

at intervals, and carried out the programme in such a way that two hours passed by ere the slightest symptoms of weariness became visible. The Superintendent, Mr. John Cook, several of the teachers of the school and elders of the congregation, and the pastor of St. Matthew's, gave short addresses, which were interspersed with some of the most delightful vocal music imaginable, with organ accompaniment, conducted by the scholars with a heartiness and correctness that showed how effective had been Mr. Mitchell's course of training. About quarter to nine the distribution of prizes began. 29 books were given to as many scholars who did not miss one Sabbath during the whole year; 14 to as many more who failed in being present only one Sabbath during the year; special prizes of merit were also given by the pastor, secretary and others, for special objects; several of the teachers also gave presents to the scholars of their classes, numbering about 40 volumes—thus showing the prizes awarded to be between 80 and 90. Besides these, there was presented to Miss Taylor, the accomplished organist of the school as well as of the congregation, a costly set of Jewelry,—tendered, in the name of the Trustees of the Church, by John Gibson, Esq., who expressed, in appreciative terms, the sentiments of the congregation regarding the value of her services; and a very pretty Card-case was also presented to Miss Calder, by the scholars of her class.

The proceedings came to a close about quarter past 9, after singing the National Anthem; and sure we are that the Benediction was never given, on a similar occasion, to a more gratified band of christian workers, or a happier company of the youth of the church.

RICHMOND.—The annual gathering of the Richmond Sabbath School was also held on the afternoon of Thursday—the last day of 1874. Despite the extreme cold, most of the children were present, as well as many of the parents and others. The first part of the proceedings took place in the church, and consisted of singing and prayer, addresses by Revs. D. Neish, of Musquodoboit, and J. F. Campbell, the pastor (who is also Superintendent of the Sabbath

School), and the distribution of prizes, which, as in the city churches, are given for regularity of attendance. Mr. Neish spoke of the truth that we are not our own, but in duty bound to serve God with all we are and all we have. Mr. Campbell applied to the case of his hearers the words of God to Joshua regarding the entrance on a new stage in the progress towards possession of the promised land: "This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success. Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed; for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest." Twenty-four prizes were given this year—twelve being to scholars who had been present every Sabbath in the year. This means more in Richmond than in the heart of the city, where there are good pavements and comparatively good walking throughout the year. It is also worthy of remark,—as showing that the principle on which the prizes are given is not an unreasonable rewarding of scholars for being conveniently situated as regards attendance,—that half of those who received prizes live at considerable distances from the school, and that some of them are very young.

In connection with the distribution of prizes there were two presentations—one of a tastefully and well-bound Bible, to Mrs. McMillan, from her class of young women; the other, also of a superior copy of the Bible, from the minister and teachers, to Mr. Walter Bennett, expressive of their very high appreciation of his services as Secretary and Librarian.

At the conclusion of these more formal exercises, an adjournment was made to the Sabbath School Hall, to which there is a passage from the Church, through the vestry, and there all were provided with a comfortable tea. First the younger scholars sat down; then a beautiful Christmas-Tree was stripped of its load of articles of clothing, toys, illuminated text-cards, etc., which were given not only to members of the infant