

Committee and the state of the funds forbidding that outlay. It is to be hoped the appeal will be well responded to, for the meeting promises to be of unusual importance, and every member who conveniently can, ought to be present.

#### EASTER.

FOR several weeks Christian brethren of several denominations have been observing the religious ceremonies pertaining to Lent, and the daily press, now and then, has given very interesting glimpses of the services held in connection with the Anglican Communion. Important among these have been the short mid-day services such as those conducted in Toronto by Bishop Sullivan, whose pithy addresses have been generally held to have been timely, able and helpful to many thoughtful minds. It is not necessary that we should subscribe to all the views on the Bible and its doctrines, which Bishop Sullivan has brought out in the course of his many addresses, to allow of a word of appreciation of the service he has undoubtedly rendered to the community. With the advent of Easter these and contingent services will cease, leaving, let us hope, much good seed in fruitful soil, the promise of an abundant harvest.

Presbyterians, as well as Christians of all denominations, can heartily enter into the spirit of the Easter ceremonies, the key note of which is a crucified and risen Lord:

"He is not here but is risen;"

and although we do not observe days and ordinances in connection therewith, and wisely so, that is no reason why, at this season, when the memories of Gethsemane are revived, members of all churches should not, by individual consecration and devotion express gratitude anew and in an especial manner for the priceless gift of eternal love as set forth in the Atonement. To make use of these seasons without abuse, without turning services into mere ceremonial, but to observe them in spirit and in truth would be well for all. Easter, then, has its significance to Christendom whether to the Ritualistic or the Evangelical, the bond or the free, and the spirit of the great occasion touches the sympathies of the Church Universal.

#### THEOLOGICAL STUDENTS IN THE MISSION FIELD.

THE time is again near at hand when a large body of the students in training for the ministry will once more forsake the class room to take the oversight of the scattered mission fields of the Church, and the occasion is one of immense importance, both for the Church and for the students. The next six months will mean much for both parties.

There is probably no other church in Christendom that makes as large use of its students in prosecuting its mission work as does our own, and none in which it has been so thoroughly systematised. To some extent we have been forced into the method by the exigencies of our situation with an expanding population over a wide area. But none the less it was a happy thought to have put the system on such a basis that it has continued to give reasonable satisfaction, both to the Church and to the students, for well nigh forty years. It may safely be said that, in no other way could our Church have attained the position it now occupies in the country with the means at its disposal. Of course the system has its drawbacks, but on the whole it has worked well and there is no sufficient

reason why we should discard it, even if we could do so without serious loss.

The primary consideration is, of course, the good of the Church and the maintenance of ordinances wherever they are needed. The student missionary, as truly as the ordained minister, goes to his work for the purpose of winning souls and building up character. Unless he has that aim he has no business to offer himself for service. Incidentally it may replenish his purse and enable him to continue his studies. But he has no more right to be a mere mercenary in mission work than he will have a right later on to accept the pastorate for the sake of the living it will give him. To the credit of the students it must be said that they have fully justified their employment by the results of their labors, now visible throughout the land in strong congregations that have been founded through their pioneer efforts.

But the experience is equally beneficial to the student, in that it gives him some of the most valuable training he receives during his whole college course. In all the professions, the tendency is now to teach through practical work, and this method is as important for the future minister as for the physician or engineer. In the field, he comes into contact with human nature, and is brought face to face with pastoral problems, which he must spend his life in solving. He finds out what the real difficulties are. If he surmounts them, so much the better. But even if he fails he is in a much better condition to profit by the advice of his more experienced teachers, than if he had never tried. In some cases he may be enabled to discover that he is unsuitable for the work altogether, and retire from it before it is too late to do so with dignity. The chief danger to the student is probably that of falling into slovenly methods of preparation for the pulpit. If he prepares carefully, and gives himself to his work in an earnest spirit he can hardly fail to be a stronger man for the experience.

#### ARCHBISHOP BRUCHESI AND THE PROTESTANT SCHOOLS.

THE Roman Catholic Archbishop of Montreal has followed his pastoral against the Young Men's and Young Women's Christian Associations by another warning to his flock against sending their children to Protestant schools. He points out the danger to their faith from such attendance, and bases his advice on the settled policy of the Church to guard its people against any such injurious influences.

The warning given is not altogether without excuse. We do not know what particular incident may have called it forth at the present time, but for many years back quite a number of Roman Catholic parents have shown a disposition to patronize the Protestant schools rather than those under the control of their own church. The last report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction gives about 3,000 Roman Catholics as attending Protestant schools throughout the Province. This is believed to be considerably below the actual number, and of course takes no account of those enrolled in the mission schools conducted by the several churches. Fifty per cent. might safely be added to the above figure as attending Protestant schools of one kind or another. The number is sufficiently large to awaken some anxiety.

And yet one cannot help asking what it is they are afraid of. None of the Protestant Public Schools give any denominational instruction. No attempt is made at proselytism, and no encouragement is given to at-