

A BOY'S OPINION.

Before telling you who the boy was, or what his opinion was, let me ask you a question.

Two families have five boys each. A neighboring farmer gives these boys two pieces of ground, and offers a prize to the band of boys that takes the most and best out of their lot in a season.

One band begins at once digging its plot. A boy digs a while here, then seeing what looks like an easier spot yonder he tries it for a time; and so they work, now here now there, now at this, now at that, all the summer through.

The other band carefully mark out their lot, decide what they will do with different parts of it, set apart a place for each one and then set to work. A boy may think the work place of another a better one, but he sticks to his own, determined to make the best of it, as the farmer wishes the whole field wrought.

Autumn comes. Which of the two plots will yield the most? Which band will get the prize?

I think I know your answer. Now please do not stop here. Read on.

Some good people think they can do their Christian work of giving the Gospel to all, both at Home and abroad, by helping faithfully what their own Church is trying to do. Others do their work now here, now there, wherever, for the time, it seems easiest and most successful.

Which of these two classes of people will, on the whole, do the most good in the world?

I think I know your answer here also.

In The Presbyterian Church in Canada is the place where God has placed us to do our work for Him. Our Church is doing Home Mission Work by sending missionaries to more than a thousand places in Canada, that cannot have a minister of their own. Our Church is also sending missionaries to the South Seas, to Trinidad, and Demarara, to Formosa, to India and China.

Our Church has missionaries in all these places now; and looks to our young people to help by their gifts and prayers.

Be faithful helpers in the work of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, where Providence has placed you.

A GOOD AND GREAT MAN.

When John Geddie, our first Foreign Missionary, was a boy in Pictou, Nova Scotia, one of his most intimate playmates was a lad named Willie Dawson.

Johnny Geddie was fond of building play houses and in them shewed wonderful skill. Willie Dawson loved to spend his leisure in the woods and on the shore hunting rare flowers, rocks, shells, etc.

As they grew to manhood one studied for the ministry, the other took up the study of science, especially that of geology, learning how the rocks had been made, and all about the plants and animals of long ago whose remains are found in these rocks.

When Mr. Geddie offered himself and was appointed to go as a foreign missionary, Mr. Dawson was one of the Foreign Mission Committee that made the appointment and helped to arrange his going.

Then Mr. Geddie spent his life among the South Sea Savages, the most degraded of the human race, while Mr. Dawson went on with his studies until he became principal of McGill University, in Montreal, and spent his life in the midst of the highest learning and culture.

But both spent their lives in the one work of uplifting their fellow men and making the world better, and both did it in the same spirit, as humble followers of Christ.

Dr. Geddie's work on earth is done. Well done.

Sir William Dawson still lives, in a good old age, honored and beloved, and when his work is done will once more join the comrade of his school boy days, to part no more.

Our boy readers may never fill as big a place in the world as these two school boys