introduction to many of our readers—and yet in view of his expected presence at the Convention in Association Hall next week in Toronto, many will read with interest these collated items regarding his ministerial career in South Africa.

It is now over seventy years since the father of Andrew Murray sailed from Scotland and settled as a minister of the Dutch Reformed Church at Graaf-Reinet, in South Africa. His ministry was marked by intense missionary zeal and great spiritual power, and when

called home he left behind him in his family the richest legacy that any man can leave to the Church of God—five sons becoming devoted ministers of the Dutch Reformed Church, and four daughters ministers wives—while a fifth daughter is the principal of a large school for girls. On May 9th, 1828, at Graaf-Reinet was born Andrew, the second son—named after his father—the subject of his sketch. The eldest son was sent to Aberdeen to complete his studies, and his younger brother Andrew, although only nine years old, accompanied him. They both graduated at Marischal College, imbibing there additional missionary spirit which was subsequently much deepened by their frequently coming under the inspiring influence of William Burns, the eminent and devoted Chinese missionary. They both took their theological course at the University of Utrecht, Holland. On their return to South Africa, Andrew was appointed the minister over what is now the Orange Free State. He was ordained at the early age of 20 and for many years was the only minister over this wide territory. Large numbers attended his ministry—mostly in the open air, but often under some canopy to protect them from the burning sun. During his ministry here he married Emma Rutherford, daughter of the Hon. H. E. Rutherford, who has proved a true helpmeet to him in his abundant labors. In 1860 he was called to Worcester, thence four years later to Capetown, and again later to Wellington where Mr. Murray still lives and labors with eminent zeal and success, and marvellous spiritual power. During his Worcester ministry Mr. Murray began first to put his thoughts in print for the help of his young converts. Among his first literary efforts was a precious little volume titled "The New Life," which, first written in Dutch, was extensively circulated at the Cape and in Holland. Later both this volume and "Abide in Christ," as also "The Children of Christ," were published also in English and met with a most flattering reception by English readers of devotional books. These and the subsequent volumes of "The Christ" series have been of untold blessing to multitudes of souls. But not only as an earnest pastor and a writer of deeply devotional books has Mr. Murray's influence been a power for good. As founder of the Huguenot Seminary for girls—and for the Training Seminary for Missionaries to the Kaffirs—both of which are at Wellington, and as President of the South African General Mission Mr. Murray has put himself in touch with every elevating and evangelizing effort that makes for the weal of South Africa.

After many invitations Mr. Murray has been led to visit the home lands and look in the face some of the thousands who have been stimulated to a deeper spiritual life by the perusal of his intensely devotional books. He is to be in Toronto from 3rd to 5th September, during which days a Convention for the Deepening of Spiritual Life and the furtherance of Foreign Missions will be held in Association Hall. The following Committee have the Convention in charge: Revs. T. C. DesParres, R. P. MacKay, G. J. Bishop, Elmore Harris, Dr. McTavish, J. McP. Scott, and Mr. H. W. Frost.

Men with fine gifts think it worth while to live to paint a few great pictures which will be looked at and admired for generations; or to write a few songs which shall sing themselves into the ears and hearts of men. But the woman who makes a sweet, beautiful home, filling it with love and prayer and purity, is doing some thing better than anything her hands can find to do beneath the skies