

Upper Stewiacke.

After the settlement of Rev. E. Grant in his congregation the Weekly Offering system was adopted and has worked well. During the past year \$1153.00 have been used for all purposes.

Lower Stewiacke.

This section of the Shubenacadie congregation purpose ere long erecting a new Church, one in keeping with the times. It is a step in the right direction, and we wish them success in their undertaking.

Vale Colliery.

Quite a thriving settlement is springing up in this locality, situated in the County of Pictou. Doubtless ere long a congregation will have to be formed here.

Windsor Congregation.

At the last Communion on the first Sabbath in October, fifteen members were added to the Communion Roll, nine by profession and six by certificate. The Church is all but filled every Sabbath, gallery and all.

St. Croix.

Mr. E. Scott has laboured faithfully in the new Congregation of St. Croix and Elfershouse during the past Summer, and the Lord has blessed his labours. The Lord's Supper was dispensed in the end of September, when thirteen persons were received on a profession of their faith. On the following Monday nineteen children were baptized.

Religious Intelligence.

Day of Prayer.

In the Church of England the 3rd December is to be observed as a day of special prayer for increase of Missionaries, and the extension of the Gospel in heathen lands.

Mohammedanism.

The Free Church *Record* says that this old power is reviving, and gives these facts: A census of Bengal recently taken makes the population 67,000,000, as had been estimated. In some districts there are 600 to the square mile. The number of Mohammedan is far in excess of popular estimate, which has counted them at about 15,000,000, while they are found to be 30,664,000. Of all who call themselves Hindus in faith, there are 42,674,000. The

Budhists are 86,000 in number, and the Christians 93,000. Of the aboriginals, included in neither of these classes, there are 2,391,000. It is stated that the Mohammedans, with their armies of missionaries, their theory that all faithful races are equal before God, and their practice of raising any convert at once to full social equality, are becoming so numerous, that by 1900 they will be half the population, and ultimately will control the religious destiny of Bengal. Throughout many of the richest districts they are already nearly or quite one half of the population, and in some they exceed the Hindus by 20 per cent.—the most astounding instance of wholesale conversion in modern history."

The Atchinese and other Mussulman populations of Sumatra have, it would seem, become somewhat loose and heterodox in their practice of the Mohammedan faith. The fact has been reported to the Mohammedans of Constantinople, and they have it in contemplation to send a learned 'hadja' to Atchin, to diffuse sound religious instruction among the people. This is one of the missionary movements which mark the revival, or, as they call it, the new departure of Islamism.

Maiming an Idol.

Immense excitement has been occasioned over all Western India by a mishap that has befallen the god Vithoba of Pandharpur. The city now named is the greatest place of pilgrimage in the Maratha country. The god Vithoba is an incarnation—or reappearance, rather—of the great divinity Krishna; and the image at Pandharpur had an especial celebrity as being *svayambhu*—not fashioned by human hands, but *self-produced*. Well, a devotee who was dissatisfied with Vithoba, probably because his prayers had not been attended to, took a large stone into the temple, and almost smashed in pieces the breast and limbs of the offending deity, by hurling it upon them with all his might. He was at once set upon by the other worshippers, and nearly torn in pieces. But how the injury done to the unhappy god can be repaired is a question that occupies the mind of tens of thousands. The broken limbs could be patched, but that would be unsightly; or a new image might be procured, but such an image could hardly be said to be *self-produced*, and so the glory of Pandharpur would be in danger of passing away. We shall wait to see the issue with no little interest. We shall wait to see the issue with no little interest. We shall not be surprised if, some fine morning, a new image is found installed in place of the disfigured one, and the cry is raised,—A miracle! lo, another deity—truly *svayambhu*!