

The Monthly Record.

SEPTEMBER, 1878.

THE SCHEMES OF THE CHURCH.

Without the vigorous working of our church schemes we must cease to exist altogether as a branch of a Christian church, or become so feeble and sickly that our influence for good will get very near the neighborhood of zero. "Hard times" is the response to every appeal for money in every department of industry, as well as for keeping the church machinery in going order. Yet notwithstanding the "hard times," large sums of money have been collected throughout the Dominion for church purposes during the past year. A bountiful harvest, which is being gathered in, in a great measure softens the "hard times" and will enable those who wish to show their gratitude to the Bountiful Giver, to offer a thank offering in giving what they are able towards the support of his cause. The supplementing fund and the young men's scheme will shortly be pressing their claims, the importance of which will be admitted by all who desire to promote the interests of the Redeemer's kingdom on earth. Their object is so well known as to need no explanation, and we have every confidence that the result will be such as to give proof of gratitude to the Bountiful Giver of the abundance with which we are at present surrounded, and our sincere desire that "His kingdom should come on earth," and His great name be glorified in our midst and by all nations of the earth.

MISSION FIELD.

Within the last few months, the Rev.

Mr. Robertson, of Erromanga, has been kind enough to send to friends in Nova Scotia some presents from his natives of bows and arrows, arrowroot and sandal wood. The young people of St. Andrew's Sabbath School, Pictou, were entertained by the presentation of these articles; proofs, as they are, of the genuineness of the mission work as well as of the missionary's affection. The sandal-wood in the Chinese temples and the purposes for which bows and arrows and slings were used in the hostile encounters between native tribes as well as the value of arrowroot as part payment from Islanders for missionary services were fully explained to the scholars. It is well known that Mr. Robertson is erecting a Memorial church in Erromanga to commemorate the service of the Six Martyrs that fell in that blood-stained island, and it would be well that our Sabbath School children would aid in so glorious a work, particularly those of that very school where Mr. Robertson himself taught. To have a hand in erecting a church where natives would be reminded of sacrifices undergone for their salvation, and where their children would be taught the way and the truth and the life, would indeed be worthy an effort on the part of the schools; and as the object has been mooted by certain of our teachers so we hope it will be entertained favorably every where, and we shall be glad to make the Record the medium of communication upon these and kindred topics affecting the religious welfare of our church and schools at home and abroad.

Rev. Mr. Cunningham, one of the fathers of the Free Church, died recently at Prestonpans, where he was for 45 years a minister.