

philosopher and soon dries himself, making no fuss about it nor coming to any harm. Number four feels the force of the flood as much as the other three, but he is so encased in rubber that the stream only tosses him forward on his way and he exults at the strange means God has taken to promote his progress. Defeat, devastation, peace, triumph—which will we have? The Almighty is able to make His children victorious over all their trials, turning them into means of grace for which hearty thanks can most fitly be given. It is possible not merely to bear them with patience and resignation, but to exult at the glorious results therein wrought."

Home Mission Report. Rev. Dr. Cochrane requests us to say, that ministers desiring extra copies of the Assembly Home Mission Report, for circulation in their congregations, also Young Peoples Missionary Societies, Christian Endeavor Societies, and Womens Home Missionary Societies, should make *immediate* application to Rev. Dr. Reid, Presbyterian office, Toronto, stating the number wanted and they will be sent.

Mission Work in China. The report of the Board of Foreign Missions (Western) is of special interest in respect of the portions touching work in China, *i.e.* Formosa and Japan. It is not a bare record of statistics, but a narrative of the daily activities in the field with such details as set forth much of the peculiar characteristics of the inhabitants and the actual difficulties with which the missionaries have to contend. We commend this report to the special attention of all who are interested in the cause of Foreign Missions.

Talking of Jesus. Says the *United Presbyterian*: The wonder is that believers in the Lord Jesus Christ can meet each other in a social or business way, and talk about almost every other subject, while that of greatest importance to them all remains unmentioned. Imagine the apostles coming together in an informal way to talk about the weather, the scenery through which they had traveled, the comparative merits of the cities and places of residence, and the habits and peculiarities of the people, with absolutely no mention of the name of Jesus. Such a thing ought to be as impossible to us as it was to them.

The "Dayspring" Controversy. As we were going to press last week a letter reached us from Rev. Mr. Mitchell in reply to Rev. Mr. Scott's letter of last week in the "Dayspring" controversy. We believe the broad facts have been placed with clearness and emphasis before the Christian public and that now we must as a matter of duty step in between the combatants. We do so not from a desire to suppress Mr. Mitchell's argument for we believe he has proved his case over and over again and we do not hesitate to express the opinion that three-fourths of our readers have been convinced to his side; but unless material facts hitherto unused are forthcoming it is surely well that both writers lay down the pen, each as having discharged his duty according to his convictions.

Union of the North and South. The late pastor of the church in which Southern Assembly met left a dying request that no exciting discussion should arise over the union between their denomination and ours. So they adopted the following resolution to keep the

peace: "This Assembly does not deem it wise, under existing conditions, to agitate the questions submitted in these overtures. It avails itself of this occasion, however, to place again on record its sentiments of sincere regard and Christian affection for that honored branch of the great Presbyterian family, between whom and ourselves close fraternal relations already exist. And we now renew the expression of our desire that plan of co-operation in Christian work both at home and abroad, which has been agreed to by our respective assemblies, may be always faithfully and cordially observed by both these churches."

The Restriction Upon Union Seminary. There is some difference of opinion as to what is involved in the Assembly injunction against Union Seminary. A well-known professor of theology, who is in close touch with recent administrations has declared that the injunction does not forbid New York Presbytery from licensing students who may have studied at Union. It simply forbids them from receiving candidates under their care, and aiding them with money, or encouraging them to go on with their studies at Union. He holds that the action is no more stringent than that of the previous year. An exchange interprets it more sharply. If the Presbytery is permitted to examine any applicant for licensure, no matter from what school he comes, but is charged to be sure the man is sound, that would not be an infringement on presbyterial prerogatives.—*North and West.*

Cars for Evangelistic Work. Special cars for Evangelistic work, is rapidly increasing. The American Sunday-school Union has one fitted up for its work in the North-West. We read: It was built at a cost of \$5,000, by an individual who gives its use free, though with the expectation that it will be purchased at cost price. It has a kitchen and pantry at one end; a sleeping compartment with berths for twenty persons, and the other end is given up to an audience room. It is arranged, also, for a temporary platform, so that outdoor audiences can be addressed. Through the month of August the staff of the E. T. Goff Evangelistic Car were invited by the Union for a campaign of Sunday-school Conventions. About one hundred meetings were held and about 100,000 people reached. Everywhere the workers were greeted with great enthusiasm. The railroads, in many instances if not all, charge nothing for hauling the car about, and give free track room while it is stationary.

Subjects for the Prayer Meeting. The reports submitted to the General Assembly by the standing committees are usually of such length that only a brief synopsis can be given by the press, yet the contents are often of such great interest and value that the people ought to know them well. If these reports were taken up by the pastor and prepared as subjects for a course of lectures for the September prayer-meetings they would prove much more profitable than they do now. Take such reports as those on Home and Foreign Missions, Sabbath Observance, French Evangelization, Systematic Benevolence, the Hymnal, Sabbath Schools, State of Religion, Statistics, the Colleges, etc. They are brimful of information which ought to be available to each member of the Church. Such a course would bring the work of the Church before the people in an interesting and useful form and would familiarize the office bearers and workers, with facts which would guide them in their own plans and encourage them in their work.