

surprising. It is clear to all that in the matter of pecuniary contributions the maximum has not yet been reached. Large and encouraging as this year's contribution appears now, in comparison with what may be expected only a few years hence, it will then be said that this is but the day of small things.

The rising wave of missionary enthusiasm passing over Evangelical Christendom is a cheering indication that Christ's kingdom is advancing with accelerated speed. The cause of this advance must be primarily ascribed to the Holy Spirit's power in the hearts of God's children. God works through human agency, and the awakened interest in missionary enterprise is distinctly traceable to the existence and influence of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society. It is a matter of painful but not distant recollection that missionary meetings at which speakers who were able both to interest and instruct their hearers were present, usually the attendance was but slim and fervour was wanting. The public meeting on Tuesday evening last was an eminent success in most respects. The attendance tested the seating capacity of Old St. Andrew's, spacious and commodious as that well arranged building is. The speaking was varied, interesting, instructive and to the point. The age of oratorical expatiation is past. Each speaker was listened to with concentrated attention, and in consequence speaker and hearer were in sympathy. Tension was agreeably relieved, and pent up feeling found expression in hearty singing, led by the choir. The meeting was not unduly protracted, but it remains to be said, more in sorrow than in anger, that before the plaudits accorded the last speaker had died away, there was a most unseemly scamper for the street, on the part of not a few. The only items remaining on the programme were the collection and the benediction. Many seemed anxious to leave these good things for the exclusive benefit of those who could afford to wait a short time longer. Presbyterianism has been usually noted for its orderliness; it would be too bad to belie its reputation by seeking to gain a few minutes by escaping the benediction.

#### THE STUDENT MISSIONARY MOVEMENT.

AT the public meeting last week in connection with the Woman's Foreign Missionary Association both Dr. Kellogg and the Rev. D. J. Macdonnell made earnest appeals, which, there is reason to believe, will not be ineffectual, for increased consecration of means for the proclamation of the Gospel among the heathen. These were specific appeals based on the facts that, in answer to the Church's prayers, free access into almost all lands was now afforded, and that many young men and women in the higher educational institutions were offering their services for mission work. The one point now demanding immediate attention is the provision of means for the sending and maintenance of those who are preparing and willing to go as Christ's ambassadors to foreign lands. The following brief statement by President McCosh will be read with interest:

In the fall of 1886 two young men, graduates of Princeton College, one of them after passing a portion of the previous summer under the warm and stimulating instruction of Mr. Moody, set out on an important work. They were sons of missionaries, had been born in India, and their purpose and determination was to visit the various colleges and theological seminaries, and invite students to declare themselves to be "willing and desirous, God permitting, to be foreign missionaries."

My heart went with them as they set out on their mission. I believed that nothing but good could arise from their undertaking. I have been furnished with a report of what they have done. I am amazed at their success. I confess I was not prepared for it. The deepest feeling which I have is that of wonder as to what this work may grow to. I praise God for what has been done, and pray for its stability and further enlargement.

I will first give a summary of the facts without comment. They need no comment; they speak for themselves. The number of institutions which have been heard from is ninety-two. In these no fewer than 1,525 students have offered themselves as willing and desirous to be foreign missionaries. Of these upward of 1,200 are young men, and upward of 300 are young women. A few of them are from upper schools; but the great body of them are from regularly constituted seminaries and colleges. They belong to the various evangelical denominations.

"Who are these that fly as a cloud, and as the doves to their windows?" "Lift up thine eyes round about and see; all they gather themselves together; they come to thee. Thy sons shall come from afar, and thy daughters shall be nursed at thy side."

I may mention some of the institutions, with the number of students offering themselves: Amherst College, twenty-five; Williams College, nineteen; Colby (Baptist), seven;

Andover Theological Seminary, fourteen; Harvard University, nine; Rutgers Seminary and College, twenty-two; Princeton Theological Seminary, twenty-seven; Princeton College, twenty-one; Alexandria Seminary (Episcopal), eleven; Lincoln University, fifteen; Washington and Lee, twelve; Bates College, twenty-two; McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago, thirty-one; Hamilton College, fifteen; Madison (Baptist), forty-five; Cornell University, thirty-five; Lake Forest, eighteen; Syracuse University, twelve; Oberlin, 110; Iowa Wesleyan University, twenty-five; Grinnell, Iowa (Congregational), forty-one; New York Medical Students' Association, twenty; Philadelphia Medical Students, nineteen; Toronto, Canada, fifty-one; Queen's College, Kingston, thirty-one; Montreal, twenty-one.

Now, if these 1,525 students have felt it to be their duty to do this, have not Christians in general a corresponding duty? It is clear that the missionary boards of the Churches cannot meet the emergency. Their first obligation is toward their present missionaries and their families, and I believe that at this moment they can do nothing more. But surely the offering on the part of our young men and women will call forth a like offering on the part of the Christian people. These young men and maidens are ready to give their lives to the great work of making the salvation offered to all made known to all, and no gift which others of us may proffer can equal this.

Christians cannot but notice this event occurring before their eyes, they cannot oppose it lest, haply, they be fighting against God. We are bound to ponder it. If it be a work of God, it cannot be set at naught, and we must be fellow-workers with Him. For years I have known the two young men who are visiting the colleges. I can testify that they were able and excellent students, and are consistent Christians. They are doing their work modestly, with no flourish of trumpets, trusting only in the power from above. Judging from those who have done so here, I believe those who have offered to go to the Mission field are sincere and thoroughly in earnest.

For myself I feel I have a part to take. I am willing to join with others in finding a way by which the students, the various Churches and all those who love Christ may combine and work so as to take advantage of this great opportunity. Our first duty will be to enquire into the stability of the work. It is genuine, as I believe it to be, there is an awful responsibility laid upon us in consequence. Has any such offering of living young men and women been presented in our age, in our country, in any age or in any country since the days of Pentecost? But I have said enough for the present. The work is going on, and we will hear more of it.

#### Books and Magazines.

ABRAHAM: HIS LIFE AND TIMES. By Rev. William J. Deane, M.A. (Toronto: S. R. Briggs.)—The author of this compact life of the great patriarch is rector of Ashen, Essex, England. The life and times of the Father of the Faithful are related and described in a clear and scholarly manner.

CHRIST'S COMING KINGDOM; or, The Lord's Reign on Earth. By Henry Varley. (Toronto: S. R. Briggs.) The well-known evangelist has added his contribution to the premillennial controversy. As might be expected, he adopts the theory of the literal personal reign, and preponds it with the utmost confidence. It is but just to add that he is not intolerant to those who do not reach the same conclusion as himself.

THE THEOLOGICAL AND HOMILETIC MAGAZINE. (Toronto: S. R. Briggs.)—In the Symposium are two thoughtful contributions, one on the "Reunion of Christendom," by Dr. Richard F. Littledale, the other on "Evolution and Man's Faculty of Knowledge," by Joseph John Murphy. The Expository and Homiletic Sections contain much that is profitable and suggestive. As a whole the last number maintains the high standard attained by this valuable monthly.

A SHORT HISTORY OF THE CANADIAN PEOPLE. By George Bryce, M.A., LL.D. (London: Samson Low, Marston, Searle & Rivington; Toronto: W. J. Gage & Co.)—The volume announced some time since has made its appearance, and a handsome volume it is. It will be the subject of a more extended notice afterward. It begins with prehistoric Canada, and traces its history down to the present time, and forecasts its destiny. The volume contains in addition short but valuable appendices, and a fine and distinctly engraved map of the Dominion.

THE AMERICAN MAGAZINE. (New York: T. Bush & Son.)—After a progressive career as the *Brooklyn Magazine*, this literary venture appears under its new title as a full-fledged illustrated monthly of the first class. In every respect the first number of the new series is most creditable. Its contents are varied and interesting to all classes of readers. The illustrations are numerous and of a high degree of excellence. The paper in which literary Bostonians are described is very attractive. If real merit deserves success, the *American Magazine* ought to command it.

#### THE MISSIONARY WORLD.

##### A NEW CHURCH IN TRINIDAD.

From Tunapuna, Trinidad, Mrs. Morton writes: You may have seen by Mr. Morton's report that the Tunapuna Church was opened on the 31st December. I have been long in writing you about it, but for the succeeding fortnight we were kept very busy with our Christmas examinations and treats, and on the 19th December we went "apart to rest awhile" at Gasparilla, one of several small islands in the Gulf of Paria, much resorted to for change of air and sea bathing. As I have written something about Gasparilla for the *Children's Record* I will only add that we found needed rest and refreshment, and returned on the 8th January much invigorated in mind and body. Mr. Morton was able to be with us only a part of the time, December being the busiest month in his year.

The Tunapuna Church is built on the plan specially designed for the one at Princeton by Mr. W. Darling, nephew of H. B. Darling, of whom you have all heard, as a long tried friend and helper of your missionaries. The former gentleman was an engineer in the Indian Civil Service, but having lost his health came to Trinidad in the hope of recruiting, and for the same reason has since left the service. His brother, the Rev. Oliver Darling, rector of Princeton, should also be mentioned here as a kind friend and helper of our work. In Mr. Darling's plan simplicity and beauty have been admirably combined with comfort and economy. The churches are exceedingly cool and comfortable, and no eye could rest on them without a feeling of pleasure.

We have named the church "Aramalya" (pronounced *ar-ram-al-ya*) meaning "place of rest." We feel that the standard is now fairly planted in Tunapuna; in token thereof your church, standing high on the ascent of the hills, bravely fronts the sea of sugar cane below, saying as plainly as can be to the tired labourer, "come to the place of rest," and pointing upward to the "rest that remaineth." It can be seen several miles away. Pardon us if we are proud of it. We have waited for it nineteen years.

The opening services were very impressive. Mr. Grant and Mr. Wright kindly left their own work to assist. Heavy rain came on about ten o'clock, and continued all day, but most of our people had already assembled. Our schools, with St. Joseph, turned out about 200 strong, representing our choir. They did their duty well; several Indian hymns were very correctly rendered to native music, also No. 235 in the Canadian Hymnal, "Christ is our Corner-stone." The communion was administered, and two men baptized. The services, beginning as usual with Sabbath school, occupied about three hours. Those coming from a distance there had some refreshment. Several expressed great satisfaction and happiness in the services of the day. At four o'clock Mr. Grant assisted Mr. Dickson in an English service. The rain had increased, but a good number assembled. The collection was \$9.32, and in the morning, when envelopes previously distributed were handed in, the amount was \$88.50. This included, however, a handsome donation from a friend who was present.

The church is not free from debt, as you will see by Mr. Morton's report and accounts; but we were wonderfully helped considering the great business depression that prevails here, \$1,354.50 having been collected in the island. The gentlemen on neighbouring estates gave ready and generous assistance in carting materials. The Episcopalians have built a neat church quite near to our own, which was opened the same week, so that the reproach of Tunapuna has been doubly wiped out. It is no longer "churchless."

We had a happy and busy time with the Christmas treats. It was no light task to apportion our rewards to the exact attendance of each child; in every school a few were distinguished as having made over 400 attendances (two each day, — 200 being the number required by the Government to qualify for result fees. All below that number received only a Christmas card, and a share of the refreshments, in some cases a very small share. We find this plan an excellent one. We have adopted the same plan in four of our Sabbath schools, but confining the rewards to the *very best* children. Last Sabbath they were distributed. We had been able to lay aside a few books for this purpose, but not nearly enough. It is true that some of our prizes were not very valuable, but the little ones received a coloured fashion plate with as much delight as the larger ones did a nice book from the Halifax box.