

has sent one new Missionary to the same region.

Our work as a church has been much blessed during the past year. Most encouraging and delightful Revivals of religion have been experienced over extensive portions of the church, and the additions to our membership has been much larger than usual. We lost one of the most venerable of the Fathers, the Rev. Dr. Smith, by death. Another of the Fathers, Dr. King, returned to his native land, there to spend the evening of his days.

We enter on the New Year with increased and increasing obligations. Our work is constantly expanding before us. At the same time, and doubtless in a corresponding measure, our ability and our resources are growing. Let us pray God to make us better members of society, better members of the Church of Christ, better in every relationship of life, in the present year than we have been in the past. There is much in the past to regret: let us look to our Saviour for help for the future, that we may do all our work, bear all our burdens and enjoy all our privileges in such a way as to glorify Him and secure a blessing to our own souls.

### A WORD FOR THE "RECORD."

A young minister settling in a scattered congregation of about 100 families, followed up the efforts of his predecessor to extend the circulation of the *Record*, and got it introduced into nearly every family. He calls attention to leading articles in it frequently from the pulpit so as to secure its being read.

In six months the supplement received was voluntarily relinquished. At the end of the year, \$175 had been given for the schemes of the church. During the second year, \$200 were given, and the congregation is now building three churches and preparing for a fourth. Queries:—Did the minister act wisely in pushing the circulation of the *RECORD*? If its circulation were doubled for 1872 what would be the effect on the finances of the church?

That there is ample room for improve-

ment in the congregations of all our Presbyteries, but in some much more than others, will be evident from the following figures from returns of the past year.

	No. of families.	Records taken.
Pictou Presbytery.....	2489	936
Truro ".....	1222	535
Tatamagouche ".....	526	141
Halifax, Lunenburg and Yarmouth Presbyteries.....	2625	896
Cape Breton & Victoria Presbyteries.....	2320	242
P. E. Island Presbytery.....	1756	441
New Brunswick.....	1863	740
Miscellaneous.....		126
	12,801	4057

Only or third of the families take the *Record*, in some Presbyteries only one fourth, and in others a still smaller proportion. Surely the year 1872 will shew some improvement on the preceding statistics.

### THE GOSPEL CALL.

Free, among the dead, the call to life! Free, among the sick, the medicine that heals! Free, over the fallen, the music that sings salvation down sweetly into the soul. The fountain is open, and the invitation given,—“Whosoever will let him take the water of life freely.” The Gospel addresses mankind sinners as such, and holds out the offer of pardon, hope and Heaven. Christ paid the penalty of the law under which we lay condemned. There is no limit to the sufficiency of the atonement. Every one who comes in faith and penitence shall be received. The provision made is in every way suited to the wants of every child of fallen man. Hence, the offer of salvation is made to all. Says Chalmers,—“We have authority for the comfortable truth that Christ tasted death for every man. He so died for all as that all to whom he is preached have the real and honest offer of salvation.” Says Guthrie,—“He is the propitiation for the whole world. The whole world! Oh, some will say, that is dangerous language! It is God’s language. It binds a zone of mercy round the world, and perish the hand that would narrow it by a hair-breadth.” Says Candlish—“The world