

and is still gaining strength in my mind, that if prayer-meetings were to take this Mission under their special charge, God would bless it and them most abundantly. Would it not be worth knowing what average amount it would require from each prayer meeting to sustain two permanent missionaries amongst our poor benighted Acadians.

Your humble co-worker,

DAVID A. STUART.

REV. P. G. MCGREGOR.

We will first answer the question asked. There are 333 prayer meetings returned in last year's statistical table, and as there are always some congregations which fail to make any return, there are certainly 340 in the Church. By giving the small sum of \$5 each, two missionaries would be provided with \$800 each per annum, and \$100 would remain for contingent expenses; or on an average of \$6, \$1000 would be provided for each, which might cover travelling expenses and salary leaving \$40 for contingencies, but if the standard of the little prayer-meeting of Wallis Brook is reached, the sum would be \$2890, enough to pay our two young evangelists punctually and well, this year, and pay for that proposed Church at Grand Falls before New Year's Day.

In the next place we cordially thank Mr. Stuart for his suggestion. By all means let it be acted on, for the most precious part of the suggestion is that the money will come *freighted with the prayers* of the donors. Hitherto both the prayers and the dollars have been withheld. That the dollars have been, we know, because the Mission has been *in debt* to the labourers, in the very face of the Apostle's charge, Rom. 8th, v. 13, "Owe no man anything," and that the prayers have been few and feeble is certain, else the fruit would have been more abundant and satisfying. But let every prayer-meeting plead for the Mission and gather in store for it, and, without question, the Missionaries' Stipend and the expense of Church-building will be met fully and joyfully.

For three years the Mission has been in debt, and commenced last year with a balance on the wrong side of \$130. We have just received from Primitive Church,

N. G., a collection of \$135.50 which *clears off our debt and turns the scale*. We will look confidently to the prayer meetings to provide without delay for the young evangelists soon to be in the field. We hope those who wrought so faithfully last year may return and that they may enjoy the consciousness, in common with the other missionaries of the Church, that they are being helped by the prayers of the people of God.

THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

One of the most important events of the year is the abolition of the Edicts against Christianity in Japan. It will be remembered that native christians have many years been a proscribed, isolated, down trodden race—treated as if they were lepers. To these poor people, the sound of liberty must be as life from the dead. There are many other signs of amazing progress in Japan. English is now taught in all the public schools. The Lord's Day is observed as a *Holiday*; may we not hope soon to see it observed as a *HOLY DAY*? Government policy is opposed to the Chinese influence in religion and politics, which hitherto has been very powerful. Missionaries are working with great energy and with the most commendable unanimity in the leading Japanese Cities.

The recent census of India shows that the population of the vast Empire is larger than was supposed. The usual estimate was Two Hundred Millions; the census shows a difference amounting to the sum total of the population of the United States or of Germany! The figures are over Two Hundred and Forty-one Millions! So, it seems that Christendom has to evangelize forty-one millions of heathen of whom hitherto no account was taken. Think of the overwhelming work before us; and then think of our blessed Saviour's Command—"Teach all Nations!"

The recent Missionary Conference in India bodes well for the future of Christianity in that land. When God's servants see eye to eye, when they "become one,"