

Religions, in Chicago University. . . . The Presbytery of Quebec have nominated the Rev. Donald Fail, M.A., to the vacant chair in Knox College; and the Presbytery of Algoma, the Rev. Prof. William D. Kerswell, Lincoln College, Pa.

#### MONTREAL CITY MISSION.

THE Presbyterian churches of Montreal among them sustain a missionary whose duty it is to visit regularly the wards of the city hospitals and other public institutions where there are likely to be found friendless and destitute Presbyterians not connected with any of the local congregations, so in danger of being otherwise overlooked, he is expected also to visit non-church going families in the city. The arrangement was made some twenty years ago, owing to some excitement over a case of death-bed proselytism by a priest of a young Scotchman who, it was claimed, had been neglected by his own church. A recent case in the same hospital of a similar character shows that the priests of the Roman Catholic Church are still ready to play the same part when there is no longer any such excuse. But the appointment has been abundantly justified on other and more general grounds. The report of the missionary's work has just come into our hands, and it presents a record which shows this field is being overtaken in a way that would have been quite hopeless by any other method. In addition to visiting 392 families in their homes, the missionary has made 1,335 visits to public institutions and hospital wards, conducted sixty-six services and sixty-eight funerals—a record which is truly astonishing. His ministrations are, of course, mainly to the less hopeful members of society who, in many instances, are suffering the consequence of their own sins and vices, but it is impossible to estimate the good that has been done, and the consolation he has brought to sorrowful hearts. Some of the cases mentioned are sad enough—as for example, that of a young Scotchman well connected socially in the old land, with good abilities and good education, who early strayed from the path of virtue, and was reduced to the greatest straits. But they would be sadder still if there was no one to speak an encouraging word, and tell once more to such wayward ones, the story of the Father's love. The work is a Christ-like work, and can not fail to bring a blessing to those who sustain it as well as to those who receive the ministrations of the missionary.

In addition to all this, the missionary is one of the administrators of the Fresh Air Fund, by which last season, nearly 5,000 persons were taken on excursions to the country, and some 1,200 mothers and children enabled to spend a few days in a rural home at Chambly, about twenty miles out of the city. If the relations between rich and poor in our great centres are to be kept sweet and free from all bitterness, it will be by such services as these; and they are to be congratulated, who have found a systematic method of rendering them so as to make them effective.

#### THE "RECORD" AND OTHER CHURCH PUBLICATIONS.

OUR new office in Montreal is in the Y.M.C.A. Building, immediately adjoining that occupied by the Rev. Mr. Scott of the *Record*, and as we wish to be on good terms with our near neighbor we dropped in to pay our respects and have a few minutes chat with the editor.

One could not help first of all admiring the quarters which he is fortunate enough to occupy. Situated on the fourth story of the building he is away from the noise of

the street traffic and other disturbing influences of that character. Being on the corner he has a charming outlook in two directions. One is out on Dominion Square, the most beautiful of all the squares in the city, which in summer is radiant with many colored flowers, and across to the main front of the magnificent Windsor Hotel. The Dominion Square Methodist church, St. George's, and the massive C.P.R., passenger station are also within view. In the other direction he looks out towards the mountain, now white with snow, but in season green with abundant foliage or resplendent in the rich tints of autumn. Except in the early morning, before the editor is usually to be found in his office, the sun streams in through the numerous windows all day long. And not a little of the brightness and fine spirit characteristic of the editor's work must be set down to the cheerful aspect of his editorial sanctum.

Mr. Scott's personality is too well known in the church to need much description here. Suffice it to say that he is a solid substantial looking Nova Scotian, in the prime of life, with a keen clear eye in his head, excellent health, and a warm grip in his hand for a friend. His enterprise and determination are shown by the fact that when a student he made his way to the Holy Land, and walked over the length of it alone in order to see it for himself. It is an old story for him now, but some of his experiences were so thrilling that one wonders he does not sometimes refer to them. Before being appointed editor of the *Record*, on the retirement of Mr. James Croil, he had proved his capacity for the work by the publication of a monthly missionary periodical for the young on his own responsibility. This had a wide circulation in the Maritime Provinces and was carried on in addition to the duties of a large pastoral charge. He is an acceptable preacher and in frequent demand to supply pulpits in the city and neighborhood.

But we are forgetting about the publications. Mr. Scott is too busy a man to welcome needless interruptions, but he was kind enough to answer some of our questions regarding these periodicals.

The chief one is of course the *Record* itself which for a good many years back has had a monthly circulation of a little short of 50,000. The mention of the large number naturally makes our mouth water a little for something approaching this figure for the *REVIEW*. But we shall hope to attain even that by and bye. Of course with an annual club subscription of twenty-five cents a good deal is possible that cannot be expected at a dollar and a half. For some reason the circulation of the *Record* seems practically to have reached its limit, and yet one does not quite see why, for it finds its way into only one half of the families of the church. It ought to be found in all without exception.

The Childrens' *Record* is both younger in years and more youthful in character than its grown up contemporary. It was started about twelve years ago for the purpose of carrying into the Sunday Schools the missionary information necessary to maintain the interest of the young in the schemes of the Church. Its circulation is as yet only about half that of the other and there ought to be room for almost indefinite expansion.

The last General Assembly laid on the *Record* Committee the duty of issuing from the beginning of the present year the S. S. helps, formerly published by the Sabbath School Committee. This has entailed an immense deal of extra labor, and has necessitated the acceptance by the editor of considerable volunteer aid. This can hardly continue indefinitely, and some further provision will have to be made in the near future for regular and systematic assistance if the work is to be