

way to satisfy the Spanish critical ear. In the capital we conversed at much length with four men who have been under the powerful guidance of Mr. Jamieson, and who were all priests in the Romish Church when we visited Spain in 1869. Two of them are men of learning, who, in the absence of theological books in their own language, have made themselves masters of the systems of Calvin, Turretin, and Maestricht, in the Latin, a language in which they speak with fluency. The number of such men in Spain is daily on the increase. It is very true, indeed, none of the churches are crowded with auditors as they were for a time after the Revolution. At that time ignorant people spoke of Republicans and Protestants as if they were the same. The services in the new evangelical churches at that period were thronged with men whose thoughts in many cases had not soared higher than to a political millenium; and when such men gradually discovered that the gospel gave no aliment to political passion, and that the revolution it proclaimed was spiritual and internal, they withdrew.

"All this was foreseen, and indeed a distinct forewarning of its coming was sent, in name of our Foreign Mission Board, at the very time when our Spanish churches had reached their highest point, in so far as attendance was concerned.

"The most popular preachers in Spain ceased to retain the crowds who gathered around them at the beginning. Even Carrasco's congregation did not retain its earlier dimensions, and the same remark may be made of that of Senor Cabrera. As a general rule, attendance on Protestant service has largely declined; and yet we believe the cause of Spanish Protestantism is at this hour more healthy and promising than it has ever been. We found this conclusion on what we believe to be an improved selectness in the character of the communicants, and on the advance of native agents in Christian knowledge and experience as well as in number. In about twenty different cities and towns in Spain, small congregations have been established. In these places about twenty-five missionaries from Europe and America are laboring in various forms,

and a rather larger number of native Spaniards are employed in preaching. Not a few promising schools under qualified teachers have been established, affording a Christian education to an increasing number of the young. The grand desideratum is a more advanced and earnest Christian life; and therefore our primary duty is to wait prayerfully on the Lord, and to cry, 'Come from the four winds, O Breath! Breathe upon these slain, that they may live.'

Under the heading, "Letters to the Editor," there appear two communications in reference to the mode of announcing and gathering in collections for the schemes of the church. We submit them to the careful consideration of all interested. We shall be happy at any time to give space to the views of correspondents relating to any and every department of the Church's work, and "especially the conveners" of the committees.

Article Contributed.

A Day's Work in Musquodoboit

I assure you that we never make a greater mistake than when we think that our country ministers' work is easy and light; nor is there in the world a more mischievous conception than that formed by so many people, and good people too, who seem to think that the all-important stations and congregations are the city ones, and, as a consequence, the work done and accomplished therein correspondingly more important than that which is overtaken by the labours of our country brethren. To bring to the light the true state of matters, to dissipate all foolish ideas upon the subject, and to show the amount of good, faithful, self-denying labour overtaken by the minister of the above-mentioned congregation, and to show, also, that the congregation is well worth all the labour bestowed upon it, I intend the following hastily written sentences.

Well, then, upon a certain Sunday subsequent to the issue of the *Aug. Record*,