

we have been leading as Christians, and of our own helplessness to make it any better. Then He creates within us a hunger after righteousness where we exclaim with Paul, "O, wretched man that I am, who shall deliver me from this body of death;" and where we hear the answer, "I thank God, through Jesus Christ our Lord." *Self is thus renounced, and the soul is cast on God to do the work entirely. And He does it. The assurance that He does it comes in the new and definite yielding of the soul to Him thus to be made holy. After this there is progress, perpetual progress, because the new life is unhindered, and is free to act according to its own laws. To quote the precise language of Dr. Cumming: "We are no longer driven to say, 'I cannot.' Now we say, 'God can; Christ can do it in me: I trust Him; I look to Him for this.' And it comes; it is done; yet 'it is no more I that do it, but Christ that 'dwelleth in me.'"*

FOREIGN MISSION FUND.

At the meeting on Tuesday, of the Toronto Presbytery, Mr. Hamilton Cassels made a strong appeal for more money for Foreign Missions. He asked the hearty co-operation of the Presbytery and laid before the assembled ministers information which he asked them to lay before their congregations. If something were not done by the church the whole work will be destroyed and the missionaries will have to be recalled. He pointed out that in 1895, the 16,180 communicants of the church had raised for all purposes \$228,473, or \$14.09 per head, only a little more than most people paid for pew rent. "Here we have members of our churches," said Mr. Cassels, "who sing all the year round at the joy they feel at being disciples of Christ, but who show it by contributing a meagre \$14 a year. Why, even the Jews, whom we despise, do better. Our ministers are afraid to lay these things before their congregations."

The Presbytery was in thorough accord with Mr. Cassels' appeal. On the motion of Rev. Principal Caven, a resolution was carried pledging the Presbytery "to use whatever may be in its power to secure generous support from the congregations of the Presbytery for this great department of Christian service, so that the painful necessity of curtailing the Foreign Mission work may not be forced upon the church." *It is to be hoped other Presbyteries will do likewise.*

Sick Children's Hospital. During the last few weeks appeals have been made pretty universally for funds to help the Toronto Sick Children's Hospital, one of the most deserving and useful institutions in our city. In response to this appeal a friend in Durham has sent the Treasurer through the "REVIEW" the sum of \$5.19 which we gratefully acknowledge.

Armenian Fund. The PRESBYTERIAN REVIEW has received the sum of \$5.00 from Mr. A. G. Hutton, of Shuswap, B.C., and \$10.00, from the Endeavor and Epworth League Societies of Alexander, Manitoba, for the Armenian Fund. These additions from week to week are most thankfully received by the Treasurer and it is to be hoped that many will follow the good example of these friends.

Simultaneous Missionary Meetings. We hope the appeal in our last issue, in behalf of simultaneous missionary meetings has been noted by all our ministers. The request is that a sermon should be preached in the Great Commission on Sabbath the 10th January, that the following mid-week meeting be devoted to prayer for a blessing upon the work done in foreign lands and an extension of that work, and that if possible on the Friday night following inter-denominational mass meetings be held. This programme has much to commend it, of which we need

not speak, but we must confess that its international character, gives it additional charm. It is even better than the settlements of difficulties by Arbitration that American and British subjects should join hands in the effort to evangelize the world.

The Free Church Moderatorship. It is announced that Rev. Professor A. B. Davidson, who has been nominated for the moderatorship of the Free Church of Scotland has been ordered by his medical adviser to decline the honor on account of his health which is not very robust. He is able to discharge the duties of his chair efficiently, but the additional cares which the moderatorship would bring, he could not undertake, a necessity which will be much regretted.

Prison Reform. Prison reformers are to be commended for the indomitable spirit they evince in agitating for the changes they believe to be necessary in the prison system of Canada. Against heavy odds they have battled bravely, never losing hope and it will be conceded that their persistent efforts are making an impression gradually. Their objects are highly praiseworthy and their efforts disinterested, so that we can cheerfully give whatever co-operation possible without the least misgiving.

Children's Aid Society. The Fifth Annual Report of the Children's Aid Society of Toronto has been issued and within its brief limits is contained much information of a most important character. The good work which this society is accomplishing under the wise counsel of the President, Mr. J. K. MacDonald, is certainly cheering in times like these when individual effort is directed so much to personal gain and selfish interests. The self sacrifice and the love for human beings and human souls, of which such work as is described in the report, is the evidence, is far too rare, but on that account is highly precious and deserving of appreciation.

Ministerial Qualifications. A committee of ten (in search of a pastor) once went to hear a minister preach and they agreed to sit in different parts of the church and mark him on a scale of ten on ten different points. They were, if we remember, personal appearance, dress, voice, gesture, manner of reading hymns, manner of reading Scripture, giving notices, composition of sermon, delivery of sermon and prayer. Many, if not all, were important points, and every minister should pay particular attention to each of them each time he goes into the pulpit; but, after all, one might come somewhere near the grade in all of them and still be far better or far worse a minister than they would indicate. *Herald and Presbyterian.*

A Pathetic Request. An interesting story comes from South Australia, where the State System of Education is purely secular, and where the religious education of the children is left to Sunday Schools and similar organisations. Mr. J. A. Hartley, Inspector-General of Education in the Colony, was seriously injured in a bicycle accident, and lying dangerously ill. When he was between life and death, an advertisement appeared in a public journal as follows:—"The Minister of Education would be glad if any teacher of the State school who felt so disposed would, to-day, one minute before or one minute after regular school hours, write on the blackboard and permit as many children as are willing to do so to repeat with him these words, or words to a similar effect: 'Our Father, which art in heaven, grant that our dear master and beloved friend, Mr. Hartley, may be restored to health.' "Two thoughts" says the *Sunday School Chronicle* "come to us in connection with this remarkable advertisement and pathetic prayer. The first that it is vain to attempt to secularise the heart of man in its moments of grief and great crises. The second, that the secularisation of education does not, happily, mean the decay of faith, as some good people honestly fear."