

tributed \$400 towards the support of ordained missionaries in mission charges. This is a noble record. But for the liberal assistance given by the ladies, the presbytery would not have ventured to undertake the schemes which have proved so successful. If the churches of St. John will continue to work harmoniously together, and if the coöperation of the ladies in congregations outside of St. John can be more largely secured, this Society will easily supply most of the funds needed for our extensive work.

#### COUNTRY, PEOPLE AND MATERIAL PROSPECTS.

In order to set clearly before my readers the peculiarities and prospects of our work let me add a few general observations regarding the country and community in which we live, so far as it bears upon the future of our Church.

New Brunswick is one of the most romantic portions of the Dominion. Its scenery is charming. No rivers in the world present a lovelier panorama of mountain and valley than the Restigouche, Miramichi and St. John. The latter is, in the opinion of many, a worthy rival of the far-famed Hudson. But fine scenery means laborious pastoral work and scattered settlements. The following statement from the "Atlas of the Presbytery of St. John" is based upon data received at first hand: "Not including city and town charges, and making all due allowance for the cessation of work in the mission fields during winter, the distance travelled weekly by each minister, in fulfilment of preaching appointments, is 23.5 miles, making a total each week of 638 miles and a grand annual aggregate of 33,176 miles, or equal to one and a third times around the globe! Some travel thirty-eight, forty-three and even over fifty miles weekly. In these figures no account is taken of pastoral work."

The people are, as a rule, intelligent and thoughtful. A stranger remarks this in preaching for the first time to a St. John audience. He feels that he will be honestly estimated and that mere froth and flowers will deceive very few. He will find the same attentive and reverent listening to the Word wherever he goes. The Salvation Army is, comparatively speaking, a failure in St. John. It is voted an unmitigated nuisance so far as its street parades and brass band are concerned. Old time revivals are now seldom heard of. The sober sense of the