

Our Home Work.

The Dr. Reid, Toronto, writing with regard outlook. to receipts for the schemes of the church, says that this is the most disappointing year in his experience. Never did money come in so slowly for the various funds. We must not allow the Lord's work to flag. His work, in its various departments, is our work. To us He has entrusted it. It is not a work to which we can give much or little at pleasure. We have obligations in the matter. There are missionaries in the field at home and abroad and other departments of work as well. These departments we have pledged ourselves as a church to sustain, and each loyal member of the church should realize that he has a personal share in that pledge. True, the financial condition of the whole continent has been somewhat strained, but how far have we allowed that to interfere with our own comfort.

Let us lay to heart and pocket, the facts: 1. That Christ bids us pass along to all others, the Gospel which has made our lives so glad. 2. That opening fields at home and abroad plead with us to give the Gospel. 3. That there are lines of work which, as a church, we have undertaken, and for which we are responsible. 4. That the contributions are coming in very slowly.

'Winter Supply.' The thoughts suggested by these words vary according to circumstances. To multitudes the winter supply most longed for is clothing, food and fuel, for the cold and dreary winter. To many the planned for winter supply is a round of pleasure. Others long for a richer outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Many a minister is longing for such a "winter supply" for the winter's work in his congregation.

In two very important senses the words apply to Church and Christian work.

1. The "winter supply" of instruction, which our rising ministry receive. The colleges are at work. Strong minds are leading fresh, eager, receptive minds along the paths of learning. That learning will in some measure shape the thinking and character of our future ministry, as well as of our coming lawyers, doctors, and other professional men. These, in turn, have, to some extent, the moulding of our Church and country. Of what infinite importance it is that the leading in our schools of learning, whether secular or sacred, be upward as well as onward; leading ever to higher, purer, holier heights, from which will be ever broadening outlooks over the domain of truth. This should be a matter of earnest prayer among Christians.

2. The removal of many of these students from their summer fields of labor leads many frontier congregation, and mission station, to long

for a "winter supply" of preaching. How shall these lone and silent Sabbaths be made vocal? Besides the supply that Home Mission Committees may be able to serve, there are three methods by which much might be done; (a) by each settled congregation giving its pastor, for one, two, three, or four, weeks during the winter, and carrying on its own services; (b) by elders, where within reach, taking an occasional service; (c) by the people in the vacant station meeting together, reading a sermon, or conducting a Christian Endeavor service. In some cases one or other of these methods may not be possible, but if each were employed where best suited, or in some cases all, in turn, the vexed question of "winter supply" would be in large measure a thing of the past.

Jubilee. Two Halifax congregations celebrate their Jubilee this season. That of Chalmers Church was honored by fitting services on Friday evening, Oct. 6th, and on the Sabbath following. Park Street, better known for many years as Poplar Grove Church, jubileed Nov. 9th. Both date their origin from "43." The former was a "Free Kirk"; the latter a "U.P." The former has been ministered to by a succession of able men. The latter has had but two, in its fifty years of history. When men celebrate a jubilee, the joy is shadowed by the thought that most of their best days are gone. Colleges and congregations mingle thanksgiving with glad hope as they renew their youth and turn the sand-glass to run another fifty years with growing strength and usefulness. May the zeal and strength of youth and the wisdom of half a century be happily blended in these beacon lights in the city by the sea!

Assembly Fund. Dr. Reid writes asking congregations to remember the Assembly Fund. "All Presbyteries have been corresponded with. The large number of copies sent out this year, and the very voluminous Blue Book, have greatly increased the expenses."

Literature "Have you an interest in Home wanted. Missions? You can help the work by sending periodicals or other good literature, suitable for distribution on mission fields, to Room 21, Knox College. This literature the students take with them and distribute on their mission fields and many a time it proves a real boon to the people."

Manitoba College. The third Sabbath of December is the day appointed by the General Assembly for the collection throughout the Church for Manitoba College. Dr. King writes:—"The need of the College is urgent. The summer session, undertaken at the request of the Assembly has necessarily increased the expenditure considerably. The College may well expect the collection to be both more general and more liberal than it was before the change"