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## CONTENTS.

Mertisg of the General Assembly. ..... 113
Tre gurstion of the D.l\%. ..... $113!$
Our Hose work.
The Synod Mtcetings. ..... 14
OpenIng of Manitoba Coblege ..... 114
Closing of Knox Collerg
Closing of Presbyterian College, Montrea114
A Scene of French Work ..... 115
Pictures From Western Frantier Gife ..... 115
Mission Work Among the Sioux ..... 116
Obdrce Notes and Notices. ..... 93
Our Foreign Misbions.
Montreal Woman's Missionary Society ..... 20
Dr. Buchanan and the Blicels. ..... 120
A Visit to Muntehaw (Montreal) ..... 120
Training Classes in India ..... 12
The Ye:rrs Work in Mhow, by Lev. Norman Russell ..... 123
Our First Year in Bhar, by hev. Frank lussell.
Our First Year in Bhar, by hev. Frank lussell. ..... $1: 6$ ..... $1: 6$
Yodng People's Societies.
Frencb Camala and its Evaugelization, Notes. . 129French Evangelzation, by Rev. Principal Mac-Vicar129
Sabbath School Iesbons ..... 132
Regeipts. ..... 132

## THEE GENERAT ASSEMBLY.

The General Assembly will meet in St. Andrew's Church, Winnipeg, on Thursday, the 10th June, at 8 o'clock in the evening. The Committee on Business will meet in the same Church on the afternoon of the 10th June, at 4 o'clock.
Lists of Commissioners should be forwarded to the Rev. Dr. R. Campbell, 68 St . Famille St., Montreal. All other official documents for the Assembly should be forwarded to the Rev. Dr. Warden, Toronto, so as to reach him at least eight days in advance of the meeting. Presbycery Clerks will kindly note that each item of business intended for the General Assembly should be on a separate sheet of paper, foolscap preferred.
Arrangements have been made for the printing in Toronto of the annual reports of all Standing Committees. These should be forwarded to Dr. Warden as early as possible that they may be printed and stitched together in good time before the meeting of the Assembly.

Arrangements have been made with the Railway Companies for reduced fares which are available for commissioners, and their wives or daughters accompanying them, as also for others having business with the Assembly.

Tickets are good in going, from 1st to 10th June, and in returning, up to the 30th July. When tickets are purchased at the starting point, a certificate must be procured from the Ticket Agent, stating that full single fare has been paid to Winniper. These certificates will be attested at the meeting of Assembly, and return tickets obtained free. It is imperative that the cer. tificate be procured from the Ticket Asent at the starting point, in order to insure a return ticket being got free.

Robt. Canpbell, D.D.
Romt. I. Wardev, D.D., Joint Clerks.

## THE QUESTION OF THE DAY.

The Tariff, the Queen's Jubilee, The War in the East, the famine in India, and quest:ons of lesser import, absorb each its devo tees. But the question of to-day, of all days, of deepest import to men, to the world, to Gcd, is the conflict of right with wrong, of good with evil, of Christ (if we may thus speak of Him who is infinite in power), for the supremacy which is His right.

This conflict is raging always, and "all along the line:" in the individual human heart; between "want to " and "ought to;" between conscience and inclination; between self and God. In the community and country, in social and civic and nation. al life, the struggle meets us at every turn. Our church life is but an organization for better securing triumph for Christ in the world.

None are exempt, and there is no "term of service" short of life, and the question more important than all others to each man and woman, the "question of the day" for all. the question more important than tariff or jubilee, famine or war, is one's own attitude and action, within and without, in this struggle for the crowning of right.

From this it follows that the most successful life is not that which makes most millions, wins most renown, but that which within and without yields fullest sway to right. The preaching needed "for the times" is that which will best secure Christ's reign in the preacher and hearer; and The Church for the times is that which in spirit and life and work best serves that glorious end. May such be the character and aim of the membership of our own beloved Church.

Another Church advance in the North West. Bricish Cclumbia is to have a new Presbytery, the Presbytery of Kootenay.

##  <br> SYNOD MEETINGS.

Four of the Synods of our Church meet in the Spring, and two, of those of the Maritime and Prairie Provinces, in the Autumn.

Of the four Spring Synods, that of Hamiiton and London meets this year in Paris, on the 26 th of April at 7.30 p.m. ; that of Toronto and Kingston, in Lindsay, on Monday, 10 May; that of Montreal and Ottawa, in Almonte, on Tuesday, 11 May ; and the Synod of British Columbia, in New Westminster, on Wednesday the 5th of May.

The Synods are changing in some measure to suit the changed circumstances of our time. With Presbyteries on the one side of them and the General Assembly so near them on the other, they are not seemingly very necessary to the proper working of our Church. But the very absence of pressing administrative work gives more opportunity for Conference on great matters pertaining to the Christian Life, and "the Conference" is coming to have a recognized place at our Synod meetings. These are very enjoyable and profitable and make our Synods among the most useful wheels in the machinery of our Church.
The subjects for Conference in the Synod of Montreal and Ottawa are "The Lord's Supper," the preparation for it, and the administration of it ; and, "The Holy Spirit" in the life of the Church and in the Mission Work of the Church.
The subjects to be discussed in the Synod of Toronto and Kingston are "The relation of the Holy Spirit to deeper Christian Life;" "The relation of the Holy Spirit to more efficient Christian service; " "How to utilize and develop the force that lies in the young life of the Church." Is the Tithing System, as at present advocated, sound in principle, and is it fair to all parties concerned?" "How to present doctrine so as to be most helpful to cihristian Life;" "The Church in relation to Temperance Reform:" and "The duty of the pulpit to the labor problem."

The latter bill of fare is almost too full for a brief conference, but the discussion of such great subjects, so closely connected with the very life of the Church cannot fail to do good. Our Synods may thus become of inestimable value to the character and work of our Church.

## MANITOBA COLIEGE.

Change of work, rather than cessation. is the rest of Manitoba College, and without breathing time between, she plunges into Arts in the Autumn and Theology in the Spring.

At the Arts Course during the past winter there were 179 students enrolled, a larger number than ever before, many of whom purpose entering the ministry. Prof. Hart's services have been greatly missed but it is hoped that soon restored to health he will be ready for work again. He is at present in Geneva, Switzerland.

The Theological Classes opened for the summer on the 30th March, with a lecture by Principal King on "A purely ethical Gospel examined;" shewing that it lacked the one essential, a vicarious sacrifice. Dr. Maclaren of Knox College, Dr. Scrimger of Montreal, and Dr. Beattie of Louisville, are to assist in the work of the summer session. The former has alreadv taught there for two similar sessions, and the two latter one session 'each.
The youngest of our Colleges, but. like its home, the New West, this College has a strong and growing youth. It is great in attainment and greater in possibilities and prospects.

## PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE, MONTREAI.

On the 7th of April a successful session was formally closed and a larger class graduated than ever before, seventeen in all. Principal MacVicar had been absent during the session, taking a much needed rest after the strain of twenty-seven years; and Dr. Barclay of St. Paul's Church, in addition to his own work, the ministry of a large city congregation, had taken the classes in Theology, having to prepare a complete course of lectures. This combined task required rare mental grasp and power, and the physical endurance of an athlete to stand the strain, and needless to say, was well done.

The Principal's right hearty welcome home shewed the place he has in the hearts of the students, and his closing address to the graduating class on the importance of having a clear, definite, positive, Gospel message to deliver, was very fitting in an age which has not a little invertebrate, moluscous teaching, both in pulpit and in press. Both the staff and the supporters of the College have cause for gratitude in its. success.

## KNOX COELEGE.

Twenty-two graduated in Theology and received their diplomas, at the Academic closing of this College, on the afternoon of April 8, in the College Hall. The popular closing was held on the evening of the same day in Knox Church, and was addressed by the Principal, and Revs. Dr. Moore, W. G. Wallace, and W. J. McCaughan. The parting charge of Principal Caven to the class now going forth to its life work, urging them, while keeping abreast of the world's best thought, to make supreme the preaching of the Gospel of Christ, well summed up the work and aim of Knox College, that which makes it so worthy the loyal affection and support of the Church.
Knox has enjoyed during the session just closed the services of her two new men. Professors Ballantyne and Robinson. New men but the old truth. The name, Knox, is no misnomer. Long may his spirit, along its best lines animate this our largest Theological School.

## A SCENE OF FRENCE WORK.

I wish the whole Church could have had a glimpse of the scene in La Croix French Mission Church, Montreal, on Sabjath morning, 17 April.

It was a fitting " Easter Sunday " a bright Spring day. Within the Church there was an air of earnest and busy expectancy; the pastor Rev. J. Duclos, aided by his devoter helpers, wife and daughter, and others of the Church, making the final arrangements for a grand baptismal service which was to be held that morning.

It is the custom of our Church to recognize the validity of Romish vaptism and not to re-baptize converts unless they wish it. Some of the members in this, as in other of our mission churches, had not been baptized. Recently, however they had been talking over the matter and decided that they would like to be re-baptized together with some new adherents who were coming in.

This day had been appointed for the solemn service. Some seats in the centre were reserved for the candidates, six or seven in each pew, men and women and older children, seated by families and groups: the women with hats and wraps removed, making quite a home-like picture.

After a brief but thoughtful address by the pastor, which was followed with the closect attention, the baptismal service, a beautiful and solemn one, began. First came two infant baptisms, two little family groups gathered at the font as we are used to see in our own Churches.

Then those in the front pew filed out and around to the front of the platform. kneeling lightly on its cushioned edge. The venerable pastor, pronouncing the formula of baptism in tones of deepest reverence and paternal tenderness, baptized them one by one.

When the end was reached, a simple hymn was started and a verse of it soltly sung by the congregation as the candidates reverently returned to their seat and the occupants of the second pew took their places at the platform; to give place in the same manner to the third, and so on to the end, forty in all receiving the ordinance.
It remindeci one, in its beautiful touching solemnity, of the old time Scottish Communions, when "table" after "table" came forward and returned to their places to the solemn music of some grand communion Psalm.

Whether intentionally, or owing to late arrival, I do net know, but the ceremony came to a most fitting conclusion by a young couple presenting their infant child for baptism: the beautiful ordinance beginning and ending with infancy.

A short sermon by Rev. Mr. Buffa brought to a close one of the most impressive services at which I have ever been present. May the poor telling of it lead to a deeper interest in this most important work.

## TBE HOME MISSIONARY.


Frontior life in Canada and the C. S. A. is much alike; and the following vivid sketch of Home Missionary experience there as given in "The Minutr mun on the rronfier" may teach us something of our own Home Mission Life and Work.

On the frontier, pastoral visiting is absoIntely necessary to success. The feelings of bew-comers are tender after breaking the home ties and getting to the new home, and a visit from the pastor is sure to bring satisfactory results. Sickness and death offer him opportunities for doing much good, especially among the poor, and they are always the most numerous. Some very pathetic cases come under everv missionary s observation.

Onee a man called at the parsonage and asked for the elder, saying that a man had ieen killed some miles away in the woods, ant the family wanted the missionary to preach the funeral sermon. The next morning a ragged boy came to pilot the minister. The way led through region forests and black-ash swamps. A light snow covered the gromnd and made travelling difficult, as much of the way was blocked by fallen trees. After two hours' walking. the house was reached; and here was the widow with her large family, most of them in borrowed clothes, the superviser, a few rough men and a county coffin. The missionary hard!y knew what to say ; iut remembering that that morning a large box had been sent containing a number of useful articles, he made Gor's providence his theme.

A few days after the box was taken to the widow's house. When they reached the shanty they found two little bunks inside. Her only stove was an oven taken from an old-fashioned cookstove. The oven stood on a dry-goods' box. The missionary said: "Why, my noo: woman, you will freeze with this wretched fire!" "No," she said, "it ain't much for cooking and washing, but it's a good little heater." A few white beans and small potatoes were all her store, with winter coming on apace. When she saw the good things for eating and wearing that had been brought to her, she sobbed out her thanks.

In the busy life of a missionary the event was soon forgotten, until one day a woman said: " Elder, do you recollect that 'ar Mrs. Sisco?"
"Yes."
"She is down with a fever, and so are her children."

At this news the minister started with the doctor to see her. As they neared the place he noted some red streaks gleaming in the woods. and asked what they were.
"Oh." said the doctor, "that is from the widow's house."

She had to move into a stable of the deserted lumber camp: the chinks had fallen out from between the logs and hence the
gleam of fire. The house was a study in shadows: the floor sticky with mud brought in with the snow; the debris of a dozen meals on the table; a lamp, without chimney or bottom, stuck into an old tomato can, gave its flickering light, and revealed the poor woman with nothing to shield her from the storm but a few paper flour sacks tacked back of the bed. Two or three chairs, the children in the other bed, the baby in a little soap box on rockers, were all the wretched hovel contained. Medicine was left her, and the minister's watch for her to time it. He exchanged his watch for a clock the next day. By great persuasion the proper authorities were made to put her in the poor-house and she was lost to sight; but there was a bright ending in her case. Less than two years from the time she was left a widow, a rich old uncle found in her his long-lost niece, and the woman became heiress to thousands of dollars.
Sometimes dreadful scenes are witnessed at iunerals, where strong drink has suddenly finished the career of father or mother. At the funeral of a little child smothered by a drunken father, the mother was too sick to be up at the funeral, the father too drunk to realize what was taking place, and twice the service was stopped by drunken men. At another funeral a dog-fight began under the coffin. The missionary kicked the dogs out and resumed as well as he could. At another wretched home the woman was found dying, the husband drunk, no food, mercury ten degrees below zero and the little children nearly perishing with cold. The drunken man pulled the bed from under his dying wife, while he went to sleep. His awakening was terrible and the house was crowded with morbid hearers.

As the nearest minister is miles away, the missionary has to travel many miles in all weathers to the dying and the dead. Visiting the sick and sitting up with those with dangerous diseases, soon cause the most of men not only to respect, but to love the missionary; and no man has the moulding of a community so much in his hands as the couragtous and faithful servant of Christ. The first missionary on the field leaves his stamp indelibly fixed on the new village. Towns left without the Gospel for years are the hardest of all places in which to get a footing. Some towns have been without service of any kind for years, and some of the young men and young women have never seen a minister.
All kinds of people crowd to the frontthose who are stranded, those who are trying to hide from justice, men speculating. Gambling dens are open day and night, Sundays of course included, the men running them relieved as regularly as guards in the army.

In purely agricultural districts a different type is met with. Many are so poor, that men have to go to the lumber woods part of the year. The women thus left often become despondent and a very large
per cent. in the insane asylum come from this class. One "mily lived so far from town that when the husband died they were obliged to make his coffin, and utilize two flour barrels for the purpose.

So, amid all sorts and conditions of men, and under a variety of circumstances, the minute-man lives, works and dies, too often forgotten and unsung, but remembered in the Book ; and when God shall make up his jevels some of the brightest gems will be found among the pioneers who carried the ark into the wilderness in advance of the roads, breaking through the forest guided by the surveyor's blaze on the trees.

In one little town a grand minute-man laid down his life. He was so anxious to get the church paid for that he would not buy an overcoat. Through the hard winter he often fought a temperature forty degrees below zero: but at last a severe cold ended his life. His good wife sold her weddinggown to buy an overcoat, but all too late: and the bride of a twelve-month went out a widow with an orphan in her arms.

## "MISSION WORK AMONG THE SIOUX."

## Achress le the Wimipea Prestuterial, w. F. M.S by Miss Luidllac. Missionary to the Indians. at Portage la Prairie.

I count it an honor to-night to be called upon to speak of that work in which $I$ am directly engaged. It must be gratifying to sympathizers in this work to know that it is progressing, slowly to be sure and fraught with much that is disappointing, nevertheless moving onwards, and lifting one here and there from a life of degradation and dependence to one of nobler purpose.

Difficult as our work must appear it is a necessity if we would obey the command to "preach the Gospel to every creature." How often. oh how often, are we asked the question is it any use spending time and money: would it not be better to leave them as they are to roam the woods free, for they are a dying race.

If the latter be true, then let us move all the more quickly in giving to them that Gospel which means so much to us; which has made us as a nation what we are: which has made us individually what we are, so that they may share in that happiness which we hope will be ours one day.

Then as to the former, I would single out one or two and tell what the school has done for them. I know of no signt which touches the hearts of more people than that of unkempt children; and no doubt the attention of the ladies of Portage was turned to the need of just such a work by the sight of so many needy little ones.
The first child to come to school was certainly among this number-ragged, cold, and hungry no doubt, and true to her name " Topsy." looking as if she " growed." One

Indian woman claimed that she took Topsy because her mother threw her away; but Topsy says that they quarrelled over her, and this woman took her so that she could look after her children while she was at work: and many a time has this child of five years been seen going up and down town with a papoose strapped on her back.
In finding out from To asy her first impresstons of school life, she says: I cried when they took me there because I did not know anyone, but when there two weeks I liked it, for I thought they were kind to me. When hearing people talk English I thought I would never learn to speak that way.
It is almost incredible that in a few short years, a child accustomed to roam the woods winter and summer, almost naked, could be taken in and made fit to go out into homes where dainty things are kept : ind be trusted to sweep, dust, etc., and especially to have children entrusted to her care; but such has been the case with our girls, three of whom are at service.
Especially would I speak of Tonsy tonight, because the prediction has frequentiy been made that if anything couid be made of her, there would be hope for all. In the home of Mrs. Brown, where shie has been for the last year, she is giving good satisfaction and found very trustworthy. Her work consists of washing, ironing. scrubbing, assisting in baking, cooking, etc., and because of her kindly disposition the children are entrusted to her care. Topsy also realizes the duty of helping others, for of her wages she always lays aside a part. When collections were being made for the India famine fund she willingly placed a dollar in the plate.
We have never less than 25 children boarding in the school and at present 27 . Fourteen of this number are of such an age as to make more work than they do, and as the children have no other help than Miss Fraser and myself, all the washing. ironing. mending. darning, cooking and baking is done by a few girls not over fifteen years of age.
The baking of bread consists of about seventy loaves per week. Take out of the day four hours in which the children are taught a common school education and you will see what a busy life these children lead.
In holding forth the virtues of these children I do nut mean that they are faultless: they have their faults, but I doubt if in the end they are any more grievous than our own. I often find that where they fail is just along the line where we have been too exacting. What should we expect of children with only a few years' training away from homes that are filthy and influences that are degrading ?
In questioning the children as to their im. pressions of school life they all say they are glad they came to school so that now they can earn their own living; and especially werc we struck with the answer of one girl who said "I am glad I came to school to icarn of Christ. I never heard of him but
once and that was from a Minister in Neepawa; but now that I have learned of Him I tell my father and mother and they say they believe in Hin too." Four of our grrls are members of Knox Church, but we believe many more are trusting Christ for salvation.
The parents now see the usefulness of school life, for where once it was almost an endless task to persuade these parents to send their children to school, they now bring them when old enough; and' where once runa way children were hidden and shielded, they are now brought promptly back.

We had a very good example the other day. A boy ran away in the evening and the next morning we watched the mother bringing him across the prairie holding him by one hand and in the other a gad fully six feet long. A very, few years ago this same woman had grave doubts of the usefulness of a school.
The tepee work is an outcome of school life, for if any of these children must return to life on the reserve, a corresponding work should go on in these homes so that the influences may not drag them downwards. The work we try to do is to gain the confidence of all. How closely they watch you. How quick to detect anything that dues nct give them the justice they think they deserve. We visit every tepee as often as possible, compliment them upon any improvement either in their homes or on their person.
We have one obstacle and that is the opposition of the medicine men. They are especially active now and have been since last summer, for they think the work of the Mission is lessening their power. Last summer there were a number of deaths and three of these were given a christian burial.
Especially at the last were they determined to have their way, and I think if ever I felt fear creep over me, it was as we stood that evening by the corpse ready to put it in the coffin we had made ourselves at the school. A number of stalwart Indians came in. talking very loud and saying if we buried that child according to our rites they would all die and it was because the missionary came among them that so many were dying.
We reasoned with them and said it must he as the mother said. If she wished a Christian burial we would give it; if according to Indian custom we would not interfere. After long moments of waiting they carried the coffin to the Church where Mr. E Brown conducted service. Now behind the Church there is a burying ground with four graves side by side; but to show how custom still rules, a few Sabbaths ago the snow was all cleared away and apples and biscuits placed on the graves for the spirits.
Another hindrance is the " pow-wow' and " Dakota worship." These the medicine men like to have when we have our gatherings and anyone invited incurs the displeasure of the medicine men if they refuse; so you may see the courage neeued to withstand. For a long time these gatherings
were not held, but recently they have been holding them on Thursday evening when we have our ,prayer-meeting, and on Sabbath afternoon.

At these gatherings the door is usually locked; but one evening we surprised them by walking in. Men and women were ranged in order round the tepee; the pipe of peace was being smoked and passed around. In the centre was a square of earth smoothed over, in the centre a plece of red cloth cut in grotesque shape on one side a large pot of tea and a huge pile of bannocks, on the other a number of carpet bags in which the medicine is kept. The medicine consists of herbs and shells. Into the shells the medicine is, blown and in the shells the medicine men think they see all that is going to happen to the innabitants of the village. If anyone has died recently a bag of their clothing is taken and distributed after medicine has been blown over it to keep the spirit of the departed from returning and haunting them.

We told them it was scarcely fair for them to have their gatherings when we came to tell them the story of redeeming love. One Indian told us to go out; another says you don't have mushi (food) at your Church. We told them we gave them all they could eat on New Year's day and on other days food for their souls.

Upon questioning them as to this earth ?nd food they say they do worship one God who made all and it is right to place these things before them to remind them of God.

We sometimes unwittingly help in these pow-wows by the lending of money to purchase flour and meat. For instance, one Indian came to the school in great haste to borrow a dollar. He was buying a cow from a man and as the man wanted $\$ 25$ and he only had $\$ 24$, he asked me to lend him the other dollar.

I willingly did so and complimented him upon his thriftiness; but on going to his home the next day all I saw of the cow was the hide hung up to dry and Chaske making all haste to have a pow-wow that night.
Another hindrance is liquor. What sad sights meet our eyes from time to time. Never shall I forget the sight on New Year's eve, 1895. We found it necessary to drive out late that evening to make final arrangements about New Year's Day and the whole village was in an uproar; little children running through the snow barefoot; strong men were tied hand and foot with ropes before they could be quieted.

We resolved that night that before another year rolled round we would have some way of filling in their time; and so last New Year's eve nearly all gathered in the Church to see magic lantern views of Christ's life. Not one man on the Reserve drunk. New Year's day we gave them a dinner in the Church. and as only two were drunk they were brought to town. and they with the man who sold the liquor locked up-the white man having an addition of $\$ 50$ fine.

What a curse this Hiquor trafflc is. What a hindrance to mission work at home and over the seas. What a blot on this fair land of ours that any man sitould be allowed to sell that which takes from men their manhood and makes homes where God meant supreme happiness to dwell dens of misery.

Then taike another and a brighter picture. Some years ago these Indians roamed the prairies with no home and no place of worship. Now they have a neat little Churcht built by W. F. M. S. on land bought by the earnings of these Indians and saved up in sums often not larger than five cents, fifty cts., and a dollar, and handed to Mr. A. D. Mackay, antil $\$ 375.00$ was saved. They have now a stated time of worship, with an average congregation of 40; hymns sung in their own language; chapters read from the Bible printed in their own language, and men leading in prayer who once were foremost in these things of which I have been telling you. Only two are communicants in Knox Church, Portage la Prairie, but I believe there are many who are seeking a better way of life.

One Indian woman came to the school, and asked Topsy who is this Jesus they preach about on Sunday. Is He a white man or an Indian? Has he a city to which he will take people, for I would like to go to it when I die?
The sick ones also are entrusted to our care. I remember Miss Fraser and I being called out one evening to see an old. woman who was dying. Her form was so racked by rheumatism as to be scarcely human. She was lying in a wretchedly dirty tepee on a bundle of rags and as her life was ebbing away we sat by her side and sang "Jesus. lover of my soul" and we could only hope and pray that the life which went out amid such miserable surroundings would waken in that land where there is no sickness or sorrow of any kind.
Away back in the centuries when our ancestors could not even read, they knew and rejoiced in the wonderful story of the cross. Shall we, the children of such blessings from foreign mission work done, not be interested in foreign mission work yet to be done?

I would that I were able to make an adequate appeal to the hearts of all men on behalf of our Indian people. They have peculiar claims upon our Christian sympathy. Surely God by giving us possession of this land is saying as plainly as if written in letters of light across the skies: "Tell these wandering trihes the story of redeeming love." Cheer these lonely women and lift them up into the light of a Saviour's face. Educate these children and fit them for spheres of usefulness here and for mansions bye and bye in our Father's House." Oh that we might ever the Christ speaking to us as He casts His eyes over this great lone land and saying: "Love them as I have loved you."

## ©hurch flotes and glotides.

## Calis.

From Upper Stewiacke, N.S., to Mr. J. P. McPhee.

From Victoria church, Montreal to Mr. D. MacVicar of Dromore, Ont. Accepted, Induction, 6 May.
From North and South Plympton, and Millbrook, in the North West, to Mr. Wm. Dewar.

From Holland, Glenboro' Pres., to M:. John Wells of Meadow Lea. Acc:ptet.
From Victoria and Dundàs, N. W., to Mr. A. G. Bell.

From Bluevale, Maitland Pres., to Mr. Wm. J. West, of Knox College. Accepted. Induction, 20 April.
From Dutton, Ont., to Mr. James Steven of Tiverton.

## Inductions.

Mr. T. D. Moss, to be inaucted into St. Andrews (Kirk) Pictou, N.S. 29 April.
Mr. Geo. McMillan, into Kentville. N.s., 22 April.

Mr. T. A. Sadler, ordained and inducted into Russell and Metcalfe, Otta. Pres., 16 March.

Mr. D. M. Ramsay, into Knox Ch., Ottawa, 22 April.

## Resignations.

Mr. James Cattanach, of Centreville, Peterboro Pres. Mr. Wm. Johnson, is interim Moderator of Session.

## Menisteris Obituary.

Rev. John George Cameron was born at Green Hill, Pictou Co.. 1846, received his education in the New Glasgow High School, the Seminary at Truro, and at Princeton, New Jersey. He was ordained at Bonshaw, P.E.I., 14 March, 1867. Six years later he was called to Souris, P.E.I., where he labored with great faithfulness and success for twenty-two years, resigning his charge some three years ago because his strength was not equal to the extent of the work. Soon after he accepted a call to Murray Harber, P.E.I., where he was inducted 21 August 1895. His last illness was brief. A few days before his death he was prostrated by "La Grippe," His illness was not alarming until April, 15, and on the following day he passed to his Eternal Rest.

## Mbetings of Spnod.

Montreal and Otiawa, Almonte, 11 May. Toronto and Kingston, Lindsay, 10 May. Hamilton and London, Paris, 26 April. British Columbia, New Westminster, 5 May.

## Preshrieny Mebrisas.

## Synod of the Maritime Provinces.

1. Sydney, Sy dney, St, A., 2 June, $10.30 \mathrm{a} . \mathrm{m}$.
2. Inverness, Whycocomagh, 25 May, 11 a.m.
3. P.E.I., Charlottn., Zion, 11 May, 11 a.m.
4. Pictou, N. Glasgow, Jas., 4 May, 1.30 p.m.
5. Wallace, oxford, 4 May, 11.30 a.m.
6. Truro, Shubenacadie, 4 May, 2 p.m.
7. Halifax, Hx., Chal., 29 April, 2.30 p.m.
8. Lun. and Shel., Rivrsdale, $10 \mathrm{May}, 10.30 \mathrm{a} . \mathrm{m}$. 9. St. John.
9. Miramichi, Newcastle, 30 June.

Synod of Montreal and Ottawa.
11. Quebec, Sherbrke., St. And., 6 July, 8 p.m.
12. Montreal, Mont., Knox, 29 June, 10 a.m.
13. Glengarry, Alexandria, $13 \mathrm{July}, 11.30 \mathrm{a} . \mathrm{m}$.
14. Ottawa, Otta., Bank St., 4 May, 10 a.m.
15. Lan. Ren., Almont., St. A.,11May, $10 \mathrm{a} . \mathrm{m}$.
16. Brockville, at Synod, Almonte, May.

## Synod of Toronto and Kingston.

17. Kingston, Napanee.
18. Peterboro, Peterboro, St. A., 6 Jtiy,9a.m.
19. Whitby, Bowmanville,St.P., 20July10a.m.
20. Lindsay, Cannington, 22 Junc.
21. Toronto, Tor., Knox, 1 Tu . ev. mo.
22. Orangeville, Orangeville, 4 May.
23. Barrie, Barrie, 4 May, 10.30 a.m.
24. Algoma, Sault St. Marie, 22 Sep. 7.30 p.m.
25. Ower S., O. Sd., Kx., 29 June, 10 a.m.
26. Saugeen, Harriston, 13 July, 10 a.m.
27. Guelph, Guelph, St. And., 18 May, 10 a.m.

## Synod of Hamilton and London.

2S. Hamilton, Ham., Knox, 16 Mar.. 9.30 a.m.
29. Paris, Ingersoll,' St. Pa., 13 July, 11 a.m-
30. London, Lond., 1st, 10 May, Ev. Conf.
" London, Lond., 1st, 11 May, 9 a.m., Bus.
31. Chatham, Chatm., 1st. 13 July, $10.30 \mathrm{a} . \mathrm{m}$.
32. Stratford, Strat., 10 May, 7.30 p.m. conf.
" Stratforä, Strat., Kx., 11 May, 9 a.m. bus.
33. Huron, Clinton, 11 May, 10.30 a am.
34. Maitland, Wingham, 18 'May, 9 a.m.
35. Bruce, Paisley, 13 July, 10 a.m.
36. Sarnia, Sarnia, St. And., 13 July, 11 a.m.

Synod of Manitoba and the North West.
37. Superior, Keewatin, 8 Sept., 2 p.m.
38. Win., Man. Coll., 2 Tu., May.
33. Rock Lake, Miami, 13 July, 8 p.m.
40. Glenboro, Treherne, 13 July, 3 p.m.
41. Portage la P., P. Ia Pra., 3 May, 7.30 p.m.
42. Brandon, Brandon, 13 July, 10 a.m.
43. Minnedosa, Birtle, 6 July, 8 p.m.
44. Melita, Carnduff, 6 July.
45. Regina, Indian Head, 14 July.

## Synod of British Columbia.

46. Calgary, Lethbridge, Alberta, 8 Sep.
47. Edmontou, S. Edmonton, 7 Sep., 10 a.m.
48. Kamloops, Enderby, 7 Sep., 10.30 a.m.
49. Westminstr, Vancouver,St.A.IJune,2p.m. 50. Victoria.

## Gur Afordign gitissions.

## MONTREAL WOMAN'S MISS. SOCIETY

On the 9th of March, in the bright new Erskine Chu:ch, Montreal, was an attractive gathering, bright with high and holy purpose, for it was the fifteenth Annual Meeting of the Montreal Woman's Missionar: Society, which supports a lady missionary in Honan, has undertaken the support of a native preacher in Macao, China, and is engaged in Home and French work. Delegates were present irom all the Presbyterian churches in the city and from many outside.

The welcome and response, the address of the President and the report of the Secretary, the admirably answered question box, were all of deepest interest, while the report of the Treasurer was eloquent of fact and figure, that in these hard times the income of the Society for the year had been $\$ 3,143$.53 or $\$ 500$ more than that of last year.

The business of the Society is transacted by an Executive Committee, which consists of the officers, regularly appointed delegates from the auxiliaries, and twelve others, elected annually. This executive meets monthly. Read carefully the Annual Report which will soon be issued.

Four new auxiliaries were added during the year, and it is hoped this good work of extension will go on until one has been formed in every Church in the Province.

## DR. BUCHANAN AND THE BHEELS.

One point in connection with the Mission to the Bheels of India is worthy of repetion. It will not hurt Dr. Buchanan by unduly lifting him up, and it may bring more help to his hospital scherne.

When he and Mrs. Buchanan went to India eight years ago, and found out that a poor, timid race among the hills, numbering nearly a million, and downtrodden by their Hindu masters, were entirely withont the Gospel, they wished to labor among them. But the Foreign Mission Committee were not prepared thus to extend their field and the Buchanans went to work in Cjjain, one of India's sacred, fanatical cities.

They had neither proper house nor hospital. Mrs. Buchanan's health suffered greatly from living and working under such unhealthy conditions, and death claimed from them a child. At small expense to the Church, but at no little cost and work to themselves, they succeeded, while carrying on their other work, in erecting a good mission house and a Hospital.

When foundations were thus well laid the Foreign Mission Committee saw its way to undertake work among the Bheels. The minds of the missionaries seemed to turn with one consent to the Buchanans, both of them doctors of medicine, and they con. sented to go and begin the new Mission.

There is of course no loss in this for there
is no new language to learn, others can take up and carry on their work at Ujjain and their experience in foundation work will be helpful to them, but it is no light sacrifice to spend so many of their best years in foundation work and then to undertake similar work in a new tield.

The Foreign Mission Committee have allowed him to appeal to the church for $\$ 5,000$, to build a mission house, an orphanage for boys, an orphanage tor girls, and a Hospital which will be used for Hospital, Church, and many other purposes.

One generous lady, now living in Boston, has given the $\$ 500$ for a boys orphanage. Another lady of like mind, in Montreal, has given a similar sum for a girls' orphanage. A warm-hearted Scotchman ${ }_{2}$ in Charlottetown, P. E. I., has given $\$ 000$ towards the Hospital. Many others have helped.

Some shares remain untaken, shares at from fifty cents to five fundred dollars. Who wishes to take stock in the enterprise, inud share in its profits?

## A. VISIT TO MUNTEEAAW (Montreal).

An interesting feature of an interesting gathering in Montreal on the Chinese New Year, a few weeks ago, was the following dialogue between three Chinamen. The scene is laid in Sanneng, a Chinese city, in a nativo shop. The shopkeeper, A, is behind the counter, B and C, who have been away to America, enter.
B. "Good evening Sinshang. You look about as ever.
A. (lowering his goggles.) And who are you, may I ask?
C. "You don't know us after these years of absence?"
A. Why, yes I do now. How do you do ? (Shaking hand Chinese fashion.) Please be seated. And when did you get back?
B. Oh we reached Hungkong by the "EMPRESS OF CHINA" several days ago, and came over yesterday.
A. Your letters showed you were pretty badly used in that Western land and we feared there wouldn't be much of you left, if indeed you got back alive. They are not the peaceable people we are.
C. No, there is a great deal of ill will towards the Chinese and many suffer hard. ships and injustice; but we've been living in the fine old city of Muntehaw (Montreal), where we found the people very kind and friendly for the most part, except the City Hall folks. Good and bad every where you know, but then by peaceably minding one's business, with industry and economy we save enough to provide for ourselves and our parents, though expenses are heavy.
A. I understood all of that rude people were ill-users of you because you belonged to the great Chinese people. So the Japaneso and other inferior aations do not suffer nor are they taxed as we are; but once allowed
in by treaty right and poll tax too, it would seem you should be protected.
C. Yes, and we don't tax them for coming here and going all over our great country and making more money than we do. You know they like cash as well as we.
B. But there are good and bad everywhere as we said; but now let us tell you about it. It was very pleasant to us strangers in a strange land-where so many things seem unside down.
A. Why, I'm very glad to near it. Has the Doctrine of Kungfutsz reached them, and do they worship him?
C. Oh no, they know little about our Confucius, but worship one Jesus Christ, after whom they are called Christians, as you call yourself a Confucianist.
A. Well, he must also have been a goou man if their practice is so good.
C. Yes, and not only a good man, but they say He is also the Son of God.
A. Equal to our Emperor then as the Son of Heaven ?
L. No, greater than he, a God who became Man and after living among men and doing good He allowed Himself to be nailed upon a cross, after which He arose out of the tomb, and went up into Heaven, and now Ife is worshipped by Westerners generally. The same that Kanghi mentions in our great dictionary, as the one called in the West the Saviour of the World."
A. Well, I should think him worthy to be renerated, if not put in the list of our gods.
C. No. but He is the only living and true God, and we don't believe any more in such false gods as KwanTai, KunYam, and a hundred more.
A. What, don't you worship them there?
C. No, we got out of the way of it soon after going there seeing those countries, and people are more prosperous and happy than wo, and they never worship any of them.
A. Not even on Chinese New Year didn't you worship the idols; but of course you do the ancestors.
B. No, nor them either. We find there a good book called the Bible, which says:-
"Thou shalt have no other gods but me, Before no idol bow thy knee."
C. The way we came to all this 'good news' was thus : on naturally coming to give up idols where nobody worshippped them, we began to ask ourselves, what do they worship anyway? As we saw no temples with idols, and joss sticks, and all that, as in this smoky old Sanneng temple of ours. But one day we saw a lot of people going into a large high building and following them we heard a man up high reading from a big book about someone, they called Jesus Christ, and after talking about that same Name, they sang about Him, and then bowed down and shut their eyes and talked to Him. And afterwards a kind lady spoke to us, and asked if we understood.

We said no, and she told us to come again, and learn to worship Jesus, which was the name they had so much to say about, though we didn't see any image or picture of Him.
B. So as we were kindly spoken to for the first time, we felt like going again next day, but couldn't get in as the doors wouldn't open even though we knocked at them, unlike our temples always open. And so on for a number of days we went there, but, on the 7th day we found the crowd going in again, and following we were invited to sit down' by a kindly-faced man. So we stayed a good while without understanding much, but hearing that same name again and again. When all got up to go out, as they don't keep coming and going as in our temples, uor do they make an offering, that same kind lady spore to us again and asked us to come in the afternoon to a room downstairs and she would teach us what it all meant. So as we wish to learn all we can about things, we went and soon learned the A.B.C. and could read, and learned all about their religion and especially abcut that strange death, and resurrection of the Son of God.
A. Wher was that?
B. Oh long long ago, away back in the Sung dynasty, 2,000 years ago.
A. Then it could only have been for Canadians or we should have heard of it before.
C. No, no, for all the world. He was not a Western holy man, but the Son of God in Heaven, whom our Emperor worships once a year in the Temple of Heaven at Peking, as the High Priest for all his 400 million subjects. One of the songs we sing begins The whole worid was lost in the darkness of sin. The light of the world is Jesus!'
A. You sing! Why, can you sing?
B. Yes, do you want to hear us ! but first let me tell you, to make a seven years' story short, we are Christians ourselves, and disciples of Jesus, and mean you should be when we come again soon and tell you all about that ' Good News!'
A. Indeed I am very much interested in what you have been telling me and shall be glad to hear more. Things move very slowly in China and I am heartsick at times, worship however faithfully morning and evening at my shop-door shrine there, and at our ancient capital, and it's all bad luck; and moreover this year's rice crop is a failure on account of the drought. So I know not whence to look for a living and courage to fight the battle of life.
B. Why that sounds like 'harikari; ' but pick up courage and we have brought you something to make your heart happy.
C. But let's sing im a verse or two by way of giving him better thoughts, and saying 'Good night,' for it's getting late and we must go home.
B. and C. Sing. "The whole world was lost in the darkness of Sin."
All join in the chorus.

## TRAINING CLASSES IN INDIA.

The accompanying picture is interesting and will some time be historic. It represents the beginning of the ministry of a native Church in our present mission field or Central India. The Senior class of 18915 is seated in front: the Junior class stands is rear, while sitting between them are Rev. W. A. Wilsun of Neemuch and Rev. Norman H. Russell of Mhow, whu during the six weeks term have been instructing them.

Our readers have long been familiar with the College in Indore, in connection with Mr. Wilkie's work there. It is chielly for students, Christian or non-Christian, who are reading for University degrecs, and the aim is to give them their secular education under Christian influences and surrunadings.

The Training Classes represented in the picture are along an entirely different line, among a different class, and with a different aim. These are the Evangelistic agents who are now employed in the mission, and


Training a Native Ministry in Central India.
who are gathered from time to time by the missionaries for special instruction.

Until less than four years ago. the native workers in the Mission received no special training save such as each missionary could find time to give. This training was of recessity fragmentary.

The establishment of classes for the more systematic and prolonged stady of Scripture truth, especially of the Scriptures themselves. was for years under consideration, and some three years ago a beginning was made which has proved most successful, and since that time arrangements have
been made each year for teaching a junior arid a senior class for a period of six weeks each in the year, some of the missionaries cheerfully assuming this burden in addition to their already exacting work. The time is short, but it is felt that the native workers cannot longer be spared from their fields.

The missionaries are looking forward hopefully to a further development of their work, when regularly ordained native ministers can be sent out to baptize and organize congregations, and a native Church learn to liecome self-dependent and self-supportins.

## THE YEAR'S WORK IN MHOW.

by Rev. Nohyan ht. ressell.
The past year, 1896-97, has been one of great encouragement in the work in Mhow. The Lord's hand has been with us, and his blessing has been on every department.

It has, however, not been without its changes. Dr. Thompson whose cheering presence has been such a help to us for the past year left us in October for his new field of labor in Ujjain. In November we were privileged to welcome Miss Leyden as an addition to the Mhow Staff.
Then on the 24th December, Dr. Smith and family arrived, a welcome Christmas gift, not only to Mhow but to the whole Mission Their arrival was saddened by the illness and subsequent death of dear wee Jessir Shr was with us lung enough to win her way to our hearts, and her grave is another of the bitternesses wherevy the measure of Christ's sufferings is filled up for India's redemption.

In February Miss Ross and Mr. Frank H. Russell bade farewell to their loved work and people here to open up the new mission in Dhar. The partings were very sad, though brightened by many fond expressions of regard. The new missionaries in stepping into their places were right royally welcomed and already a bond of sympathy has been established between them and this people.

## I. Wonk Among Natie Chmintas:Classes.

The training and development of our native Church has always been held the most important department of our work in Mhow. Seven of our workers availed themselves of this opportunity. The work and results of these classes will be treated elsewhere by Mr. Wilson, and as in the previous year our men were again successful in winning first place. it being shared however in the case of the senior class by another

In addition to these extra rlasses were ? efid as often as possible for the studr. thiefly of the Word. An hour and a half was spent every Saturday morning, first, in the study of the Sabbath School lesson, and second, in hearing reports and dealing with all points of difficulty connected with the work. A class for adult Christians is also held every Sunday morning in connection with the Sunday School.

## Congregation.

Our Christian community has grown quietly but steadily. We have had more bajtisms than in any previous year. 13 being from among non-Christians, and 5 Christians, 18 in all. We also had one addition from the Roman Catholics. Nine lave joined our Church by profession of faith, and 12 isy certificate. The number of members now on our roll when purged to the end of 1896 is 66 , showing a net increase of 12 during the year.

We have had seven deaths in our midst, also a larger number than chronicled in any previous year.

The regular weekly services have been most faithfully attended, and the Church records show about 80 per cent. of the members in attendance on the Lord's Supper. The Christians have themselves held meetings for prayer both in the Church and the homes of the sick. The week of prayer was observed by our people in the last week of the year, and was a means of great blessing to all, especially stirring us all to watchfulness and prayer.

## Choirs.

A large number of the congregation as. comble every Saturday morning for an hour to learn to sing the native hymns under the most efficient training of Miss Calder. through whose efforts the singing in our native Church has becone sumething we are proud of.

## Scssion.

The Session has had very frequent meetings, as all applicants for baptism, enquirers and others have appeared before the Session as a whole, and the elders, Dr. Thompson, Mr. Drew and Mr. Anketell, have shared equally with the Missionary the rare and responsibility of dealing with enquiring souls. We have had several cases of discipline, all of which have been dealt with firmly but lovingly. The Session has also received Nanu a Caristian from Berwai of some 3 or 4 years' standing as a student under its care with a view to engaging in Evangelistic work.

The Deacons' Court has taken charge of its work of caring for the poor, providing for Church expenses, and for the support of the congregation's evangelist. All the memhers now give regularly, and encouragingly to the sunport of the Church. Two new members have been elected to this court, nne of them being a convert from the Berwai district who is now emoloyed by the congregation as a Bible reader.

## Enquirers.

The list of baptisms might have been considerably swelled this year had we baptised all who asked for it, or even those who gave a credible testimony. But it has been thought better by the Session not to make haste in dealing with enquirers, so their names have been entered in the enquirers' roll, and they have been commended to the care of the nearest catechist for instruction and help. In this way they are visited once a month, and taught in the Word.

All enquirers and Christians however in the Holkar State have been subject to constant persecution, their water supply being stopped, and employment often being refused. Twenty-four names are now on the roll as regular enquirers, from whom let us hope much fruit will be gathered in during the coming year.

Beyond the work we have been able to nents have been won by perseverance to at accomplish, the development of the Native Church in grace and the knowledge of Christ has been marked in many ways. A deeper interest in one another, less frequent quarrels, and a greater desire for holiness in life, all are manifestations of the Spirit's power in our midst.

## II. Etangelastic Work. <br> In and about 3 how.

The Evangelistic work in Mhow and its one hundred or more surrounding villages has been continued regularly throughout the year. The preaching in the bazaars and mohullas of the cantonment has been carried on not only by those specially appointed for evangelistic work, but by all the Christian workers together, who go out in bands after school hours and preach sometimes three or four times of an evening. This work has also been supplemented by meetings held in the Church, where Mr. Drew frequently preaches with the help of the magic lantern The attendances at all these meetings have been tabulated, and shew gatherings of sometimes 200 and 300 people.

Regular prayer meetings for non-Christians have also been held in our three branch school buildings every week, with a varying attendance of children and their parents of from 25 to 60 .

## In. Out-stations.

The work in Manpur, Berwai and Parlia has gone on steadily throughout the year. The Manpur work was sadly set back some three years ago by the action of the Roman Catinolics, but we held to our ground, working on quietly and prayerfully, until at last the Roman Catholics have left the field; and though they had ieen at considerable expense, they tore down their buildings and disappeared.
The sad death of our catechist's wife in January and his forced removal to Mhow with his children has left us temporarily without a worker at Manpur, but I trust this will only be for a few weeks.

The work among the Bhils at Furdi near Manpur is still very encouraging, though we have had no baptisms as yet. We had this year also a much better hearing in Manpur itself than in previous years.
The weekly reports from our catechists at Berwai have shown a steady and thorough ministering of the Word to the surrounding villages. It is here also that we have had most fruit. Bhika has several times visited his people and stirred them up to a deeper interest in the Word. The baptism of several has caused a deep feeling of resentment in several villages, and in some places our men are refused a hearing, and even threatened; but they are undaunted and persevering in their efforts, their fear is of God, not man. In Berwai itself the hearing is much better than formerly, and many bitter oppo-
nents have been won by perseverance to at least a friendly hearing. May God win them to himself.
Work was really only begun in Parlia in 1896, and our first difficulty was to procure a house, no one being willing to rent. Land however was obtained, and some small houses have been erected for our Christian workers.

Since then the sentiment of the whole community towards us has changed. The unexpected and wonderful success of our Christians in digging a well was the best sermon preached in that section throughout the year; and brought many to think more of the Christ religion. The head man of the village is now very friendly, and invites our Christian men and women to visit his house and sing and speak to his wife and family.

On a late visit there he gave me invaluable help in prospecting for a probable site for placing some of our persecuted Christian families, and he himself has expressed no small interest in the Word.
I now feel assured after some years of experience that in this system of planting out-stations in the midst of large clusters of villages and in working through these as centres of evangelistic effort, we have found the key to the evangelizing of Central India. These places are also largely used both by Christians and enquirers as means of grace. and on market days and other times, espe. cially if they are in trouble. do they come to our catechists for help and encouragement.

## Touring.

Our annual tour of the district this year was necessarily cut short by the missionary's leaving on furlough and business connected therewith. Our tour nevertheless covered the most of the Mhow district, both above and below the Ghats, excluding that part beyond the Nerbudda. Our stay was of course more limited than usual in each place, but the Gospel was preached to more than 13,500 people, besides many tracts being sold.

The hearing accorded us this year was noticeably better than in any previous, for though we never preached plainer truths, we never had less of interruption. Moreover, the interest seemed more genuine, and was longer sustained.

As heretofore we made regular use of the magic lantern for our night services, Through the kindness of Mr. Thomson and others, we had this year a fresh supply of slides, especially of the parables and old Testament scenes, by means of which the Gospel was faithfully preached.
Our largest gathering at one time was about 1,000 , being in araheswar, a large town where we hope some day to establish an out-station. Our field offers many opportunities at present. For instance the Superintendent of Berwani State to the south or the Nerbudda invited us to go in and begin
work among them, and he would do all he could for us.

My brother and I also took a trip out to the Bhil district, as far as Alirajpur, to see about land for our Bhil mission. We were the guests of the Political Agent, who very kindly gave us every opportunity to see the whole district, and also advised us as to where he thought would be most central for our work. He has also offered to make all arrangements for securing us land as socn as we shall have determined on a site.

## Ill. Work Among the Yous. <br> Higher Education.

In his report on the Mission High Schon?, Mhow, ior 1896, the Inspector says:-" Fhe "organization of the scinool has much im" proved, and the records are now in order, " neat, and up to date. The building is neat " and tastefully decorated, affording ample " accommodation for all the classes......As " already remarked, a further improvement " has resulted from the re-arrangement of "the duties of the staff, and from the care " and attention of the head master and his " assistants; and the year's work refiects "great credit on Mr. Anketell and his "assistants, as well as on the missionaries "under whose general direction the work is " carried on."

I can only add my own testimony to the energy and efficiency with which our teachers have labored during the past year.

Of the 133 in connection with the High School, 147 belong to the High School department proper. mitir average attendance has been 83 per cent. Prometions 72 per cent.

The same care has been taken with the Bible training as in secular work, and a spirit of enquiry in regard to the truth pervades our whole school. Opposition that once existed in certain quarters to Bible teaching has now been broken down, and many of our students took prizes in the Bible examination.

The one lack of our school to which the Inspector calls attention is the need of some symnastic apparatus. As we have lately been obliged to diminish our staff on account of the great cut in our estimates, we will not be able to provide such from ordinary funds. It may be some friend at home will be able to help us in this matter.

Primary Education.
Besides the primary school in connection with the High School we have three branch schools, where in addition to secular subjects the Bible is taught danly.

The rolls of these schools show 251 pupils. with an average attendance of about 81 per cent.

Concerning these the Inspector reports"I am very much pleased with the state of "the first three of the above, which I visit-
"ed, and am glad to spe they are now pro. "perly organized as I advised last year."

In closing his report he adds:-"On the "whole I am much pleased with the con" tinued progess of the Institution, and con" gratulate Mr. Russell and his assistants on "the excellent results obtained."
The prize distributions in these schools are just over, and the beautiful and useful gifts so kindly provided by the ladies at home were very much appreciated and made many hearts happy.

## Home for Boys.

We have begun in a small way to provide a home for the sons of our Christians in the villages who are unable to get any school training in their own homes. Ten boys have already availed themselves of this opportunity. They are under the efficient care of Mr. Anketell, the head master, and besides their school training have special instruction in the Bible, and are taught singing by Miss Calder.

## Sunday Schools.

This branch of our work has had its usual attention throughout the year. There have been in all twelve boys' schools, theugh some of them have been irregular on account of the workers being in the district. The average weekly attendance in the large school held in connection with the High School is 321 , the majority of the schnol boys attending regularly. Sunday Schools have been held regularly in connection with the branch schools.

A mass meeting of all the children was heid during the hot season, when prizes were distributed for excellency in the Bible examination, and regularity in attendance. For these gifts also we have to thank the kind ladies at home.

## The Chaplaincy.

This part of our Mhow work has claimed its cue share of time and aiteni:3n. Besides the Sunday and Wednesday evening services a social meeting was held every week in our bungalow for the men, and more rerently an extra meeting for special prayer corducted by the missionaries and military together.

On Saturday evenings a choir practice was conducted by Miss Calder, who was assisted during his stay in Mhow by Dr. Thompson. Miss Calder kindly officiated also at the organ after we lost our regular organist Miss Cook.

An English Sunday School was conducted each Sunday morning about 60 scholars being on the roll. Mrs. Drew, Miss Forrester, Miss Cook, and later Miss Leyden, together with several of the men formed our staff, the missionary being superintendent.

This is a most interesting work, and has been blessed with not a little fruit. especially in the up-building and strengthening of the Christian men.

## OUR FIRST YEAK IN DHAR.

## By Rev. F. H. liusseri, of Dhall, Impia

We look back over the year which has just closed with a good deal of thankfulness, and are encouraged to look for greater blessings to come. It has been our first real year of work in Dhar. But though in many things we are as yet only beginning, there has been marked progress. Our little community has grown, our influence has been more noticeably felt, our sphere has widened, opportunities for work have increased, and the attitude of the people toward us has undergone a marked change. Cordial enough at first, then, as our work went on, bitter in their opposition, they have at last come to recognize, tacitly at least, the goodness of our intentions. The official class have become more tolerant and affable, while our recention by the people of the surrounding villages has been most encouraging.

We have many blessings to record. Not the least of these has been the health of our people. Though we have passed through two epidemics during the year, one of smallpox, the other of cholera, both very virulent and causing great mortality, we were not in a single instance so much as touched by the plagues. In the case of the former sickness, though every other house in the street was affected, that in which a Christian family lived was mercifully preserved.

## I. Work Among Native Cumisthans.

1. Classes-Of our two catechists at the time of the Theological Classes in Mhow, only one could be spared from the work here to attend, and that with difficulty. It proved helpful to the work in the end, however, and the one sent showed himself capable by taking a high stand in the examilation. Latterly, at the request of my catechists, who had in the meantime increased to four, I began teaching to supplement that which had been given in .he Classes, especially in Parabolic teaching and Exegesis, and though necessarily only fragmentary and desultory, it has apparently been he!pful.
2. Vative Church.-We have as yet no congregation formed, though we trust the day when it will be is not far off. Our membership roll has suffered by the removal of 2 during the year, at the same time having had 16 added, making a real gain of 14 . We have at present a total of 25 members in, full communion. Our people exhibit a deener sense than formerly of their duties as Christians, especially in fellowship and in the support of the Church work. Several of the members give a full tenin of their income to be used for the Lord, and others give largely in proportion to their means.

Contributions have in this way been so
uniformly large that in addition to current expenses, charities, and the procuring of books and furniture, the Church has been able during the year to purchase a piece of ground costing rupees 300 (about $\$ 100$ ), for the erection of a church building, as soon as the money for the latter may be forthcoming.

Over and above these contributions, the native members of our community have latterly undertaken of their own accord to support among themselves a worker for whom the missionary had not been able to provide. And though this support means only a bare maintenance, it may be imagined what denial even this necessitates, especially in such hard times as the present.
The morning and evening Sabbath services and the weekly prayer-meeting have been very well attended, the average being over 90 per cent. The discourses of the native catechists at some of these meetings shew marked development both of thought and style. In addition to the regular services, a weekly evening meeting is held at the house of cie of the workers, and there is a nightly gathering for reading and prayer on the Mission compound.
Our services still suffer much for lack of a building, as we are still out in the bazar, holding services on the verandah of the disnensary, with no proper protection from the sun and rain, to say nothing of the endless distractions and noises in the street about us, making it hard at times to so much as hear the speaker's voice. however much he may shout; and, frequently, the grinding of nepper in the neighboring verandah renderins it difficult for the preacher to articulate. We trust the Church at home will soon be able to provide us with a building, which. we have estimated, will cost about $\$ 700$.
For some time we had weekly gatherings for singing, which, though incerrupted finally by sickness in one or two of the homes. resulted in marked improvement in our congregational service of praise.
3. Baptisms. - We have had in all 11 baptisms, 5 being out of heathendom.

## II. livangelistic Work.

1. In Dhar:-The Sablath and week-day meetings have always been well attended by non-Christians, who seem to listen earnestly to the word. The preaching on these occasions has been made as far as possible applicable to them, as well as to the needs of our own people. The Gor 31 has also been preached with reguları $y$ at least twice a month in each of 25 or more places throughout the city during the sear. The influx of large crowds on market day is always taken full advantage of. We have made use. too, of the masic lantern to illustrate our preachins and attract hearers, and have found large audiences stand for hours with apparently unwearied interest.
2. Surrounding Villages.-We have striven to reach regularly this year the towns and villages about Dhar, within a radius of 8 to 10 miles, and have succeeded in visiting 4 or 5 a week for a good part of the season. Two or three of these have been very constantly visited, with, we beleve, good results, while we have reached most at least occasionally.
In one of the larger places we have always had a good hearing, at times speaking to an audience of over 400 people. the head man of the village proved very affable, assisting us in every possible way, and, though a Brahman of high position, taking a chan beside the missionary at the out-door meetings, a proceeding unusual enough to be worth recording. The missionary was helped in this outside village work very much by the ladies of the staff in Dhar, who, by their singing and playing the baby-organ, added greatly to the interest and success of the meetings.
The weekly reports of the workers shew a total of 33,000 persons who neard the Gospel during the year. Of these, many doubtless heard it very frequently. These numbers include those also who attended the Mohulla preaching in the city itself, though nnt the attendances on the regular services. But no numbers can indicate the thousands who have been appealed to incidentally, or in personal conversation. There cari be few in the district immediately surrounding Dhar who have not heard the Word at least once within the year that has gone.
3. Tourint.-During the touring season, illness, first in the missionary's home, then of the missionary himself, interfered to some extent with work in the out-lying district, and plans had to be considerably modified. The district to the north of Dhar, however, was pretty thoroughly visuted. This part had probably never before been overtaken by the Gospel. All the villages of any size, up as far as the Barnagar and Rutlan districts, and west to the border of the Bhil country, numbering 22 in all, were visited. and several thousand people spoken to of saving truth. The results of this trip were very encouraging.

In company with my brother I took a trip in January as far as Chanpur, in the Alitajpur State, some 100 miles from Dhar, below the Ghats. The trin was really for the purpose of seeing the heart of the Bhil country, and judging of that district as a suitable location for the centre of the Bhil mission We had an excellent opportunity of viewing the district and, through the kindness of the Political Agent with whom we were staying in camp, of having pointed out to us the arguments in favor of establishing the work in that section.
4. Out-Station work.-We have been trying for over a year to obtain a foot-hold in Amjhera, a town of some 5,000 people. 17
miles west of Dhar. Application has been made for land, but the machinery of native States moves slowly, and there is still no definite allotment. We have every reason to hope, however, that the grant will soon be made, and our work consequently extended in that direction.

## III. Work Among the Young.

1. Primary Education.-In adherence to the principle of employing only Christians as teachers, even in secular work, I have had only one school open during the year, as I could oitain only the one teacher. A's the year cioses, I have succeeded in ointaining another, and have every reason to hope that our school work will keep pace with the other departments of work in the future.

The general opposition to our work made itself felt in the school as elsewhere. The people objected especially to the teaching of the Bible, and as there could be no compromise on this point, there was a consequent falling off in the attendance. The roll has varied in numbers from 39 at one time to 11 at another. The average of attendance has been good, indeed very high. as a rule. In addition to elementary subjects, the boys are taught the Bible. parts of which they learn by heart, and the singing of hymns, in which they have made good progress.

At the prize distribution in December. when the gifts sent out by the ladies at home were presented, one of the children was specially commended as having been present every school day throughout the year, while several had been very seldom absent.
2. Subliath Schools.-We have had 7 schools in various parts of the city, one in a village a couple of miles away, with a total average attendance of 159. The work has been interrupted in some cases by the absence of workers in the district but the teaching has otherwise been regularly conducted, and the interest sustained.

A class for the study of the lesson meets at the missionary's bungalow on Saturday morning, and special attention is given to methods of making the truths of the lesson easy of comprehension by the children.

## IV. Buming. 。

We are glad to report that the bungalow, into which we were forced to move before it was completed, has been finished for some time, and has proved most comfortable and convenient. All who have visited us from other stations of the mission are loud in their praises of the bungalow as a very attractive and suitable home, with little wanting to complete its convenience.

The erection of a Dispensary building has also been undertaken, and is well on the way to completion, lacking now only the rooì, which has been delayed on account of the difficulty of procuring suitable wood. We hope to see it, too, finished before the end of March.

## 势"umg haylers sorititis.

## THE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES "PLAN OF STUDY."

Conduoted by Rev. R. D. Fraser, Convener.

The Monthly Topics for 1897 consist of a General Survey, and are adapted to all the various sorts of young people's societies. The second weekly meeting of the month is to be devoted to them; and attention is drawn to the fact that a specially prepared Topic Card for Presbyterian Y.P.S.C.E's. is for sale by the Endeavor Herald Co., Toronto, at 60 c . per hundred. It is issued by arrangement with the Assemily's Committee, and embraces the Monthly Topics of the Plan of Study.

## Topic for week bestinning bume 13th.

FRENCH CANADA AND ITS EVANGEIIZATION.

Matt. 9, 36-38; 10, 1-16.

## Literature.

The article by Rev. Principal MacVicar may stand as an authoritative synopsis of the work of French Evangelization, the nature of it, need for it, its methods and its results.
His outline will make a capital plan for the discussion of the Topic.

The Reports of the Board of French Evangelization, to the Assembly from year to year embrace not only interesting details of school and field work, but admirable summaries, from year to year, of the state of the Romish question in Canada and especially in Quebec. Most Ministers have the back numbers of the Assembly Minutes in which these renorts are to be found. They will repay study.
Current events in Quebec and Manitoba are instructive.
For a general account of French Canada and its peoplessome good Canadian history shouid be consulted. Kingsford's History of Canada, vol. IV. and Dr. J. G. Bourinot's "Story of Canada" in the "Story of the Nations" Series are among the latest. There is no more entertaining reading than Parkman's Volumes on "France and England in North America." Amongst them the "Fioneers of France in the New World," "Wolle and Montcalm," and "The Jesuits in North America," may be specially mentioned in connection with the matter in hand. They reveal to us the many fine traits of our French fellow countrymen. What a grand strength to the Dominion of Canada they will be when liberated from the superstitions that now hold them so cruelly down!

## paragraplas.

## I. The French Population.

Acording to the last census, the population of French origin in the Dominion is as follows:-
 $\begin{array}{rrrr}11,112 & \text { 4 } & 7.3 & 4 \\ 1,543 & 4 & 2.3 & 4\end{array}$ $\begin{array}{ll}4 & 4 \\ 4 & 6\end{array}$ N. W. 'Perritories
 Quel)ec.............. $1,156,316$ " 50.4 New l3runswick. ... 61,567 4s 19.2 Novil Soutiat 30,181 " 6.7
I'. E. Island. 11,847 " 10.5

$$
\text { Total. . . . . } 1,415,040 \text { or } 29.1
$$

of the Dominion as against 30.1 in 1881.
Several of the counties of Quebec are Roman Catholic almost to a unit. For example, the census of 1891 gives Montmorency 9 Protestants in a total population of 12,309 ; Bellechasse, 4, in 18,369; Kamouraska, 3 in 20,454; L'Islet, 2 in 13,823. The total number of Protestants in the Province at the same date was 198,974, in a population of 1,488 ,-535-Report of Boara of Brench Evangeliaution, 1895.
II. Evangenting Agexcies.

The actual Evangelizing Agencies are:-

|  | Mission | Work- | Expendi- |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |
| rrande ligne Mission (Bap) | 15 | 33 | 6 |
| Methonst | 7 | 13 | 11,57S ${ }^{\text {dot }}$ |
| Presbyterian.... ... .... . | 3 | \% | 35,011 20 |

III. Pemis.

There is a radical element in the Church of Rome in the Province of Quebec, determined in its efforts for Reform, but with little, if any, sympathy wich evangelical truth ; it is anti-clerical and destructive, and may become anti-religious. Another element whose sympathy is on the whole with the cause of truth and liberty cherishes the hope that, in some way, all needed reforms may yet be effected from within their church; it sympathizes with the radical element in its struggle for the emancipation of the people from ecclesiastical despotism. Miany are losing faith in the dogmas of their church who have been educated in the belief that the Church of Rome is the true representative of the religion of Jesus Christ, and consequently prejudiced against every other form of it, yet with little or no knowledge of Scripture and no religious conviction born of individual responsibility. Unless in some way the principles of the Gospel are brought to bear on the hearts and consciences of the people history must repeat itself and our fellow-countrymen sink into religious indifference and infidelity. The work of demolition is going on. Our work is to build up and restore by presenting in the spirit of its Author the Gospel. What has been done in this way,-little compared with what must be done,-is the assurance of the favor of the Great Head of the church and the pledge that the Gospel will yet win its way against misrepresentation and. esta-
blished error, and give light and liberty and peace to the people.-Report of 189\%.

## IV. A Fettered Paess.

The French press is represented by ten daily and fifty-one weekly papers, having each an average subscription list of somewhere about four thousand five hundred, and three thousand five hundred, respectively; five homorous and illustrated papers, and six recueils and reviews, devoted to literature or religion issued weekly or monthly. With scarcely an exception these publications, some from conviction, the majority from self-interest, court ecclesiastical authority. Independence is sacrificed for favors and if asserted, is stricken or slain outright by the all powerful arm of the Charch.Report of 1593.

Recent events show how difficult a thing it is for even the stoutest to hold up against the mandates of bishops, who are determined to let no voice go forth to the people but that of the Church.

Quebec has, also, not yet reached the era of a free press, but the fact that the people are becoming more of a reading people is full of encouragement for the future.

## V. An Old Time Incident.

Reference has already been made to the stoning of Mr. Chiniquy at Ottawa. On the 5 th instant he was arrested in his house at Montreal on a writ of capias. The two Roman Catholic bailiffs found him quite composed and ready to go with them. He informed them that as this was the thirtyfourth time of his arrest he had become quite used to it.

Regretting the early hour at which they had been required to perform their important business, he invited them to breakfast. After breakfast Mr. Chiniquy informed his guests that it was his custom to begin the day's work with reading and prayer, and requested to be allowed to perform family worship as usual.
Consent was given. The chanter which came in course in the morning's reading was Acts VII., which recounts the stoning of Stephen. Each one was given a Bible, the bailiffs were not neglected, and the chapter was read verse by verse. Mir. Chiniquy then explained the chapter, showing how the world had not changed from the days of the early Christian Church. He, himself, for exarople, was subject to arrest, and only last week he had been stoned. The whole party then knelt in prayer, in which the French Canadians were especially remembered. After enjoying this peculiar opportunity of missionary service, he accompanied the bailiffs to the office of the Attorney for the prosecution, where a Lundred friends would have gladly given the bail required from our venerable and heroic father, that he will appear in due time to stand his trial.-Report of $18 \% 6$.

## VI. A Romisi Prayer, The Confiteor.

"I confess to Almighty God, to blessed Mary ever Virgin, blessed Michael the archangel, to blessed John the Baptist, to the holy apostles Peter and Paul, to all the saints, and to you Father, that I have sinned exceedingly in thought, word, and deed, through my fault, through my most grievous fault. Therefore, I beseech the blessed Mary ever Virgin, blessed Michael the archangel, blessed John the Baptist, the holy apostles Peter and Paul and all the saints, and you Father, to pray to the Lord our God for me."
Everybody seems to be duly honored here, except the Lord Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. Judaism cannot furnish a parallel to this volation of the teachings of all Scrip. ture on the subject of prayer.-Rev. J. Mact.

## FRENCH FVANGELIZATION.

By Nec. Principal Me Vicar, D.D.
What doles ir mean?
It means very much the same as Irish, Scottish, English, Chinese, or Hindu evangelization. It consists chiefly in giving the pure Gospel to those of the million and a quarter of our French feilow countrymen who are without it. No valid reason can be urged against this, and many can be advanced in its favour. In the sight of God they are as much entitled to enjoy the blessings of salvation as we are, and, being our near neighbours, they have special claims upon as in this respect. The work of placing the provision of grace within their reach is eminently patriotic, and needs no apology or defense. It is expressly embraced and enjoined in Christ's great Commission to His followers. He declared "that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem."

To do this in the Province of Quebec, or any where else, is not to be guilty of proselytism or sectarian bigotry, but to be loyal and obedient to the Saviour's command, The agents of our Mission therefore are not to be reproached as mischief-makers when they proclaim salvation to all, without money and without price, and press upon their acceptance the Word of Cod as the most precious treasure they can possess, and that which is absolutely essential to the cultivation of true morality and Godliness. This is the least that we should do; for " with us this is a day of good tidings, but if we hold our peace some mischief will come unon us."

## WHE IS THLS WOKK NEEDED?

It is necessary because the people for whose good it is undertaken profess many unscriptural and anti-scriptural beliefs; and the more ignorant and unwise men are the more need they have of being helped. Here are examples of what we mean.

Like the men of Athens to whom Panl preached (Ac. 17-22) they are in all things too religious, and do not limit their worship to " God that made the world and all things therein." They adore the Virgin Mary and the "Host," which is simply a wafer made of flour, but which they believe to be changed by the manipulation and power of a priest into the very body, soul and divinity of Jesus Christ. In Churches and on the streets they fall upon their knees in profound adoration of this deified wafer.
Our Saviour instituted only two Sacraments, Baptism and the Lord's Supper, but this people make use of five more, viz., Confession, Penance, Holy Orders, Matrimony and Extreme Unction. Baptism with them means regeneration ; but according to Christ and his Apostles we are regenerated by the Holy Spirit alone, and not by any outward ordinance. They regard the Sacraments as the only channels of grace and absolutely necessary to salvation, and inasmuch as they are in the hands of the priest who may grant or withhold them at his pleasure, it follows that he has complete control of the eternal destiny of the souls of men. It is no wonder that all who devoutly accept this dogma are in servile subjection to the priest in things temporal and spiritual. If they are otherwise it is because they are more or less sceptical.
Scripture teaches that there is but "One Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus:" (1. Tim. 11. 5.), but this people appeal to many mediators, to saints and angels and especially the Virgin Mary who is represented as even more compassionate and accessible to sinners than Jesus, Divine attributes and honours are freely ascribed to her, and the month of May is consecrated to her service.
Scripture teaches most emphatically that Christ " though the Eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish unto God," and that " oner." and only once. as our all-sufficient atonement for sin. Heb. IX. 14, 28: Rom. VI. $10 ; 1$ Pet. III. 18. In direct contravention of reason. and of this fundamental Biblical truth, Romanists believe that He is as really offered, by the hands of their priests, in thousands of different places and at the same moment in the sacrifice of the Mass, as he was upon Calvary.
Scripture teaches that the Blood of Christ, shed once for all, cleanseth from all sin; ( 1 John I. 7-9), and therefore it is extremely derogatory to the efficacy of His propitiatory and expiatory death to attempt to supplement it in any way. But Romanists believe in Purgatory, a place of unutterable torments and of purification into which souls pass at death and where they are cleansed from the deflement of sins committed after baptism. This process of cleansing is effected through the prayers of priests, the intercession of Mary and the saints, and, above all, the offering of the sacrifice of the Mass.

All this is undeniably supplementary to the work of Christ and His spirit, and often proves very protracted and costly. It is impossible to say how long souls may remain in purgatory before being fit to enter heaven, consequently large sums of money are paid to priests for prayers and masses ; and it is no unusual thing for rich and poor to make bequests to the Church in order to secure such services for their souls after death. A strong society for this purpose, with its head quarters in Montreal, was founded by the late Arch bishop Bourget. It has now a large capital in hand and numerous members scattered over Canada and the United States.
The Romish church boasts that she has never changed in doctrine or spirit. We may concede the latter part of this claim, but the former, as to doctrine, is set aside by the recent authoritative declaration of the dogmas of the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin and the Infallibility of the Pope. According to these, Mary was born without $\sin$; and the Pope when he speaks el C'athedra, i.c., officially, cannot err.

It is held that Peter had supremacy over the rest of the Apostles in spite of the fact that Paul " resisted him to the face, because he stood condemned " (Gal. 11. 11., R. V.); and, that, like all his successors in the Popedom, and all cardinals, bishops and priests, he was an unmaried man although we are expressly told in three Gospels that Jecus healed his wife's mother of a fever. Mat. VIII. 14 ; Mar. I. 30 ; Lu. IV. 38, 39.

The Pope is the Vicar of Christ, his representative upon earth, and is therefore clothed with supreme divine authority, so that to him as the visible Head of the Universal Church, sovereigns, princes, and governors, as well as people of all nations, owe submission.

It is not illogical or surprising, therefore, that he and his ecclesiastical subordinatesbishops and priests-presume to meddle with civil government, and to enforce their views and commands by the spiritual penalities they can infict. In accordance with this high claim, in the Province oi Quebec, Romish bishops are invested with legal power not only to levy tithes upon their people, but also to tax them to any amount they deem requisite for the erection and repairing of churches and dwellings for their priests. These taxes are collected by process of law like any civic assessment or ordinary debt, and are a first lien upon the property of parishioners. Tiis a.ccounts for the comparative poverty of the bulk of them and the magnificence of numerous churches, convents, colleges and palaces of bishops and priests.
Do we need to add, as reasons for french Evangelization, that idolatry and the manifold superstitions which accompany it, enslave and degrade. The true spirit of patriotism and Christianity bids us give this people who are possessed of many admirable na-
tural qualities, the best gift we possess-the gospel of the Kingdom. Enlightened by the Gospel they are capable of contributing their quota-a most valuable one-to the interlectual, the moral, and spiritual outfit of the Dominion; for it is a gross mistake, an offense against good taste and good citizenship, to depreciate them and their language. But left in darkness, under the yoke of a medieval ecclesiasticism, which very many of them feel to be bitterly oppressive. they can only exert an influence detrimental to the unity the progress and freedom of the nation. And who are to blame? Not those born in darkness, but those who refuse or neglect to give them the light. If we decline to repel and remove anti-scriptural errors they will certainly encroach upon our borders and enter our homes and our Churches. This is the testimony of all history and is consonant with our own observation. To those who honestly desire to hold fast and hold forth the word of life we have thus recited more than sufficient reasons for the vigorous prosecution of French Evangelization.

## How IS 1T (ARRIEI ON?

By colporters, teachers, evangelists and pastors under the direction of a Board annually appointed by the General Assembly. Rev. S. J. Taylor, is the executive officer of the Board and visits all schools, missions, stations, and congregations addressing them in their own language, making himselt personally acquainted with the circumstances of individuals and families, encouraging and stimulating them to activity and perseverance in the good work. He also confers with missionaries and presbyteries especially those within whose bounds stations and schools are situated.

Colporteurs are our pioneer agents. They so among the people from house to house, in the spirit of love distributing the Word of God and Biblical literature. Bibles and New Testaments are loaned or sold when possible. They deliver no other message than that of Christ and his Apostles. They gather children and men and women into mission schools where they receive the elements of a Christian education, the Bible and Shorter Catechism being the principal text-books. When by innumerable visits, meetings, conferences and prayers in the humble homes of the people and in little school rooms. success has been achieved and the Spirit of God has opened the eyes of parents and children they are gathered into churches under the care of missionary pastors.

This truly unostentatious and apostolis work of faith and labour of love is conducted in many rough out-of-the-way places where the self-denial, courage and patience of the workers are for more severely tested than if they ministered to wealthy congregations; and to the honour of devoted colporteurs be it said some of them fave cheerfully per-
sisted in this most useful form of service for thirty and forty years. Muen more of this founctation work remains to be done, and we would gladly send out scores of such "hving epistles"-godly, earnest Bible readers and teachers, had we funds to enable us to do so. The Church, and especially Sunday Schools and Young People's Societies of Christian Endeavour, can determine by their contributions whether we are to contract or extend our Mission.

> What ane the hesurts"

Figures very imperfectly represent spirit ual influences and results. it is probable that during the last fifty years between twenty and thirty thousand converts have left our country owing to local persecutions and other causes.

We have at present, Mission Fields occupied 37; Preaching Stations, 93 ; Families of converts, 928 ; Church members, 1179 ; Added during the past year 153; Sunday School Scholars, 1020 : Mission Day Schools, 21, with Scholars on the noll, Protestant 299, Roman Catholic 308; at Pointe-auxTrembles, Protestants 77; Roman Catholics 78 ; total number of pupils in all Mission Schools, 762. Amount contributed by converts, for salaries $\$ 2,999.70$; for other purposes $\$ 2,918$; School fees, at Pointe-aux. Trembles, about $\$ 1,400$ other schools, $\$ 400$. Total contributions, $\$ 7,707.70$

During the current session at Pointe-auxTrembles, 21 students were received into the Communion of the Church which worships regularly in the Chapel of the Schoois and of which the Rev. Principal Bourgouin is pastor. This is about the average number annually added to the Church from among the students who on returning to their nomes act as zealous missionaries to their relatives and acquaintances. Thus the desire for the unadulterated Gospel and for sound Christian education has for many years been widely diffused by all our agencies, and a spirit of freedom and manly independence has been gradually fostered which or late has unmistakably manifested itself throughout the Province in dealing with public matters. This is the outcome of missionary effort, and should stir up all true Christians and patriots to more earnest prayer and greater liberatity for the extension of our Mission.

I appeal for such aid to all our people and especially to ministers, elders, Sabbath school superintendents, and officers and members of Christian Endeavour Societies, The moment is peculiarly opportune, and should not be allowed to pass unimproved. The present and the near future are far more promising than any period during the last half century. There is an intellectual and a spiritual awakening among the Freuch people which opens the way to greatly increased evangelistic activity, and which cannot be neglected without the most serious peril to our Church and Country.

## §lntemational ぶぶ，Messons．

## SHNS OF THE TONGUE． Gth Jume．

Les．James 3：1－13．
Gol．＇Text．Ps．34： 13. Mem．vs．11－13． Catechism Q． 10 OL.

## home readings．

M．Jas．3：1－18．Sins of the Tongue． 2＇．Jas．4：1－17．＂Speak not Evil of others．＂ W．Jas．5：1－11．＂Be patient，Brethren．＂ Th．Jas．5：12－20．Good uses of the Tongue．
F．Matt．12：22－37．Accountable forour Words．
S．Prov．15：1－33．＂A Wholesome Tongue．＂
S．Ps．39：1－13．＂Sinning not with Tongue．＂
We need to keep ever in mind Christ＇s saying about the account we must finally give for our words．Friday＇s reaũing． Frivolous chatter，extravagant expressions， heartless comments，slurs and harmful hints concerning others，words that will mislead， bickering and strife，all are to be condemn－ ed，as well as the more serious sins of back－ biting，lying，vulgarity，prơranity and the like．Let us honestly consider our own record in this respect，and determine，with the Holy Spirit＇s help，to more earnestly strive to keep our tongues from evil，and our lips from speaking guile．We are not， however，to be satisfied merely with avoid－ ing evil．We should make the best possible use of all God＇s gifts，of which speech is bv no means the least．＂Be not many masters，＂ （v．1）is a warning against every one setting himself up to be a teacher．Verse 2 teaches that control of speech indicates general seli－ control．＂Governor＂（v．4）means＂pilot．＂ ＂A good conversation＂（v．13），a good life， good conduct．

1．The Power of the Tongue．vs．1－4．
2．The Evil of the Tongue．vs．5－8．
3．The Mastery of the Tongue．vs．9－13．

## Lessons．

1．We should carefully guard our speech above all things．
2．A thoughtless word may break a heart， or ruin a soul．
3．Real self－control will show itself in care－ ful speech．
4．Christians should never utter un－Chris－ tian words．
5．If we have true wisdom our speech will show it．

Emerson thus enforces the duty of bearing our sufferings without parading them：＂One topic is peremptorily forbidden to all ration－ al mortals，namely，their distempers．If you have not slept，or if you have slept，or if you have the headache，or leprosy，or thunderstroke，I beseech you by all the angels to hold your peace and not pollute the morning．＂

## PAUL＇S ADVICE TO THMOTHY．

## 13th Jinne．

Les． 2 Tim．1：1－7；3：14－17．Gol．Text． 2 Tim．3： 15.
Mem．vs．3：14－17．Catechism，Q． $\mathbf{1 0 6 .}$

## Hoare readings．

M．Act．s15：36－16：5．＂A disciple，Timotheus．＂ I． 1 Tim．1：1－20．＂My Son in the Faith．＂ 17．2＇Tim．1：1－18．＂Timothy，my belovedSon．＂ Th． 1 Thess．5：1－28．＂Quench net the Spirit．＂
F． 2 Tim．3：1－17．Paul to Timothy．
S．Titus 3：1－15．＂Ready to every good．＂
S． 1 Tim ．6：1－21．＂Fight the good fight．＂
I＇ime and Place．－Written from Rome about A．D．66， 67.

Timothy was born，probably，at Lystra， Asia Minor．His father was a Greek；his mother was a Christian Jewess，called Eunice，and his grandmother was named Lois，both pious women．Timothy is first mentioned as a Christian disciple at Lystra， at the time of Paul＇s second visit there in A．D．51．He was then，probably，about twenty－one years old．He was doubtless converted during Paul＇s first visit to Lystra． Lesson vii．Paul having great confidence in Timothy and affection for him，chose him for a companion and helper．In order to conciliate the Jews Paul circumciscd him． Timothy became an evangelist and accom－ panied Paul on many of his travels．Finally he became the head of the Church at Ephe－ sus．in Asia Minor．It was probably here that he received the second epistle from Paul，then a prisoner at Rome．
1．Reminded of his Blessings．vs．1：1－5．
2．Called to stir up his Gifts．vs．1：6， 7.
3．Exhorted to continue in God＇s Word．3： 14－17．

Lessons．
1．Our blessings come through God＇s mercy in Christ．
2．It is a blessing to have nad a godly an－ cestry．
3．We should prize God＇s gifts and use them for him．
4．God＇s word plainly shows us the way o： salvation．
5．We learn how to live by studying God＇s word

The men who flippantly plead for less ＂doctrine＂and more＂life，＂and who arer that the people don＇t want doctrinal preach－ ing，are men who have read books more than they have read men．There is in not a few quarters a positive hunger for something substantial，－wheat，nut chaff．W $\theta$ plead ior more teaching－intelisgible，interesting，alive －concerning the great verities of Chris－ tianity．－Ex．

## PEIRSONAL RESPONSEBYLITY.

## 20th Jinne.

Les. Rom. 14: 10-21. Gol. Text. Rom. 14: 21. Mem. vs. 19-21. Catechism Q. 107.

## Home lieadings

M. Luke 6: 37-49. "Judge not."
T. Matt. 25: 31-46. Judgment Seat of Christ.
W. Rom. 14:1-9. "None Liveth to Himseïf."

I'h. Rom, 14: 10-23. Personal Responsibility.
F. Rom. 15:1-13. Strong should Help Weak.
S. 1Cor.8:1-13.Regard Others' Consciences.
S. Phil. 2:1-16. "Holding forth the Word."

Time and Placc.-The Epistle to the Roman was written at Corinth in A.D. 58.

While on his third missionary journey, about which we shall study later, Paul spent three months (his second visit) at Corinth, a Grecian city. This was probably early in A.D. 58. While there he wrote the Epistle to the Romans. It was sent by the hands of a Christian woman, named Phoebe.

The chapter from which our lesson passage is taken treats specially of the practical duties of Christians toward their weaker brethren. It teaches the importance of toleration in matters not vital, each individual being accountable to Christ. We are not to judge our brethren. On the other hand we are to be careful that our conduct be not a stumbling-block in their way. None of us lives to himself. We may not, therefore, insist upon the exercise of our full Christian liberty, if by so doing we cause weaker brethren to offend. We may be able to indulge safely in some practice, which another cannot indulge in without danger to his soul. We should willingly give up our rights for his sake. Loving care for the consciences of others is of far greater importance than the vindication of our personal liberty.

1. Judging Others' Weakness, vs. 10-12.
2. Not Harming Others by Our Liberty, vs. 13-18.
3. Denying Self for Others' Good, vs. 19-21

LTESSONS.

1. We are not the judges of others' conduct.
2. Christ is our judge; all must account to him.
3. We should not do what will cause others to $\sin$.
4. We should seek to help our weaker brethren.
5. We should willingly give up our rights to save others.

If you want to be miserable, think about yourself, about what you want, what you like, what respect people ought to pay to you, and what people think of you.

## HEVEEW. 27th Jnne.

'ol. Text. Matt. 24: 14. Catechism Review. Review Examination on the Lessons.

Lessons I, II. Mf. Acts. 9: 32-10: 48.
Lessons III, IV. I'. Acts 11: 1-12: 25.
Lessons V, VI. W. Acts 13: 1-43.
Lesson VII. T'h. Acts 13: 44-14: 28.
Lesson VIII. F. Acts 15: 1-35.
Lessons IX, X. S. Jas. 2 and 3.
Lessons XI, XII. S. 2 Tim. 1 and 3;Rom. 14.

## WHAT TO DO WITH CARES.

Family cares are numerous and pernlexing. Our children give us uneasiness and anxiety. Our minds are often troubled as to how they shall be fed, clothed, disciplined, educated, what station in life they shall occupy and what shall be their state in eternity. When they are away from home, our fond hearts are frequently filled with feariul surmisings regarding the perils to which they may be exposed. If we hear of their illness, we become alarmed and depressed in spirit.

Then there are many Marthas in our different households who are cumbered about many things. Much serving breeds all manner of domestic perplexities. At other times, disease enters the family with its attendant ills. Death often follows, removing the darling infant, or the promising son, or the lovely daughter, or the only child, or the dear mother, or the fond father, or the kind husband, or the affectionate wife. These and other domestic cares, as they arise, we ought not to carry alone, but, as is our privilege, roll them all upen our covenant keeping God, from whom come comfort and strength.-Ex.

## CONTENTMENT.

Would that we were all more contented with our mercies and more discontented with ourselves! It is trying to live on external conditions that makes a Chiristian restless and wretched. A soul at peace with God and itself, a soul that delights in making other people happy, can sleep sweetly like the old-time patriarch, with a stone for a pillow.

Discontentment is the gall which the devil tries to squeeze into our daily cup, and it is our own fault if we let him do it. After all, the most of our happiness or of our misery in this world is of our own making.

If we would begin every morning with a good deep draught of God's Word, and throw open our soul's windows to the promises, and keep a clean conscience and an open face towards Christ's sunshine, we would be ready to lend a helping hand to those who need our sympathy; then we could learn Paul's great secret, "In whatsoever state $I$ am, $I$ an content."-Dr. Culler.

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