

etc., were the topics considered and, we are sure, profitable discussion. No doubt the missionaries returned to their solitary work refreshed even if a little envious of those whose privilege it is to live in constant touch with civilization and kindred, yet the day is coming when they who have sacrificed home and friends will receive the reward that is meet. This Conference which was the first of the kind, was a happy thought, and will we hope be repeated in due time.

United States Proclamation.

The reference to the mediatorial office of Christ in President Cleveland's Thanksgiving Proclamation, has evoked a hostile discussion among the Jewish citizens of the United States who regard it as a dangerous departure in a state document. In order that our readers may judge for themselves of the paragraph objected to and because the Proclamation in itself is an interesting document, it is here reproduced.

"By the President of the United States

"The people of the United States should never be unmindful of the gratitude they owe the God of Nations for His watchful care, which has shielded them from dire disaster and pointed out to them the way of peace and happiness. Nor should they ever refuse to acknowledge with contrite hearts their proneness to turn away from God's teachings and to follow with sinful pride after their own devices.

"To the end that these thoughts may be quickened, it is fitting that on a day especially appointed we should join together in approaching the Throne of Grace with praise and supplication.

"Therefore, I, Grover Cleveland, President of the United States, do hereby designate and set apart Thursday, the twenty-sixth day of the present month of November, to be kept and observed as a day of thanksgiving and prayer throughout our land.

"On that day may all our people forego their usual work and occupation, and, assembled in their accustomed places of worship, let them with one accord render thanks to the Ruler of the universe for our preservation as a nation and our deliverance from every threatened danger; for the peace that has dwelt within our boundaries; for our defense against disease and pestilence during the year that has passed; for the plenteous rewards that have followed the labors of our husbandmen, and for all the other blessings that have been vouchsafed to us.

"And let us, through the mediation of Him who has taught us how to pray, implore the forgiveness of our sins and a continuation of heavenly favor.

"Let us not forget, on this day of thanksgiving, the poor and needy, and by deeds of charity let our offerings of praise be made more acceptable in the sight of the Lord.

"Witness my hand and the seal of the United States, which I have caused to be hereunto affixed.

"Done at the city of Washington this fourth day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-six, and of the independence of the United States of America the one hundred and twenty-first.

"GROVER CLEVELAND.

"By the President.

"RICHARD OLNEY, Secretary of State."

Manitoba School Case.

The announcement of a settlement of the much debated Manitoba school question has been received with a sigh of relief by a patient and long suffering country. The value of the settlement will depend upon the manner in which its terms are carried out in detail, for it is one thing to draft a scheme and work it out upon paper; and quite another thing to put the scheme in practice. The provisions of the Act of Settlement, as it will become, may be everything that is desirable, but time will tell. One thing is clear. The settlement is the outcome of a sincere effort to reach a workable plan, and one which, while conceding important points maintains the "National" or public character of the schools as provided for by the Act of 1890.

The bishops are said to be dissatisfied, and partisans have expressed themselves as opposed to the agreement, but the consensus of opinion according to the published interviews supports the agreement as fair, tolerant and sufficient. Therefore it is likely the question will not agitate politics and the country acutely again, and it is well out of the way. The leaders of the Presbyterian Church, if leaders in the ordinary sense there be who have spoken, have spoken approvingly and from all parts of the country, men of eminence, irrespective of political bias, have given the settlement their sanction.

A Notable Jubilee. Dr. R. S. Storrs of the Church of the Pilgrims in Brooklyn, N.Y., has just completed the fiftieth year of his ministerial life. Forty-nine of these have been spent in his present charge. He is still active and stands to-day the foremost figure in American Congregationalism. The jubilee is being very properly observed by the congregation and most appreciative notices by resolution and otherwise are coming from many bodies outside, including the Presbyterian Synod of New York.

Abstract and Appeal. The Booklet containing an abstract of our Foreign Mission work is being distributed free of charge, to all the congregations, in the Church, so as to place a copy in each family. Parcels are addressed to ministers, and they are requested to have them distributed in the pews and attention drawn to them from the pulpit. The Secretary asks us to state that any minister who may have been overlooked will get a supply upon application. If they are not found in the pews it is because of some oversight. Ask your minister about it.

Appeal to Y.P.S. In the closing paragraph of the Booklet entitled "Abstract and Appeal" issued by the Rev. R. P. MacKay, the Secretary of Foreign Missions, it is stated that the Young People's Societies in the Eastern Provinces have agreed to contribute 25 cents per member towards the extinction of the Home Mission debt. Mr. MacKay asks that the Young People of the Western Section do likewise in order to wipe out the Foreign Mission debt. This is both a seasonable and reasonable request. We trust it will be acted upon. The Young People can with no special effort contribute \$10,000 this year to the Foreign Mission Funds, and be blessed in so doing.

Pointe Aux Trembles Mission Schools. The fiftieth anniversary of the opening of this school was made the occasion of the publication of an address by the Principal, J. J. Burgoin, to the friends and supporters of the School. The interesting facts thus made public show the importance of the work so well and successfully carried on by the School during its long history. A paragraph reads thus:—"The history of those fifty years bears the seal of the faithfulness, of the generosity, of the constant solicitude of many a good old friend whose prayers and sympathy have sustained and encouraged us through all our difficulties. Well, we cannot let this day pass without thinking of them, without presenting them with our hearty thanks and without beseeching the Lord to bless and reward them as He alone can do it. The steady progress of the past, the awakening of the Church to the duty of evangelizing our French countrymen, the growing desire for sound education among the latter fill us with confidence for the future and give a new impetus to our zeal. We enter the second half of a century full of confidence that those who shall write the history of our School at its close will do it in presence of most unexpected progress and development. We have re-opened our School for this Session three weeks ago and we have already ninety-two boys and fifty girls and new recruits come in every day.