

your uncle that the people kept you waiting."

"Why, that would be a lie."

"To be sure it would, but what's the odds?"

"I a liar! I tell a lie!" cried the boy, indignantly. "No, not to escape a beating every day. My mother always told me that lying was the first step to ruin, and my Bible says that a liar shall not enter heaven. I will tell the truth, whatever happens."

Letter from the Far West.

The subjoined extract of a letter from one point in our great Western Home Mission Field will be read with interest especially by the friends and acquaintances of the writer who was for a good many years, a hearty and esteemed supporter of one of our congregations in Halifax.

Mrs. Baker is the youngest daughter of the late Mr. Michael McCulloch who accompanied her on her long journey to to rejoin her husband at Rat Portage, and it will be remembered died there. Mr. Baker is kindly remembered and esteemed as for years a faithful Christian worker in Poplar Grove Church.

Rat Portage, Manitoba, Sept. 14th '81.
Dear Sir:—

We have organized a Presbyterian Church at Rat Portage, after being two years and a half without regular Sabbath services—the greater portion of that time without any at all.

The residents have signed a liberal subscription list for church purposes, and the Church has asked for a supplement from the Home Mission Committee, through the Presbytery of Manitoba and through Rev'd Mr. Robertson of Winnipeg.

The Presbyterian Denomination is much more numerous here than any other, but the burden or rather the bulk of the money subscribed for Church purposes comes from a few—the majority of the residents being persons of small means, who came here in the first place through poverty; still all have subscribed very cheerfully, according to their ability, and the desire for a Presbyterian Church is unanimous.

We have with us at present Rev. Dr. Collins (M.D.) who is desirous to remain at Rat Portage. He is very much liked

by everybody and it is partly from a wish to keep him among us that the list has been so generously subscribed to.

There are probably only a small number of Church members at present. The attendance is very good, averaging nearly 100. Services are held in a school building about 40x60—built by the people here with money subscribed for the purpose during the past two years and costing something over \$500. It will be some time before we can hope to build a Church. The support of the Church during the summer months will be assisted very much by strangers, a large number of visitors coming to Rat Portage for recreation and change of scenery.

Mrs. Baker and the children are very well. She likes the climate and the situation, but misses her friends very much. She teaches the infant class in Sunday School. The Sunday School was started some months since, before any steps were taken to organize a Church.

Yours truly
WM. L. BAKER.

The System of Weekly Offering.

MR. EDITOR.—The Synods Committee on Systematic Benevolence at their last meeting, directed their convener to correspond with the Treasurers of congregations which have adopted the system of weekly offering in raising their funds, requesting them to furnish for publication a brief statement of the results of their experiment. In accordance with this instruction I am endeavouring to obtain the desired communications. Some have already come to hand and I have to request that you will do the committee and the church the service of inserting them in your periodical. Inclosed please find communications from the officials of the congregations of Poplar Grove and St. John's Churches, Halifax, as well as that of Milford in the same Presbytery.

I remain,

Yours truly.

E. A. McCURDY,
Con. Com. Sys. Ben.

Milford, Hants Co., Oct. 3rd 1881.

Rev. & Dear Sir:—

Since Mr. Dickie's settlement, two years in January, we have been con-