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Toronto, January 27, 1895.

Satisfactory Reports.

THE annual meetings have already taken place in a large number of the congregations throughout the length and breadth of the country and it is very satisfactory to learn from the reports submitted that, on the whole, substantial progress has been made all along the line. It would be too much to predict a general increase, from the number of congregations so far heard from, but if those that have reported may be taken as a criterion of the whole, then the membership of the Church has materially increased during the past year, while the funds notwithstanding the hard times which have been exceptionally felt, will make a better showing than had been expected by not a few of the leaders of the Church. It must be gratifying to have to record that the life and work of the Church is, comparatively speaking, in a very satisfactory condition. The records from Sabbath Schools, from Young Peoples' Societies, from Womens' Societies and other active agencies are such as to place beyond doubt, that a great deal of effort has been put forth in the field. In the course of a week or two it will be possible to gauge more accurately the state of the Church in those various branches of work, the number of meetings which by that time will have taken place, providing a fair basis on which to form a general estimate.

A Suggestive Missionary Meeting.

On Tuesday night the 8th inst, there was held in the Central Presbyterian Church Toronto, a missionary meeting, unique even in this age of missionary meetings. The occasion was a farewell to Dr. Glover and his sister who were to start the following day for the Province of Kwang-Si, in Southern China, to labor under the auspices of the International Alliance. Dr. and Miss Glover spoke well, Dr. Simpson who presides over that missionary organization was present and also delivered an address, in which he eloquently set forth impressions of the world's need, received during a trip around the world two years ago. Two or three thoughts are suggested by the meeting that deserve attention.

In the first place the meeting was very large, the church was crowded largely with young people. That was owing to the fact that Dr. Glover and his sister were enthusiastic workers in the Y.P.S.C.E. It illustrated the possibilities of the Y.P.S.C.E., Dr. Simpson asked during his address how many of these young people were prepared to let God have their lives, to be used by Him, and in the foreign field if He so willed. Promptly

a considerable number stood up. Making all allowance for the enthusiasm of the occasion, the response no doubt meant honest purpose of heart to make a complete surrender. Any organization that brings multitudes of young people under such influences deserves a more cordial support than it has in many quarters received. It is capable of infinite usefulness. In the second place it was impossible to refrain from asking the question, Why is Dr. Glover going out under the International Alliance? Here is a young man of exceptional ability—judging by the speech he delivered on that evening—and of intense fervor of spirit, who began his course in the Toronto University, and gave promise of taking the highest place in his class—but health failed and he had to discontinue. What next? His heart is set upon foreign mission work. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and would naturally like to serve the Church of his fathers, but he cannot take the required curriculum. In New York in connection with the Alliance there is a course provided not so extensive but specially adapted to the wants of missionaries. He went there and hence goes forth in that connection. Even after the course in New York was completed he would still have gladly served his own church, but the incomplete curriculum might not be acceptable, and then there was no money to send him. The Alliance does not wait for money. So long as they have money enough to pay the fare they trust God for the rest, when the time comes, and upon that guarantee—the guarantee of God's promise Dr. Glover and his sister are willing to go. So they have gone into the service of the same Master it is true—but into another service, and where is the church that can afford to let go her legitimate claim upon such men? The question of funds also forces itself upon the attention. Why is it that the Alliance is sending out scores of men and it is only a few years old, but of yesterday? Scarcely a ship crosses the Pacific in which there is not a company of missionaries sent forth by the China Inland Mission? They have no wealthy church at their back. It is true they are supported by churches—especially Presbyterian Churches—but why do Presbyterian Churches not support their own cause also? Has not the Secretary of Foreign Missions repeatedly announced that there are at present eight competent young men who have satisfied, or will in the spring have satisfied the College Boards, making application to be sent, and that the present prospect is a deficit—that none of them will be sent. How is this? Is it not time to reconsider any policy that accomplishes such results? Is it that the educational standard required is too high—or is it a want of faith that will not send men who are led by the Spirit of God to offer themselves until funds for their support are guaranteed—or is it lack of loyalty and spirituality in the Presbyterian Church, that will not meet the Lord's direct claims upon them? What is it? It is time for a solemn and prayerful investigation.

Where the Hymnal It may be of service to our readers to May be Purchased. inform them that orders for the Church hymnal may be filled at No. 23 Toronto Chambers, corner of Toronto and King Streets with Mr. George B. Burns, who is acting as manager for the Executive of the General Assembly's Committee on the Hymnal. An announcement was made recently by public advertisement, that as the contract with the publisher of the