

is good to be zealously affected always in a good thing." The benefits and blessings enjoyed in the possession of true religion are so numerous and precious that every recipient of them should feel intensely grateful to the God of his salvation, and be stirred up to give expression to this emotion in every legitimate form. "What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits?" Is a careless, selfish indifference to the cause of Christ a satisfactory response to this deeply interesting question? Then, the good of others, the very salvation of the souls of others, should stir up a deep interest in every human breast. Why not love the souls of others and earnestly labor for their eternal wellbeing, however limited the sphere and feeble the effort! Besides this, can any lover of Zion forget Christ's words, "herein is My Father glorified that ye bear much fruit." If such are scriptural views of the duty, then they ought to press with divine force on the conscience of every christian, and awaken to a deeper interest. The gain to the Church of Christ arising from a general increase of zeal and devotedness, cannot be estimated. Enlarged contributions, so often urged in the columns of the M. P., would not be the only advantage. The claims of the various schemes of the church are indeed, strong, but these will be rightly regarded and exert a controlling influence just in proportion as a heartfelt interest in religion is deepened among the people. In addition, individual piety would be advanced, more frequent and fervent intercessory prayer would be offered, the diffusive power of a genuine zeal would be contagious, the destitute parts of our land with some of the barren regions of heathenism, would 'blossom as the rose.' If we desire the reward, let us labor in the work. If we would see it undertaken and successfully carried on by others, let us go to the root of the matter, and earnestly strive to deepen and extend a thorough interest in our holy christianity.

Means to the attainment of this end ought not to be neglected. How unwise to stand by and complain of the lack of this interest, and yet do little or nothing to originate and increase it. As in every other undertaking those who feel an interest are the proper persons to labor for its diffusion. Christian parents and Sabbath School Teachers, as working at the very foundations of the church, can with God's blessing, awake this emotion in the youthful mind. Efficiently conducted S. Schools

are nurseries for Christ's work, as well as for the church.

The communication of religious and missionary intelligence is also an important means to this end. Such News should be provided, in some form, in every christian home, and also have a large place in the S. S. Library. Cannot also the platform of the prayer-meeting, and the pulpit of the church do much more to arouse the slumbering energies of many congregations, and give a fresh stimulus to the work of the Lord during the current year?

### THE GREAT VILLAGE CHURCH.

We record with regret, the burning of the Presbyterian church at Great Village, Londonderry, on the morning of Monday, Dec. 11. It had served a generation but was good for another. It was built in 1844 during the pastorate of the late Dr. Bayne, and there clustered around it not only precious memories of other days with their pleasant joys and loved sorrows, but, interwoven with these, remembrances of him and his successor Mr. Wylie, whose ministries were often a means of grace, in helping to the joys and easing the sorrows. Tender too would be the recollections of its present pastor Mr. James McLean, for though his connection with it has been but a few years, it has had for him some glad days, and others of the deepest grief. Everything was lost, bell, communion services, chancelier, lamps, bibles, hymn-books, Sabbath School Library, &c. There was no insurance and the loss will be severely felt. The congregation has recently built a good manse, and will feel this burden all the more heavy, but with praiseworthy energy they are about to "arise and build."

The congregations in that section of the church have suffered heavily during the last two years. Within that time if we mistake not, the adjoining congregation Upper Londonderry, had its fine church burned. Acadia Mines, had a new manse well nigh completed, when the fire laid it in ashes, while the church at Economy was only saved from a similar fate by prompt action, a lamp having fallen, broken, and fired the oil soaked carpet.

There are more Jews in Chicago than in any other city of equal population in the world,