

That box, I know, will, in due time, furnish its full share of the support of the *Day-spring*, and there are others of like standing that I could mention that will not be behind.

Where no boxes have been provided, and they cannot be got from the agents, let a substitute be immediately procured. Where gatherings have not been commenced, let them speedily be begun. Time hastens. The money will soon be called for, and it will be sad if any are found unprepared. Some of you I know have already sent in your first year's contributions. Favored with generous parents, devoted Sabbath teachers, and sympathizing friends, some have done nobly in getting and giving of their abundance. Many are less favored in worldly circumstances, whom yet the Lord needs. Not only can the small contributions not be spared, but they have done, and now do, more for the Saviour, than the rich gifts of those who, of their abundance, cast in much. If there be first a willing mind, it is accepted according to that a man hath, and not according to that he hath not.

Let every youth in the church aim at obtaining the Saviour's encomium pronounced upon her who brought to him her alabaster box, and the treasury will be amply supplied. I know of one boy of seven years, who proposes to plant an extra ridge of potatoes in the spring for this service: and what hinders others to do likewise. May not some have a mission garden-bed, and others gather wild fruits in their season. Let the liberal devise liberal things. Where there is a will there is a way. Your gifts will be all the more interesting to yourselves, and all the more acceptable to the Saviour, if they are the products of your own industry.

The Lord loveth a cheerful giver. He would have you remember—and while you remember realise the truth of—the words of the Lord Jesus how he said, "It is more blessed to give than it is to receive. Honor the Lord with thy substance. "Cast thy bread upon the waters, and thou shalt find it after many days,"

Missionary Meetings.

We are glad to hear from correspondents of annual missionary meetings being held in many of our congregations. At some of these eloquent addresses are delivered, and then subscriptions are asked for. In other cases the meeting is asked for a collection which may amount to a few pounds—three or four perhaps—and then all is forgotten. The truth is that the enthusiasm caused by eloquent and earnest speaking, by a fair exhibition of the wants of the church, should never be allowed to pass off uselessly. It should be economized. Collectors should go round next day; or a special collection should be made on the next Lord's Day. Missionary meetings might be held with much profit oftener than once a year. The services of speakers should be secured who are thoroughly familiar with the work and the necessities of the church. In Canada we observe that the Missionary Meetings take place under the auspices of a delegation of Presbytery. Two members are sent off in this direction and two in that, till all the congregations are visited. This plan has many advantages, and it might be introduced with advantage in our own church. But the all important object is to bring matters clearly before the people so that all may understand why the church wants our help, and what she is doing with the money we place in her hands.

THE "JOHN WILLIAMS."

To carry on the work of Missions in the numerous islands of the Pacific, and to maintain an efficient superintendence of the native agents and Churches, a missionary ship has been long found indispensable. The "Duff," the "Camden," and the first "John Williams" have done excellent service in past years; and now that a second ship bearing that honored name has to set forth on her benevolent enterprize, we trust that through the divine blessing, her course may prove yet more eminently prosperous than that of her predecessors.

When the directors of the London Missionary Society resolved to build a new ship in the place of the "John Williams," wrecked last year on Danger Island, in the South Pacific, tenders were received from a select number of shipbuilders in different