

to which he was sent with a view to the improvement of his health, was eminently satisfactory to the Church of which he was a Home Missionary. Wherever he went, indeed, his great desire was to labour for Christ, and to be instrumental in gathering souls into the garner of the Lord.

There never was a period when young men like Mr. Christie could be so ill spared by the Church. The harvest is plenteous, and the true labourers very few. From the Foreign field, and from many a desolate locality in our own country the call is loud for more workmen. But the Lord doeth all things well. Perhaps the early death of our dear young friend may be the means of leading other young men to devote themselves to the work of the Gospel Ministry. The Lord gave; the Lord taketh away; blessed be the name of the Lord!

Mr. Christie came home from Bermuda to die. His preparation for the solemn change was complete. Christ was his only hope, and his faith in Him was simple and strong to the last. On his death bed he was happy and contented. During the earlier stages of his disease, he often expressed an ardent desire to be spared to work for God in the Gospel of His Son; but as his bodily weakness increased he longed for the hour, when he should be called to his happy home. The following verses from a favourite Hymn were often on his lips, and seemed to express his views and feelings;

One sweetly solemn thought
Comes to me o'er and o'er,—
I'm nearer home to-day
Than I've ever been before!
Nearer my Father's house,
Where the many mansions be,—
Nearer the Great White Throne,
Nearer the jasper sea:
Nearer the bound of life
Where I lay my burden down;
Nearer leaving my cross,
Nearer wearing my crown!

He died in perfect peace; and his end, so calm, so restful, so beautiful was well fitted to call forth the wish, "Let me die the death of the righteous and let my last end be like His."

News of the Church.

State of the Funds.

No special appeal on behalf of any of our schemes has appeared in our columns for some length of time, for the simple reason, that the steady flow of our people's liberality, and of our children's zeal, has rendered it unnecessary.

This general statement, though true, requires some explanation. It cannot be said that all the requirements of education and missions are fully and spontaneously met by the contributions of the churches. The funds of the Board of Foreign Missions are kept well replenished *always*, and since the claims of the *Dayspring* have been laid before the children, they have come nobly forward to her support. But there is an annual deficiency under the head of Education, and ordinary receipts for Home Missions, *often* fall below the amount of disbursements for supplementing weak congregations, and paying the itinerating preachers. This deficiency during the past two years was more than met by the liberal bequests of the late Mrs. John McKenzie, of New Glasgow, and, during some previous years, by bequests from one or both of her parents. These extra supplies are exhausted. They have enabled the church to do more in the way of aiding new congregations than would otherwise be practicable. But now that we have, thus aided, advanced so far, it would be discreditable to retrace our steps, or to let that fund be depleted. The following comparative statement of the Mission funds, Home and Foreign, from June 1st, the commencement of the Synod's financial year, till December 31st, will show the prosperous state of the one, and the necessitous state of the other.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

June 1.—Balance on hand.....	\$4119.27
Received from June 1st to December 31st.....	2866.57
	6985.84
Expenditure.....	5644.44
Dec. 31.—Balance on hand.....	\$1341.40