

OUR HOME MISSION WORK.

Amid the claims of the rapidly expanding home field in the North West our less extended territory in these Maritime Provinces is apt to be overshadowed. The less however is not to be neglected whilst the claims of the greater are clamant.

During the past summer our home field has never been better wrought nor with grander results. The old policy of granting supply in the summer months with a protracted vacancy in winter is to a large extent being abandoned. Ordained missionaries have been placed over groups of stations and where this cannot be done a partial supply at least is given. The results of this system show that the policy has been a wise one. Stations have thus been nurtured and some of them in a short time will be placed on the list of augmented congregations. Churches have been and are now being erected, communion rolls have been increased, and the scale of liberality has risen.

But whilst the locating of missionaries over special fields for a year or longer has been attended with good, yet it involves an increased expenditure. Hence our Home Mission Fund will require at least \$1500 more than last year. If 25 cts per head was contributed in 1885, a small increase in our contributions will enable the church to carry on the noble work now in progress in these Lower Provinces.

While we look at the manner in which some of the stations have contributed for the supply given we see that the church's efforts have stimulated to increased zeal and earnestness. Though the expenditure has been large yet it has not been in vain, and should encourage us to increase our rate of giving to this scheme of the church. A few examples will suffice.

At the Scotch Colony of Kincardine N. B. where unusually large grants have been made from year to year they have doubled their rate of contribution. Besides a manse now in course of erection, \$7 per week has been contributed.

At Hampton N. B. where there are 15 families, during 26 weeks over \$11 per week has been raised besides building a church.

At Escuminac, Presbytery of Miramichi the catechist has been paid in full for his services and sent away with a handsome present.

At Maccan, in Truro Presbytery such

good progress has been made that an ordained missionary is to be placed over the field, and before long this group of stations will form a congregation. Several other fields might be referred to where services have been paid in full. Enough however has been given to show that we have ample encouragement to prosecute the work. More men and larger contributions are required. We who enjoy the stated ordinances of religion should not overlook the claims of those in the Maritime Provinces destitute of what we enjoy. If the proper spirit animate our breasts we will not relax our efforts, but be stimulated to do more to lengthen the cords and strengthen the stakes of our beloved Zion. As we liberally sustain our Home Mission operations we are strengthening the other schemes of the Church.—*Com.*

SABBATH REST IN EUROPE.

At Berlin 1000 carpenters and joiners have petitioned the Reichstag to pass a law to secure rest from labor on Sunday. This would not only ensure rest for the petitioners, but would give employment to a larger number of workmen. At Dresden a large glass manufactory recently dismissed about 1600 men for refusing to work on Sunday. The managers required them to work at least half the day. In the Canton of St. Gall, the Council has decided that henceforth all places for the sale of intoxicating drink shall be closed on Sunday mornings, and in several towns of Canton Vaud the druggists, hair-dressers, and barbers have agreed to close their shops at noon on Sunday.—*Bulletin Dominical.*

We sometimes see the expression "Mohulla work" in articles on missions in India. Mohulla means a ward in a city; and, in this work, the missionaries go into an open square in the city, and preach the Gospel to all who will hear. The women missionaries go at an hour when most of the men will be away at their work, and often have a large audience.

In a Chinese village, during a time of drought, a missionary saw a row of idols put out in the hottest and dustiest part of the road. He inquired the reason, and the natives answered, "We prayed our gods to send us rain, and they won't; so we've put them out to see how they like the heat and dryness."