

are to be returned to the Conveners of the Committees on Temperance in the different Presbyteries. A list of these Conveners will appear in the January *Record*. By these the petitions are to be forwarded to the M.P. representing the respective petitioners.

The forms of petitions will be sent to *Sessions* through the minister, or, when vacant, to the representative elder, and the success of the movement so far as our Church is concerned, will largely depend upon their active co-operation.

Sessions are earnestly requested to make all arrangements necessary to secure the largest possible number of signatures, and if in any case more blank forms are needed, I will be pleased to furnish them on application.

Towards the close of December all Temperance Societies will receive a circular asking them to forward a resolution, signed by their officers and members, to the M.P. representing their respective constituencies, urging his support for the prayer of the petition.

It is also expected that all Temperance Societies will be ready to aid the Churches with which, as individuals, their members may be connected, in the work of securing signatures, and in every possible way to help along this important movement.

Relying on the friends of Temperance and Prohibition in every Session and Congregation of our Church, we confidently hope that every congregation and mission station will help to swell the number of petitioners, and thus more fully emphasize the prayer of our petition in the Halls of Parliament.

D. STILES FRASER, *Convener*.

SPRINGSIDE, Upper Stewiacke, N.S.,

4th November, 1890.

## Mission Work in the Rockies.

THE following extracts from a letter from our missionary at Donald, B.C., may be of interest as showing the kind of work our missionaries are doing:—"I have great satisfaction in reporting that over \$300 were got for a church at Beaver in one week, and the whole money will be raised in two more. The building will be opened about Xmas and free of debt. The saw-mill people are giving valuable assistance and the whole population help. I am anxious to do more for the young men here. We have formed a literary society at Donald, and the young men have taken hold of it, and tell me they find pleasure and profit in reading up for discussions and debates. On Monday evening I had a glee club of eight members—all young men—and a children's band of Hope in the afternoon. The Sabbath-school is reduced, and 8 girls and 7 boys attend. I am hoping to provide some reading for lumber camps, and I am visiting six camps at least every ten days. I am well received

in the camps and hold services as I can. I feel that I would like a longer day, for I am so well since I came here that I can undertake almost anything." This gentleman travels over 200 miles of railway, and has abundant opportunities of leaving books where they will do the most good; can not some people send a few? Remember the men are intelligent, well educated and can read what requires an effort to master. Books of travel, biography, history, science will be read with appreciation. Clever quiet fiction—the fruit of moral intellect will do good. Religious books, theological books, and healthy books on apologetics will be studied. Goody-goody books will do no good but ha. m. Books for men, not soft heads, are wanted. J. R.

## New Hebrides Mission.

LETTER FROM REV. J. W. MACKENZIE.

I CAN only give you a few hurried lines, as we are expecting the "Truganini" from the north to-day. She may be a day in Fila Harbour, or she may only remain a few hours. Hitherto she has been getting cargo here nearly every trip, but this month a steamer has come from Numea—French, of course,—and will probably get some copra, etc., especially from Frenchmen. This steamer, it is reported, will run in opposition to the "Truganini." French interests preponderate at present on this island. Mr. MacLeod, who, before the "Truganini" began to run, was doing the principal part of the trading in the group, has lately sold out to the French New Hebrides Company. He had two vessels in the islands, several tracts of land, a store at Fila Harbour and another at Havannah. Three British subjects were passengers by the "Truganini" last trip, who intend opening copra stations on one of the northern islands. We would like very much to see good, respectable traders coming to the group, British subjects, of course, to put a check on French influence. It seems to be the policy of the latter now to occupy as many stations as possible, so that they may urge this as a plea for claiming the group.

We had a delightful Synod meeting this year. Had the presence of three delegates from Australia. We all enjoyed very much our intercourse with them. Then, before we separated, we had a visit from Professor Drummond. I need not say it was a pleasure to meet him.

A short time before the meeting I had a note from one of the French settlers, asking us to take his little girl to educate her. The note stated that unless we could do something for them, they would be obliged to apply elsewhere. For several years Mrs. Mackenzie has been teaching the children of two of our nearest neighbours—the one a Malay, the other a