

EXPLANATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS.

A great number of exploring parties will be engaged during the present year at various points across the continent of North America. Each of these parties consisting of from 18 to 24 persons will be isolated for the time being from the world and from each other. This condition of isolation from all the privileges of ordinary communities will extend over a considerable period. It is proper and seemly that persons so circumstanced should all unite in the group to which they respectively belong in a humble recognition of Him who appointed the Day of Rest, who is their constant Protector and the Author of their being. None feel this more than those who have experienced a prolonged absence from home on similar expeditions. It is more than probable, however, that the members of these surveying parties will belong to different churches, and hence may arise, as on previous occasions, some difficulty with respect to a form of worship in which all, without scruple, could join as members of the same group or family for the time being. To accomplish the desired object and to avoid embarrassment to the heads of parties on each return of Sunday morning, it was considered advisable to appeal to the good offices of three well known Clergymen of the Churches of Rome, England, and Scotland, in the city of Ottawa. These three Reverend Gentlemen satisfied themselves as to the great propriety of the object in view, entered most heartily and zealously into the subject in a truly Christian spirit, and arranged and gave their sanction to the short yet beautiful and appropriate form of service which is now published, and they recommend it not as being in every respect perfect, but as a profitable devotional exercise in which any one may join whether he belong to the Roman Catholic, the Anglican, the Presbyterian, or any of the Protestant Churches.

It is therefore suggested that the Engineer in charge of each party, as its head, and in this respect resembling the Captain of a ship at sea, may very properly consider it his duty to invite all under him, on each Sunday morning, to assemble for a few minutes while he, or some one whom he may appoint, conducts the following simple service.