

25,000. Communicants exceed 1,300,000, and increase at the rate of 75,000 annually. All adherents are estimated as 3,500,000.

Pitiful letters from sacrificing missionaries abroad implore our boards not to reduce appropriations for the work. Boards earnestly appeal to perhaps 17,000,000 professed evangelical followers of Christ in our favored land to obey the commission of Christ to go into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature, according as God enables them to do so. Not because of political or social oppositions, but because of withholding of money by home churches, startling retrenchments have been made. One Board needed recently to send forth thirty-six workers, but only five have been sent because of lack of money. Is not Christ still saying, Ye shall be my witnesses unto the uttermost parts of the earth? Has He not set before us the open door of almost every land? It cannot be that Christian people do not believe their own prayers, and do not want to see the world evangelized. But many do not think of Christ enough to give regularly to sustain Him.

A NOTE FROM BRO. ERVINE

"Again I have to thank my brethren in New Brunswick for their great kindness to us in so often rendering such timely aid. Surely God has been good to us in giving us so many kind friends in the dear home-land, the dearest to me in the wide universe. The kindness so tangibly expressed is more than I could reasonably expect. This makes it the more appreciable and the comforts derived the sweeter. I trust the dear Father of Lights, the Giver of every good gift, may richly reward all those who have so kindly ministered to my necessities during my lingering weakness.

I often wonder why I am so long a poor sufferer, but it is all right, for it is the Father's will. Just at the present time I keep around trying to do a little light work nearly every day. But I find my strength is waning. To me the grasshopper is a burden.

The news from the churches at home speak of the cause as languishing. It seems discouraging. But it is God who builds the house and watches the city. If it were not His cause it would certainly be overthrown, but He reigns, and will have the supremacy and the ultimate glory.

I am glad to notice the approaching meeting of the New Brunswick Convention, and trust the session may be a very profitable one. I do wish I could be there. But we shall all meet in the sweet by and bye. In the meantime let us trust the dear Father for all our care and supplies. I will try and send a few lines to the Convention to let the brethren know that I am still interested in the work and appreciate their kindness.

We have had some quite hot weather here, though it has not reached the degree of heat that it did last summer, which was 118 degrees. The hottest days of this summer were 110. At that temperature I felt like keeping in the shade.

It may interest you to know that Rev. Augustus Freeman, formerly of Newcastle, Queens Co., has on account of heart trouble been compelled to retire from work of all kind. He is now living with his son Dr. Freeman at Long Beach, Cal., some twelve miles south of Los Angeles. The doctor has fitted up a private hospital, and I learn that they are having a heavy run of patients, but only the rich can patronize it as charges are very high.

R. J. Burdette, the former lecturer and humorist, has recently taken charge of a new Baptist interest in Los Angeles. It is a two hundred-

member fragment broken off of the First church. He has within a few days been ordained to the ministry.

But I must close for the present. May God bless the missionary work at home. I was pleased to learn you had a good man at Grand Falls; I trust he may be able to help the cause there and counteract the losses of the last few years.

With kind remembrances to all the dear friends, I am as ever your brother in Christian love,

S. D. ERVINE.

San Jacinto, Cal., Aug. 17, 1913.

THE ERVINE FUND

Elsewhere will be found a communication from Bro. Ervine acknowledging a remittance of thirty dollars just sent. The spirit of this letter is truly apostolic, and the message of itself worthy of general circulation. How wonderfully God gives grace for every trial. Below will be found the amounts received since last acknowledgment:

Any who feel inclined to add to this fund will please forward to me at 29 High St., St. John.

| | |
|---------------------------|--------|
| Harry King, | \$5 00 |
| Mrs. W. C. King, | 5 00 |
| Andrew Miller, | 5 50 |
| James Jardine, | 1 00 |
| R. Branscombe, | 2 00 |
| St. Martin's S. School, | 6 50 |
| Mrs. C. A. Bradshaw, | 1 00 |
| Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Titus, | 1 50 |
| Rev. J. A. Cahill, | 2 00 |
| Mrs. Catharine Rees, | 1 00 |

Total, \$25 50
W. E. McINTYRE.

Notice.

The next session of the York and Sunbury Quarterly meeting will be held with the Second Sheffield church, Little River, beginning on Friday Sept. 11th at 7.30 p. m. The churches are requested to send pastor and delegates.

Profitable and unprofitable Reading

We seem to be a generation of readers. Every railroad train appears to proclaim it, with its array of spread-out white sheets as it flashes past. Cheap magazines, with their lists running up into the hundreds of thousands, seem to corroborate it. Innumerable novels, passing into edition after edition, and the circulating libraries with their network of agencies add to the testimony. And yet we venture the assertion that a vast deal of that which these things represent is not reading. It is the mere dissipation of printer's ink. Needful much of it is, but needless, and worse more of it is, and in either case it is not reading in the highest sense. Indeed, the matter is not in many of these publications of sufficient worth to justify the term reading in connection with them. They are for the passing moment, for excitement or amusement, or to lay hold of the events of the day, to be forgotten almost as soon as the eye had ceased to scan them. This, we repeat, is not reading. To read in the true sense is to live long enough in the thought of an author to become acquainted with it and so to constitute one's self its possessor. It is to follow the lead of your guide into the realm in which he reigns and live with him there and master his thought and get his inspiration and secure his impress on the soul in such fashion

as that you cannot and do not want to lose it.

It was this kind of reading that Phillips Brooks had in mind when he somewhere said, "Literature is our daily food"; and it is such reading and such only that can furnish us with our needed sustenance. It was such reading as this that Dr. Howard Furness had in thought when to the graduating class of the University of Pennsylvania he commended Homer and Horace and Shakespeare and Carlyle and Tennyson—monarchs in the realm in which they planted their thrones. It is that which, as he says, "will open to us the kingdom of thought and all the boundless regions of conception."

The sad thing about our modern methods of reading is that they to so great an extent disqualify us from entering and possessing this promised land. It would be something to be ever grateful for if we could resolve always to have some standard book on hand, back on which we could fall. It would not be amiss if in the present summer vacation season we should do something like this. It would give background to our thought that may be more or less vagrant otherwise. It would impart an inspiration that would give rest vastly above that of mere idleness. The beneficence of a continuance of reading like this cannot be measured. It puts one in the possession of sunshine no clouds can dim. It makes us the associates of the crowned heads in the wide realms of thought. It secures us friendship beyond the vicissitudes of fortune. Its entrance requires no pass-word, and abiding in it demands no rank but that of brain and heart, and its bestowments are perpetual benediction.

Religious News.

Aug. 9, Rev. H. D. Worden OAK BAY, N. B. baptized three at Oak Bay and received into church.

Good work progressing favorably.

H. D. WORDEN.

Rev. W. E. McIntyre of St. GRAND FALLS, N. B. John, has visited this field and speaks very promisingly of it. The Baptists expect

to erect a meeting-house in the near future—all we lack is men of prayer and money. Pray that the work may be carried on, the church built up and funds raised for its support, and may God have all the glory. We are expecting to have with us Bro. Hayward to conduct special services.

ELIAS AUGER.

ROLLING DAM, CAR. CO.

Have been holding special service. I was strengthened somewhat by assistance of Rev. A. H. Hayward. They appreciate Rev. Mr. H. His sermons were helpful and some decided to follow Christ.

H. D. WORDEN.

The work on this field is very encouraging. On Sunday the 23rd we had the joy of baptizing three young converts, Phebe O'Brien, Rachel McMaster and Frank Grearson. A large and orderly multitude witnessed the baptism in the beautiful basin at the foot of St. George Falls. Extensive repairs are being put on the parsonage by Sewing Circle. This noble band of women are untiring in their efforts to make our home comfortable. The church is to be remodelled in the Spring. Subscriptions towards the Second Falls Building Fund are still coming in. The building is going up rapidly, and the prospects for good work in that section are bright.

M. E. FLETCHER.