

Mr. Robinson has declined the call to Middle Musquodoboit. The congregation however are not at all discouraged. They are now extending a call to Mr. Gibson and have added to the stipend promised \$50. Mr. Gibson is from Ontario a student of Knox College Toronto.

Since the above was in type we learn that Mr. Gibson on hearing that they were about to call him has given notice to the congregation that he does not intend accepting any call in the meantime.

An agent has lately canvassed the County of Hants and secured not less than 300 subscribers for a large illustrated family bible. Is this a wise expenditure of money. Through the Board or Tract Society or McGregor & Knight, Halifax, bibles could be obtained at a cheaper rate or perhaps more cheaply besides aiding religious societies. How often these pretty copies of the Word of God lie on parlor tables unused. The money thus spent would be more wisely expended if given to Foreign Missions.

Mr. Carruthers gave notice to the Stellarton congregation as soon as he had opportunity that he could not see his way clear to leave his present field of labor. They did not go on with the call they were preparing for him, and have taken no further steps towards calling one to be their pastor.

The congregation of Sheet Harbor is moving in a call to Mr. Samuel Rosborough. They have made an advance in the amount of stipend offered. Heretofore \$600 with a Manse was the pastor's salary. Now it will be \$700. The call is exceedingly hearty and unanimous.

A WORD FOR PARENTS.

The hurry of the day, the shortening of the morning hours for the lengthening of the evening, both for legitimate and illegitimate pursuits, the morning paper, and hurry for school; the evening concert lecture, or worse, and the hurry to dress and be off; even the Sundays crowded with many meetings or much sleep, leave the children fortunate if they get their daily quota of tender affection. In many

homes it is to be feared that even the good night kiss is sacrificed for the club or something better. Now this is ruinous; worse than the loss of new carpets, curtains, furniture, books, presents, and the things that are not neglected. Robust piety in the home helps solid integrity on the play-ground, at school and in the shop. The Sunday school is good, but the home teaching is better. The prayer of the visiting pastor is precious, but the pleading of the father in the midst of his household is more acceptable still.

GENTLE MOTHERS.

"My mother dear, my mother dear,
My gentle, gentle mother."

I thought I was singing my boy to sleep with the little ballad of which the above is the chorus; but the blue eyes opened, and a quiet voice said:

"Mamma, you ain't always gentle."

In self-justification I replied:

"But, you know, darling, mamma has to scold you when you're naughty."

"Yes'm."

The argument dropped; so did the little head upon my bosom; I did not finish the song, nor have I sung it since. Tenderly tucking in the little truth-teller I reproached myself for deserving his remark, and greatly questioned the truth of my answer. Do mothers ever have to scold? Has scolding any legitimate place in the family government? How is the word defined?—"Railing with clamor; uttering in rude and boisterous language." Is this a helpful adjunct to parental authority? Who do Christian parents sometimes scold? For two reasons, as it seems to us. First, from lack of self-control; secondly, from habit. Children are often terribly trying, and loud and angry tones seem a safety-valve for our stirred tempers. Besides, we feel that gentleness alone can never safely steer the family bark over life's troublous sea. Force, firmness, decision, sternness, even severity, are often necessary. A suitable degree of these is not incompatible with gentleness. It is not a synonym for weakness. The gentleness that makes one great comes from subdued strength. This lovely fruit of the Spirit proves an element of power. The "soft answer" often costs the answerer dearly. Sweetness of spirit is the outgrowth of self-control. Serenity of soul, whatever be the constitutional characteristics, come most frequently from long self-discipline and prayerful struggle.—*Good Words.*