

A series of Missionary Meetings was held recently in St. John city and vicinity, with a view of promoting a deeper interest in the schemes of the church. Rev. Jonathan Goforth, who is under appointment of the F. M. Committee, West, to labor in China, and who is to be supported by the students and alumni of Knox College, Toronto, was present at these meetings, and was, speaking after the manner of men, the life and soul of them. He is a young man of great energy and enthusiasm, full of facts and figures, and upon these he bases his telling missionary addresses which interest young and old alike. He is intensely practical and seeks to infuse the same spirit into others. One little girl probably voiced the general sentiment of the childrens' mass meeting when she said, in telling of it, "That Mr. Send off was perfectly delightful!"

The meetings extended from Dec. 4th to 8th, missionary sermons being preached in the different churches on Sabbath, and meetings held in different places the three following days.

Mr. Robbins, of Truro, and the writer were present part of the time and were privileged to aid the pastors in the good work. It is hoped that the result will be a deepened interest in the various schemes. The Presbyterian Church, both in St. John city and the Presbytery, is prospering on the whole, as perhaps never before in its history.

When Rev. J. A. Cairns, who was settled in the Scotsburn congregation, Dec. 6th, was leaving Musquodoboit, he was presented with the following address:

To the Rev. J. A. Cairns, M.A.,

DEAR SIR.—We, the members and adherents of Sharon Church, Upper Musquodoboit, beg leave, on the eve of your departure from among us, to express our esteem and friendship toward you, our late pastor; and although the ties which bound us as pastor and congregation are severed, we assure you that our good wishes for your welfare go with you to your new field of labor; and we hope your labors may be as acceptable to them as they have been to us.

We would also request you to convey to Mrs. Cairns our sincere desire for her welfare, and assure her that she, as well as yourself, will always be held in grateful remembrance by us, and, in the words

of your last text, "May the God of peace that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work, to do His will, working in you that which is well pleasing in His sight; through Christ Jesus," and may He make you an honored instrument in your new sphere of labor, as you have been here, in bringing many into his field.

Signed by the committee in behalf of the congregation.

HENRY DEAN,
ORLO S. GEDDES,
SIDNEY HAMILTON, } Committee.

Mr. Cairns gave a brief and touching reply, thanking them, on his own and Mrs. Cairns' behalf, for their kindness and co-operation, and closing with the well-known fitting words "Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you."

ABOUT HOME MISSIONS.

If the children in a family or community be neglected before they are able to supply their own wants they suffer and die. If cared for through infancy and childhood they soon become not only able to care for themselves, but helpers, and care for other weak ones as the older people pass away. The family, community, country, that neglects to foster, and rear its children must soon die out.

So with the Church. Its Home Mission stations are its children, unable to care for themselves in the way of supporting church ordinances, and needing help from older and stronger congregations. Our Home Mission Scheme is for this purpose. There are very few of the well nigh two hundred congregations that compose the Maritime Synod that have not at some time, in the earlier stages of their history, received aid. The mother churches in Scotland have from the first helped in this work. Probably not one congregation in ten in our Synod has depended from the very first entirely upon its own exertions. Thus aided, each congregation as it grew stronger became independent of aid and helped in turn to support others, and thus our church has grown to what it is, a power for good at home and abroad. Had it not been for this scheme we would