

should make a liberal offering in this coming collection.

The interest of the cause we plead in these maritime provinces, demands it of us. If the work in several of our mission points is to be sustained, and put on a self-sustaining basis, this same society that has helped us during all these years must be encouraged to continue to do so. It would be ruinous now for us to be left without their assistance. And can we confidently go to these brethren and ask for aid, unless we first show by our own liberality that we appreciate what they have already done? The strongest plea we can now make for continued assistance, is to show that we are deeply interested in our home fields, and are ready to make some sacrifice, if need be, to maintain the cause we profess to love, in these parts of God's vineyard.

But there is still yet another reason why we should take an increased interest in this offering. The eyes of these brethren who are conducting the interest of the home missions are looking towards these maritime provinces, and inquiring as to the prospect for mission work in these fields. While we know the fields are inviting, and many open doors are before us, we know that because of our financial weakness we are not able to enter into those fields and win them for Christ. How helpful it will be if we can encourage these strong brethren, backed by a mighty brotherhood, to come to our aid, and send us faithful and successful evangelists to plant the cross we plead, and for which Christ died, in the many towns and villages in these provinces. I have but little doubt that if our churches take hold of this work in earnest, and send up a liberal offering this Jubilee year, the American Christian Missionary Society will not only be encouraged to continue their assistance in much needed fields, but will also strengthen our hands in evangelizing these provinces. Much more might be said along these lines, but my paper is already too long. I am exceedingly anxious that every church in these maritime provinces should make an offering to this home mission this jubilee year; so much of our future success, it seems to me, depends on us doing so.

There are a good many brethren so situated that they cannot meet with the churches, who are deeply interested in our missionary work. If any of these will enclose their personal offering to Benj. L. Smith, Y. M. C. A. Building, Cincinnati, Ohio, or if more convenient, to my address, Willow Park, Halifax, N. S., I shall be pleased to forward the same to Bro. Smith. The Lord loveth the liberal giver.

Willow Park, N. S., March 24, 1899.

There is no neutral side to life. You must be well-doing or ill-doing. Your influence must count on the side of right or else for wrong. So beware of that weariness in your work of right that will lead you to forsake your high ideals and aims. You may say it is only for a time, but when you take the step away from God it may be for all time; it is a snare of the tempter; do not yield to it.

THE MAY OFFERING.

H. MURRAY.

We are very anxious that all our churches in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick remember the May offering. The American Home Mission Board asks only the one offering from each church during the year. We are receiving from them for the work in these provinces much more than our offerings to them. We should show that we have a special interest in this work, as it is only to those who help themselves who are entitled to help. The greater an interest in the work the greater will be their interest in us. We want some of the blessings of the jubilee year. Our provincial field is ripe for the harvest. We greatly need workers. So many of our preachers go to the States that, unless we can get the co-operation of our American brethren, we cannot possibly hope for any great degree of success. If we will show our interest by every church sending the American Board a good offering next May, and thus show our appreciation of what they are doing for us, and that we mean business, they will no doubt continue, and even increase, their interest in the work in these provinces. We have a reason for believing that much greater success will be seen in our provinces in the near future. Let us do what we can. We can all do something, and what we can do we ought to do, and, by the grace of God, we will do.

Correspondence.

DEER ISLAND LETTER.

In a multitude of counsellors there is wisdom, and a united effort will do much in whatever direction aimed. By reading the "Supplement" to the CHRISTIAN last month I notice that nearly all our preachers were represented in the symposium on "Why build a church on Main street, St. John." All the writers agreed that it was a good work; that it ought to be done; that it was needed; and all that was said was very favorable. Now this is encouraging. The preachers represent, or should represent, the feeling of the people, and if the preachers and people mean what they say, the house on Main street is built and paid for.

Although this is the 20th of March the ground is covered with a good depth of the beautiful snow, and more to come. This has been one of the old-fashioned winters. There has been a good deal of sickness and deaths on this island this winter. On Feb. 19th Bro. William Connolly, sr., of Leonardville, departed this life in the 90th year of his life. He leaves an aged widow, a number of children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, to mourn his loss. A large number of friends and relatives followed the remains to the grave. A week later another of our oldest citizens was called away, Bro. James Tewksbury, in the 89th year of his life; he had been an invalid for over two years; his

aged companion survives him, and with the many relatives and friends have the consolations of the gospel to comfort them.

While the old are passing away at the call of death, the young are not exempt; little Marjory, only 6 years old, daughter of Lincoln and Hattie Richardson, has been taken away from earth to a more congenial clime. Only a short time sick, never very strong, she seemed to fade like a flower, preparing to bloom stronger and fairer in another season. Her father has preceded her to the other side. The widowed mother has the sincere sympathy of the whole community.

Notwithstanding so much sickness and death our church work has made an advance. Our social meetings are good and a large attendance at the preaching services. Last Sunday evening (12th) I preached an anniversary sermon, and at the close of the preaching held a short social service in which seventy-seven took part. Our Sunday-schools are doing well. At Lord's Cove we have added a new library of 170 volumes.

In Leonardville the brethren, and sisters too, have started a Saturday evening meeting for members only. This is to be a consecration meeting, in which preparation is made for future usefulness. "More and better work for God" is the motto this year.

One restored at Lord's Cove since I last wrote. One young man who came out in our meetings at Lord's Cove, was immersed, and united with the church in Leonardville.

W. H. HARDING.

Lord's Cove, N. B.

Selected.

THE CRIMES OF THE TONGUE.

The second most deadly instrument of destruction is the dynamite gun; the first is the human tongue. The gun merely kills bodies; the tongue kills reputations and, oftentimes, ruins characters. Each gun works alone; each loaded tongue has a hundred accomplices. The havoc of the gun is visible at once. The full evil of the tongue lives through all the years; even the eyes of Omniscience might grow tired in tracing it to its finality.

The crimes of the tongue are words of unkindness, of anger, of malice, of envy, of bitterness, of harsh criticism, gossip, lying and scandal. Theft and murder are awful crimes, yet in any single year the aggregate sorrow, pain and suffering they cause in a nation is microscopic when compared with the sorrows that come from the crimes of the tongue. Place in one of the scale-pans of justice the evils resulting from the acts of criminals, and in the other the grief and tears and suffering resulting from the crimes of respectability, and you will start back in amazement as you see the scale you thought the heavier shoot high in air.

At the hands of thief or murderer few of us in life suffer, even indirectly. But from the careless tongue of friend, the cruel tongue