

but the town and rural churches have not been united enough to have a sympathetic communication between men and fields; neither have they been liberal enough in their schemes for church-extension, to open new and promising fields for them. Some of them would willingly have staid, but they thought they were not so much needed after all, as they could feel the pulse of church life.

The key to the situation is the sending of more young men to the college, so that there will be enough for both home and foreign fields. Three of next year's class would like to go abroad. But in the next class there are twelve men.

Will they all find fields, in which it is worth a man's while to spend his life? It is a laudable wish on the part of a man, with only one life to lead, to put it in where he can feel the Kingdom of God is growing under his hand.

It may be said that these men might open up new fields here, on virgin soil. True; but from the appearance of the Home Missionary contributions of the last few years, it seems evident that our churches are not ordering any new work. In short, what is needed is not one whit less foreign-missionary interest, but more of our finest young men for the college, and more liberality for Home Missions.

OUR MISSIONARY STATION.

It has been a year of anxiety at the mission in Chisamba. In the early part of the year, Mr. Currie was quite ill, and took a trip to the coast for his health. It was almost decided that he must go off on a ship to the Cape, or northward to the Islands. But he delayed going, and eventually began to recover; and has become quite well again.

Unfortunately, Mr. Lee has been separated from Mr. Currie during the year. The reason was this: a station is kept up at Benguella, on the coast, where all the business work of the West Central Mission is carried on. Goods are received and examined, purchases made, goods repacked for transmission inland, mail forwarded, etc. Our station has had the benefit of this most necessary work all along, and we have helped to bear the expense. A year ago, the man stationed there was obliged to retire, and it was imperative that one of the missionaries should go there until another man could be found. Mr. Lee, being unmarried, and not yet able to teach in the Umbundu language, and therefore not yet indispensable to the school and preaching-work, consented to go. A man is now on the way to relieve him, and he will return to Chisamba as soon as Miss Carter arrives.

Work has been retarded this year because of war. In October, a force of 400 Portuguese soldiers and 200 Boers, raided Bihe, to administer punishment to the natives for some insults they thought they had received. In December, the king was taken prisoner, and the force withdrew. Meanwhile Mr. Currie had staid at his post, with his usual