

long pull and a strong pull and a pull altogether, a grand work will be done.

Both Sunday Schools did well in the quarterly review. The plan for review was a little different from the usual routine of review. I wrote out, on slips, 53 questions all bearing on the quarter's lessons. We then had all the classes sit together in the pews. On the questions being asked all those who knew held up their hands, and different ones were requested to answer; all answering correctly received a ticket at the conclusion; the one answering the most questions—having the most tickets—received a prize. In Lord's Cove two answered 46 out of 53, while a great many had over 25 tickets. In Leonardville 40 out of 53 was the highest, but the competition was close. Old and young enjoyed the review, and quite a stimulus was given to the study of the lesson for the next quarter.

The churches will take up a regular monthly collection for our Home Mission Work. Would not this be a good plan for all our churches to adopt? If twenty-five churches in N. B. and N. S. would do this, and raise on an average four dollars at a collection, this would make \$100.00 a month or \$1,200.00 a year. Just think how easily this could be done.

A number of the people from the island are talking of going to the Annual if we can get a vessel to carry us across the bay.

I had a very pleasant visit to Mascarene and preached one evening for the noble little band of brethren there. I also saw some of the good people of Le Tete. How I do wish that these churches could have a preacher all the time. Next month I shall hope to have more good news for you.

As most of you know, the greatest industry or occupation employing most labor and capital here is the sardine business. For several years it has been dull, but this year, until the present, has been good, with prospects of being still better. When times are good and people are doing well, they feel better and I think it is better all round; don't you?

Our church work is also in an encouraging condition. The churches will meet their apportionment for the Home Mission Board, and have also done well for Foreign work. The meetings are all well attended, and there seems to be a permanent growth in Sunday School and prayer meeting.

On the 27th we are to have our picnic. Three Sunday Schools will combine, Lambert's Cove, Lord's Cove, and Leonardville. We will also attend to the ordinance of baptism next Lord's day (24th) at Leonardville.

One of our young men, Bro. Foster Calder, who has been teaching on Grand Manan for several years, has decided to enter the ministry; and with this end in view will go to Lexington, Kentucky. He will do some preaching on the island and vicinity during his vacation.

I am in hopes to see a number of you at the Annual at Tiverton, and hope the meeting there may do much good. Everything should be subordinate to the one great theme; How can we win men to the Lord Jesus Christ?

W. H. HARDING.

Lord's Cove, Deer Island, N. B.

FLORIDA LETTER.

Last night (July 8th) I think I witnessed, in many respects, one of the most impressive scenes I ever beheld. I was invited to preach to the soldiers encamped here at camp "Cuba Libre." The more than twelve thousand men in camp here are from the best families of the United States, all being volunteers. They came from Wyoming to Texas. I spoke last night to between one and two thousand. It was night, and thousands of white tents, with blazing camp fires, stretched away in all directions, while sentries and guards paced to and fro on guard lines and regimental divisions. It has never been my pleasure to address a more orderly and attentive assembly. A large concourse of men, dressed in uniform, intently listening with upturned faces, is an imposing and inspiring sight. Dumb is the tongue indeed that cannot find words on such an occasion, and cold indeed must be the heart that could not be touched with some feeling of inspiration. The mammoth Y. M. C. A. tent was packed; the sides were folded, and hundreds stood, sat, and reclined around on the outside. At the close of the address hundreds came to the front and gave me cordial grasps of the hand while they earnestly thanked me for the words spoken. Scores asked me to pray for them. Thousands of these boys came from Christian homes scattered throughout this broad land, and are being followed by the prayers of devoted mothers and fathers. A large number came forward last night and introduced themselves as members of the Christian Church from Virginia, Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, Wisconsin, Wyoming, and other states. Chaplain Stringfellow, of the 4th Virginia, was present, and offered prayer at the close of the services. Mrs. Edna Morrison, one of Florida's most beautiful and accomplished singers, kindly accompanied the writer, and drew forth most tumultuous applause by her magnificent singing. Chaplain Stringfellow is an Episcopalian, but I found him a true Christian gentleman, most liberal in his views of evangelistic methods, and a broad-minded and sympathetic Christian worker. There are seven chaplains now here with the different regiments in camp, and I have had the pleasure of visiting them in their tents on the field, and forming very pleasant acquaintances.

Our work here moves along slowly, but most surely. THE CHRISTIAN came to us yesterday, and everything on its pages was read. We have by no manner of means lost our interest in the home people or the home work, but our eyes open and our hearts and minds broaden when we look out upon the broad fields of our possibilities in this mighty country, the United States, to day the cynosure of all eyes. The prospects now are that ere long Cuba, the "pearl of the Antilles," will not only be free from the yoke of cruel Spanish bondage, but, with its fertile soil and splendid possibilities, will open up to our brethren still another opportunity for

presenting a pure and simple faith in the Son of God. Priest-ridden, despot-ruled Cuba will soon doubtless hail with glad joy the higher civilization and the benign influences of Christian teaching.

I notice in THE CHRISTIAN our worthy Bro. Flaglor calls for a small amount to square the financial matters of the N. S. and N. B. Board before the Annual. Bro. Flaglor's request is a very small one, surely. Brethren, allow me to write, from this angle of vision, and tell you that one detriment to our advance in the Maritime Provinces is our lack of pocket-book consecration. I notice in Bro. Flaglor's apportionment list as many as ten churches asked for sums, none of them exceeding \$15 a year, for Home Mission work, and not one of the ten responding for 1898. This must be an "off year." I do not suppose he would like for me to tell it, but as he does not take THE CHRISTIAN he will not know what I write; but we have one man in the church here for which the writer preaches who alone gives eighteen hundred dollars for this year, and he is not looked upon in Jacksonville as a rich man. He is like Bro. Timothy Coop, who, when asked how he came to give so much to the Lord, responded, "Well, the Lord shovels in and I shovel out, and, so far, the Lord has had the biggest shovel." There is no harder worked man in this city than our brother who gives so liberally, and I have never seen so cheerful a giver. He firmly believes—and who dare deny it?—that his consecration to the Lord's service has brought him greater blessings and increased opportunities and means. One of the most pleasant things in the work of a pastor is to have an earnest and faithful follower of Christ at his elbow ever ready and ever willing to second any and every move that may tend to the advancement of the church. Brethren, it is of great importance that we have the truth; but if we keep that truth, or rather that which should be the means of disseminating the truth, tied up in our pocket-books, or locked up in the business concerns of the world, and simply give to the Lord what accidentally comes to hand, then let us be sensible and reasonable, and know that we have no right to expect anything but meagre results from meagre attempts. The man or the church attempting great things for the Lord has the right to expect great things from the Lord, and is never disappointed. "Whatever a man soweth, that shall he also reap," is not only true of quality or kind, but is as true of quantity. Paul has written—II. Cor., ix. 6—"But thus I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully." Refusal to act upon the great principles of truth here enumerated will account for much of the slowness of our growth in many localities.

T. H. BLENNIS.

Jacksonville, July 9th.

F. D. Power says that when he graduated from Bethany in 1871, he was offered \$1200 to take charge of a city church, but though poor, much in debt and without books, he refused the tempting offer and accepted \$500 to preach for three churches in the country. He has never regretted this choice. The experience gained there was worth more than money. He would say to every young preacher "Go and do thou likewise."