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The Dominion Presbyterian is seeking a reliable agent in every town and township in Canada. Persons having a little leisure will find it worth while to communicate with the Manager of The Dominion Presbyterian Subscription Department. Address: 232 St. James St., Montreal.

According to list published in to-day's Dominion Presbyterian, 537 ministers have contributed \$56,400 to the Century Fund. Very good, indeed! This leaves the smaller half of the \$100,000 to be subscribed by the larger half of the ministers of our Church. The present list of names is largely from the Maritime Provinces, whose ministers and people, like their brethren in the West, are ever devising "liberal plans."

The fact that one thousand of our own Canadian men are on their way to South Africa will lead us to scan the war bulletins eagerly. Some will glance first at the headlines to see who has won; some will turn first to the list of the wounded and dead. May God watch over our brave men who represent us in this war, and may He care tenderly for those whose interest in the struggle centres in one person—husband, father, or brother.

Thanksgiving Day has come and gone. It is little more than a name for an autumn holiday. It is annually set apart, with high-sounding words, as a day for public thanksgiving to God; but it is really a day in which to make merry with our friends, a day of feasting and pleasure. About one-tenth of the members of our congregations meet in the House of God to render thanks, and, perhaps, nine-tenths of these give thanks by proxy. The Feast of Tabernacles in the old economy was a joyous time, but it was a holy joy, and not junketing.

With all our hurry, we do not accomplish as much, proportionately, as our fathers did. Modern appliances give us a great advantage, but we throw this away by our want of thought. We have been watching a workman for the last five minutes. In that time he selected three bricks and placed them where he could reach them in further operations. Yet he was busy all the time, but accomplished about half a minute's work. In the other four and a half minutes he was wasting energy. And this workman was not singular. He is the product of an age that will not take time to think. It would pay to be singular in this respect.

British and Boer met at Glencoe recently. Both were brave; both fought well, but one was disciplined, and discipline told. Even against odds, both of numbers and position, the trained soldiers won. So it is when the field of battle is spiritual. Discipline tells there also.

The editorial sanctum was cold and we went over to the window and stood in the warm sunlight that streamed in there. But the glass through which the heat rays passed to warm us on the other side were cold as the air outside. That is just like some Christians we meet. They are right in the line of God's warm love; it pours upon them, and through them, lights upon and warms the heart of others standing beside them, but they themselves are not one whit warmed by it. They are transmitters, nothing more. That is not God's plan. In receiving and transmitting, He plans that we shall ourselves be made to glow with love, giving back as well as giving out. Would it embarrass you if the suffering one to whom you spoke God's word of comfort should ask you: How do you know this is true? It should be possible for us to give a practical and convincing answer for the hope that is in us.

Missionaries Needed.

The Rev. Dr. Warden, Convener of the Home Mission Committee, desires us to state that there is an urgent need for about forty additional missionaries in the home mission field during the present winter. In addition to those required for the North-west, about twenty are needed in Ontario and Quebec. In the Muskoka and Parry Sound district there will be ten fields without service this winter unless men are got to occupy these. It has been necessary to send in ordained missionaries to many places heretofore supplied by student missionaries, notwithstanding the largely increased expenditure of Home Mission money in providing such supply. For the fields now vacant the supply desired is that of students who, from any cause, may be unable to attend college this winter, and other young men who have been approved by Presbyteries as catechists.

It is hoped that the Home Mission Committee may be in a position to occupy within the next week or two, many of the fields now vacant.

Concerning Tares.

Dr. Wilbur F. Crafts thinks we do not give sufficient thought to the forces that are working against us while we endeavor to teach the truths of the Christian religion. He considers this to be especially true in regard to the training of the young. In the course of a vigorous article on the necessity for protective measures, he says: "We shall get a larger and better harvest if, instead of giving all our attention to sowing, due attention is given to fencing. The churches have underestimated environment as much as science has overestimated it." The man who will give five minutes to an honest consideration of that sentence will see the force of it. We are actively propagating the Gospel, casting in the seed with lavish hand. Little of it comes to fruition. One cause may be unskilful sowing. There certainly is not anything wrong with the seed. It is all good. Why, then, does it not yield results?

We think Dr. Crafts has hit upon one reason—the seed is choked as soon as it comes up, or in the course of its growth. Tares are thickly sown, side by side with the seed, and the growth of these former is ranker and more rapid, and nothing comes of the work in the Sabbath school and Bible class, of home training and church care. It used to be that

the enemy came by night; but he does his sowing now in broad day, keeping step with the sower of the good seed.

The pressure of business or the call of work makes family worship impracticable, it is said, and religious training of the family is out of the question. The Sabbath school attempts to supply the need. The teacher has nothing to build upon, and often finds it next to impossible to hold the attention of the children over whom no parental control is exercised. The parent can find no time to direct the reading of his children, and often even neglects to provide food for the restless eager minds in the home. Again, the Sabbath school attempts to supply the need. But in the Sabbath school library, under a thin veneer of religious diction, one often finds the most unwholesome teachings concerning life. Christian truth is perverted, and the seed of a nerveless life is sown. We do not say that men seek to introduce such books into a Sabbath school library that the youth may be enervated. The truth is that the matter is wholly commercial. Those who introduce them want to sell their books, that is all. They are entirely careless about the effect produced upon the readers. But they sow ares, all the same, and with liberal hand.

In the cities other influences are at work. We have known children spend the money given for collection in the Sabbath school for the hire of a bicycle, and the class hour was spent in skimming through the streets and parks. It is common to see children, on their way home from school, stand before shop windows in which are displayed illustrations that certainly are not calculated to promote virtue. Stand where you can hear the comments of a group of boys on these pictures and your eyes will be opened with respect to their influence for evil.

Against these pernicious influences there are practically no preventive measures being taken. There was an effort made recently to regulate bicycle liverymen on the Sabbath, but the officer who initiated these preventive measures was allowed to stand alone. Parents not only did not support him, but actually branded him as officious. The effort to preserve the Sabbath Day that has been made throughout Ontario has received no support, and the Christian men and women who have interested themselves in this matter have been dubbed "fanatics" and "narrow gots."

Is it any wonder that the tares flourish? Need we be astonished that so little result is found for the abundant sowing of good seed. We meet and pass resolutions, we urge the cultivation of a deeper spiritual life, we organize so as to bring every class and age into the ranks of the workers, so that the seed may be sown more lavishly. Would it not be wiser to do something to check the other sowers? After the seed is sown the Master has told us to let both grow together, but he has nowhere told us to stand idly by while the enemy sows tares. Is it not time that those most closely interested—the parents—aroused themselves, and made some effort to surround the home life of their children with safeguards against the host of evil influences that are daily invading the homes of our Christian people. The future of your son depends much more upon his moral culture than it does upon the good start you are able to give him financially. It will pay to sacrifice the one, if need be, for the sake of the other.

A large number of Sabbath schools have not thus far forwarded the contributions got in connection with Children's Day for the Century Fund. It is hoped that these will be forwarded without delay to the Rev. Dr. Warden, who is the treasurer of the Sabbath School Committee. It is confidently expected that from every Sabbath school connected with the Church contributions will be obtained.