

has given the gold and the silver reach out loving hands to the afflicted brethren in Shizuoka, that they may be encouraged to say, "The God of heaven, He will prosper us, therefore we His servants will arise and build."

### The Fire at Wolf Creek.

THE Rev. John Nelson sends the following account of the burning of the Indian Mission House at Wolf Creek, Alberta. The loss is heavy, and assistance in replacing furniture, etc., will be appreciated :

LACOMBE, Jan. 12. 1893.

Your favor of the 31st ult., containing expressions of sympathy, was received and much appreciated.

The friends here and in the east have been exceedingly kind, and we have many proofs of their practical sympathy.

We are now living in a part of the station-house on the C. & E., and are very comfortable. The people have kindly loaned us a few chairs, tables, stoves, etc., so that our immediate wants are supplied. As to the cause which lead to our misfortune, I have nothing in particular to reproach myself for. I built a chimney at the time when brick could not be procured, therefore did as all other pioneers have done—used clay instead. Although the earth was taken a foot or two from under the sod, yet there proved to be too much vegetable matter in the mud used, and being very dry, it burned and smoldered weeks after the house was consumed. Before leaving home I had just cleaned the pipes and examined the chimneys, and entertained not the least suspicion as to their safety. The partitions and ceilings being of boards, and the walls cottoned and papered, the flames ran like a prairie fire. In less than a minute after the alarm was given, Miss Linton, the teacher, in going upstairs with a pail of water, was met by the flames and compelled to return. Mrs. Nelson and the children secured the bedding off one bed, piano and sewing machine. More might have been saved, but it was a cold night and the little ones had to be cared for, also Miss Linton, who had been ill all day, and the excitement and exertion in removing the piano proved too much for her strength, and caused her to fall fainting in the snow.

They succeeded in reaching the house of one of the traders, a mile and a half away, where they were made comfortable, although some of them considerably frost-bitten. Notwithstanding our financial loss, which to us is beyond value, we have abundant cause for thankfulness; for if the fire had occurred a few hours later, we do not know how escape for the children would have been possible.

### Answers to Correspondents.

"What do you think of self-appointed missionaries who are not subject to any supervision?"

ANSWER.—We think very little of them, as a rule. Your self-appointed missionary is apt to be either a visionary, or else one of those proud, impatient spirits who cannot work with anyone else, and who will not be controlled. And yet we have noticed that these self-appointed people, who spurn the Church's control, are quite willing to take the Church's money for their support.

### The French Institute.

FROM a letter of Rev. Wm. Hall, M.A., to the *Christian Guardian*, we [make the following extract :—

The number of pupils received to date is forty girls and thirty-one boys, sixteen of whom are Roman Catholics. Some of these have left, having been refused permission to

go to mass; one boy, it is said, having his railroad ticket home paid for by a priest. Though the session is not very far advanced, we are encouraged by the interest taken in their studies by some of the pupils, and by the awakening of others to the advantages now placed within their reach of acquiring an education. Better than this, we have also to report a movement of a few towards the Saviour, and signs that God's Holy Spirit is working on some hearts. We thus gratefully record God's faithfulness in answering prayer, which we believe ascends daily on behalf of our work from all parts of the Dominion.

### Among the Indians.

THE Belleville *Intelligencer* has the following appreciative notice of the missionary anniversary at Bridge Street Church :

"The Rev. Egerton Ryerson Young, who, twenty-six years ago went at the call of the Methodist Church to be a missionary to the Cree and Salteaux Indians of the Hudson Bay Territories, yesterday thrilled and delighted the audiences which crowded the Bridge Street Church with recitals of incidents of his years of self-sacrificing labor. Mr. Young, during the past summer, re-visited all the mission fields he had formerly served, and was able from personal observation to draw striking contrasts between the Indian tribes as he first found them and now. The changed lives of individuals, as influenced by the Gospel, the civilization now attached to, and the journeyings and perils of such a life, were related by him with a pathos which stirred all hearts, and with a rare gift of word-picturing which made the scenes depicted real. The result of Mr. Young's three addresses yesterday—in the church twice and at the Sunday School—are seen in the most practical way, as the offertory and subscriptions are about double what they have been other years. Over \$600 was contributed yesterday; when other expected amounts are received, and the Sunday School's amount of between \$200 and \$300 is added, the total will be over \$1,000."

### Correction.

Dear Editor,—In the last missionary report, on Singhampton Circuit, Badgen's appointment, W. Spratt's name should appear as a \$2 contributor, and Miss Taylor's, of Singhampton appointment, should also appear as a \$2 contributor. These contributions were inadvertently added in with "small sums" and so reported.

Yours faithfully,

J. A. T.

### How to Increase Interest in Missions.

Notes of an Address, delivered at a Missionary Convention at Truro, N.S., Nov. 15th, 1892, by Rev. W. G. Lane.

WE start under difficulty. Like Alexander, "we weep because we have no more worlds to conquer"—along the line of missions at least. The world has made tremendous advances during the present century in art, science and literature, so much so, that we are astounded, and unable to tabulate results; but the thought answers for analogy, the same wonderful advances having been made along religious lines. It is not my intention to exhaust this theme, but simply to give a suggestive talk, that in the discussion to follow, we may perhaps find common ground for agreement and action. One thing is apparent to us, that is, the great contrast between the earlier times and now. Go to apostolic times, and you will find that the disciples were full of *expectancy*, they looked forward to the world's conquest; in our day we look back on conquests made and face the fulfilment—partial at least—of the promises of Christ which filled them with an enthusiastic spirit of enterprise, even though at the time they could not see the open doors for the entrance of the new faith which their Master had pointed out to them. 'Tis true that, down at Bethany, Mary and Martha still cling lovingly to Jesus; that Zaccheus at Jericho, and Nathanael, whose holy life made Cana