

seek and save a lost world. It is pleasing when those hands that have been given, are employed in doing something to cast into the treasury of Christ, that jewels may be put in his crown.—The contemplation of the hours spent in the pleasures of sin, or in dissipating worldly amusement, to the young, may bring a painful retrospect, but those spent in seeking to advance the cause of Christ never will. We, therefore, congratulate the Ladies of the congregation of Otanabee, in this their first effort to do something for the advancement of religion, and we trust that their success will stimulate them to more enlarged efforts for the future. Their having done well for the past, is no reason why they should relax their energy for the future, but is a reason why they should resolve to do more. We trust that the success of our sale here, may not merely have a happy influence upon the ladies of the congregation of Otanabee, but may have a voice to the ladies of other country congregations. Go and do likewise. Every country congregation should have an Association. To a young country like this, where there is room for exertion, where there is so much demand for labour, and where it is so well paid for, there is great danger in the male population in congregations becoming secularized, and to prevent this, the females should be the spiritual life-blood of them, to raise the affections from the things of time to the things of eternity. This they can do, not merely by speech, but by the labours of their hands. It is true, indeed, that it may be difficult to form Associations in country places, but a great deal of difficulty is overcome by that simple word—try; and in fact, if we be deterred from duty, by the appearance of difficulties, we will scarcely engage in any.

Our day of sale at Keene was closed in the evening by an excellent missionary meeting.—There was a large number present, the church being quite full. Our friends at Keene seem to take an interest in such meetings, not so much for the excellence of the speaking upon the occasion, as understanding something of the movements and progress of the Church, and state of the Christian world. It is well, Mr. Editor, when individual congregations lose something of their selfishness, and begin to evince an interest in the Church universal, and the way that individual congregations do this is, by showing an interest in missions.—After singing and prayer, Mr. John Short was called to occupy the chair for the evening, and performed his part in a Christian manner. Rev. F. Andrews, pastor of the congregation, addressed the meeting on the encouragements and discouragements in the religious aspect of the present times. Rev. D. McAlcese followed, and with his usual ability, directed the mind of the meeting to mission fields, more especially to the claims of this land; and Rev. J. M. Roger, Peterboro', in his wonted happy and pointed manner, showed the advantage of missionary enterprise to those churches which are engaged in them. The addresses were listened to with marked attention, and each seemed to be impressed with the claims which the religion of Christ has upon them. May they not merely have been impressed, but may they evince the reality of that impression by holiness of life, and more strenuous exertion in behalf of religion. The meeting was dismissed by the benediction. May such meetings soon become more general, which have holiness to the Lord written upon them; and amidst the din of politics, the bustle of trade, the war of opinion, the exertion of agriculture, may the claims of righteousness, which excites a nation, not be forgotten by the people of the land.

Yours, sincerely,

KEENE, Feb 3, 1853.

F. A.

PICTON.

On the 27th ult., the Female Association connected with the congregation in Picton, held their second annual Sale of useful and fancy

work. Their tables were well supplied with a great variety of articles, evidencing their zeal and diligence during the past year. A Service took place in the evening, which was largely attended, and proved of an exceedingly pleasing and satisfactory character. Christians of various denominations met together, and spent the evening in a social and rational manner. Interesting addresses were delivered by Rev. Messrs. Burns, Gregg, Rogers, and Hudson, of the Presbyterian Church, and Rev. Mr. McFadden of the Wesleyan Church. The meeting, which was presided over by Rev. Mr. Reid, broke up about ten o'clock, when the company separated, highly delighted with the proceedings of the evening, which had been agreeably enlivened by the admirable music of the choir. The proceeds amounted to upwards of £38, which will be devoted to the painting and improvement of the Church.

[FOR THE RECORD.]

STATESMEN AND CHRISTIAN MISSIONS.

We have before us a speech delivered in the Wesleyan Chapel, Quebec, on the 13th October, at a Missionary Anniversary:—

"Yonder, says the chairman, is convened a parliament, towards which millions are casting an anxious eye, but its lustre is impaired by the parliament assembled here to-night. Yonder they are enacting laws; here we are carrying out, on a scale of magnificence, the laws that have been enacted for us by the King of kings. Yonder they circumscribe their jurisdiction to United Canada; here, our proper theatre is the world." But we must desist, and refer readers to the speech itself, if they are desirous of seeing more. And now, having launched our bark, we will, looking up for the blessing of God, make some application of this, first to the State and then to the Church.

When the far-famed Dr. John Campbell of London, sent his powerful epistles, some years ago, on "Wars and Missions," through the press, to the Duke of Wellington, Lord Brougham and others, they were well fitted to arrest the attention of the upper circles of society, and to induce them to put forth a helping hand for the evangelization of the world. It is well to witness laymen, especially in high life, fighting on the high places of the spiritual field. In this point of view, we rather see Mr. Rolph in the chair at an anniversary, than the Bishop of Quebec; and we rather see Mr. Wilberforce, author of the "Practical View of Christianity," than the Bishop of London. Some narrow-minded men think that clergymen advocate Christianity from interested views and motives, but the more that others come to the help of the Lord against the mighty, the sooner will this illusion be dispelled. Look to a Thornton, putting his means, like a mighty stream, into the Christian Treasury, and a Douglas panting for the revival of religion. These and many others were not ministers, but they were men of God of enlarged benevolence and ardent zeal; and say not therefore that piety belongs to a class, or that it is a thing of priestcraft. How earnestly ought Canadian Christians to pray that a spirit of missionary enterprise and Sabbath sanctification may pervade the Provincial Parliament!

The Church of Christ is charged to convey the gospel to every creature. All denominations, therefore, who hold the head Christ Jesus, should advance. Did Dr. Jewett say, on the Temperance question—"Men of Massachusetts, stand to your guns"—we say the same to the soldiers of the cross of every name. Fight, and go on to fight against every species of moral evil, until the flag of victory wave on the conquered field of the world. One of the speakers at the meeting already referred to, among other statements said, that "he would like to infuse a missionary spirit

into the people of this city. He would like to see them feel otherwise on this question than they do. Professing Christians require to be converted over again, if the missionary enterprise is to prove successful. He knew that persons might swerve in missionary efforts. The *Edinburgh Review* might sneer—that publication might deride the idea of one poor feeble individual going out among a band of savages, but let them jeer, let sceptics and infidels jeer, and amidst their mockery, the blessed gospel of the eternal Son of God would go on undisturbed. Land after land would be converted, and through the feeble instrumentality of the Christian missionary, aided by the contributions of the Church, the work would not falter, until the world now sunk in heathen darkness, should burst the bands which held them to Satan's kingdom, and emerge into a millennium of light and glory."

We are especially desirous to call the attention of our own Presbytery (London,) to the subject of Home Missions.

It was agreed at the meeting in May last, that there should be a winter campaign after the manner of the Presbyteries of Cobourg and Kingston. Let this be kept in view, and acted on as soon as possible, and if there be not time this season to visit and to address on missions all our congregations and stations, let us at least make a commencement and do what we can. Ministers and elders, and any others who might accompany them, adhering to their own geographical districts, might do more than we could otherwise undertake. Such meetings, with the Divine blessing, would have a reviving tendency on office-bearers and people. It would concentrate effort, extend sympathy, call forth more abundant liberality, diffuse a more enlarged missionary spirit, make brethren dwell together in unity, and God, even our own God, would bless us. G.

A VISIT TO QUEBEC AND LOWER CANADA.

By the Rev. Dr. BRAX, Nov. and Dec., 1853.

Of the "Eastern Townships" of Lower Canada, I have been favoured with the perusal of a MS. account from the pen of one of our talented young friends in Knox's College, and with his permission I make the following extracts:—

"The Eastern Townships" is the name given to the tract of country which extends from the United States' line on the south, to the French seigniories on the north, and nearly from the river Chaudiere on the east, to the Yamaska on the west. They comprise the counties of Drummond, Shefford, Sherbrooke, Missisquoi, Stanstead, and Megantic; and they contain an area of about 14,000 square miles."

"As the traveller ascends from the level and fertile, though ill-cultivated valley of the St. Lawrence, after passing through an unsettled tract of land, he reaches the higher grounds, and his eye is refreshed by the pleasing prospect of hill and vale in the midst of an undulating country. These lands are intersected by large rivers, as the Yamaska, the St. Francis, the Nicolet, and the Becancour; and are well watered by an abundance of smaller streams. These rivers are not navigable; not, however, because the body of water is too small, but because of the many rapids and falls which obstruct their course. But while these present obstacles to man in his march of improvement in one way, they afford him great assistance in furnishing an almost unlimited water power for machinery; while, at the same time, they add to the natural beauty of the country, and with the bold rocks which often form the river banks, give to the surrounding scenery much of the grand and the sublime.

"The features of the Townships are the same as predominate in other parts of Canada. But

* This is not much below one half of the whole area of Scotland.