

## Our Home Work.

**More Notes Wanted** Thanks to those who have kindly responded to our request for news from the Home Field. Will not others follow their example. The church needs to know what is doing, and what is being done in the outposts, and the only way she can know is for those who work there to tell her, and the only medium through which the whole church can be reached is the RECORD.

There are two bodies of workers upon whom rests the chief responsibility for the state of the Home Mission Fund, viz the ministers in the older parts of the Church and missionaries in the Home Mission Fields. The part of the former is to keep before their congregations their duty to this great work, that of the latter is to furnish information, and if either of these fail in doing their part, the work must suffer. More knowledge supplied means more money given. This in turn means more laborers sent out, more stations supplied with the gospel, a higher tone of morality and consequent prosperity in the frontier settlements, a more rapidly growing church, more men, women and children saved from sin; more honor to Christ. Come on brethren in the Home Mission Field, consider your duty in this regard. Please send facts, incidents, statistics, short as you like, even to a sentence on a post card if it but carry an idea in it.

### Collection for French Evangelization.

Sabbath, July 31st, being the day appointed by the General Assembly for the annual collection in aid of French Evangelization, it is hoped that a liberal response will be made. The work is great, is greatly needed, and is making progress.

### Should We Evangelize the French.

Sometimes a voice is heard objecting to this work on the ground that these people have now a religion, that we should not disturb them nor arouse antagonism. To this a sufficient reply is the words of the Master, "Go ye into *all* the world and preach the gospel to *every* creature." Where we find men without the word of God in their own tongue, that they can read and understand, we are bound to give them that word. There is no compulsion to make them accept it. All that we do is to go to them in love and tell them what we know of the way of peace. If they do not choose to listen, all well; if, hearing, they prefer their own system, they are free to follow it.

Further, if they think that they have the way of life, and that those outside the Catholic Church must perish, it is their privilege and duty to tell to all others that good news. If a Romanist with a loving heart, pitying my delusion, tells me I am wrong and offers me the

safety of his system, I do not hate the man for his loving interest in me. I thank him for it though I do not accept his offer. And if I have found safety and peace through simple trust in Christ, and if in pity for those who trust to other things in which there is no salvation, I go to them and tell them of the peace that I have, there should be no ill feeling against me, nor would there be, if the people were left to themselves. Generous, gallant, and open hearted, none respond more readily to kindness and good will than do the French. But if, owing to false leading, and misrepresentation, they resent this effort to do them good, should I on that account leave them in their blindness to perish? Is it Christlike so to do? Should I not rather in obedience to Him, and in His spirit, show my compassion in seeking to lead them out of darkness into light in aiming to conquer by love and by the story of that love that subdues civilized and savage alike and lifts our earth to heaven.

If aught of human consideration could add to the obligation of the Divine command, and the mute cry of souls hungering for the Bread of Life, the fact that they are our fellow citizens and also that the well being of our country depends upon their freedom and independence in civil matters, should be an added incentive to the earnest and faithful prosecution of this difficult but blessed work.

### Progress in French Work.

One feature of progress in connection with French Evangelization, which, while it cannot be reckoned by units and tens, nor shown in statistical tables, which is perhaps but little seen or known by the church at large, but very apparent to those engaged in the work, is the breaking down of that prejudice which is one great obstacle in the way of giving the gospel to our French fellow countrymen. While there is yet much of unreasoning bigotry and hate, yet it is gradually being replaced by a spirit of good will and inquiry. As in Foreign Missions, much of the earlier labor is foundation work, digging through the prejudice and bigotry of the people, getting down to the bed rock of their good will, making them realize that one loves them, is laboring simply for their good; and is offering that which will do them good, so is it in French work, and in many cases where progress cannot be measured by converts that progress is none the less real, consisting as it does in the changed attitude of the French people toward the gospel and those who bear it. Let the work be supported and prosecuted, faithfully, patiently and prayerfully, and days to come will see among that grand people a grand church, that will do what no other power can do, in dispelling the racial antagonisms that threaten our country and in binding into one the provinces and peoples of our wide Dominion.