

us that He calls to the work which angels would glory in being asked to engage. Well may the thought of this open every hand, were it naturally ever so tight and grasping, and bring up the question, not how little can I decently give, but how much can I possibly afford to contribute to this noble object, for which not man, but my own Saviour, solicits my help? But, in addition to this, we have to remind all the friends of Christ, throughout our churches, that unless their liberality be enlarged our Funds will not be sufficient to meet the outlay to which now we are pledged. The collections of last year were far short of the expenditure of the present one. The amount was \$1500, that is, about £282 sterling, while the mere salaries of our missionaries will amount to £300. Besides this, a considerable amount will be required as an outfit and for the passage money of our missionary and his wife. The plain statement of this fact will shew, that without a more generous effort, our Foreign Mission Scheme must certainly soon become embarrassed; and as there is no standing still in anything in this world, there is danger, almost a certainty, that if our zeal and liberality do not go on expanding, the opposite tendency will shew itself. Should this happen and make its influence felt, even for a year or two, our mission must collapse and perish, and leave us under a stigma and a reproach which can never be wiped away. For our own sake, for the sake of the perishing thousands who are stretching out their feeble hands and crying to us for help, but above all, for the sake of Him who died for us, while we were His enemies, and sent the glorious light of the Gospel to our Fatherland, when sunk and deep in darkness and misery, let us resolve to uphold and advance this work with all our heart and strength. Minis-

ters will not require to be reminded that the Synod enjoined on them to give this matter a greater prominence in their Sabbath exhortations. Every individual comprising our congregations, if honest in his profession, is a servant of Christ, and pledged to do His work—in other words, is a missionary to convey to all ignorant of it, the glorious tidings of the love of Christ. If he cannot travel with these tidings himself, surely he will cheerfully give what his means will allow to enable others to go. This is the least and the easiest service that can be asked for, and he is not a servant of Christ, and his profession is false, that will not from his very heart be thankful that even this service will be accepted.

I need further add only this, that it is exceedingly desirable, in the case of all congregations, to make their collections as near as may be convenient to the time recommended by the Synod, viz., before the end of October. Some returns last year were so long delayed that they could not appear in the report. This shews indifference, and creates confusion. Let it not be forgotten that the Synod also recommended the service of collectors to go from house to house in scattered country congregations.

A. MACLEAN, *Convener.*

Articles Contributed.

Notes of a Tour through the United States and Canada.

MR. EDITOR,—

I have tried again and again to prepare some notes of my tour through the United States and Canada. But really I do not know well how to begin. One feels confused and bewildered in attempting to give any adequate sketch of the great Western world. But perhaps your good readers will bear with me while I briefly give them such crude thoughts as come uppermost.