

connected with the progress of Christ's kingdom in this land; and they trust that these seminaries will have a place in the hearts and prayers of our God-fearing people. John Knox cried out in an agony of desire, "Give me Scotland or I die." Our prayer should be, "Give us men, the brightest, the purest and the best, to labour to bring the Lower Provinces to the feet of Immanuel."

Could we reach the ear of our aspiring young men who are looking about for paths of honour and usefulness, we would ask, "What profession more useful, what service more noble, than the service of God in the gospel of His Son?" If the young men of this world are not deterred from rushing at the call of patriotism, through toil and peril, to the battle-field, what hindrances or discouragements should prevent your responding to the summons of the Prince of Peace? Our hope is in the power and grace of that Prince,—with Him is the residue of the Spirit. A new and copious baptism from above would make parents more than ready to consecrate sons to the Lord's work, and would give those sons of toil, tongues of fire and hearts of love, and in numbers sufficient to spread over all these maritime colonies. May the Lord arise and plead His own cause, and let every minister and elder, and all our sons and daughters, hear and respond to the summons. "Arise and shine for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee!"

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SABBATH OBSERVANCE.

To the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces:

The morning of the first Lord's day dawned on the world amidst scenes of peculiar interest. The blessed Saviour, having burst the fetters of the tomb, ascended to his mediatorial throne. Discouraged and dispirited, his disciples had been dispersed. But early in the morning some of them were furnished with the most satisfactory evidence of his resurrection. The cheering intelligence soon spread among them; and the followers of the Saviour,

doubtless, rejoiced in Him during the remainder of that first day of the week.

This day possesses still a deep and permanent interest to the friends of Jesus.—Like the name of its divine Lord, that day is as ointment poured fourth.' The great events of his death and resurrection, with all their glorious results, are specially adapted to gladden the hearts of those who believe in Him. That His great name may be glorified, and their own souls largely blessed, they should gratefully remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy to Him.

In reference to this part of the church's testimony and duty, your committee have nothing remarkable to report as occurring within the bounds of the Synod during the past year. They are not aware that any very marked improvement on former practice has been made since the presentation of their last report. Yet they believe that the church, included within the circle of the Synod's authority, has been steadily, and with increasing earnestness, maintaining its testimony in favour of scriptural Sabbath observance. Practice corresponding to this has been, they trust, very generally exhibited by all the congregations under your superintendence. May you not also cherish the hope that the members of the different congregations are increasingly enjoying the blessings which flow from honoring the Lord's day by keeping it holy.

Your committee have the satisfaction of stating, that as far as they have received information, no new forms of Sabbath desecration have appeared during the year. The threatening aspect of matters in the city of Halifax, referred to in the last report, has not been developed into open desecration. The sub-committee appointed for the city, will, however, require to keep a watchful eye on the movements of those who have already shown a readiness to trespass on the territory of the King of Zion, by appropriating His holy day publicly to their own secular purposes. A similar committee for the city of St. John has also nothing special to report, either as attended to during the year, or as requiring Synodical action. The more decided in the expression of their views on the subject,