

ing to \$130, representing subscriptions from 14 different persons and churches, which are not yet redeemed. If the *Weekly* is to go on, it must be set square "on its feet"; and handed over to the new manager free of debt!

The Secretary-Treasurer will remind, for the second time, in a few days, those who have promised, but not yet paid. And will others, who did not promise, and who were not present, consider this invitation to them to help to lift all debt from the INDEPENDENT? That is what the Directors are now waiting for, before any final move is made.

### GATHERING IN THE YOUNG.

There is no duty more pleasant and more important than gathering in very young converts into the church. Why this has not always been done, cannot be satisfactorily explained. Only two reasons have ever been stated: and neither of these are weighty. (1) That they will not hold out; being so young as not properly to understand the solemn and important step they are taking. And (2) That they may be improperly used to swell a vote in the business meeting. Spurgeon may speak for every church—for the experience is the same—when he testifies that he always found children more generally faithful and consistent than those converted in older years. And as to the second—let a rule prevail in each church, that members must be (say) eighteen before they vote in the church-meeting. A brother told us a few days ago, that in his church the voting-age was seventeen.

Let every effort be made for the children of the Sunday School, and others; to bring them to Christ; and at once thereafter to membership and profession in the church.

A LITTLE boy at a camp-meeting heard a man in an adjoining tent praying. He asked his mother for what he was praying. She replied that he wanted to be wholly the Lord's. "Why isn't he then?" said the boy. The implied reproof in these words comes home to many. How often do we ask that we may be entirely consecrated to God. Let it not be forgotten that consecration to God is a voluntary act.

## Our Contributors.

### FROM THE MISSION FIELD.

REV. W. W. SMITH.

*Dear Sir,*—I am sending the following report of work during the past nine months at the Canadian Station, and think our people at home might like to read it.

We have to report for this Station a period of threatening clouds and cheering sunshine; anxious hours blending into seasons of sweet relief. In the midst of all our experiences we have been cheered by the Divine presence, and encouraged by substantial progress made.

*A gloomy outlook.*—From the time we left home until our arrival at Benguella, we heard the same lament about the unhealthiness of the Station, in tones loud enough to shake hearts stouter than our own. We were aware that in the sad death of Miss Clarke the Station had received a blow from which it would be hard to recover. Then followed the appointment of Rev. W. Lee, to share in the formation of a new Station, and the resignation of his connection with Cisamba, while the Rev. F. Read having been appointed to Bailundu, was not available for the work at Cisamba. Even Ngulu, our faithful native helper, was reported ill, and doubts were entertained of his ability to return to Cisamba.

*Brightening prospects.*—As the vessel was about to sail from N. Y. harbor, a telegram announced that the ladies of the C. C. W. B. M., had undertaken the support of Miss Johnston and Miss Melville; and thus the way was opened for their settlement at Cisamba. Later on a letter from Ngulu stated that his health had improved, and that he had returned to Cisamba, to *remain there*; for "he believed that the Lord had given him a work to do there, and he was going to do it, with such strength as should be granted unto him."

*Arrival at the Station.*—After a rapid and pleasant voyage we reached our destination. Our reception by the people, young and old, was very kind and very enthusiastic. Rev. Mr. Lee and wife were still enjoying good health. The young people seemed cheerful and hearty.

*Preparing for Work.*—Soon after our arrival, Rev. W. Lee and wife retired. Some three young