

Alex. Rannie then reported concerning his summer's work at Wellwyn, N.W.T. Eleven fellow-students enlivened the journey as far as Winnipeg, but there they parted and affairs assumed a less lively aspect. Mr. Rannie was pleased to find that he would be under the supervision of Rev. John Reddon, B.A., but the reports received in this vicinity regarding Wellwyn were not the most encouraging. The Wellwynites were said to have dismissed a previous student after hearing him but once, while the best had failed to satisfy them. With such bright prospects our missionary purchased a buggy, harness and horse, and leaving his trunk at the station ready for rapid flight, he drove off to present himself at Wellwyn. Having reached the field, a boarding house was the first necessity. This was soon secured with a comfortable room whose dimensions were six feet by seven. At first sight it looked as if reports had not been exaggerated. Everyone had some tale of woe to pour forth concerning previous missionaries. One old Scotchman thought that if half of the students who go West would drown themselves it would be a good thing for the country. Thus the stories came "line upon line," until Mr. Rannie began to think that his predecessors must have been a bad lot, and the only consolation was that no Queen's man had tried the field previous to him. However, things soon assumed a brighter aspect. The people were not unkind and, notwithstanding their faults, formed attentive audiences. At one of the stations there was a church, at two others schoolhouses, and at a fourth service was held in a private house. At the latter place two kindly dogs notified the preacher of all late-comers, frequently extending their noisy welcome into the "secondly," "thirdly," or "lastly" of the sermon.

The greatest difficulty here as elsewhere was to get the people to realize their responsibility in the work. They seemed to think that the student should be preacher, manager, secretary and sexton, and if he failed to come up to their ideal they had nothing more to do with him or his work. Their religion depended largely upon their estimate of the missionary. On the whole the work was encouraging, and Mr. Rannie hoped the Association would take up this field another year.

J. S. Watson was then called upon to give a report of work at Clandeboye. This field is about 30 miles north-west of Winnipeg. Two-thirds of the people are Indians and natives. They are not the most thrifty class, and while they practically "live to eat," their ideal, even in the line of food, is not excessively high. When making pastoral visits, Mr. Watson generally found that black tea and bannocks formed the complete bill of fare. There were three stations on the field, one of which was

supplied weekly and the other two fortnightly. At the former place the average attendance was about seventy, and the congregation consisted of all denominations. The most encouraging feature in the work was a weekly bible-class, which began with twelve members but reached an average of over twenty. Some of the young people walked four and five miles every week to attend this class. Progress in this field will of necessity be slow, but there are encouraging signs and a few are beginning to take a genuine interest in the work.

THE LEVANA "AT HOME."

The formal opening of the Levana Society took place on Friday, the 18th inst. Seldom has the announcement of an "At Home" received more attention, or been met with more diverse opinions with regard to its practicability. And yet, thanks to the good-will of the society, and general sociable feeling manifested by the guests, the "At Home" was an unqualified success. No working committee was necessary. The society worked as a body with the utmost good-nature. Here is an excellent illustration of one case where a number of cooks did not spoil the broth. By 4 o'clock everything in the rooms was excellently arranged. This was partly due to the help kindly given by some gentlemen, stout of arm though few in number, and the society takes this opportunity of thanking them heartily for their co-operation. The guests began to arrive at half-past four, and the rooms were soon filled with that delicious hum and soft laughter which brings a glow to a tired hostess' heart; and the tinkling of cups and saucers would have filled up any awkward pauses if there were any. But there were none. By twos, by threes, by companies, the guests mounted the long stairs, fired with a noble determination to reach the top, or die in the attempt. We would not blame them if curiosity was, in some instances, the motive power. One lady was heard to ask as she plodded painfully up the shady degrees leading to the alluring light and laughter above, "What sort of an affair is it anyway?" To which the descending lady promptly replied, "First class!" If so, and we have every reason to expect the same answer from the majority, the "At Home" will become an annual affair for our society.

THE CONFERENCE.

The annual conference of the Theological Alumni of Queen's will begin on Tuesday, Feb. 12, 1895, at 8 P.M., and continue for ten days. The programme for the course of study is as follows:

1. The influence of Babylon upon the thought, form and development of the Jewish religion.—Rev. G. M. Milligan, Toronto.