

Spirit upon our Churches, and to name for that purpose a suitable time.

Owing to the lateness of the season, and the pressure of spring work, it would not be wise to ask our people to assemble for this purpose on a working day, and we therefore recommend that such thanksgiving and prayer should be presented on the Lord's Day; and in the expectation that the negotiating churches in Ontario and Quebec will unite with us, we name the last Sabbath of May, prior to which our request can reach the Moderators of those Bodies, and intimation, should they approve, be given within their bounds.

Without wishing to limit such thanksgiving and prayer to any day or week, we do hereby respectfully and affectionately request our brethren throughout the Maritime Provinces, to invite their congregations on the day named, the last Sabbath of May, to join in thanksgiving to God for His guiding hand upon us thus far, and in earnest prayer for a Baptism of the Holy Spirit, that we may be truly of one mind and of one heart to exalt our common Lord.

THOMAS DUNCAN,

*Moderator of Synod of Maritime Provinces,  
in con. with the Ch. of Sc.*

PETER G. MACGREGOR,

*Moderator of Synod of the Lower Provinces*

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### REV. MR. GOODWILL.

By a private letter from Mr. Goodwill, dated "Emerald Hill, January," we are sorry to learn that he and Mrs. Goodwill and their child have all suffered in health since leaving Santo. The change from the hot enervating climate of Santo to even the mild climate of Australia has been too much for them; and their medical advisers say that they should not return to Nova Scotia for a few years. However, he says that he has written to the Secretary that "we shall, if possible, leave for home either in March or April (via San Francisco), so as to arrive in the beginning of the Summer, and before the Union takes place," at

the consummation of which he desires to be present.

We shall all welcome our dear brother back. He exposed himself too much in the difficult work he had to do: and since the Master has shown that it was not His will that he should continue in the New Hebrides, we doubt not that He has even more important work for Him here.

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### SYNOD FUND.

Special efforts, we trust, have been made in all our congregations to ensure enlarged contributions toward the Synod Fund. The ordinary charges upon this Fund are travelling expenses of members to and from Synod, printing of Synodical documents, Clerk's salary, &c. This year travelling expenses will average five or six times more than usual, and a correspondingly increased contribution should be given.

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### SABBATH SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS.

Sabbath School work has of late years become so systematic, and now forms so large a part of regular Church work, that Associations have sprung into existence whose operations extend over large portions of the Church, and even whole districts, irrespective of denominational distinctions. Thus we have the Halifax and Dartmouth Sabbath School Association, whose meetings are held quarterly; and reports are received from the Superintendents of all the Sabbath Schools in the two cities, showing the general statistics of the schools. Addresses on practical subjects, and conversations, always form a part of the proceedings, thereby disseminating an amount of information regarding the mode of teaching, the best ways of rendering the work more profitable to teacher and scholar, etc., which would otherwise probably be lost to many. We should like to give a synopsis of the returns presented, but space will not allow it; but we do take pleasure in saying that St. Andrew's, Halifax, has taken the lead, for six months, in point of attendance, and