

hardly satisfied with his personal experience. A godly home life is one of the best proofs of a true hope in Christ.

Let us, then, foster "home religion." Let the family altar be built and the fire of the daily offering be kindled upon it. Let our homes be like the home in Bethany, where Jesus loved to be a guest; still better, like the home above. Let kindness, gentleness, and forbearing love make home more dear and precious. Make the atmosphere one of prayer and love. Do not reserve your best looks and kindest words for strangers, but make home brighter by them.

LOVE.

How strongly the Scriptures insist on love as the controlling power in our lives: "Love that delights in all who love God—love that seeks and follows those who are straying from the blessed fountain of all happiness. God is love. All who are godly must love. In our congregations there should be a fuller and freer manifestation of this Heavenly principle. We must learn to love as brethren, to be patient, forbearing, forgiving. All the members of the congregation should be embraced in our affection. From the family and the congregation we must advance to the whole denomination; and still advancing higher, with enlarged sympathies, we are privileged to embrace all the followers of the Lord Jesus by whatever name called.

Our denominational bounds have of late been greatly widened. Has our love similarly extended? Do we embrace in our hearts all, so far as we know them, who stand to us in the relation of "brethren?" We hope and believe that the general reply to this question would be "Yes." The quarrels, and alienations, and suspicions of the past are forgiven and forgotten. Love to God brings us all very close to one another; and if we continue in His love we cannot fail to show it by loving the brethren.

Those who are our near neighbors have, of course, naturally, the first claim upon us. What can we do to strengthen the hands and cheer the hearts of weak congregations? How is the gospel to be brought

to bear upon those who still sit in darkness and under the shadow of death? We can work lovingly together in raising funds to supplement the efforts of weak charges, and also to send forth Home Missionaries to destitute localities. We are called to be fellow-workers with Christ. Filled with love to Him we should rise to the height of the great occasion.

THE STATISTICS OF THE LATE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

We have perused with interest the leading article in the last number of the *Record* of this Church, on the Statistical Returns of the past year.

In the first part of this paper the great importance of full and accurate statistics is ably put and fully sustained, these being, in truth, a statement by figures of the great facts representing the life work and progress of the Church.

The second part touched upon is the incompleteness of this last, and of all former statistical tables; and the usual regrets are expressed that there are always found some who by their negligence and disregard of the public good fail in doing their allotted part in this great work, and to this extent lessen the beneficial effect of what their more faithful and punctual brethren have done. "If statistics would have the value they ought to possess, ALL, WITHOUT EXCEPTION, must respond to the injunction of the Supreme Court; and as far as any one fails the value of the returns is affected."

The writer notices, thirdly, with some criticism which is richly merited, the want of accuracy by which some of these returns are disfigured. We know Conveners of some other Churches whose righteous souls have been vexed with this shameless and inexcusable thing. Some hints being given for the elimination of these errors for the future to some extent if not in full, the writer closes with the following.

GENERAL STATEMENT.

"We select the following items, as showing the progress of the Church for the year.