

a number of parents and friends looked down on them from the end gallery, and shared in the universal joy. M. M. Lindsay, Esq., Superintendent of St. Matthew's and Richmond S. Schools, presented the prizes to the best Richmond scholars. This School is now in a most flourishing state. It numbers about 100, and, as the minister of the district takes a special interest in schools of all kinds, wisely judging that "the child is father to the man," it is sure to grow, not only in numbers, but in all that makes Sunday School teaching really useful. Seventy-one book prizes and thirty certificates of honor were awarded to the best St. Matthew's scholars, and about half as many to the St. Andrew's boys and girls. Mr. A. Campbell, Superintendent of Tower Road School, presented to his "best" similar prizes; but the North West Arm School did not put in an appearance, as it is to have a special celebration of its own.

The advantages of these Christmas and New Year reunions are very great. To give pleasure to so many is in itself no small good. A valuable church feeling is also cultivated. Rich and poor meet on the one platform, and nothing is recognized but the merits of regularity, punctuality and good conduct. This may be considered a great evil, and may therefore be shunned by snobs; but every sensible, not to say Christian, man or woman must see that it is a great blessing to both classes. We wish "a happy New Year" to all the young folks, without exception. CHURCHMAN.

WE have before us the Minutes of the Annual Conference of Missionaries. The business was chiefly of a routine nature.—The "Dayspring" is to be repaired to the extent of \$16,000. To accomplish these extensive repairs, consisting of new decks, new sails, new copper, &c., notwithstanding the present flourishing condition of the "Dayspring" Fund, there will be a deficiency of \$7,000 to be met by the churches at present supporting the mission.

Captain Fraser, who commanded the "Dayspring" for eight years, has resigned on account of "his rising family and the expenses connected with their

education." They return home by Melbourne and Halifax.

The good work of the mission goes on with vigour and success. Mr. Goodwill being at his own station, on Santo, was not present at the meeting.

Mr. Robertson, after enjoying his visit to Edinburgh and Glasgow, is now on his way to the sphere of his future labours.

Letter from the Colonial Committee.

The following letter has been received by the Convener of the Home Mission Board:—

NOVEMBER 24, 1871.

My Dear Sir,—The Committee were much gratified by your last letter, and by the evidence it gave of great activity on the part of your Board and of a satisfactory response from the people to your requirements.

They of course approved of your Draft on them. Should any special claim arise, as in the case of Cape Breton, they will be ready to consider it.

They are anxious to find one or two missionaries to send to the Maritime Provinces. One now in this country studying, has not yet applied.

I remain yours truly,

S. S. LAURIE.

Erratum.

The \$34.48 acknowledged in the *Record* of August last as collection for Foreign Mission from DeSable was, we are informed, raised chiefly by the Eastern Section of Mr. McColl's charge, about Orwell Head.

Praiseworthy.

In the Port Philip section of the Wallace congregation there is a *Record* taken by each family. This is no doubt owing to the faithful and energetic action of the minister, the Rev. James Anderson, on our behalf. We feel it due alike to people and minister, to make this acknowledgement, so that others may "go and do likewise."