

should be maintained, and live, and grow, even in the midst of what we might count to be fatally dangerous and hostile influences. For all that success we need the influence of the Holy Spirit.

Undoubtedly there must be co-operation of the Holy Spirit, the Divine Teacher, as well as of parents and teachers. The parent may plant, and the teacher may water; but God alone can give the increase. Public teaching, private teaching, —the teaching of precept and of example, —cannot be dispensed with; but in all, and through all, there must be the exercise of the renewing and enlightening power of the Holy Spirit.

O for a deeper, truer sense of the solemnity of our work as teachers, as parents, as members of the Christian Church!

ARE MISSIONS A FAILURE.

In the first place, Christian work in the foreign field during the past decade has resulted in a greater number of conversions, in proportion to the numbers engaged, than has such work in the home field.

Secondly. All the principal heathen countries of the world are now penetrated by the missionaries of Christ, who have put into operation the highest and strongest kind of spiritual influences. At this moment, over China, Japan, Persia, Hindoostan, Turkey, East, South, West and North Africa, Madagascar, Greenland, and the hundred of Pacific isles, are 31,000 Christian labourers, toiling diligently to represent unto sorrowful men the beauty of Christ's love. In these lands, schools, colleges and theological seminaries have been established, wherein Christian education is given to 600,000 youths of both sexes. Outside the bounds of Christendom there are now established 4,000 centres of Christian teaching and living; 2,500 Christian congregations have been established, 273,000 persons are now members of the Christian Church; and populations numbering in all 1,350,000 have adopted the Christian name. In India and Burmah alone are 7,480 missionaries, native preachers and catechists; nearly 3,000 stations and out stations; 70,857 communicants. "The Baptists have made the Karens of Burmah a Christian people; the American Board has done the same for the Sandwich Islands; the Moravians for Greenland; Wesleyans for the Feejee and Friendly Isles; and the English Independents for Madagascar." No, direct religious results

from missions? What mean those large and flourishing Christian churches, born out of the very abysses of heathenism, in Australia, British America, Siberia, the Sandwich Islands, Northern Turkey, Persia, China, Madagascar, South Africa, Liberia, Sierra Leone, and the Islands of the Pacific? "The largest church in the world, numbering 4,500 members, is in Hilo, on the island of Hawaii, not yet fifty years removed from the most debased savagism. Over 90,000 Feejeans gather regularly for Sabbath worship, who within a score of years, feasted a human flesh. In 1860, Madagascar had only a few hundred scattered and persecuted converts. Now the queen and her prime minister, with more than 200,000 of her subjects are adherents to Christianity." As the Secretary of the London Missionary Society has said, "In more than 300 islands of Eastern and Southern Polynesia the Gospel has swept heathenism entirely away."

These are but few fragments of the testimony that is within our reach, all telling the same story. Instead of bitter jests, founded on ignorance, at the paltry results of Christian missions, the just expression of our hearts should be one of astonishment and gratitude over the marvelous achievements of these missions in actually Christianizing large portions of the human family. And they have only begun to indicate what they can do. Let us sustain them with new confidence, and with the energy of our prayers, and the abundance of our free gifts.

Home Missions.

WE publish another interesting report of the Summer's work of another of our Theological Students. As regards Probationers, we have one each, in New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Cape Breton, and Nova Scotia. Now is the time for Presbyteries to prove their paternal regard for their vacancies, and to devise liberal things for their supply. We congratulate Picton Presbytery on the happy state to which they have attained, of having every vacant Congregation supplied. Had their Congregations, been less perfectly organized, such a result would scarcely have been attained. We doubt not that that Presbytery, if necessary, will do some mission work beyond its own bounds.

We invite special attention to the corres-