

SOIREE AND EXAMINATION AT THREE RIVERS.

The Annual Soiree and Examination of the Sabbath School and Bible Class of the Congregation at Three-Rivers took place on 6th inst. In addition to the usual questions on the doctrines of Religion the greater part of the Book of Proverbs was accurately recited from memory. The examination lasted for the space of three hours; and in conclusion an address was given from Prov. iii. 17. "Wisdom's ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace."

On 16th inst. the structure lately erected for preaching and teaching by the people of Black River, St. Maurice, was opened by their pastor for Divine Worship. The portion of Scripture selected for the occasion was from Rom. x. 33; "For whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved." At the close of the service the scholars of the Sabbath School were examined in presence of their parents on the catechisms of our Church, Psalms, and several passages of the Bible. Although the house was not in a finished state, yet the attendance was good: and on the Monday and Tuesday a pastoral visit was made to ten families of the Congregation in the immediate vicinity. In reference to their disadvantages in time past, as well as to their present means of improvement, we heard this sentiment expressed: "We have this day seen what we never expected to see in the Scotch Settlement, a place for the worship of the God of our fathers, and the instruction of our children."

SABBATH SCHOOL SOIREE, MONTREAL.

The second Soiree of the Sabbath School of St. Andrew's Church, Montreal, was held in the large room of the basement story of the Church on the evening of the 21st ultimo. The children, of whom there were about 400 present, being us well the attendants of the Sabbath Schools of St. Andrew's and St. Paul's [the latter, accompanied by their Superintendent and Teachers, being there by invitation from their little friends of St. Andrew's] as the children of members of these Churches, were assembled at six o'clock and regaled with refreshments provided by the ladies of the Congregation, whose exertions in laying the tables and covering them with good things deserved the warmest praise. At seven o'clock the Chair was taken by the Rev. Dr. Mathieson, when the Choir, led by Mr. Anderson, and accompanied on the piano by one of the ladies, sang the Old Hundredth Psalm, the whole meeting joining in raising the voice of praise. The Choir, we may observe, contributed much to the harmony and enjoyment of the company. Dr. Mathieson, having offered up prayer, briefly addressed, first the children, inculcating obedience and atten-

tion, and then the older portion of the large assembly.—The Superintendent, Mr. Turnbull, read a Report, from which we gather a few facts, being all that our space permits us to devote to this intelligent and practical statement, in which encouragement to persevere in the Sabbath School enterprise was drawn from the memorable words of the Redeemer, "Suffer little children to come unto Me." The number of the pupils on the roll for the year was 120, and the average attendance about 50. The number of Teachers, inclusive of the Superintendent and Librarian, was 15. Two senior classes had been formed, and during the past 6 months had been well attended. In March last a Teachers' meeting was also established for the purpose of mutual improvement and preparation for the work of instruction, and for offering up united prayer to God for His blessing on themselves and their labour of love. The number of books in the Library exceeded 500. A Missionary box had also been established with the view of awakening a missionary spirit in the minds of the young. The Report concluded with the expression of the hope that the Sabbath School might be permitted to bring forth fruit unto eternal life.—The Doxology was then sung by the Choir, after which the Chairman called on Alexander Morris, Esq., Advocate, to address the meeting. That gentleman said that on the threshold of the new year that large assemblage had much reason to lift up their hearts in thankfulness to the Great Disposer of events. Prosperity had smiled upon their country, and the pestilence, that walketh in darkness, had been mercifully stayed as it reached their borders. After other prefatory observations he said the Sabbath School was now regarded as the auxiliary of,—the nursery for the Church, in which the young were trained up energetic members of the Church and society at large. The Sabbath School presented an important field of labour, it dealt with the young at the period when their hearts were open, confiding, plastic, and susceptible of impression. Should the impress be for good or evil? The teacher sought to familiarize them with the Scriptures, to lead them to seek comfort in the Word of Life. He trusted that the Teacher would persevere through difficulties and discouragements, for he might be made the means of planting in some young heart the seeds of Truth, which should yet spring up a goodly plant, and be taught by Divine grace to twine around the Tree of Life. He concluded a speech, of which we have given a brief outline, by moving a vote of thanks to the Teachers.—W. G. Mack, Esq., Advocate, rose to second the resolution, having been unexpectedly called on. Mr. M. had much pleasure in taking part in this meeting. The sight of so many young faces awakened strong emotions and called up sombre thoughts. They must

enter on the troubled sea of life—the must be exposed to its temptations. The sight too called up before his mind the scenes of other days: the companions of his youth rose up before him; but he must now look for most of them, not in the land of the living. No, inhospitable shores had received them, and their graves were strewed on foreign strands! He felt strongly moved by the scene before him. Mr. Mack continued to delight and interest his audience for some time, and narrated a striking incident, illustrative of the usefulness of Sabbath Schools, which had happened within his own experience. A shipmate, a midshipman, the pride of his mates, but yet a sad reprobate, was stricken down by disease, and wished that the Bible should be read to him. He asked that the Sermon on the Mount should be read to him, and repented it and many other portions of the Scriptures. Delirium came upon him, and his mind was ever turning to the Sabbath School, and fancying he was again a pupil there. Mr. Mack in suitable terms seconded the resolution, which was unanimously adopted.—The Choir here sang Miriam's Song, and an interval of half an hour occurred, in order that the older portion of the assemblage might partake of refreshments. When the meeting was reorganized, Mr. J. Paton addressed the children in simple yet eloquent terms on the subject of Missions. He told them of the efforts of the children of England, who with their pence purchased a ship, the John Williams, and freighted her with a living cargo of Missionaries. He illustrated his remarks by reference to a large Missionary map, and showed much familiarity with the Mission field, which, as he emphatically exclaimed, was now the World. The duty of supporting Missions was earnestly and affectionately urged on the children and the audience. The Choir here sang "Great is the Lord."—The Rev Robert McGill next addressed the audience, and we feel quite unable in this hurried sketch to do justice to his remarks. He commenced by fixing upon himself the attention of the children, who listened with much interest, while he improved the recent melancholy railroad accident in the States, whereby the only son of the President Elect was instantaneously killed. The duty of early piety was affectionately pressed upon them, and an affecting account related of the recent death, under his own observation, of a little Sabbath School pupil, aged only nine years, whose simple prayers, meek resignation, and constant repetition of hymns learned in school, gave consolation to her parents and good hope that she had entered upon life immortal. Mr. McGill next, briefly in consequence of the advanced period of the evening, urged upon the more advanced of his young hearers the duty of having some work in the Lord's Vineyard, of