

tunity and scope there is for the Master's work in rural churches, as compared with city ones. "We want a minister to reach our young people now; we want to see them converted before they leave home and go to the cities."

We are gratified to learn that Rev. Churchill Moore, now pastor of the church at Kingsport, N. S., has accepted the call to the church at Ayer's Flat, and enters upon his new duties in March. Mr. Moore graduated from our college two years ago. He supplied this church during one college vacation. He was appointed alternate preacher to the Congregational Union of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick for this year. We wish him the best success in his new sphere of labor.

OUR GRADUATES.

The first class that graduated under Dr. Barbour were Revs. J. P. Gerrie, B.A.; Andrew P. Solandt, B.A.; and Frank Davey, B.D. Mr. Gerrie, who comes from the church at Garafraxa, and is one of three brothers who have entered the Christian ministry, graduated from the full course in 1888. He was immediately called to and settled in the Stratford church, where, from that time until now, the church has been very much blessed and built up spiritually, and in its temporal affairs. Mr. Gerrie has received and obeyed a second call to Mount Zion church, Toronto, and has entered upon his new work in that city. See last INDEPENDENT, p. 47.

Mr. Solandt, from Zion church, Montreal, also graduated from the full course, and was called to the Brigham church, in the Townships. But he first went to Oberlin, and took the B.D. course there. He had not been very long at Brigham, when our American cousins got their eye upon him, and he was invited to the pastorate of Bakersville Congregational church, Vt., where he is now doing good service.

And Mr. Frank Davey, from the Brantford church, graduated from the short course. He was called to Alton, and after a time of fruitful service there, received a call from the church at Chebogue, N. S. A photograph group of these three graduates and our esteemed principal, hangs in our "Common Room." The next was a graduating class of six, about some of whom we shall have something to say next month.

MISSIONARY NEWS.

The latest news of Mr. Currie comes through Mrs. Cotton, who writes on January 7th, from steamship "Portugal," "Mr. Currie, who was to accompany us to America, was taken sick at the coast, and was not able to come with us. At one time we scarcely thought he would live. The

doctor thought he would be able to come on the next steamer. We could not wait, as the children had attacks of dysentery at the coast. . . . We will wait in England for Mr. Currie, so as to be of assistance to him, if necessary. We will probably not need to wait long for him, as the "Ambaca" is only two weeks behind us. We will reach Chicago about the middle or last of February."

Mr. F. W. Read, B.A., a member of the graduating class has received his official appointment as a missionary of the A. B. C. F. M., and is designated to the West Central Africa Mission.

VACATION REMINISCENCES.

As young ministers of the Word, sometimes more than at others, feeling the sense of our responsibilities, and at times being exercised as to the success or non-success of our labors, we are often comforted and stimulated by the influence of older Christians. And these helps come mostly when least expected, and from perhaps the most unexpected place—the sick chamber. The two following incidents are not the least interesting of many similar ones we might recount.

An aged saint, who has for some time past been confined to his bed from paralysis, is in the habit of falling into day-dreams, when he believes his old friends and fellow-Christians, long since dead and gone, come and sit by his bedside, and talk with him concerning the kingdom. So strong are the impressions left, that he has oftentimes a difficulty to believe that they are but dreams, and thinks his friends must be in the room, long after he is awake and conscious. After one of these experiences, he said it was noticeable that only his Christian friends came to converse with him in his dreams, and never the godless men he had been obliged to meet in business affairs. This he thought was a good lesson for young people, that if they began early to serve the Lord, and take pleasure in the church of Christ, they would, if ever affected as he is, have like pleasant reflections; but if they had lived lives of sin, and cultivated bad companions, thoughts of these would come to them in dreams, and give them pain and remorse instead of holy joy.

Lessons are taught to us in many ways. The lesson which often comes home to us with the greatest force is the one that is taught out of the fuiness of human experience. The lesson may have been learnt slowly by the one passing through the experience, but others may reap the benefit of this experience in a brief space of time. The following incident will show how the experience of one life has been the means of teaching many the lesson of patience and perfect trust in God:—

A lady who is known to many, has been confined