

from personal visitations to the homes of the poor, they know that a much larger sum than was placed at the disposal of the Society in 1870, could be judiciously employed in procuring clothing, food, and shelter, for the indigent widows and orphans of the congregation.

Respectfully submitted,
ELIZABETH STEWART,
Secretary.

Salt Springs, Pictou.

On Thursday last, there was repeated at the Manse of Salt Springs, the cheering sight of a large portion of the congregation with their "tribute from the forest" towards the annual supply of fuel. Mr. McMillan gratefully acknowledges this, as another added to many instances of considerateness and liberality so frequently manifested by his congregation.

Presbyterial Visitation.

The Pictou Presbytery held diets of Presbyterial visitation at Albion Mines on the 14th; at West Branch E. R. on the 16th; at West Branch, River John, on the 21st; and at Roger's Hill on the 22nd March. Owing to the almost untravellable state of the roads, the attendance both of Presbytery members and of congregations is necessarily small; but the results, on the whole, have been satisfactory.

Notes of the Month.

THE war has ended in a treaty upon the terms of which there is much diversity of opinion. Prussia has insisted upon the rights of conquest with a remorseless regard to her own interest.—French resources will be strained to the utmost. The surrender of the French frontier fortresses places France for the future at the mercy of her antagonist. The originators of this humiliation for France are the Paris mob chiefly, who threaten to restore the bloody days of the first revolution. Paris is now at the mercy of a revolutionary government, which has secured a show of lawful power by a partial vote. The afflictions of this great nation teach us the dangers of

superstition and infidelity—the two great enemies of mankind. They urged this war, and they unfitted the nation for success. Prussia has triumphed by religion, intelligence, system and patience. She has rolled back the tide of democracy.

The Lord Advocate has brought in the Scotch education bill, which goes the whole figure in ignoring religion, throwing the support of schools upon the parish rate-payers, and separating the schools from the church and churches. The Church of Scotland Commission has condemned, and the Free and U. P. Churches have approved of it, with exceptions and recommendations. When the machine shall have commenced working, when local boards shall have begun to enjoy the pleasure of establishing as many schools at the expense of their wealthier neighbours as humour may suggest, and shall have fully entered into the spirit of the thing, the people of Scotland will then find that it is not all gold that glitters. Won't they like the "American system" and the "Prussian system?" We should beware of slavish imitation in adopting the educational institutions of other countries. They are a growth, and cannot be effectively transplanted. For example, the Prussian schools have no religious teaching, but the nation has: for it is the duty of the established clergy to teach the young so many hours a week.

The Free Church Presbyteries, with a few exceptions, continue to record decisions in favour of union, and Dr. Candlish has declared that he thinks the signs are in favour of its practicability. The jubilees of Dr. William Anderson, of Glasgow, and Dr. Leishman, of Govan, have been celebrated. Dr. Anderson has long been distinguished as a most liberal minded and independent thinker.

The jubilee of Dr. Tholuck, of Halle, a great scholar, theologian and preacher of the German Church, has lately been celebrated. When he began his career, rationalism was everywhere rampant, now the German Church is as a whole evangelical. So are leading men. Rationalistic lectures at the universities cannot find an audience. Tholuck has been a great instrument, under God, of this change. The centenary of a famous