

Mission might have a benefit from Juvenile zeal and efforts.

THE RESULTS,

if Members, Superintendents and Teachers would heartily commend it, would be

1. A large sum of money now lost to the cause of Christ. This has been proved in Home Mission Free Churches, and in the Glasgow Foundry Boys Society where it has been tried with great success.

2. The second and chief result will be an effective education in liberality, and intelligent and prayerful interest in Missions. The monthly appeals in the *Record* if thought desirable, and especially the address in the Sabbath Schools more frequent, perhaps weekly, may be so framed as to familiarize the children with all the church's efforts; make the Missionaries' names and stations as household words, and form between the Missions and them, the potent tie which unites a person to a thing, and teaches him to think of it as *his own*.

"The scheme need not have the slightest tinge or appearance of secularity or mere money-raising, any more than the collections recommended in the epistles of Paul. If proposed in the right spirit, the financial will not encroach upon the spiritual side of the scheme. When men and women, they will probably multiply their gifts to enterprises in which they had a share as children. Then you may also let them feel that they have a recognized place and power in the Church, and that you can't get on well without them. It has been stated, on excellent authority, that foreign missions owe many of their best agents to impulses given in Sabbath schools, and this would be a likely way of leading some youths to give themselves to the work. It would also enlist the sympathies of parents and teachers, and place christian liberality in the true light, as a duty and a privilege for all."

The main objections to this scheme will probably be these:—

It will cause a great deal of trouble. But surely every school has one or two who would gladly attend to the matter. After all, the amount of trouble is very small; and it may be fairly questioned whether the same amount of effort in any other direction would be so fruitful in results.

All the money collected in the schools is needed to pay for the Sabbath School Library and children's papers. One or two months'

contributions might be given for that purpose, and an annual collection from, or sum voted by, the congregation would probably make up any deficiency.

It would interfere with the support of the Dayspring. Many schools have been nobly exerting themselves in supporting our Mission vessel, and never have they done better than during the present winter, as a glance at our receipts will show. But the proposal made will not injure that fund. If necessary, it can have two quarters. But by all means let the young people have more variety; and they will see to it that the *Dayspring* will not lie idle for want of sails or mariners.

"Experience has proved that this plan is quite practicable; and one thing is plain, it will not be the children's blame if it fail.

"The children of to-day will form the Church of the future; and if we begin early enough with them, they may be thoroughly interested in our missions. The soil is rich, and a little cultivation will produce an abundant harvest."

THE REFORMED CHURCH OF FRANCE.

Presbyterianism with Protestantism all the world over owes a debt of everlasting gratitude to the Reformers of France. Calvin was a Frenchman. Much of the Presbyterianism of Scotland can be traced to the French Church, which was essentially Presbyterian in government so long as it was permitted to exercise its governing functions, and which is at heart Presbyterian till this day. French Protestantism has had a fearful struggle for existence. It is a wonder that it has at all survived the civil wars, the awful tragedy of St Bartholomew, the dragonnades, the banishments, beheadings, imprisonments, burnings of two bloody centuries. Then, for the last hundred years, the civil power has been jealous of Church Assemblies of any sort. No free Synod of Protestants could well be held. The Protestant ministers were pensioned by the State, and the result has been that the churches became dead and erastian and largely heterodox. France has paid a fearful price for the manner in which she has crushed Protestantism to the earth, and in effect driven away the best