

A MACEDONIAN CRY.

The Foreign Mission Report says:—There has been an increased call from the heathen. Thousands have come, not figuratively, but literally, begging to be taught. Instead of Missionary tours to look up audiences, and find men willing to be preached to, audiences go about hunting a Missionary to preach to them. If the first consideration just presented shows the will of the Church, this *shows the will of the heathen*.

STATE OF RELIGION.

At the present moment we see a relative abatement of conversions, but yet there is vigorous progress—an average addition from the world of more than seven to each of the churches of the Synod of New Brunswick, and of nearly nine in the aggregate to the churches of the other Synods, leaving an average of eight received from the world into each church of the whole denomination. But along this average what a variety! One hundred and five churches report marked and refreshing accessions; two only specify a work of unusual magnitude, and one hundred and eighteen, by their own showing, find themselves with a communion slightly diminished. It is harder to care for the golden grain than to sow the seed. We may do that beside all waters; but the harvest must be guarded from the rats, and the tender vines from the little foxes; and sheltered from the storm and kept from the mildew and the thief. Let then the churches have rest, and be trained in prayers and charity and good works, that so "Walking in the fear of the Lord and the comfort of the Holy Ghost they may be edified and multiplied," while the same may provoke to love and to good works the others, whose privilege it is to attain even a larger blessing for themselves.

The tables indicate that the turning point may have come in the contributions for religious and benevolent purposes, since the amount is 2½ per cent. in advance of the last year. Let us hope that common gratitude to God for the smallest relief from commercial depression, will lead us to see how much better it is to invest our means for Christ's kingdom by voluntary act, than to lay up our earnings for the stroke of the Sheriff's hammer, or for the Receiver's purse. Let us begin to save more money by putting it where it cannot be lost, as it has always proved too likely to be, when diverted from its best uses. Many forms of expenditure do not admit of retrenchment. A man who has laid out largely in the necessary expense of preparing, fertilizing, and planting, cannot retrench by withholding the labour needed to care for and secure the crop. Less bread cannot be bought where new children are added to the board, nor can Missions with families and schools be broken up to be resumed without evil vastly greater than that of borrowing the current funds indispensable to the continued life of the effort.

To conclude, let us think of our muster roll of to-day. More than five hundred strong of educated ministers, of organized Churches, in living union with the glorified Saviour, in vital communion with the divine Spirit. In a year in which God has opened the windows of heaven and poured out a blessing so great that there has not been room to receive it, with "our barns filled with plenty, and presses bursting out with new wine," what do we think of debts unpaid to Missionaries and to students

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