

this place, besides about twenty or thirty single men, not connected with these families, and perhaps one or two train crews may be lying in the place, either from Rat Portage or Fort William, at times of service. The missionary then leaves on Monday, going west one week and east the other, and holds service at the different points along the line. There are about eight places he holds service at once a fortnight, four east and four west. The other places he visits about once a month. At these points along the line there is generally only the agent with perhaps a night operator and the section men. There are not more than three or four families at any of them. At some there is just one and this family boards the men working on the section. The average attendance at these services along the line are from six or eight to twenty. The average attendance at Ignace 25 to 30. A missionary's lot in this field is no enviable one. He has one, very often two, services to hold every day in the week; has to get up and travel very often in the middle of the night; often can get no bed to sleep in when he gets to a place and has to content himself with a form in the station for a bed and his Bible for a pillow. He cannot even carry much along with him to make him comfortable, as he has very often to board a freight train passing through a station at the rate of six or eight miles an hour, so the less he has with him the better. He has got to keep up his studies too as he is travelling, as he seldom gets back to Ignace before Sunday. Picture all this in the midst of a North-West winter and you make the thing complete. Nor is his lot much better in summer, for the mosquitoes and black flies are then intolerable. Section men very often have to go to the hospital, they get so eaten up with them, and not a few have died from the effects.

"You have here some of the facts concerning our mission in this place. The mission is a very important one as the people have no other means of hearing the Word of God, for, even were they so disposed, they are too far away, generally, from either Rat Portage or Fort William to get to the services of the sanctuary. You might also bring out the fact that very often the missionary has to contend with the fact that the people don't want to see him nor hear the Word of God. The nature of their occupation, having often to work Sunday as well as Saturday, and the fact that they are cut off, as you might say, from all civilization, is not such as fosters a spirit of reverence for religion. The work is important, too, in another direction. A railroad population is a shifting one, and these people often move into larger centres again, and if they lose sight of the necessity of divine worship for a season they are hard to reclaim. Picture also the fact of children growing up here without religion and without schooling. If you put any of these facts into print I would feel very much obliged if you would either secure me one or two of the papers or else let me know where I will get them, as the church to which I belong in the old country is giving £50 (\$250) a year to this work, and several of the members are taking quite an interest in this work, and I would like to send them a copy. Any further information I can give you at any time I will do so with pleasure. My address after this week will be Manitoba College, Winnipeg. Please communicate with me as soon as possible in regard to papers, as I have been asked to furnish these facts several times to the old country. Hoping your work in Keewatin is proving rich in blessing."

#### Foreign Mission Committee.

On the 11th, 12th and 13th of September, the F. M. C. (W.D.) met, and were fully occupied during the three days, closing at 10.45 p.m. on the last day.

There were present: Mr. Hamilton Cassels (Convener); Drs. Grant, MacLaron, MacVicar, A. D. Macdonald, A. B. McKay, Wardrope, Moore, McCrae, J. D. Macdonald, Thompson, J. H. Fraser; and Messrs. Burson, Milligan, J. A. Macdonald, R. Johnston, D. Carrie, A. Jeffrey, and R. P. McKay.

Messrs. Campbell, Wilkie, and Jamieson

and Miss Oliver were present, and conferred with the committee as to the work in India.

Miss Campbell appeared before the committee, as a candidate for service in India. Her application was favorably received, but owing to difficulties in her way, an appointment was not finally made.

Mr. Slimmon, who has completed the summer season in Winnipeg, and was ordained in Bloor-street church, on Thursday evening, the 13th inst., has gone to Scotland to visit his parents whom he has not seen for nine years. He expects to return and start for Honan about the beginning of December. It will be remembered that Mr. Slimmon was for nine years in the service of the China Inland Mission, and came to us highly recommended by our own Honan Presbytery. He has taken two sessions in college, and now returns an ordained missionary, acquainted with the language and able at once to enter upon his work.

Mr. Jamieson's health has been so much improved since his return, that he feels it would be safe to return immediately. The committee thought it better that he should continue on furlough for six months and report.

Dr. Smith has not fully recovered from his double attack of typhus and pneumonia, and he has been further afflicted in the death of his little girl, May Isabella, who on the 23rd of August passed away. Dr. Smith has proven himself a medical missionary of unusual skill and success, and it is with great reluctance he yields to the decision of the Presbytery, that he should come home at once. His regular time for furlough would be next year. The committee and church will earnestly pray that Dr. Smith may be sustained by Divine grace in all his afflictions, and speedily and completely restored to health.

The letters from Honan are very hopeful as to the work, and say little about the war. They seem to know less about it than we do in Canada, which is, of course, owing to want of press and postal communication.

An interesting letter was read from Mr. Gauld, which will be given to the press in full. His account of a trip amongst the stations on the eastern coast, and the relations of the Pophoans to the Chinese and savages is very interesting.

A letter from Dr. Webster is very encouraging. He is fully at work in Haifa and enjoying it. He wishes very much that the Church would send another man, to work at Safed, in connection with the Tiberias Mission, where the Jewish committee of the Free Church of Scotland asks co-operation. Dr. Webster believes fully that the Jewish population will greatly increase throughout Palestine, and also that the Church at home would be blessed in being generous towards Jewish work.

The Government has promised a grant of \$1500 towards the erection of a Girls' Home at Alberni, and the plans are being prepared, and must be approved by the Indian Department.

The work in Victoria and B. C. is being vigorously pushed by Messrs. Winchester and Colman, but in Victoria they are greatly hampered for want of suitable buildings and native helpers. Mr. Winchester has decided to visit Canton, that he may get a better command of the Cantonese, which he does at no additional expense to the Church.

A DESPATCH from Detroit to the Sarnia Observer says:—According to the Detroit Evening News, Rev. J. C. Tolmie, the pastor of St. Andrew's Presbyterian church, has caused several sensations in Windsor, but the greatest of all was last night when in the course of his sermon, he claimed that the crest of the church should be stamped on billiard cues and cricket bats. "I believe," he said, "that men and women can take all the pleasure they can get out of this life if it is not in opposition to their conscience and the teachings of the Bible. They say that dancing is sinful, but I claim not, and I defy any person to show me anything in the Bible against it. To rant against these things is cant and hypocrisy and not Christianity."

## Church News.

### In Canada.

REV. R. C. REEVES has accepted a call to Lakefield.

REV. D. J. FRASER has been inducted as pastor of Wolfville and Lower Harton.

DEDICATION services were conducted in Erskine church last Sabbath.

THE jubilee of Rev. John Cameron was celebrated at Nino Milo River lately.

THE new Sabbath school at Milton was opened last Sabbath by Rev. J. Neil, Toronto.

KNOX CHURCH, Cornwall, which has been enlarged and renovated, was re-opened last Sabbath.

REV. MR. SEVLAZ, of Ottawa, and Rev. Mr. Doudiet, of Buckingham, opened a new French Presbyterian church in Masham recently.

THE ladies of Gravenhurst church held a very successful peach social, the programme and proceedings generally being very much enjoyed.

REV. T. U. RICHMOND, a graduating student of Manitoba College, is being called by the Point Douglas congregation of Winnipeg.

REV. DR. CAMPBELL, of Victoria, B.C., who has been confined to his house by illness for several weeks, is now able to resume his duties.

THE Presbyterians of Janetville are now worshipping in their new church, the recent dedication of which aroused great interest in the township.

REV. DR. BRYCE, of Winnipeg, has been visiting the Presbyterian congregations of Victoria, Vancouver, New Westminster and Nanaimo in the interests of the Theological department of Manitoba College.

MR. DUNCAN MacKenzie, M.D., of Dromore, a member of the session of Amos congregation, has removed to Mount Forest. Shortly after his departure he was presented with a highly complimentary address.

DURING the absence of Rev. Charles Stephen, in Scotland, for the months of November, December and January, all communications for the Presbytery of Calgary should be addressed to Rev. James C. Herdman, B.D., Calgary, who will act as interim clerk.

MR. R. A. MITCHELL, B.A., a railway missionary in the neighborhood of Calgary, has a field 175 miles long and preaches, usually, five or six evenings in the week. Services are held at fifteen places. On Mr. Mitchell's return to his studies in Knox College the work will be carried on in some measure by Sabbath schools and Christian Endeavor societies.

REV. D. CARSWELL, of McGregor, occupied the pulpit of the Presbyterian church, Carberry, lately. Rev. Mr. Carswell is a devout Christian worker and through his labors at McGregor his congregation has grown beyond the expectations of the most sanguine.

AT Altamont, Somerset and Swan Lake, Man., we were all delighted to have our student missionary, Mr. Stitt, with us on the 9th inst. On account of throat difficulty brought on by three services each Sabbath and loading the singing, he is obliged to go to the coast for the winter, but we hope to have him with us next summer again. We are going to build at Altamont, and are looking for a number of accessions at our next communion.

ON Wednesday of last week the members and adherents filled the parlor of the East church, Toronto, to overflowing. They met to welcome their pastor, Rev. J. A. Morison, and Mrs. Morison, who have just returned from their marriage trip. Mr. William Crichton acted as chairman. After devotional exercises, solos were given by Mr. James Stoddart, choir leader, and other members of the choir. Dr. J. T. Duncan, after an address of welcome to Mr. and Mrs. Morison, in the name of the congregation presented them with an elegant marble clock bearing a suitable inscription. Mr. Morison very touchingly replied in behalf of Mrs. Morison and