

of our hand, that there are to-day, in abundance, as bright, happy, Christian homes as ever existed on the face of the earth, where parents are loyally loved and honoured, and where parental authority is maintained as effectively, though, it may be, not quite so forcibly as in days gone by. People forget there were as rude, disobedient, and disrespectful sons and daughters a hundred years ago as there are to-day. And then the precocious and forward impiety that is so often deplored, and which is so often declared to be the natural outcome of certain things neglected, which used to be attended to; where is it in such overshadowing magnitude, as compared with what used to be when the grey-haired of to-day were young and curly? There is evidently less drunkenness. However much profanity there may be—and that there is so much as there is, is a matter to be deplored—we doubt if there is nearly so much of it as there was forty years ago. Let any one try to bring up to his mental view a true picture of what the schools and school children—as well as the children that ought to have been at school, but were not—were during the first half of the present century, and will he honestly say that there is any reason for being either anxious or ashamed over the youth of the present? A great deal, no doubt, remains to be done. Iniquity still abounds, and the love of many waxes cold. But let us be simply just, and we shall find not a little to make the believer lift up his head and pursue his way rejoicingly. Some of the social features of the hour are dark enough in all conscience, yet, in spite of this, we are persuaded that there never was a day in the past, when there were so many as there are to-day who loved and served Jesus Christ in sincerity and truth; while much of the outcry about the increase of juvenile depravity and crime may have no better foundation to rest upon than increased police activity, the wide circulation of all kinds of news, and the regretful memories of those who who keep fresh the bright spots of their early years, but forget or ignore much of the undoubted roughness, impudence, and ungodliness, for which too many of their school-fellows, if not themselves, were notorious, even in those rural districts of the long ago, which have so often, and so falsely, been described as "blessed abodes of innocence and ease," though the actual facts had to tell a very different, and a much more discouraging story.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA.— FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The third anniversary missionary meeting in connection with the Canada Presbyterian Church was held in Erskine Church, Montreal, on Thursday evening last. In the absence of Mr. David Morrice, the Rev. R. H. Warden occupied the chair, and among the clergymen present were the Revs. Dr. Mackintosh, of Philadelphia, Mr. Hogg, of Moncton, N. B., T. Cummings, of Stellarton, N.S., Principal MacVicar, Dr. Jenkins, Jas. Fleck, Prof. Coussirat, A. B. Cruchet, Robert Campbell, J. S. Black, James McCaul, W. R. Cruickshank, and others.

After devotional exercises, Rev. Mr. Warden said that at the present time there were five distinct foreign mission fields—to the Indians in the Northwest, the Coolies in Trinidad, in the New Hebrides, on the Island of Formosa, and at San Domingo. The total number of foreign missionaries was fourteen ordained ministers, gone forth from our own land, and associated with these forty-one native teachers, and some six or seven ladies additional that had also left the shores of Canada. The contributions for this work last year amounted to the very handsome sum of \$53,616, which included the bequest of Mr. Joseph McKay of \$10,000. Independent of this bequest, the contributions were much ahead of those of the previous years. The total amount raised for home, French, and foreign mission work was \$161,800, and the total amount raised for their colleges and various other schemes combined was \$405,500, which was fully 25 per cent. ahead of any preceding year.

Rev. Mr. Hogg, of Moncton, N.B., said Montreal was the only city in the world, outside of London and New York, where Missionary anniversaries were held every year. These anniversaries had done a great deal of good in these cities, and he was sure that they were a great help in keeping the missionary work of the Church continually before the people, and could not have otherwise than a good result. He referred to the missionary work of the Church of Nova Scotia, and to the sending out by that Church of Dr. Geddie

to the New Hebrides in 1848. When he went there there was not a Christian on the island, and when he left there was not a heathen there, and to-day fully one-half of the people on the island were enrolled as members of Christ's Church. They had also had the Bible printed in their own language, and were sending out teachers to the neighbouring islands with the glad tidings of salvation through the Lord Jesus Christ, thus setting an example worthy to be followed by more civilized communities. There were now twelve ordained ministers labouring on this group of islands, and during the last thirty years there had been over 5,000 converts. Referring to the mission on the Island of Trinidad, he said that God had blessed the work greatly, and that there were now four ordained ministers and their wives, besides two paid lady teachers there. To show the progress of the work, he said that Mr. Grant's congregation paid £125 towards his support, and there were 1,135 pupils in the schools under Christian training. Two natives had also been recently ordained as ministers, and some of these coolies went to India, carrying the tidings of redemption through a blessed Saviour to these distant parts. He also referred to the zeal of the Rev. Dr. Mackay in the work at Formosa, and expressed the hope that the time would soon come when even to the uttermost parts of the earth, the Lord Jesus Christ would be acknowledged by everyone as King of kings and Lord of lords. He concluded with a powerful appeal to his hearers to give liberally for the support of this work, not as charity, but feeling it to be their bounden duty to spread the blessed Gospel abroad, so that the heathen might come to acknowledge the truth, as it is in Christ Jesus.

After the singing of the missionary hymn, "From Greenland's Icy Mountains," the Rev. Dr. Mackintosh, of Philadelphia, addressed the meeting. He referred to the foreign mission work as "The New Crusade." To spread abroad the truth as it was in the risen and the reigning Christ, they must have enthusiasm, and a feeling of duty towards their fellow-men. They must also have men who would boldly stand up for the right, and who would say to the heathens worshipping their gods, fearlessly, "These are no gods, there is only one God, the one living and true God." England went into the Egyptian and Abyssinian wars because the greatest and wisest men of the nation felt that they were right in going into these grand struggles for the liberation of these peoples. So it was with the missionary; he must enter into his work among the heathen fearlessly, because he was on the side of right. The Church should look out upon the world and say, with a grand glow of enthusiasm, "This world is the Lord's and it shall be His." They should engage in this work both for the sake of brotherhood and loyalty—brotherhood, that mankind through all the earth abroad might be "Heirs of God and joint-heirs with Jesus Christ," and loyalty because it was the command of their Lord and Saviour, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." There was no faith, he said, that progressed like Christianity, and there was no educational work, be it governmental or private venture, no home ecclesiastical work of the Church that, for the men and the money employed, could show such great progress as this great missionary work. He referred to the universality, centrality and reality of Christianity, and to the great strides which it had made, increasing two hundredfold within the last thirty years, from 190,000,000 of professing Christians to 391,000,000 to-day, and concluded his eloquent address by urging the great importance of the missionary work and its claims for support.

The meeting closed with the doxology and the benediction.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.—Rev. Dr. Reid has received the following amounts for schemes of the Church, etc., viz.—Bequest of the late Mr. Robt. McLaren, of Russell, per Mrs. McLaren, for Foreign Missions, Oxford College, Tamsui, \$50; J. O. Galt, Home Mission, \$1; Kincardine, Robert's apple-tree, Foreign Mission, Formosa, \$1; Friend in the eastern townships, for Home Mission, \$10, Foreign Mission, \$10, Knox College Ordinary Fund, \$10; Legatee of an Annuitant, for Widows' Fund, \$100; "A man who trusts in God for assurance," for Home Mission, \$5, French Evangelization, Pointe-aux-Trembles schools, \$5; Mrs. F. Belmont, for Foreign Mission of Rev. Dr. McKay, Formosa, \$50, for Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, \$10; A lady friend, Calvin Church, Chatham Township, for Widows' Fund, \$1.

BOOKS AND MAGAZINES.

WE congratulate the enterprising publisher of the Peterboro' EXAMINER on the enlargement of his journal. The progressive town of Peterboro' may well be proud of its well-conducted press.

CHATTERBOX; AROUND THE HOUSE.—Two holiday books handsomely printed on heavy paper, from the publishing house of R. Worthington, New York. The former is well known to the public, having been issued for many years. The latter contains a number of rhymes by Edward Willett, with coloured illustrations of Charles Keadrick.

CHRISTMAS RHYMES AND NEW YEAR'S CHIMES. By Mary D. Brine. (New York: George W. Harlan. Toronto: Willing & Williamson. Price, in boards, \$1.75; in cloth, \$2.25.) Another beautifully illustrated holiday book, full of suitable poetry, interspersed with numerous pictures, all making a volume well calculated to delight the fortunate boy or girl who receives a copy.

FINLAND RHYMES (New York: Geo. W. Harlan & Co. Toronto: Willing & Williamson. Price \$2.50.)—The poems in this handsome volume are by Josephine Pollard, already well known to our readers; the illustrations—numerous and appropriate—are by Walter Satterlee, a rising American artist. Altogether, this work is sure to prove popular with the young people during the approaching holidays.

THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY for 1883 will contain, in addition to its usual variety of serial and short stories, essays, sketches, poetry, and criticism, the following specially attractive features: contributions by Oliver Wendell Holmes, author of "The Autocrat of the Breakfast-Table;" the first instalment of Longfellow's dramatic poem, entitled "Michael Angelo," will appear in the January number; "The Ancestral Footstep: Outlines of an English Romance," by Nathaniel Hawthorne; "Daisy Miller: A Comedy," by Henry James, jr. Mr. W. D. Howells and Mr. Charles Dudley Warner will also contribute papers for the coming year. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston.

PRESBYTERY OF QUEBEC.—This Court held a regular quarterly meeting in Morrin College, Quebec, on the 8th inst. The attendance of members was fair. Leave to moderate in a call was granted to the congregation of Inverness. Mr. McMaster was appointed to represent the Presbytery at the next meeting of the Board of French Evangelization, and to request said Board to make a grant of money to the Presbytery of Quebec, to be used at its own discretion in prosecuting the work of evangelization amongst the French Canadians within its bounds. On motion by F. M. Dewey it was decided to make no appointments with reference to the holding of missionary meetings during the coming winter, but to leave the whole matter in the hands of the several pastors, with the urgent request that they use all diligence in making their people acquainted with the great mission work of the Church, and in securing their aid thereto. Mr. R. Hyde was appointed missionary to Kenebec Road for the winter months. The Session of Inverness, having petitioned the Presbytery to delete certain statements which their late pastor, Mr. Hoskin, had entered in their Session Record, because they reflected injuriously upon the character of some of their number, it was agreed to order said Session Record to be held *in remota* by the Presbytery, and the Session was instructed, in the meantime, to use another book. The newly formed congregation of Gould was granted permission to build a church, provided it be situated at least a quarter of a mile from the church already existing in that place, and that two-thirds of the cost be subscribed before building operations are commenced. It was moved by F. M. Dewey, seconded by Dr. Mathews, and agreed to, That in view of the increasing importance of maintaining the ordinances of the Christian religion in the Province of Quebec, that in view of the necessity of having our pulpits filled by competent and faithful men, and in view of inadequate support offered by several of our congregations to their pastors, the Presbytery resolves to appoint a committee to inquire into the question of ministerial support, and if possible devise means whereby our congregations may be enabled to offer an adequate stipend to their pastors. The following committee was appointed with instructions to report at the next meeting, E. McMaster, Dr. Cook, Dr. Mathews and F. M. Dewey.—F. M. DEWEY, Clerk.