

the way and makes one feel like a bull in a china shop, afraid to stir for fear of breaking something, and in giving parties where all the people do is to gossip and play cards, or put themselves into a heat hopping about the room first on one foot and then on the other, the men pulling the women round after them, and all this costs heaps of money, and yet people are so poor when the collection plate comes round. And even our churches are too fine, and the money that might send the blessed gospel to the poor perishing heathen is put into bricks and mortar, and stained glass and soft cushions, and beautiful music; and most churches puts more than they have into them things till they have that ornament they call a mortgage on top of them—and then they are always in difficulty—but I must stop sir, or you will say I am an old bore. You will hear from me again sir. Next time, perhaps, I shall say what I think about church amusements.

I remain,

Your humble servant,

AUNT BETSY.

THAT 10 PER CENT.

MR. EDITOR.—Will you allow a home missionary who was long a pastor of a self-sustaining church and who has acted on local, general and executive missionary committees, to enter a respectful protest against the plan now in operation of helping to economise missionary resources by withholding 10 per cent. from the amount of the grants made to the missionaries. We freely acknowledge that the emergency is great, possibly imperative; but sir, is it just that the hard working and comparatively ill-paid missionary should have to meet so large a proportion of a debt for the contracting of which he is personally in no way responsible. Supposing the reduction to cover the whole of the current missionary year and what does it amount to in the aggregate? Simply that each pastor is made to contribute from £15 up to £40 towards the Missionary debt, according to the amount of the grant received and that too over and above his own freewill offering to the mission fund. Now it is not hard to conceive what sacrifices this will render necessary on the part of the missionary. In some cases it will require his allowing his Life Assurance Policy to lapse from inability to pay the half-yearly premium. In other cases he will be compelled to withdraw from the widows and orphans and pastors Retiring fund, and in still other cases the much needed horse will have to be relinquished. Should he have to leave his post the likelihood is that it would only be taken by an inferior man; should he remain in his charge he might be compelled to eke out his livelihood by resorting to very questionable expedients, and thus demonstrate the truth of the pregnant saying of Dr. Chalmers: "A scandalous support make a scandalous ministry." As to the expedients suggested by our indefatigable Missionary Superintendent in his letter in the C. I. of the 1st of March, they should all of them be candidly and openly discussed. The sliding scale was tried many years ago, but if we are not mistaken it resulted in no church sliding into self-support as a noble vessel on the stocks slides into the ocean when launched, but in several worthy pastors sliding away into other countries or into other denominations. That no new work can be undertaken

seems to be a foregone conclusion. But would not a re-distribution of the field and a re-adjustment of stations in some instances give strength and save money. Should not the bold policy of abandoning some fields which have long been helped but give no promise of success be adopted? Above all does not the present monetary crisis in our Missionary work appeal urgently to those generous friends of the cause who devise liberal things, the benefits of which are to be reaped when they have passed away. Would not a few liberal donations given in these times of financial straightness do more good, be more pleasing to God, and bring greater blessing to the soul of the benefactors, than the larger bequests which might come into the missionary treasury in more prosperous times.

A MISSIONARY PASTOR.

News of the Churches.

COWANSVILLE.—A quiet work of grace is at present in progress here. Special services are being conducted by the pastor. 12 persons were received into fellowship on Sunday, 7th inst., and it is expected that others will soon follow. Mr. Malcolm J. Cameron has been elected and publicly set apart to fill the vacancy in the diaconate, caused by the death of the late Robt. Jubb.

ECONOMY.—This church has been successful in obtaining for pastor Rev. Fred. MacLeod, a graduate of Bangor Seminary and Middlebury College. He is a Nova Scotian by birth, the son of Deacon MacLeod, of Liverpool church. Pursuant to letters, a missive sent to the churches of St. John, Yarmouth and Noel, a council was convened in the church on Wednesday, the 17th of February, at 2 p.m. St. John church was not well represented, the brethren being detained at home by extra engagements. Rev. William McIntosh, of Yarmouth, was chosen moderator, and Rev. Jacob W. Cox, of Noel, scribe. After devotional exercises, led by Mr. S. G. Moore, Mr. MacLeod came before the council and presented his credentials, gave a brief account of his early religious experience, call to the ministry, and also stated in a lucid manner his doctrinal and ecclesiastical views. The council expressed itself satisfied, and voted to proceed with the ordination and installation in the evening. Accordingly a fair audience assembled at 7 p.m. After singing and prayer, a brief scripture reading, Mr. MacLeod was set apart to the work of the ministry by the laying on of hands, the prayer being offered by Mr. McIntosh, who also addressed the people, or rather preached a sermon from the words, "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."—Mat. 18, 20. The right hand of welcome was given by Mr. Cox, who also addressed the pastor, basing his remarks upon the words of Paul: "Say to Archippus that thou take heed to the ministry which thou hast received in the Lord, that thou fulfil it."—Col. 4. 17. An appropriate solo was sung by one of the brethren, "Gather them in for there yet is room," and the hymn "Shepherd of Israel thou dost keep," was sung by the choir, joined in heartily by the congregation. The benediction was pronounced by the pastor, and the congregation dispersed, with high hopes that the future would bring with it God's richest blessing upon the united labors of pastor and people. On Thursday evening a very successful sociable was