

us give the glad tidings to every creature!

Might it not be well to ponder also the following passages, remembering that *spiritual* poverty and destitution are far worse than any other kind or form of poverty?

"He that withholdeth corn, the people shall curse him; but blessing shall be on the head of him that selleth it." "Who-so stoppeth his ears at the cry of the poor he also shall cry himself and shall not be heard." "He that hath a bountiful eye shall be blessed, for he giveth of his bread to the poor." "If thou forbear to deliver them that are drawn unto death and ready to be slain; if thou sayest, Behold, we knew it not! doth not He that pondereth the heart consider it, and He that keepeth thy soul, doth not he know it?" "If thy brother be waxen poor, then thou shalt relieve him, that thy brother may live with thee." "Thou shalt not harden thine hand nor shut up thine heart from thy poor brother, but thou shalt open thy hand wide unto him, and for this thing the Lord thy God shall bless thee in all thy works, and in all that thou puttest thy hand unto." Blessed is he that *considereth* the poor! Who-so seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? There is that scattereth and yet increaseth, and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, and it tendeth to poverty. The liberal soul shall be made fat; and he that watereth shall be watered also himself."—*Miss. News.*

SABBATH SCHOOL REPORT.

IN THE MIRAMICHI PRESBYTERY
FOR 1883.

Your Committee have much pleasure in reporting that there has been a very hearty response from the congregations within the bounds with reference to Sabbath School Returns. Only three congregations failed to report.

There were for 1883, 182 teachers and officers, 1562 pupils enrolled, 991 average attendance, 279 in Bible class, 63 communicants receiving instruction in Sabbath School. 26 communicants received during current year from the Sabbath schools, and the amount given to missions and benevolent objects was \$132.07.

In connection with Sabbath School work your Committee would respectfully recommend the holding of teachers meet-

MEETINGS FOR CONFERENCE AND PRAYER.

In all associations for the advancement of secular knowledge or for the official conduct of municipal or political affairs, it is found necessary that those interested should meet regularly in consultation and for business, without this, success can't be reasonably expected.

It can't be less necessary that those who have undertaken the very important work of Sabbath School instruction, the training of the young in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, should meet frequently and regularly for consultation and earnest prayer.

We, by no means, undervalue individual effort and private prayer; these are all-important, but we may not without suffering, neglect in this regard, the command "Forsake not the assembling of yourselves together." The promise of Jesus is "If two of you shall agree in earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven." Where two or three are gathered together in my name there am I in the midst of them."

In a Sabbath School where no teachers prayer meetings were held, where the teachers met on Sabbath, and separated after school was over with only a few words to each other and sometimes none at all, one of their number proposed that they should all meet a few minutes after school for prayer. The proposal met with approval and the beneficial effect was immediate. The teachers engaged in their work with a better spirit. They felt a new bond of union among themselves, and an interest in each other's work not experienced before. There was much more life imparted to all their duties, and plans were spoken of and adopted. Everything was done to strengthen one another's hands. A fresh impulse was given to the work. God blessed their labors.

How often should such meetings be held?

We would suggest that Teachers meetings for prayer and conferences about Sabbath School work be held once a month. Let the first Wednesday evening or Monday evening of each month be set apart, and by the teachers held sacred for the purpose. In rural districts where teachers come great distances they might meet on Sabbath morning or afternoon, when they would on all likelihood have the additional advantage of having the presence and counsel of the Pastor. We believe, that if such meetings were held in con-