

# THE MARITIME PRESBYTERIAN.

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The touching incident of the "tracts" referred to in Mr. Morton's letter is an encouragement to sow beside all waters. "In the morning sow thy seed and in the evening withhold not thy hand."

We hope our readers will study well Dr. McKnight's sermon. It is not "heavy" but it is "weighty." There is food for meditation in that single expression, that to withhold service to God is "failure to be saved."

In another column will be found a letter from Charles Ragbir, a native of Trinidad who is studying for the ministry at Auburn, New York. There is traceable the oriental exuberance of diction, but it shews the strong hold Mr. McLeod had on the affections of the Hindi immigrants and natives of Trinidad.

The deceit and cruelty practised against the Indians by unscrupulous agents in the North West tends greatly to hinder the work of the Missionaries. Mr. Hugh McKay says that on one occasion he visited an old chief, but tried in vain to get him to listen to the truth. Said he, "My ears are filled with lies. I cannot hear you. Your words cannot come to me."

In the Synod of the Maritime Provinces there are 11 Presbyteries containing 173 pastoral charges, or 440 churches or preaching stations. Of these there are in the Presbytery of Halifax 73; in P. E. Island 70; in St. John 62; Miramichi 44; Truro, Sydney, Lunenburg, and Shelburne, 36 each; Pictou 34; Wallace 27; Victoria and Richmond 20; Newfoundland 2.

The amount required from the whole Church for Foreign Missions during the coming year is \$71,000. This is a little less than one tenth of the amount raised

by the Presbyterian Church in the United States, North, and can easily be overtaken. In this Eastern section an effort must be made to advance at least a little on last year. Lift up your eyes unto the fields they are white already to harvest.

The Presbyterian Church of the United States, North, makes the following figures its aim for the present year: *Seven hundred and fifty thousand* this year for Home Missions, and the same, *three quarters of a million of dollars*, for Foreign Missions. This movement was made by the elders of the Assembly, business men in New York and elsewhere in the large centres. It is well when the elders and business men in a church thus take hold of its schemes.

We read of the childish, superstitious, practices of the Church of Rome in other lands and in past times but scarce realize the dense darkness and superstition that exists in our own land. In October last a procession of about eight thousand men, women and children, led by the Bishop of Montreal and attendant priests paraded the streets, carrying with them a brass statue of the Virgin Mary, which had been used in a similar way years ago to stay the ravages of cholera. On this occasion the multitude moved along telling the beads of Rosary, singing the Litany of Loretta and the Ave Maria, and imploring the Virgin to deliver the city from small-pox. Such an immense gathering of all classes would be one of the surest means of spreading the scourge.

The legislatures of Ontario and Quebec have, in their laws with regard to lotteries, made exceptions in favor of church and charitable lotteries!!! That is a very plain case of the end justifying the means. "Lotteries are bad! They must be forbidden! They are immoral and degrading in their tendency, but if for church and