

but it ought to be neat and tasteful. It will be wise policy to make it so, for it will represent one Body in that part of the country. The people of Grand Falls, especially those of them who belong to other denominations, are entitled to our gratitude for their sympathy and co-operation, and I beg leave, publicly, to thank them for their kindness to me personally on the occasion of my recent visit.

Such is the state of our Mission and Mission field, and such the steps taken towards the farther prosecution of this good work. It is to be regretted that the response of our own people in support of the Mission has been so tardy. Let us hope that when fuller information is laid before them they will manifest a deeper interest. Perhaps I am to blame in not placing the claims of the Mission more fully before the Church.

The Committee and the Presbytery of St. John are both interested in the proposed building, for which a site is already secured. Steps will be taken at an early day to solicit help towards this project.

### SABBATH SCHOOL LESSONS FOR 1873.

The Sabbath School Committees of the two Presbyterian Synods held a series of united meetings in this city in the months of October and November. They unanimously agreed to adopt the "International Series," prepared by a Committee of eminent Sabbath School men belonging to the Evangelical Churches in the United States and the Dominion. They have adapted the scheme by adding to it the Shorter Catechism and a series of "golden texts," selected by a British Committee, and also naming a doctrine or fact to be "proved." The Joint-Committee hope and believe that the scheme thus filled out will give universal satisfaction among our schools.

In the Upper Provinces, and in the United States, Episcopalians, Methodists, Baptists, Congregationalists and Presbyterians have adopted this series of lessons. Thus millions of children all over this Continent will be studying the same Bible

lesson every Lord's Day throughout the coming year.

It is satisfactory to see that our Presbyterian Sabbath Schools throughout the Maritime Provinces—and throughout the Upper Provinces too—will be engaged in studying and learning the same lessons. This will be a new illustration of our real, though not formal union. A practical benefit from the uniformity of lessons will be this: The teachers of our Schools in the same towns and villages may hold united Teachers' Meetings for studying the lessons. Larger numbers and a greater variety of talent and experience will thus become available at these meetings.

The series of which this year's scheme is the commencement is intended to be completed in seven years. Lessons from the Old and New Testaments are to alternate. This year we begin with Genesis and with Matthew. The Life of our Lord will be a part of the course every year. For the first two years the general plan proposed will be as follows, namely:

#### FIRST YEAR.

Six months—Genesis.  
Six months—Matthew.

#### SECOND YEAR.

Three months—Mark.  
Three months—Acts.  
Six months—Moses and Israel.

It is decided to present twelve lessons for each quarter, leaving the last Sunday of the quarter for a Review, a Selected Lesson, or the Missionary Concert.

With this general outline of what has been accomplished and what is proposed, we submit the Bible Lesson for the year 1873:

#### FIRST QUARTER OF 1873.

1. The Creation—Gen. i, 1, 26-31.
2. In Eden—Gen. ii, 15-25.
3. The Fall and the Promise—Gen. iii, 1-8, 15.
4. Cain and Abel—Gen. iv, 3-10.
5. Noah and the Ark—Gen. vi, 13-18.
6. The Bow in the Cloud—Gen. ix, 8-17.
7. Confusion of Tongues—Gen. xi, 1-9.
8. The Covenant with Abram—Gen. xv, 1-7.
9. Escape from Sodom—Gen. xix, 15-26.
10. Trial of Abraham's Faith—Gen. xxii, 7-14.
11. Jacob and Esau—Gen. xxvii, 30-40.
12. Jacob at Bethel—Gen. xxviii, 10-22.