

our Church Sabbath schools. It is not desirable that there should be attendance on the Lord's day by our Sabbath school children at more schools than that to which they properly belong; and no ground of dissatisfaction should be allowed with regard to our own in this respect; and such influence and means of good as that now under report and consideration should be generously supplied. Fresh additions should be frequently made, and it is believed that rarely can the case occur where an addition bearing a proper proportion to the number of the scholars cannot be annually made.

Collections weekly, monthly, quarterly, are reported, and lend their good aid to this; and since it has been found that the moderate amount of an ordinary Sabbath school Library, divided in small and equal proportions over the families of a charge, will so provide without any undue pressure whatever on them, for the attraction and encouragement of the children of the Sabbath school, your committee with confidence recommend this means as well deserving of employment in the good cause.

The cultivation of a missionary spirit ought to be attended to in the Sabbath school. Missions, as has been well said, are the great end of the Christian Church; and these are so surely dependent upon the support and faithful prayers of the people of God, that from early days they ought to be trained up to take a living and lively interest in the work. We are commanded to declare God's glory among the heathen, and show forth his wonders among all people. In some cases there has been the report of an orphan being supported in India by the Sabbath school, and in two cases there are known to be more than one. There can be no doubt but that this beautiful feature of Christian spirit and love will become more and more visible in our schools. This Church has for years had the honor, and we believe the blessing, of an Orphanage Scheme, for a blessing has been freely acknowledged through this work; and the small sum required for the support of an orphan—from \$16 to \$20—may be in many cases collected where as yet no such contribution has been made.

The establishment of a Sabbath School Foreign Mission Scheme by the Synod this year will be productive of great interest and advantage to our Sabbath schools, and, we trust, to the great cause of missions. Having now a special interest in this work as a Church, through the commencement of a Foreign Mission of our own, we cannot but give a joyful expression to our hope, that next and succeeding years a livelier and more liberal interest will be manifested in this indispensable branch of youthful Christian training. Missionary papers and addresses might from time to time be employed in rendering necessary influence and aid in this cause, and all will naturally tend to the support and increase of our own Church missionary work.

Your committee have ventured to make these remarks on the various branches of Sabbath school work, on which they thought it needful to request information. They are all of them vitally connected with the success of the cause of directing and securing the affections of those who are the hope of the Church, to their God and Redeemer,—of indispensable importance, too, to the welfare of the Church of the Lord.

It is to be hoped that succeeding reports will be of a much more satisfactory character—that full and accurate statistics will be in future years provided from every Sabbath school, showing a zealous and prosperous cultivation of this precious cause. There is much ground to believe that great zeal is in many cases manifested, by the large numbers reported on the roll, and where, as in country charges, or smaller town ones, these cannot be so large, no less zeal may be quite as surely at work. We would rejoice in the contemplation of all that is doing, and hope cheerfully for the better days before us, humbly committing this precious work to His direction and blessing, who alone "giveth the increase."

All which is respectfully submitted.

PETER KEAY, *Convener*.