

directly, the influence thereof will be to bring us nearer to the mind of the Spirit in our popular theologies than for the past few years, at least, we have been.

WE clip the following from a contemporary (*Presbyterian Review*), and as it accords with our sentiments we accord it a place in our Jottings, premising that as *socials*, we commend social gatherings; and on that ground urge them; as round-about ways of raising the wind they are—well—abominations: The *Christian at Work* gives an account of a festival, as furnished by the pastor. The net gain of the affair in cash was about \$25, which was handed over to the pastor to apply on his salary. But he kept a little private account which fully convinced him that the whole festival business is vanity—even worse than vanity and vexation of spirit. No doubt more than three-fourths of the receipts of the festival came out of the pockets of the church members; and other items not usually taken into account are the following:

CASH ACCOUNT NOT REPORTED BY THE "FINANCE COMMITTEE."

20 cakes (donated) at 75c.....	\$15.00
30 quarts of strawberries (donated) at 15c....	4.50
Sugar (beggd).....	1.50
Labour of fifteen women two days.....	22.50
Other labour (donated).....	5.00
Total.....	\$48.50

MORAL ACCOUNT.

- Two ladies' prayer-meetings lost.
- Two church prayer-meetings greatly disturbed.
- One teachers' meeting lost.
- One Sabbath service injured.
- Every merchant in town bored by "church beggars."
- Nearly all the members of the church and congregation more or less excited and angered by a useless discussion.
- Eight women so excited and angered as to make them unhappy for a long time.
- Two women, "sisters" in the church, so "put out" with each other that they were not on speaking terms for several weeks.
- The pastor greatly grieved and mortified by various occurrences in connection with the festival.

HEALTH ACCOUNT.

- Twenty women and girls more wearied by the festival work than by a whole week of ordinary duty at home.
- Five women take severe colds.
- Two children made very sick by over-eating and late hours.
- One infant takes a severe cold, and nearly dies with

the croup, making much trouble and expense to the parents.

It is perhaps unnecessary to add that this pastor's church has gone out of the festival business.

THE REBELS.

The Indian and Half-breed are now prominently before us, both as rebels; the former also prospectively our fellow-citizen. The statement of a few facts may guide us into ways of thought and feeling much needed in present circumstances. The origin of our American Indians is wrapt in complete obscurity. All attempts to connect them by language, form, habits, tradition, with old world inhabitants have completely failed; learned nonsense to the contrary notwithstanding. There is no time to which either our knowledge or legitimate inference extends when they were not in possession of these lands, chasing the buffalo and deer, and at war among themselves. The earliest European discoveries and settlements in what is now the Dominion of Canada were made by the British and the French with doubtful priority. I suspect, however, French claims are somewhat the stronger. There was a French fort at the mouth of the Nelson river in 1676, the Hudson's Bay Company's Charter dates 1670. At any rate the claims of Britain to these lands rest on doubtful discovery, positive conquest, and rapidly extending occupation. The pressure of population in the old lands brought about the state of things long ago recorded in the history of Abram and Lot, "the land was not able to bear them." Adventurous spirits opened up this vast continent and brought the European into immediate contact with the Indian. The justification is to be found in inevitability.

The Half-breed population is the outcome of the earlier contact of the French and British with the Indian aborigines. The British Half-breed (chiefly Orkney) has readily settled down to British rule; his fathers were British subjects, and all his traditions are connected with the now dominant flag. The French, or Metis, carry still the tradition of the early hostility when English and French struggled for supremacy, and which was continued in the unhappy contentions, even wars, between the representatives of the "Company of Adventurers" ultimately known as the Hudson's