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# Presbyterian Record 

FOR THE

## DOMINION OF CANADA.

DECEMBER, 188!.No. 12.CONTMNTE.Vot. VI.
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# ©he Gospel in the \$outh Stas. 

(Consinuced.)

While the labours of the Iondon Missionary Society were thus being crowned with success in the Society, Hervey, and Samoan Islands, the Church of England and the Wesleyans had established themselves strongly in Australia and New Zealand and began to extend their labours also to the islands. The first field entered upon by the Methodists was the Tonia or Friendir Islands, which had almost been lost sight of since the murder of the missionaries in 1797. In 182, the Rev. Walter Lawry was deputed by the friends of the cause in New south W'ales to visit the Tongan people with a view to reviving the mission. Though be made little progress himself, he reported favoursbly of the field and, in ; S.66, the English Conference sent out the Rev. Iohn Thomas and Rev. fohn Hutchinson. These were followed in 1828 by two others, Messrs. Turner and Cross who settled on Nukualofa where marvelous success soon attended their labours. Village after village submitted to the Gospel and a work of reformation commenced almost unparalelled in the history of missions. The good news spread to the other islands and in a short time the whole group was re claimed from heathenism. Every vestige of dolatry disappeared. In 1829 they had thirtyone church members. In 1834 the number had incressed to 7,451 , with as many cholars attanding the schools. The most
remarkable case of conversion was that of George Tubou the Chief of Haabai, who afterwards becsme King of the whole of the Friendiy Islande. As a youth be was fierce, savage and warlike, and devoted to the idolatry and saperstitions of his country. But under the influence of Cbristianity he and his wife Charlotte became conspicuous in after life for humble piety and zeal for the cause of Christ. (ieorge became a useful local preacher and his wife was equally successiful as class-leader and teacher of females. Rev. Thomas West who joined the mission in 1845, had the honour of completing and carrying through the press a copy of the entire Bible in Tonguese, and published a complete his tory of the mission in his "Ten years in South-Central Polynesia." At the present time th? Methodists have i26 churches, 8,300 communicants, 5,000 scholars and 17,000 attendants on worship in the Friendly Islands, out of a population of 20,000 . In commemoration of the great reformation in these islands, it was enacted by the king and par liament that, "as it was on the 4 th of June, 1852, that civil liberty came to fonga, that day shall be observed annually, in all the kingdom, as a festival, for ecer and ever, in memory of the liberty of Tonga."

The Fini Islands are about 295 in number. About eighty are inhabited. Viti Levu-the Great $F i j i$-is ninety miles by fifty ; population 50, MOO. Vanus Levu-Great Land is nearly as large, having 30,000 inhabitants. The others are seven or eight groups of small islands, the total population being about 140,000 . Situated between $15^{\circ}$ and 200 S . latitude, the elimate is warm but not unhealthy. The soil yields food in prolific luxuriance. The supply of fish is inexhaustible. The natives are a muscular, rather well shaped race, with a dark purple complexion, and the head covered with a mass
of long curly black hair. By nature the most savage, and in habits the most depraved of all the South Sea Islanders, the Fiji is not without intelligense. Their canoes are the finest in the South Seas. Their religion seems to have been idolatrous, without idols. Every island had its own particular god, priests and temples, but without any visible representation of their deities. Human sacrifices was an important part of their ritual. But the most repulsive and appalling oustom was their cannibalism. It was not an occasional or fitful impulse with them. It was their regular habit. The completion of a temple or the launching of a canoe was not duly celebrated without a feast of human tlesh. A dozen men would be killed, cooked and eaten in honour of a canoe. The victims were confined to neither age nor sex. Old men and maidens, and even children shared a like fate. Infanticide was fearfully prevalent. Women, from the day they were married, wore a cord around their necks with which when they became widows they were willingly strangled, that their spirits might accompany their brutal husbands into the spirit land, or that they might escape the barbarities that awaited them here. They have been known complacently to dig their own graves. Humanity never appeared so utterly debased as in the Fiji ; yet of such a people Sir Arthur Gordon, the Governor of the now British Colony of Fiji, and who is not a Methodist, can say,-"It is impossible to speak in too strong terms of the wonderful service and woaderful results both religious and social, which have attended the Wesleyan missions in Fiji. The condition of the people is as different from what it we: as can possibly be conceived. The peopl of Fiji are now a Christian people." It is interesting to know that the first efforts to evangelize the savages of Fjj emanated from the native missionary society of the Friendly Islands. When, in 1834, the little Tongan church was blessed with a religious awakening; when the king and queen and thousands of their subjects were converted, their first impulse was to send the Gospel to the benighted people of Fiji. In 1835 two of the Tongan missionaries were appointed to commence the new mission. These were Revs. William L'ress and David Cargill, wio began the work in Lakemba In 1838 the Wesleyan Missionary Society sent out three missionaries frcm England-Messrs. John Hunt, T. J. Jaggar, and James Calvert, with their wives. The Rev. Thomas Williams and his wife arived in 1840, Mr. and Mrs. Tucker in 1841. Success came slowly and in an unexpected quarter. On the little isle of Ono, one-hundred and fifty miles from Lakemba, chiefly through the instrumentality of some of the Tongan converte, the first ingathering
took place. In 1842 there was not a single heathen left on the Island. From that time Christianity spread rapidly until almost the whole group was reclaimed from heathenism. The year $154^{\circ}$ was remarkable for the completion of the first edition of the New "estement. In $18 j 0$ the whole of the scriptures were translated. On wetober the the, lifts, Fiji lost its greatest masiona y, John Hrest, who died at the age of thirty-seven, after ten years of unremitting labour. There are now connected with the Wesleyan mission sta tions in Fiji about $\mathrm{Z}: 3,000$ church members. Upwards of $1(14,(1) K)$ attend public worship in the churches whick number 900 . The Sab bath is sacredly observed. In every Christian family there :a: rning and evening worship. Wrer $42 .(\mathrm{kh})$ :lntiren are instructed in the fifteen hundred schouls, and the last relics of heathenizm still lingering in some of the re moter mountainous regions are rapidly dying out. Fiji became a British colony in Octoler 1574. Miss Gordon Cuinming, in her recent work "At Home in Fiji," regarding the worh of the Wesleyan missionaries, says :--"I often wish that some of the cavillers who are for ever sneering at Christian missions could see something of their results in these isles. You may pass from isle to isle, and everywhere find the same cordial reception by men and women. Every village on the eighty inhabited islands has built for itself a ticiy church. and a good bouse for its teacher or native minister, for whom the village also provides food and clotking. Can you realize that there are nine hundred Wesleyan churches in Fiji, at every one of which the frequent services are crowded by devout congrega tions; that the schools are well attended: and that the first sound which greets ypur ear at dawn, and the last at night, is that of hymn-singing and most fervent worshif rising from each dwelling at the hour of prayer?" And that this religious fervour inot an empty fanaticism is evidenced by the further fact that in all their secular dealing: the people are distinguished by simplity. honesty, and kindliness.

Tar Ellice Groul.--The introduction of the Gospel into these islands caine about in a remarkable way. In April, 1861, a party of nine natives of the Penrhyn group having lashed two canoes together set out on a voyage for an island about thirty miles dis. tant ; but, a storm coming on, they were driven before the wind a distance of fifteen hundred miles. After three weeks exposure to the perils of the sea, their frail craft was cast ashore upon the island of Nukulaelae. one of the Ellice group. Five of the party perished among the breakers. The four near ly famished survivors effected a landing. They were all Christians. One of them, Elekana, was a native of Samoa and a deacon of
the church. In return for the kininesy of the natives, Elekana set to work to instruct them in the knowledge of the true God. After four months they allowed him to leave, only on condition that he should go to sa. mon and return to them witu a teacher. 1)n his wa: thither Flekana stopjed at some of the other islands, an 1 male so good use of his time that when the samosn missionaries were gent to them, they found the people waiting to welcome them as if they alrealy knew the preciousness of the truth which was brought th chem. When Mr. Davies visited the group in 1873, he found the work in an eacouraging state on all the islands. "Each island had its laws which were respected and enforced. Each had its good stone chapel and teacher's house, and the services were well attended. Hundreds could read the Scriptures with fluency, and the progress made among these young Christian comununities was a matter for wonder and gratitude."

Loyarty Islands.-The London Missionary Chronicle for March contains a memorial of the old Chief Hnaisiliap. The stary illustrates the wonderfu! changes effected by Christianity in these islands. "He was a man of undsunted courage, of immense muscular strength, generous almost to a fault, very truthful, just to all, a friend of strangers (especially the white man), and very fond of children. Up to about thirty years of age he tras a savage and a cannibal, and knew no better. During that time he practised polygamy. Christianity was then introduced by teschers of the London Missionary Societ from Eastern Polynesia. He was prevented from openly espousing the cause of the teachers by his father, but he helped them all he could. When his father died he publicly cast away his heathen practices, sud all his wives but one, and embraced Christianity. From that time to his death he was faithful to his profession, and may be truly said to be the founder and constant supporter of Christianity on Maré. Such a man at the head of affairs proved a great help in evangelizing the islands. He was constant in his attend ance on the means of grace, liberal in giving, sad faithful in exhorting others. When tirst taken sick, he was asked if he thought be should recover. He replied, "I don't know. It is with God. I leave myself, body and soul, in the Lord's hands." When near his end he said, 'I shall die at cock-crowing. Give my love to the missionary; tell him I am going to thac place where both he and I have fixed our foundation. You cannot conceive how muck I suffer; but the Lord helps me to bear it.' And so with words of arlmonition and cheer the old chief fell asleep in .Jesus."
The New Henr des. This group lies about
l(kKl miles due north of New Zea'and, about milway between liew c'aledonia and the solomon Islands. There are about forty isiands, of which thirty are inhabited. The total population is aboat : 1 , (k), but $\therefore$ dereaving rapidly. Aneityum. for example. is supposen at one time to have hal ten or twelve thousand inhabitants ; in 1s.is it hat only .;,ive: twenty years ater the populauon was reduced to $1,27!$. In greacer or less degree, a like process of dec:t; is depspulating the whole of the South is a Islands The ramons assigned for this melancholy state of usaters are war, infanticide, measles and other epidenics, drink, and tha nefarious "Labour Tratfic." The first ray of Chriatian light that penetrated these durt and delmed abodes of heathenism saeur to wave wate through the instrumentaily of a teachers who were ieft on the shan tof Tanns by John Williams. the day before his death, in 1439. The honour of establishing an organized mission was reserved for the Siynod of the Presbyterian Cnurch of Nova Scotia, who in 18tis appointed the Rev. John (ieddie of Cavendish, P. E. Island, as their tirst missionary to the Now Hebrides. Kr. diedulie anu his wife, with Mr. and Mrs. Irchibald, commenced their labours on the island of Aneityum in 1N43. Mr. Archibald remained but a few months. Mr. and Mrs. Geddie were left alone for three years to endure great hardships, and were often in peril of their lives. But their taith and perseverance overcama every obstacle. In 185is the Rev. John Inglis, of the Reformed Presbyterim Churin of iscotland, joined the mission on Aneitynu. ILs arrival was opportune, just as tiue thie was about to turn. The whole population soon afterwards abandoned heathenism,-mand, meanwhile, other islands wore being propared for the reception of the Gospel, Churches were built aud schools established. Portions of the Scriptures were translated, and printed by the natives in their own language. The New Teatainent was completed in 15.9 , and the whole Bible was given to the Aneityumese in their own lauguage in 1877. Dr. Geddie retired from the field in 1871, and died at (ieelong in the following year. His colleague, Mr. Inglis, retired in 157. The testimony of all who have visited the soencs of their labours is that the savages of Aneityum have been transformed into a quiet, inoffensive people, keeping up a consistent profession of faith. A brief historical sketch of the New Hebrides Mission is given in the Record for 1878, page 270 . A complete and interesting account of the work is to be found in the volume recently published by Rev. Dr. Steel of Sydney-" The Nene Hebrides and Christian Missions," from which we take the, following statistics :-European missionaries11; uative teachers, sy; stations and out-
stations, 50 ; church attendants, $2,64+$; communicante, 814 ; schools, 86 ; scholars, ㄹ.. 433 . In thirty years, 4,500 converts have bern non from heatheniem. Since its commencement, twenty three ordained ministers have he en connected witk tha mission. Eight are dead, and four have retired. The eleven now in the field have formed themselves into a synod which meets annually. Of those now in the field, three are Canadians, supported liy the Presbyterian Church in Canada; four come from the Australian churches, one from New Zealand, and three from the Free Church of Scotland. Altogether, twelve ordained missionaries with their wives have gone from Nova Scotia to the New Hebrides. Two of them, Rev. G. N. Gorion apd Rev. James D. Gordon, and the rife of the former, suffered martyrdom on the blood-stained island of Erromanga.
"Tee Melanesian Misaion," which hab for its field the Northern New Hebrides, the Banks,' and the Nolomon groups, is carried on by Episcopalians. It was initiated by the apostolic Dr. Selwyn, the first Bishop of New Zealand, in 1847, and is under the management of an Australian Board. An endowment of $£ 10,000$ having been raised for a missionary see, the Rev. John Coleridge Patteson was consecrated Bishop of Melanesia in 1861. After ten years of noble work, and most brotherly co-pperation with the missionaries of other societies, this eminent man of God suffered martyrdom at the hands of the infatuated natives of Nukapu. The mantle of Bishop Patteson fell on the Rev. J. R. Selwyn, a son of the pioneer bishop, who is also a man of faith, and who is zealously prosecuting the work, for which he is admitted to be well adapted. A distinctive feature of the Melanesian Mission is the Industrial School un Norfolk Isiand, which is attended by upwards of one hundred and eighty students, taken from the different islands, and where learning and manual labour are combined in the curriculum of study prescribed for native teachers and ministers. The number of English missionaries is twelve.

The Anerican Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions are also represented in these seas. We find them contending with almost inconceivable difficulties in the Caroine, Marshall, and Gilbert groups, to the north of the New Hebrides, and of the equator. In 1851 they sent Messrs. Snow and Gulick with their wives, to the island of Ponape. Dr. Pierson, and Messrs. Sturges Doane, and Bingham shortly after followed. The arduous work has been prosecuted with unflinching zeal and with varying success ever since. The number of American missionaries and their wives now attached to the mission is eighteen. Besidus these are ten Hawaiian missionaries, and eight native pas-
tors, six native preachers and four catechists. These minister to forty churches, with 2,904 members. The increase of members in $187!$ was 407 . Drunkenness, debauchery and disease have frightfully thinned the population in these groups. In the Jadrone Islandm, north of the Caroline, it is said that the aborigines have, from similar causes, entirily dis. appeared'

Tag Marquessas-six in number-situated about 1,000 miles south of the Sandwich lslands, bave been since 1853 the chosen field of the Hawaiian Missionary Society. The race whrm they have undertaken to evangelize were among the mont ferocious of men-brutal cannibals. But the misaionaries, who are all natives of Hawaii, have shewn great energy, perseverance, and tact, and the result is that "the ligint and love and power of the Gospel is gradually permeating the dead masses of the Marquesas also."

A pleasing feature of these Polynemian Misfions is the agreement come to some years ago by the different Nocieties for a division of the fields of labour. By this means local jealousies and disputes have been almost entirely obviated, and the work has been carried on more economically and satisfactorily than it could otherwise have been done. The five missionary ships that now navigate the Scuth Seas are all employed in the same errand of mercy. Their ownership is easily discovered from the names they bear,-The "John Williams,", the "John Wesley," the "Morning Star," the "Southern Cross," and the "Dayspring." The total number of native christians in all the fields which we have reviewed, is supposed to be nearly 400,000 , of whom about 70,000 are communicants. It is not claimed that they present the highest type of Christian life, but when we "look to the hole of the pit whence they are digged" surely there is abundant reason for thankfulness to God that not a few of these reclaimed savages can exclaim with good John Newton,-" I am not what I was; I am not what I would be : I am not what I should be; I am not what I shall be ; but by the graceof God, I am what I am."

## C.

Wait a little longbr! ${ }^{\text {t }}$ The full day will break. Already the shadows flee away. The glow of morning shoots athwart the aky ! Therefore, for our own encouragement in prayer and faith, we call out to the heathen world : "Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the lord is risen upon thee. Yea, the Spirit and the Bride say, Come! and let him that heareth say, Come. Amen. even eo, Come, Lord Jesus!" Cheistiarb.

## Balaam.

Decr.ngrar 4.
NUMHEKS XXIV: 10-19.
Golden Text, Yames 1: 8.

8HE ISRAELITESS were within sight of "the promised land." Having lomaien the Amorites and taken possession of their courtry, they -were now encamped in the horders of Moab, on the east side of Jordan, opponte Jericho, ch. 22: I. Balak, the king of Moab, was afraid of this invincible host-tow numerous to cope with-besides, he knew well that God was on their side, and that to contend against such odds were hopeless. He had recourse to stratagem. In Mesopotamia, in the far east, there lived a man whose fame had spread as faras to Moab. He was reputed to be a prophet of Jehovah: Balaam by name. If this man can lie bribed to come and curse the Israclites in the name of their own Goxd, he will be able to prevail against them. Messengers were sent with rewards in their hands. Balaam, having consulted God, refuses to go, ch. 22: 8-13, but the sequel leaves no room to doubt his insincerity. The references to this transaction in the New Testament are conclusive, not only that he was a covetous man, 2 1'et. 2: 14, 15 : hut that he instigated the Israelites to commit a grievous sin whicin resulted in 24, 000 of them being destroyed by a plague, ch. 25: 9. Deut. 4: 3. The phrase, "the doctrine of Bala2m," in Rev. 2: 14, refers to that sin. Balaam thought, perhaps, that as God had apparently changed His mind, by letting him go in answer to the second deputation, ch. 22: 15, so now he would permit him to curse Israel. No. The Almighty had acted coinsistently with the usual procedure of providence in alloving him to follow his own impulses at that time, Hos. 4: 17, and was about to shew IIis power over this would-be prophet, by constraining him to say the very opposite of what it was his purpose and inclination to say, and by making him the medium of uttering some of the sublimest prophesies in Scripture. Vs. 10, 11. Balak taunts Balaam on his well-disguised fear of the Jord. Better men than Balaam have been sneered at by unbelievers. Vs. 12, 13. Balarm's reply is, in itself, a nobie one, but, coming from him, it is only a master-piece of dissimulation. V. $14 \quad I$ go-The presumption is that he did not go, but remained to work mischief in the camp in the manner already indicated, for he was soon afterwards slain among the Midianites, ch. 31: 8. Josh. 13: 21, 22. It is difficult to understand this man's real character. He must have had an intellectual knowledge of the true religion, but it had little influence upon his heart ; and, like Simon Magus, he was ready to "trade" upon it, Acts 8: 9-23. So much of his history is recorded as a warning to all who make a shew of religion but are destitute of the power of it, $2 \operatorname{Tim} 3: 5$. Balaam was a man endowed by God with great natural gifts, who knew what was right, but who through vanity and presumption made shipwreck of his opportunities.
"A man may be full of the knowledge of God and yel destitute of the grace of God." The best of men have reason to distrust themselves, lest while they teach and preach saving truth to others they hemselves may miss the mark. I Cor. 9:27.

## 

I)ECEMHERII. IHFITERONOMY XXXII: 4-52.

Golden Text, Psalmes 90: 12. OSES was the most remarkable man that ever lived. leut. $34: 10-12$. His life was spent amid vicissitudes unparalleled in the experience of any cther person. 40 years in Midian, 40 years in Egypt, and 40 years in the wilderness, make the sum of his years 120 . He was great as a Laugiver, John 1:17. 7: 19; as a leader, Josh. 1: 17. 1s. 63: 12, 13; as a prophet, 1)eut. 34: 10 12 Acts 7: 37 ; as a Anct, Exo. 15: 1-19, I Ceut. 32: 1-44, Kev. 15: 3; as an author-he is reputed to have written Job and the goth psalm, and he wrote of Cbrist, John 5: 46 ; as a kistoriun, to him are we indebted for the Pentateuch, Luke 24: 27, 44 : as a medintor, Kxo. 32: 11, 31, 32. He was conspicuous for meetness, Num. 12: 3; for faith, Heb. 11: 24-26; for faithfulwess, Heb. 3: 2 ; for humility, Num. 11: 29. The one weak point in his character was infirmity of temper, Exo. 32: 19. V. 44, 45, This song-The hymn called "The Rock." recorded in this chapter, which became the national anthem of the Hebrews. Hoshea - Joshua. These aurds-nearly the whole of Ileuteronomy, V. 46. Your hearts-is distinguished from merely committing them to memory. God demands the homage of our hearts, Rom. 10: 10. Your cinildren-If the religious education of the youth is ne-riected, the hope of a nation is gone. V. 47. It is your life. The knowledge of God ensures happiness now and hereafter, Prov. 3: 1322. Deut. 30: 15, 16. V, 49. Nebo-The place of Moses' death is almost as much a mystery as the masmer of it. Modern research has failed to discover any mountain precisely answering to the description here given; and so it is literally true that "no man knoweth of his sepulchre unto this day," Deut. 34: 6. Vs. 50, 51. And die-even this great man could not escape the penalty of sin, Rom. 5: 12-14. He neither died of disease nor of old age, ch. 34: 7, but then and there, as a mark of God's displeasure with him in the matter of presumptuously smitin; the rock at Kadesh Meribah, Num. 20: 9-12; where it is seen that the crime charged to Moses was in reality that nf unbeliefthe besetting sin of the world-the more inexcusable in one who had so many tokens of Grod's favour. In God's sight it amounted to rebellion, Num. 27: 12-14. Hence the sentence pronounced at that time, which prepared Moses for the solemn announcement now made, and which he received without murmuring or surprise. V. 52. Thow shalt see the lawd-God is faithful to all His promises, I Thes. 5: 24. He had already assured him of this, and this glimpse of Canaan would be to him as it were a foretaste of heaven and a comforting token that, although justly punished, he was not rejected of God. Moses was conspicuously a man of faith and prayer. This gave him courage in the hour of danger and calm in time of trouble. His appearance with Elijah on the Mount of Transfiguration, Matt. 17: 3, after the lapse of 1484 years, is conclusive proof that death does not end man's existence. Faith in God is that which slone takes awav the fear of death. Ps. 23: 4.

## Cbe zabe and tbe fing.

December 25.
l"wish ix: 6,7.

## Golden 7a:', Yokn I: 45 .

\%N THE previous chapter Isatah has shewn the dark side of the pisture-the troulie andian guish that should overtake those who forsake God, ch. 8: 12. In this, he points til a brighter time coming, when the sun of righteonness should enlighten the world and tinally wher mo the urivermal reign of perse and happmess. These verses contain one of many Messianic Old Testament prophecies. We may recall a few others. (1) As to the Aduewt, Gen. 3: 15. Num. 24: 17. Wech. 3: 8. (2) As to Christ's Kingly ‘ffici, 1sa. 32; 1. 55 : 4. Ian. 2: 44. Rev. 19: 16. (3) Mis umizursal and cocrlasting rifin, Is. 72; 8 1) an. 7; 14. (4) His divinity, Ps. 45: 6. Is.a. 40: 9.11. I's. IIo: 1. (5) Place of narti its, Mich. 5; 2. Num. 24 : 17. (6) Pirth, Isa. 7; 14. Jer. 31 : 22. (7) lïca. riows sacrifice, Isa. 53:4 6, i1. Dan. 9: 26. As the Saviour, Jer. 23:5, 6. Mal. 4:2. V. 6. Unto ms-for our benefit. A child-sen-expressions which distinctly relate to the humanity of Christ. Is bern-the incarnation is spohen of with the certainty of an accomplished fact. Is givenA voluntary act on the part of inth Father and Son, Jn. 3: 16. Gal. I; 3, 4. Vion his showlder - at rohes of office are worn. Wionderful-for IIe is both God and man. A babe in a manger, yet a king! A series of wonders attended Him in his birth, life, death, resurrection, and ascension. Cci:n-sellor-Ps. 16:7. Kom. 11:33, 34. Rev. 3: 18. The mighty God-having strength to go through His undertaking; being aole to save, lleb. 7:25. 7he Everlasting Father-One with God from all eternity, John 1: 1, 2. 10: 30. 14: 9. 17: 5 . Prince of Pract-His errand was peace, Luke 2: 14. Ephes. 2: 14 His legacy was peace, Jn. 14: 27. V. 7- Increase of ITis go ernment-He mest increase, Jn. 3: 30. His kingdom shall be more and more enlarged till it embrace the world, Num. 14: 2I. Ise. 2: 2. 45: 23. 1 Cor. 15:25. No end-It sha!l centinue not only to the end of time, but throughout eternity, Dan. 2: 44 Rev, $11: 15$. Upon the throne of David. Christ, being lineally descended from David, is sometimes called Daivid, Jer. 30:9. Ezek. 34: 23, 24 ; And the Son of David, Matt. 1: I. Hence the throne and kingdom of David are given to Him, Luke 1: 32, 33 . To order it-to give it a permanent constitution and to administer the same with prudence and equity. With judyneent and justice-not by arbitrary decrees, nor iy might and worlily conquest, but upon principles of truih and righteousness. P3. 33: 4, 5. 45: 6. Thi atal of the lord-The love God has for His people and the regard He has for his own honour will ensure the accomplishment of all His promises, so that believers hare a sure foundation on which to build their hopes for time and eternity. Trov. 29: 25. Quote some of the many precious promisec of trod. The ninety first Psalm is full of them. Lee Isa. 43: 2, and Mal. 3: 17. And in the Dew Testament, such passages as Matt. 11: 28 2 Cor. 6; 18, and Heb. 13: 5. Is the Babe of Bethlehen our King and Saviour? He is able and willing to save all that come unto God by Him. Heb. 7: 25.

## Cbe Geginuing of tbe Gospel

Jantiaks 1. Mark $1: 1-13$.
Coldicm Text, Maiachi 3: 1.

等ARK, or John Mark, as he is also called, Acts 12: 12-was probiably one of the seienty, a sative of Jesusalem, where hie mother Mfary resided, was the friend and companion of l'eter, i l'et. 5: 13. Is supposed to have witten his gospel under Peter's direction, and to be the foundea of the Christian Church at Alexandia, where he suffered martyidom in the 8th year of Nero. V. 1. The ciospel-The 1 ireeh means "good news." (if Yesws Chist-who is the Ciiver of the goupel and the suliject of it. The Son of Ged-a declaratoon of the divinity of uur Saviour-omitted by some authorities, $1.1:$ V's. 2, 3. The prophets-.'In I saiah the prophet," N: I. Isa. 40: 3. Mal. 3: 1. This reference to the O. T. was important to the Jews and is valuable to us as shewing the harmony betwixt the two. V. 4, Did baptize. The gospel legins with the preaching of the Baptist, who taught the same doctrines that Christ did, v. 15, and which He commissioned His disciples to preach, Luke 24: 47. Repentance is more than sorrow. In that sense Jurlas repented, Matt. 27: 3. It is a change of life-a turning to God, Jer. 31: 18 ; S. Cat. S7. V. 5. All fydea-put for a large number, for some refused to be liaptized, Luke 7: 30. Confessing-a necessary thing to de, 1 Jn. 1: 9, but not to be mistaken for conversion. V. 6. Camel's hair-such as the old prophets wore. 2 Kings 1: 8. Zech. 13: 4. Locusts and koney-then used as food by the poorest, and eaten by the Arabs still. The rough garb and coarse fare of the Baptist recalled the days of Elijah, hence the question put to him, John I: 21. V. 7 . Frcached-proclaimed the Word and will of God. All tbe prophets were preachers. Christ himself preached the Word, ch. 2:2, and, ever since, preaching has been an effectual means of convincing sinners, S. Cat. 89. Ome mightier-He laid no claim to the Messiahship: would gladly stoop to the meanest office, like David, I's. 84: 10. Matt. 23: 12. V. S. Water-the emblem of purification which is only eficted by the baptism of the Holy Ghost into Christ, Rom. 6: 3. Gal. 3: 27. V. 9. Fesus came- see Matt. 3: 13. Not that he meeded baptism, but as an example, Heb. 2: 17. V. 10. Like a dore-the appointed sign by which John was to recognize Jesus as "The Christ," In. I: 32,33 , which was confirmed by the z.pice from neaven declaring IIim to be the Son of God, and which was again heard at the Transtiguration, ch. 9: 7. Vis. 12, 13. Drizeth him-" Jesus was led of the Spirit," Matt. 4: 1. The widerness-the lofty and rugged solitudes near Jericho. Tempted -tried, as was Abraham, Gen. 22: 1, with this: difference: the good Spirit led Him into the wilderness, and Satan-the evil Spirit-was permitteci to test Christ's faith in his Father. Forty days-a representative number: Moses at Sinai, Exo. 34: 28, and Elijah at Horeb, I Kings 19; 8. Jesuc, leing :empted, is able to help them that are tempied, Heb. 2: 18.

Nore-The Letters N.V. stand for Now Vercion.

## Ona 8 bin Cburct.

解
 again generously voted C\{10n stg. toward Miasion work in cunada. If this amount Elinh has been granted for Ilome missiona in the West, and $\dot{E} l^{\prime} \|$ for French Evangeliza. tion.

A (ioll) slli. of the times is that nur lists of acknowleigments are larger thin is usual at this sasson of the year. The treasurer of the Eiastern section of the Home Mission Fund has received $\$ 1, i(h)$ during the past month_including $3+1 \mathrm{~s}$, the balance of bequest of late Mr. Peter hoss, of Mopewell. A pretty large proportion of the contributiona are marked "Thank olfering."
*WELL DONE: Besides the sum of received by the treqsurer of the Bursary Fund of the Preshyterian linlege, Halifax, from a mamber of xt . A nilrew's congregation, Lit. John's Newfoundland, per Rev. L. (i. Mc.Neill, the smase liboral giver has paid over Si') O, baing payasent in advance for the next three years of the like sum for the Bursary Fund.

## URDINATIUNS AND INDUUTHONS.

Florence and Dawn: Chatham:-Mr. Angus Macleod was ordained and inducted on the eith of vetober.

Waidacebi: roh: Chatham:-Rev. Donald Currie was inducted on the 13th of Detober. Montreal, Chalmer's Church: Mr. A. Colborne Heine was ordained and inducted on the 17 th of November.

Mountain Citr: Manitoba: Rev. If. J. Borthwick was inducted on the lst of Nov.

Marsboro and Chacuisre: Quebec: Rev. William Joss formerly of Kirkhill, flengarry, was inducted on the Itith November.

Kingston: Mr. Donald McCannel B.A. was ordained by the Presbytery of Kingston on the yth of November as a missionsry with a view of his going to Manitoba.
Newburgir and Clark's Milas: Kingeton: The Rov. John Leishman was inducterl on the lith of November.

West King and Laskey: Toronto: Mr. I. W. Cameron was ordained and inducted on the 15th of November.

Balifinafad: Toronto: Mr. A. B. Dobson was ordained and inducted on I5th November. Glace Bay: Sydney :-Mr. James A. Forbes was ordained and inducted on the 18th of inctober.

Mountain City: Manitoba:-The Rev. Hugh Borthwick was inducted on the 10th of November.

Devimions:-Mey. (… P'ithlado of Chal. mer's 'hurch, llalifax. Rav. J. Cormack of Dewburgh ams Clark's Millu, Kingaton. Kov. 'V. Jeattip of Claremont and Erskine churches, Pickering, Whuly, Rev. D. B. Whimstrr of English settlemnent and Proof. line, $L \cdot n d \cdot n$. Liev. Johnsitewart of Kintyre, Lomlinn. liev. Dr. Rennett of St. John'u Chureh, st. Jmin, N. B. Kev. W. MoCullough of it. Andrew's, N't. John.

Cialis:-Rev. Thomas Bennett of Besuharnois and (hateaugay is called to Carp and Kinburn-()t/acit. Kev. I. Ii. Thomson of Brucafielil has inoclined a vall to Cavan Church, Exeter-liurun. Kev. (ieo. Mackay of Leeris is called to isgood-Ollawa. Mr. Rogers declines the call to Noel_Halifax. The Rev. A. F. Tully of shert,rooke has received s call to Knox ('hurch, Mitchell-Stratford.

## NEN CILIRCHES.

Ifunow : N. S.:-A new place of worship has been 80 far completed as to enable the congregrtion to oecupy it on the ford's Dey. It was formaily opened on letober 15 th. Kev. Dr. Mcéallorb and Liev. John McMillan otheiating.

Mandumin: Nırnia:-A now church was openerl at this plitee on the 6th of November. Tne Rev, Joln Thoupson preached in the morning, Kev. Mr. MeRobbie. of Kidgetown in the afternonn, and liev. George Cuthbertson in the erening. The collections at theee services and at the large meeting held on the following day, amounted to $\$ 2 \times 0$. The cost of the builling was about $\$ 3,3(N)$, the greater part of which is propiled for.

Bbiasboro: Muski,ka:-A new church was opened at this village on the 18 th of Soptember. It is seated for one hundred aud thirty persons, cost about $\$ 2: 20$, and is almoat free from debt.

East Hawkesbury: Glengarry:--The old log church has been "restored"-better than now. One can stand upright in it now and breathe freely. Indeed it is allowed to be very comfortable and creditable to the struggling congregation.

Brinipron : Toronto:-A very handsome church, costing shout $\$ 23,600$, was opened at this place on the 9 th of Uctober. Principal Caven preashed in the morning, Principal lirant in the afternoon and in the evening. The attendance was very large at all the services, as well as at the social meeting on the following day.

Esisa, First Church: Barrie:-The opening services of the new caurch for this congregetion were conducted by Kev. W. McKee in the morning, Rev. J. R. S. Burnett in the afternoon, and Rev. j. J. Cochrane in the evening, $\mathbf{2 5}$ th October.

## THE COILEGBES.

Quren's C'mivikitt, Kingrton.-The fortyfirat session commenced on the tirst Weid. nealay of Cetober, when students presented themselves for matriculation or wipplementary examinations. Un Intober lith or "University Day," so called from that being the date on which Her Majesty signed the Charter of (Lueen's as a l'niversity, the session was formally opened with Divineservice in Convocation IIall, the Principal preach ing from the words "Be strong." Un the following lord's Day he followed up the dis course with another in which God in Christ was pointed out as the only source of strength. Convocation Hall was crowded with the students and the elite of the city. In the evening of October 1 th the new Professor of Classics, was installed and thereatter delivered a striking address on "the Benetits of Classical Study.' Professor Fletcher promis. on to be a very great acquisition to (dueen's. He brings to the discharge of the duties of his chair, Candian sympathies, the highest Oxforl culture, youthful energy, and aptness to teach.

Forty-three new studente have entered the Artu Faculty, fourteen of them having the ministry in view.

The Theological Faculty of Queen's opens a month later than the Arts Department, though the two close at the same time, the session for Arts being seven, and for Theology six months long, accordingly the Theology Faculty opened on Nov. 2nd, also with good prospects of a profitable session. Nine theologues presented themselves for adminsion to the hall as tirst-year students. During the past summer the new observatory has been completed; Professor Dupuis has purchased, in France, a complete equipment for the Chemistry Laboratory; and subscriptions to a special fund have enabled the Senate to spend a thousand dollars on the Library, an amount only one-half of what they hope the friends of Queen's will enable them to spend upon it in each of the next ten years.

Presbyterian College, Halifax.-The endowment and building fund now reaches nearly $\$ 64,000$; but there remain nearly $\$ 36,000$ to be collected. The Board of Managore met on the 2nd ult. and made arrangemente with the view of hastening the gathering in of the whole hundred thousand dollare. It is hoped that very great progress will bo mede this winter in the work of collecting. On the evening of Nov. 2nd the sesaion of the College was opened with a lecture by Dr. Pollok on "Onenidedness in Religious Thought." The attendance was large, and the subject was very ably treated. Fourteen students are in attendance this
sension. A member of James Church, Neu (Hasgow; has given one thousand dollars to provide a bursary of till a year to aid a deserving Theolngical student. The Boar! in recording their thanks to the anonymous donor, expressed the hope that gthers would follow has example. A Missionary Section has been commenced in connection with the Collego library at Halifax. It has been foun.led by liev. E. I. M'Curdy, New Glasgow. Additions will be made to it yearly.

Dalmotsie Coldere- - Our Church in the Maritime Provinces supports three Profass ors in this institution. The winter session commenced on the lat of November. The iraugural lecture was delivered by Rev. Irofessor Forrest, Munro Professor of His tory. The attendance of students is larger than ever before. A considerable number have in view the ministry of our church.

## 易ettings of

ICTOU: This Presbytery held a series of moetings for visitation, commencing at Hopewell on the luth Oct. After Hopewell, Springville, Sunny Brae, Blue Mountain, Barney's River and Merigomish were visited,- the condition and working of the various congregations enquired into, and suitable deliver'ances adopted. Nov. 1. At Now Glasgow. The Presbytery granted moderation in a call to Sherbrooke congregation, and appointed supplies to the various vacancies. The work of visitation to be resumed on the 29th at Green Hill. E. A. MoCurdy, Clk.
Miramichi: Oct. 25th:-The Presbytery mot at Bathurst. Reports from satechists at New Bandon and Caraquet were received. There are extensive fields in which Protestants arc fem and scattered, and where the the missionary encounters very serious difficulties. Tne summer's work of the catechists was considered satisfactory. The Presbytery is trying to secure a missionary for the lum. bering region on the Restigouche and its tributaries. Arrangements were msde for visiting half the congregations in the Presbytery this year. Moderation in a call was granted to St. Andrew's Church, Newcastle. S. Houston, Clk.

Halifax : Nov. 3rd :-Moderation in a call was granted to Upper Musquodoboit. The call of St. Andrew's Church, Winnipeg, was placed in Mr. Pitblado's hands. The congregation ot Chalmer's Churoh, Halifax, learning that their pastor felt it his duty to accept the call to Winnipeg, acquiesoed in his doing so. The Presbytory resolved accordingly to locse Mr. Pitblado from his charge at Halifax, and to intimate the fact to the Presbytery of Manitoba. Professor

Forrest was appointed interim Moderator of Chalmer's Church Session. The Preabytery recently visited a large number of congregations, and gonerally found a hopeful and prosperous state of matters. Allan Simpson, Clk.

Lunenburg and Yarmouth : Oct. 29th:At Mabone Bay, Kev. Iohn Cameron reported that at whe communion at Riversdale nine were added to the Church on profession of faith, and that the penple were anxious for continued services. A montbly service will be given during the winter. The report of Mr. McKenzie, Catechist, was considered. He hed six stations with Riversdale as a centre. The work among the young was specially hopeful. The l'esbytery considered the method of securing larger contributions to the schemes of the Church. D. S. Fraser, Cll.

St. John : Nov. 9th :-Rev. Dr. Bennett tendered the ilemission of his charge in order to give the congregation an opportunity of calling an assistant and successor. He has been forty years in the ministry. The Presbytery resolved to notify the congregation of St. John's Church. The demission of Kev. W. M'Cullagh, St. Andrew's, was accepted and it was agreed to apply on his behalf to the Committee of the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund. A visitation of St. Andrew's Church is appointed to be held on the second Monday of January. It is hoped to secure for Grand Falls a minister who can preach both English and French, the French Evangelization Board to pay half the salary. A committee was appointed to select an ordained miasionary to labour in the vacant congregations and stations of the Presbytery. J. C. Burerss, Clk.

Quabzc: November 2nd:-Mr. Jozeph Allard was licenced to preach the Gospel. A call from Lake Megantic congregation to Rev. William Ross, of Kirkhill, Glengarry, was sustained. This new field seems destined to become a large and important commercial centre. Situated as it is on the shores of a beautiful lake,surrounded with scenery unsurpssed in the Dominion, in direct railway communication with all parts of Canada and the United States, this congregation may, in the near future, be expected to become one of the leading congregations of the Church. F. M. Deviry, Clk.

Montreal: 2-jth October:-The Rev. Dr. Jenkins, on the ground of failing health, ap. plied to the Presbytery to be loosed from his charge of St. Paul's Church. Montreal. Afcar hearing commissioners, the Presby. tery unanimously agreed to accede to Dr . Senkin's request,-_the members present expressing their sympathy with and personal regard for him, and their regret that thisstep should hive been found necessary. The Rev.

Bernard Quinn, an ex priest of the Church of Rome, laid on the table certificates and tostimonials as to his ministerial gifts and standing, and presented himeself as a candidate for admission to the ministry of the Presby. terian Church in Canada. The papers were put into the hands of a committee who, after careful examination of them and a lengthened conference with Mr. Quinn, recommended that his application be tavourably received; and the Presbytery discerned accordingly. A deputation from St. Mark's Church, Montreal, was heard in reference to the financial condition of the congregation. They were unable to meet the interest on a mortgage for $\$ 4,(k)()$ on the Church property, and were in danger of having the church sold at sheriff's sale, and therefore craved the advice of the Presbytery. The situstion was commended to the favourable consideration of members of other congregations in the city to whom they should apply for assistance, and an advisory committee appointed to cooperate with the Kirk-session aud _nanagors, Messrs. R! Campbell, J. Scrimger, and IV. K. Cruikshank, were appointed a committee to confer with all the rirk-Ses. sions in any way connected with the work of the Church in that part of the city as to the best mode of carrying it on. It was reported that Taylor Church had resolved to call a minister. J. Patterion, Cll.

Otrawi: lst Nov.: Rev. Robt. Hughes, moderator. Trial discourses were assigned to Mr. M. S. Oxly, for ordination with a viaw to his appointment as ordsined Mistionary to Chelses and East Templeton, Mr. Munro was appointed to take charge of the Fund for Colleges. Circular letters were ordered to be issued anent the reception of the Rev. Jos. Vessot as a minister of this church. Mr. Cark reported anent French Evangelization within the Bounds. Action was taken upon his repor.. Rev. C. A. Tanner was appointed as successor to the Rev. Marc Ami who retires from French work in the city on the 1st of December-the appointment being unde with the concurrence of the Board of French Evangelization. A call from the congrezation of Osgoode in favour of Kev. $: \times \infty$. Kckay signed by 193 communicants and 70 adherents, and promising $\boldsymbol{D i}^{(\sqrt{*})}$ and a manse, was sustained and placedin the hands of $\mathbf{M r}$. MeKay. An obituary notice of tha late Rev. Thomas Scott was placed on record. Deputations were appointed to attend missionary meetings, and other matters of local interest attender to. J. White, Clk.
Gleviarry : 20th Septamber:-at Lancaster. All the session:- :ere enjoined to hold missionary meetings at such times as may be convenient for them. Dr. McNish gave notice of a mncion for the appointment of a permsnsnt place of meeting for Presbytery.

Rev. D. L. McCrae read a valuabl. report on the state of religion. The committee of which he is convener was instructed to make arrangements for holiiing a conference on this subject at the evening eeder:ant of next regular meeting. At Indian Lands, on 27th Sept. ; inter alia-Mr. lang, convener. gav, in the report of Home Missions within the bounde, and he wae instructed to procure Gaelic-speaking probationers for hirkbill. Messrs. McNabb acd McArthur were certitied respectively to Montreal College and Queen'* College, Kingston. H. I. m мnt, Clk.

Tononto: lst November:-A committee was appointed on the state of religion, with instructions to arrange for a conference in the course of the winter, and to cooperate in the holding of special services with such congregations as may desire its cooperation. Rev. J. M. King, convener, gave in an elaborate and valuable repmrt on statistics and finance. Messrs. (i. E. Freeman, A. Hamilton and T. McKenzie were duly certified to Knox College. An application wes received from parties in Deer Tark who hat erected a place of worship, and asked to be recog nized as a mission station. It was agreed to notify neighbouring Kirk-sessions, and in the meantime a committee was appointed to confer with the applicants. K. Montsath, Clk.
Whitby: October 18 th $_{2}$ :-It was remitted to the Kirk-sessions within the rounds to make arrangements ", ir solding missionary meetings in all the congrorations. Members were appointed to take charge of the several schemes of the Church. The Presbytery agreed to indorse the scheme for raising $\$ 12$,000 to proposed Knox College Library Fund. Notice was given of a motion to be introduced at next meeting proposing a change in the mode of electing commifsioners to the General Assembly. A. A. Drimmond, Clk.

London: November $8:-$ The Home Mission zeport was given in by Rev. John Renne, convener. After full discussion. it was agreed to visit the supplemented congregations with the view of inducing them to dis. pense with the supplements and provide all that is necessary for the maintenance of or dinances, themselves. The statistical and financial reports were very full and satisfactory The number of pastoral charges in the bounds is 28 ; of congregations. 39 ; of adherente, 10.587 and of communicarits, 350 L . It was agreed that missionary meetings should be held in each congregation at such times as nay suit their convenience. (i. Sotherland, Clk.

Humiron : Nov. $15:-$ Adopted a minute expressive of the high esteem in which the late Rev. W. Craigie was held by the brethren. Call from E. Seneca was susteined and ac-
cupted ly the Rev. W. (I. Kees, and induction appointed at Blackheath on December fith. Conference on Sabbath-schools appointed to be held at next ordinary meeting of Presbytery. Remits on aged and infirm minister's fund, and on standing orders of Assembly. were approved. J. Lalni; C $/ k$.
P. E. Isiand: Norember 2:-At summer side : Flders commissions were sustained in farour of Messrs. A. Robertison, Join McKenzie, W. Haywood, C. Gregor, Kev. D. McNeill and K. Coffin. Rev. Henry Crawford's resig nation of his charge of Richmond Bay, was accepted. Mr. Ferry, a probationer of the Bible Christian Church, was on application recommended to the Theological Hall as a first year's student, and further action in his: case referred to the General Assembly. C'on:mitt were appointed to visit several Congregations of the bounds in reference to the matter of Supplement and other considera. tions of local interest. Rev. Neil Mackay gave notice of a motion anent the division of the Presbytery. J. M. McLeod, Clk.

## (9)bituary.

The Rev. Whiliam Craigie, for twenty five vears minister of the Presbyterian Church at lort Dover, died on the $2 . \mathrm{id}$ of October, aged fifty-nine. Mr. Craigie had been in failing health for some months, latterly his sichness became severe, and the end came quickly. By his death the Church has lost an excellent and devoted minister. the Presbytery of Hamilton one of its mont useful members, and his own congregation a pastor whose walk and conversation commended and adorned the gospel of peace that he proclaimed with faithfulness and and delight to others. Mr. Craigie was a native of Perthshire, Scotland. He has left a widow, a son and a daughter to mourn his lors. The funeral was very largely at tended, many ministers being present.

Rev. Peter MoDiarmid of Point Edward. Presbytery of Sarnia, died on the lith of October. Mr. McDiarmid was born in the county of Glengarry and was educated for the ministry at Knox College, Toronto. In 18 Bi, he was ordained and inducted into the pas. toral charge at Bethesda and Alnwick which he was obliged to resign on account of ill health. He was afterwards settled at Bear Creek and Burns Church, near Sarnis, there he laboured with grear fidelity and accep. ance for seventeen jears. His latter year; were spent at Point Edsard. Mr. McDiarmid was a man of high intellectual gifts amd scholarly attainments, an excellent preacher and a man of large and broad sympathies whose crowning excellence was his genuine unostentatious piety. He was unmarried.

Rev. Alexavier furbey departed this life at Waterdown, Unt., on the sioth of ' letoter. He was the f'sest son of the Kev. Robert Forbes, the parish minister of Monymusk, was born in Morayshire, and was entucated for the minis. ry at the University of Aberdeen. $11 . s$ tirst charge was a yuoud sacra one at drantown. parish of Inverallan, wiere he otaciated tive or six sears. Thence he removed to Cullen in Banifsibire. In 18.91 he came to New Brunswick a- a nissionary of the Colonial Committed of cae Church of scotland and ministered for some time at Dathousie. His last charge wats that of inverness, Quebec, from which, owing to inspaired healtb, he retired about ten years ago, and took up his residence at Waterdown where he ended his days peacefully-cheered and sustained by the loving services of his devoted sister, who was his companion and helper during the twenty-seven years of his labours and trials in Canada.

Ref. Joun Echfond, elder and treasurer of West Brant Congregation, Co. Pruce, was taken to his rest on the ind of Wctolier in the sind year of his age. Mr. Eckford was an ordained minister of the gospel and occupied station: in England and cicoland before coming to Canada, but here he gave his attention chiefly to educational matters. As Sunamiziendent of schools, and as one of the Board of examiners for the county, he was well known. He will be remembered, also, for the acceptable manner in which. from time to time, he tilled the pulpits of our ministers in their absence, and for his genis and lively utterances from the platform in the interests alike of education and the Church.

Mr. Willay Clarie for many years a ruling elder in Knox Church, Scarboro, has passed away in the 8ith year of his age. He was ordained to the eldership in the helief Church of Scotland in which his father served before him ; and he had the gratitication of having both his son and his grandson associated with himself in the Kirk-Nessinn of Knox Church-an apostolic succession of the right kind.

Mr. Johs Hart a worthy representative elder of Si. Andrex' died on the $2 . i d$ of N ctober, aged 73 . Mr. Hart was a natice of Paisley, Scotland, and resided for nearly forty years in Perth, where be was greatly respected. He was a good man and a good churchman.

## 胥ame gitissians.

*HE semi-annual meeting of the Maritime Committee was held on November 1st. It was agreed to employ an ordained missionary in the Metapedia district, to be
employed in winter, to some extent in Lumber camps. The suplly of Bay of Islands was referred to the cousideration of the Presbytery of Newfoundiand, with the understanding that if they recommend a missionary to be sent in spring, their wishes should be carried into eflect. The sub-committee to undertake the correspondence in reference to the supply of Little Bay. The claims of P'resbyteries for the half year were presented and eonsidered. The whole umounting to $\$ 1,30.42$. io far as heard rom, the stations have paid a larger proportion of the Caterhist's salaries than usual. sixteen preachers were asked for by the Presbyteries. Nine were on the list for regular supply, lut three others being partially available, distribution was made as nearly as possible in proportion to the vacancies: none, however, receiving all that they deserved.
P. G. McG.

## PRINCE ALBERT, N. W. T.

A neatand comfortable brick church was opened for divine worship, at this place on the :2nd of Uctober. It is seated for (s) persons, and cost $\$ 2,040$. This is the only church edifice belonging to the denomination in the North West Territories. It is only half paid for, Mr. Sieveright, the missionary, being in the meantime, responsible for the balance. The last payment on the building is due on the lst of January, $18 \times 2$. Mr. Sieveright appeals to the old and weslthy congregations of the Church for aid to carry him through the difficalt enterprize in which he is engaged We sincerely hope that he will not appeal in vain, but that :ome bene. volent congregation or individuals will relieve him from pecuniary embarrassment, and so help on the good cause. Mr. Sieveright says,-"We have other three churches in various stages of completion. (Vur membership is as yet a mere handful. but within a year our small congregation has raised for all purposes $\$ 1,400$. A manse is as much needed as a church. Were both buildings erected and paid for, Prince Albert could at once pass from the roll of a mission to that of a supplemented congregation. The population of the place is now close on jut. Nearly all the young men that have recently come in are Presbyterian. In Liabhath evenings they form the bulk of the audience. The average attendance is the largest of any church in the place. There is a lize Sab. bath-school, with Miss Baker as teacher. Our prospects were never so bright as now. Could you in the old provinces not help to build up one congregation in the Far.West that in a few years will probably be able to help to build up others? Now is the time
aid is needed for the dissemination of Presbyterian principles. Governor Laird was here lately; unsolicited, he contributed one hundred dollars to our building fund. He complains that no supplies are given to the Presbyterian population at Battleford-not eren a visit from a minister occasionally. Mr. Baird, on his way to Edmonton, lost his horse near Carlton. The animal dropped down dead on the trail. Mr. Clarke, chief factor at Fort Carlton, helped him to get another with which to pursue his journey.-J. Sibyeright."

## 7n. 65. E. \%arlay. <br> LETTER TO THE CONVENER

Sar Francisco, 1 st Nuvember. 1881.
Ten years ago to diay I stepped on board the ocean steamer "Anerica" and at mid-lay the signal being given, guns were fired and wu moved slowly through the "golden gat 2 " and were fairly on the bosom of the great Pacific. A week from to-day, exactly, we expect to board the "Belgic" of the Occidental and Oriental Co. and sail at $\because$ p.m. When I called on the agent he told me that his friends in Hamilton, Ont., let him know we were coming. He showed great kindness, called on us at the hotel and got his pastor, Rev. Mr. Hemphill, of Calvary Presbyterian Church, to visit us and arrange about meetings. I will apeak in that church Sabbath morning at 11 a.m. We were not in the hotel half an hour until another Canadian who lived at one time in Woddstock called to ask me to address the Presbytery of the United Presbyterian Church here. I expect to do so on Sunday at 7 p.m. Last Sabbath evening in the Chinese Mission under Dr. Loomis, one couvert was baptized, the dying love of Jesus was commemorated and I addressed the members. The house was well filled with Chinese, all from Canton. I enjoyed many meetings in Canada; but it was soul-touching to stand once more before those from the land of Sinim. For a moment I was in beloved Formosa again. Our dialect being different, I had to speak in English.
Here we are with the old Pacific bstween us and yon fair Isle; and a continent between us and the fair Dominion; and my poor labours there ended : still I have a clear conscience. Uffense or non-offense, I determined to declare my convictions in village. town and city-and now let our faces turn far west and gaze on our field of labour where God has been manifesting his gloriois power. Let me go in peace and live and die in Formose. We will either get safe across or we will not-wo fear not. Lifo
welcome! death welcome! Glory to God for evermore ! Roll on mighty ocean, sweep across territic blasts. Flash along destructive lightning. We fear you not. God is our refuge and our strength. Mrs. Mackay asks me to thank you and all the friends who showed her kindness when far away from her native Formosa, and travelling swithin the borders of Christian Canada. Pray for uspray for poor China.
G. L. Mackay.

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## LETTER FROM REV. H. A. ROBERTSON, ERROMANGA.

R. RUBERTSON writes to Dr.McCregor, from Dillon's Bay, under date of July 4th :-I wrote you at the end of last year, asking the Church for a visit home in 15X', leaving here in December, 1882, but I suppose we shall not reccive your reply until April, 18:2. We feel a visit would do us both much good. Mrs. R. especially, needs a thorough change, and one to our home climate and to dear friends there, would be every way better and more natural than to Australia and to strangers. Sydney or Melbourne in summer are both warmer than the Islands, and missionaries generally go up in summer as the middle trip means only a change of a few weeks; and if in the summer a mission family are able to go up into the country where it is cooler, they might as well go home at once, as the expense and time would not be much greater. I quite approve of Mr. McKenzie going home instear of remaining a year or sc trying the Australian oi New Zealand climate. I advised the McKenzies strongly from the time they came back from Sydney in May last year, to go home for a change, believing it would benefit Mr. McK. more than anything else. I am delighted to hear that he expects to come ouc again so soon. May his visit home not only restore his health, but prove a blessing to the cause. They have succeeded well in Fate, and have made excellent missionaries. So have Mr. and Mrs. Annand done well on Aneityum. They are thorough in all they do. and so are the McKenzies also. I have not had to change my mind about the work out tere. nor my opinion of the fieid and the kind of work that the missionaries have been enabled by riod's grace to do, or of the convertthemselves, nor oí the climate, nor yet of these beautiful isles. No, not a bit. I have written hopefully, and encouragingly, and faithfully, from the very first; and I have not made any reference to any thing which may have been written by any other missionaries who may not have been enabled to take such a hopeful view of our field and work N o
good would result from doing su. Rut though I never mention anything about the beauty of these islands, it is not because I do not now think them as besutiful as I once did, but hecause my work does not permit me to give my time to these things as I did when at home, and because I see so much sin on $\mathrm{m}^{\prime}$; island, and so much work of vital moment to write of to my Church and friends in connection with our mission ou Erromanga. These are my reasons for not writing any:hing for years of these fair islands. I have heard some people express a ionging to drink of some home spring or well, but I think it was home made them so prize the springs then, for I have drank as cold and as sweet water from the mountain springs of Erromanga and Aneityumand Tanna as ever I did in my native land of snow snd ice. But it takes more than tine springs and beautiful palmtrees to make a Home. Hence though these islands, to ms at least, are oery beautiful, I can never think of them as home. Ne, no, far from that; they lack everything which goes to make up a home. I feel I am only tenting out here; but for all that, I would not leave. I have noticed with thankfulness that Gur salaries have been raised $£^{\prime}{ }^{2} j$ stg. This is a very important matter any where, and especially in this earthy age when missionsries like other beings cannot do without food. Our Church has never yet merely said to any of her agents in this Foreign field_" Be ye warmed and fed." No, the Church has seen to it that her labourers get a fair allowance of what ahe has at her command. At the ordination of Mr. M $\because$ Kenzie, Rev. Mr. Mowatt said that "sympathy was a very good thing, but that sympathy would not feed a starving man." But I would rather be the missionary of ihs Presbyterian Church in Canada with a salary of only $£ 100$ a year than I would of some churches I know at $£ 200$, and just because of my own Church's grand missionary spirit, and her fine feelings towards her missionaries.

We intend (D.V.) sending our eldest daughter, to Sydney, at the eni of this year to school. By the time she arrives there she will be almost eight years of age. We are all well as a familr, except Mrs. Robertson, who has been suffering very much from fever and ague since the month of February last. She is now suffering a very sharp attack. It is very weakening and depressing. Since December of last year we have built a nice cottage of two rooms, at Cook's Landing, near 'Traitor's Head, and the house is weather boarded, painted and ready for plastering. We have taken in and cleared up an acre of land around the house, fenced it, put up a boat-house, goat-house, cook-house sad wash-house. All except our cottage are grass buildings. I have paid $£$ for land
there for mission purposes. We dispensed the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper in Cook's Bay, on the 27 th March, and on Sabbath first (July 10), we expect to dispense the Supper here again. We have just finished the plastering (inside) of the Martyr's Church. The lime for it we burned last summer. The church, let me say it, is beautifully plastered and all done by my own trained young men without me putting a hand to it. I have just got the lamps put in, and when the "Dayspring" arrives we intend having a farewell service in it for Mr. and Mrs. Paton. who are retiring from the mission field. As soon as the Communion is past and my teachers receive their supplies, we intend beginning to gather and prepare arrowruot as we did last year; I am afraid we shall have very little as we are so late beginning. I spent January, February and March among the people of the east side of this island, and Mrs. R. and our children were with me during the first month. They all took fever in the damp grass hut in which we lived, and Mrs. R. has not yet got free from it. A volcano broke out in the sea, near Traitor's Head, on the 12th of December last, and continued sctive for about ten days when it became extinct again and has not since broken out. In our next box I shall send you (or bring you) same of the lava thrown up by it. When is the Church going to send a deputation out to visit this mission? If the expense would not be too great, such a visit would do much good, and we would like that you would come. I question if the whole Church in Canada has a better or more successful mission than this "chesp mission." We are very grateful to Rev. Mr. Hogg's S. S. in Moncton, and to Miss Montgomery's S. S. class in Charlottewown, for their contributions in cash towards the support of my teachers, hut I will write them shortly myself. I had promised myself also the pleasure of writing Rav. R. :.. Patterson, of Bedeque, but I am afraid I cannot by this trip of the "Dayspring" to Australia

THE NEW HEBRIDES SYNOD.-The Missionaries met in Synod on the 26 th of May, at Anelgauhat, Aneityum,-Mr. Watt, moderator, and Mr. McDonald, clerk. Reports from all the stations indicated "great progress during the year." The Synod earnestly pleads for more missionaries tooccupy the many heathen islands of the group which are now open. The movements of the "Dayspring" for the ensuing year were arranged, subject to certain contingencies. Mr. Paton was granter a furlough, and was authorized to appear before such church courts as he might find accessible to plead the cause of the Mission.-Mr. Watt. was ipprointed to take charge of Anima.-A com-
plete copy of the Bible in Aneityumesetranslated by Dr. Geddie, Mr. Inglis and Mr. Copeland, was laid on the Synod's table; and the synod recorded its gratitude to God for the completion of the work. This is the first complete Melanesian translation of the scriptures. Mr. Paton was authorized to get printed 250 copies of the Epistles to Timothy. Titus and Phiomen, and the Epistles of John, Jude and James, and the ciospels of Iuke and John in one vol ume; also a similar number of certain portions of the old Testament, with a small catechiem. The next meeting of synod is appointed to be held at Havannah llarbour, Efate, next year.

The Darspris; reached Melbourne the middle of August, with Mrs. Wat:, and Messrs Paton and Holt with their familiea, passengers. With most of them it is all health that has brcught them away from their work. The Kynod and Bishop Selwyn have come to an understandicg as to the occupation of the group. The iatter will confine his efforts to some of the more northern islands.

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LETTER FROM REV. JOHN MORTON.
Tinapisa, 2th $^{4}$ September, $18 \times 1$. For the Recora :-

Corporations and editors have no con sciences. Here is the Hecord and here is a letter from the editor. Matter, matter"original matter" and "no circulars" which some other editor thankfully receives and adroitly publishes a few days hefore we are able. Short letters-notes-sketches which require no "style." As if, with meetings, schools, hospitals, medicine and buildings, we wore ploves and had time to think of style. When in the midst of these engagements an editor seizes us by the buttonhole and demands "copy or your reputation," we grasp our patent pencil as the shortest way out of our difficulty. As to the health of our island, almost immediately after our last leiter of May 25 th, the drought of months was broken by copious showers of rain ; but this brought no improvement in the general health. Malarial yellow fever has continued to prevail-not as an epidemic-but cutting down one after another both in town and country. Lately the San Fernando district has been free from it. In Portof.Spain, however. there seems to be an increase of cases, but the type is perhaps milder as there are a larger number of recoveries. There is no panic-only anxiety. In this of course we share, while resting on Him who can prei serve" from the pestilence that walketh in darkness." Crged ty discomfort and the
fear of sickness, we moved into our new house, July Ist. It was still unfurnished, but we nad at least plenty of air and more room for our Sunday meetings. By August the school-room was cleared out, and our thiri School opened. There is something still to be done before our buildings here are finished. and a great deal still to be done before they are paid for. But we are not now going to talk money and figures.
'Trearesa is a large scattered village. By the census it came out at the head of our villages in population-close on $5,(\mu \mu)$. Portof Spain is a city and San Fernando a town. Tupapuna became so noted for lawlessness that a police station was established here a short time ago. At our railway station a knowing lot of Coolie hoys await the arrival of trains to pick up a few cents by carrying parcelsand spend them playing "heads and tails, or in buying rum. When we lived in our first house our meetings were popular with this class from the abundance of mangoes about the place. Indeed the children of the village seem to be wise and wicked beyond their years. Thirty such are gatbered into our school; most of them, for the tirst time, try the patience of any teacher. Nearly fourteen years ago I began with just such a lot, only more timid. Une of the smartest lads in that school was Allah Du'a. Some years ago he removed to this district out of the influence of our mission, and was all but lost sight of. On coming here I found him at Frederick Estate, and he is now teacher of this school as a step to his improving himself and returning to take the school there when we are ready to open it. He had never been baptized, but be kept and read his English bible-he never forgot his catechiem, and he had not grown rusty in reading either English or Hindi. In arithmetic he had gone backward, and is now very diligently studying that branch. Allah Duathe benediction of God-is a sweet name. He wishes now to be baptized and we would never think of changing such a name. Is there not a blessing in it? Some incidents may illusirate the difficulties of the work: A boy of seven years is reported absent, and another boy explains that he bas been seen drunk. The bor thus reporting is himself sccused of drinhing and confesses to have taken as much as six cents worth of rum at one time, and several others of the same class are by no means total abstainers.

## france and the copspel.

> THIRD ARTICIE. cies now in active operation throughout France are, The Reformed Chureh, with
the longest martyr roll, perhaps, of any Church in Christendom, for from her bosom were plucked at one time more than two and-twenty thousand of her faithful child ren, known to us as the Huguenots; The Free Church-which is an offithoot of the lieformed Church and refuses to receive state aid. Both of these have their evangelical societies which, together, expend some fifty or sixty thousand dollars a-year in sending out pastors and evangelists and colporteuri to different $p$ arts of the country. The Lutheran Church is largely represented, and other Churches a!so; besides which are the Home Mission Suciety and the Religious Traci Socity, both actively engaged in extending the knowledge of the Gospel throughout France. But the most unique mission of the present day is

## THE MACALL MISSIUN.

1. Its Origin.-In the spring of IST1, Paris was in the throes of a revolution. The worst and lowest classes of its citizens seized the city, and destroyed some of its public edifices, carrying dismay to the hearts of all peaceable and well disposed citizens. Finally, the French Government prevailed, and swful was the vengeance visited upon the Communists. It was only a few months after this, when the city was again thrown open to visitors, that the Rev. Mr. Macall and his wife visited Paris. Taking some French tracts with them, which they har! procured at Lon don, they made their way to Belleville, where Communism had its home, and sought to dis. tribute them to the workmen, who swarm the restaurants there. To their great surprise, the tracts were gladly and thankfully received, and a workman, a spokesman of the others, even besought him to come and teach them his religion, observing he was an English pastor. Mr. Macall returned to his church (Cnngregationalist) in England, but this cry of the artisan lingered in his ears"Will you not come and teach us your reli. gion?" He felt it to be a divine call, and he forlhwith resigned his charge, much to the regret of his attached congregation, and returned with his wife to Paris. They took up their quarters in Belleville, in the midst of the artisan population. Mr. Macall immediately set to work to master the French language. In the course of two or three months he acquired a sufficient acquaintance with it to be able to communicate his ideas to others. He then lost no time in hising a small empty shop which had been used as a restaurant, and which he fitted up, by means of whitewash, wall-tents, chairs, desk and organ, into a neat little hall, capable of holding one to two hundred souls.
2. Its Object.-The object which Mr. Mscall set before pimself ras, simply, the
preaching of the Gospel to the working classes. No discussion.s were contemplatod. or indeed allowed by the authorities. No re ference is madia to the Konan Catholic Church or ito docteines; nor is any allusion to politice indulged in. Protestantisn is not spoken of, nor alvocated as such. The teaching of the Scriptures with reference to God, liis relation to man ; sin, and salvation by Jesu; Cbrist-this is what is coastantly enlarged upoa and emphasized.
3. Its Method.- Having made a hall out of an empty shop, they furnish it with a number of hymn-books. The meeting is advertised by posters, also by a man standing in front of the door of the hall, on the night of meeting, handing small slips to the passersby, on which are printed: "English friends will speak of the love of Christ ; entry free." As the workmen, their wives and children enter, they are handed papers containing a number of bymns, or hymn books. when they pass on, and take seats. The order of a meeting is as follows:--Singing, reading of the scriptures, singing, Gospel address of ten to fifteen minutes, singing, a second address, singing, a short prayer of two to four minutes, then announcement of meetings to follow, which brings the meeting to an endall within one hour usually. Frequently a short prayer meeting follows; or, as in some cases, a Bible class. At the end, the evangelist frequently, Mr. Macall always, makes his way to the door, shakes the rough workmen by the hand, and bids him welcome back. Wuch marked attention from a superior, and such hearty singing, coupled with such glad tidings as he had never dreamed of, much less heard, and all this free-the poor peo ple find it difficult to realize it all. They all have their proper effect. Moreover, tracts are distributed to them as they retire, and in many of the balls now there are lending libraries, of works which are mostly issued by the Tract Society at Toulouse. Connected with these halls, are scripture schools, in which some 3,000 children are taught on two afternoons a week, Sunday and Thursdyy, for an hour. A Bible-class is sought to be established in every hall, taught, when possible, by the nearest pastor, who widy receive the converts of the station into his church. Besides these, there are mothers' meetings, presided over by Christian ladies, many of whom work gratuitously for the mission. But Mr. Macall is not content with these agencies alone. He seeks to follow upon the heels of the athiests, in order effectually to stamp out the evil effects of their teaching, and supply the great antidote-the Gospel. For this purpose, he hires large ball-rooms, holding all the way from a few hundred people, to thousands. In these he has had sometimes 400 to 500 , and once at Montmar-
tre, 2,000 of the working classes. He has had the most talented Protestant paetors, men who understood the workings of the French mind, and how to deal with it, to defend the truth, and give them bread for stones.
4. Co-operation of French Pastors. - To their credit, and sterling good sense, be it said, the French Protestant pastors work nobly with Mr. Macall. They speak in the halls, and address occasional large meetiizs, and some of them as, Pastors Bersier, Monod, etc., teach weekly Bibleclasses. Some fiftyeight pastors have rendered aid to the mission in various ways.
5. Growth.-Beginning with one hall in January, $18 \% 2$, there are now no fewer than twenty-nine halls in Paris, in which the Gospel is preached twice a week-and in the case of two of them, every right in the year. These halls contain from $1: 00$ to 500 sittings. Then there are halls belonging to this mission in Lyons, Bordeaux, Boulogne-sur-Mer, La Rochelle, Rochefort, St. Etienne, Versailles, Lille, exc., numbering in all about twenty one, making some fifty mission-halls in France, in connection with this mission. In three and a-half years, the work has more than doubied. More tiban this: there are other towns calling for the Gospel, much extension is possible in every city, and only means and suitable men are required to rapidly enlarge and solidify the work.
6. Results.-In 1879, there were in the various halls some 6,772 sittings; now there are more than 9,000:-

|  | 1879 | 1880 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total number of religisus meetings |  |  |
| P for adults ....................... | 3,74 | - |
| Aggregate attendrace at do ...... | 423,676 | 438,625 |
| Sun.-schools, Children's | 101,562 |  |
| Total Heligious Meetings | $\overline{-9,907}$ | 7,632 |
| Totalattendance at do | 525,236 |  |
| Bibles, Testamens, Scripiure Portions, \&e., distributed | 173,353 | 245,588 |

The above statistics indicate a large seedsowing. Are the fruits correspondingly large? Who can tell? God alone, who knows all hearts, can tell. I believe they are; but they are not all apparent. Who among us, with all the aid of Bible instruction of the youth, and of an enlightened conscience, can bosst that the visible fruits of his ministry are proportioned to the labour bestowed? The divine order of things is, that "one soweth and another reapeth." Mr. Macall's great aim is to scatter broadcast the gospel seed; he has the strongest confidence that God will, in Ifis own time, and way, give the increase. It is not his aim to count the converts. He gladly encourages any, who will, to confess Christ, and affords them means of so doing. But the method
of numbering converts, and proclaiming it to the world, he rightly thinks no part of his work. No man works harder to put the bread of life within reach of the famishing multitudes. And there are converts-not a few, in connection with every station-and some of these have united with the Protestant churches-and more will dobo. Certainly he does not contemplate establishing a new sect. Far from it. He holds, and very reasonably, that if the people accept the gospel in large numbers, the question of church relationship will solve itself. But not only do French Christians, and English rejoice over the extension of this mission. Its worth and good influence have been acknowledged by French societies, having no religious bias whatever. Two such societies have conferred medals upon Mr. Macall; and, moreover, it is well known to the municipal authorities of Paris, that their police have less work to do, wherever a mission hall is established. By a government, composed partly of freethinkers, this mission is acknowledged as the friend of public order, and as a powerful factor in the welfare of society. Such gratuitous evidence is, to say the least, very significant, and affords some indication of the genuine nature of the work being accomplished by this mission-of the hold it has taken of the working classes.
7. How Sustained.- The expenditure of this mission was over $\$ 30,000$ last year. This year it will probably reach $\$ 40,000$. This is contributed by Christians of England, Scotland, I reland, America, different countries of Europe, Australia, etc. But this does not representall that is being done, for there are some whose whole services are rendered freely. The director of the mission receives no salary. Others, including ladies and gentlemen, work gratuitously, eren paying their own way; while many are very inadequately remunerated.

Concluding Remarks.-The Macall mission has solved a problem which had been tried by several French Protestant pastors, and relinquished as being incapable of being solved. That problem was, "How to evangelize the working classes of the French people, and save them from Infidelity?" In doing this, Mr. Macsll has only followed the example of Christ, in going down to the level of these classes, in seeking them in their own walks of society, and in briaging the Gospel to meet their special needs. Where failure was predicted he has succeeded; where hopes were faint, they have become changed with a strong faith that the working classes will be saved. True, it is not the work of a day, or a year, but of yeans of prayerful and persistent labour. The superstition, ignorance, deadiness of consciencethe results of centuries of erroneous teach-
ing, cannot give way in a day. But the faithful preaching of Cbrist crucified will prevail over all hindrances in time. Mr. Macall's work has, moreover, stimulated the zeal of French Protestants, to work with renewed vigcur, for the evangelization of their beloved land. In thisway it has already been a great blessing to France, and will continue to be so. There is no part of France where evangelists are now hindered in their work.

COLBURNE HEINE.

## gatantoba.

"OF COURSE you will write a book when you get home," said a friend to me in the prairie Province,-" every one from the east that visits this country is under the necessity of writing a book or a painphlet, or at least a lecture." Well, Mr. Editor, I am not going to write a book, or a pamphlet, or a lecture; but as you have been pleased to ask me for a brief account of my late visit to the new "land of promise," I will furnish a few jottings of what came under my observation. I contrived to see a good deal in three weeks, for I made it my business to pans through as much of the country as possible and look upon it with my own eyes. Of course l went as far as Brazdon, the most western point of the Canadian Pacific Railway, for the Company was running a daily train from Winnipeg, making the 150 miles in ten hours; and no one is now entitled to think he has achieved anything who merely gets that distance. But I do plume myself on my five days' drive through southern Manitoba. In that time I got thoroughly initiated into all the mysteries or "trails" and "muskegs," and "sleughs" and "coolies" and"bluffs." I also saw, what I much desired, immense numbers of prairie hens and chickens, be. sides wild duck, plover and snipe in abundance. But then I had no gun. One day I walked out expressly after game, with the implement of destruction on my shoulder, but ne'er a bird was to be seen. Driving or riding, one can get easily within shooting distance, as the game is familiar with the animal and knows him to be harmless. But man unaccompanied is to be suspected. On the margin of every marshy pool, too, my friend and I saw the little pyramidal mounds which the muskrats build in summer for their winter quarters, and already vast num. bers of them come forth to sport in the sun, skimming slong the thin ice that a frosty night or two had formed. We had the good luck to run across a bear, a couple of prairie wolves, which are not now so common in the settled portions of the province, and they with the wolfish instinct made tracks when they saw us coming, but when at a safe dis.
tance turned round and followed us with their hungry eyea. The sight of a herd of buffaloes, the great ambition of travellers to the North-west, as well 38 of sportsmen, is a luxury not now to be enjoyed without penetrating much further into the interior than I did. It was too late in the season to see the flowers, which are the glory of the prairie, but the tangled and withered masses, with stems two or three feet high, of wild roses, asters, convolvuli, and numerous other species, that made travelling through the high levels so fatiguing, were ample evidence that the enthusiastic dwellers in the land nowise exaggerated when they said that in summer the face of the country is simply lovely, all flecked with flowers from April, when the snow goes away, till the frost seals their fate towards the end of September. By missing the flowers, however, I also missed the mosquitoes and black Hies, which are the plague of the settlers during the hot months.

As to the fertility of the soil and the ease with which the wild land can be subdued, the half has not been told. The farmer going into the unbroken prairie, with his plough, is is as far on at the start as the backwoodaman in Ontario, Quebec, or New Brunswick is, after he has been chopping and logging and burning and removing stumps and stones for fifteen or twenty years, besides that the ground is so much richer, when it is cultivated, in the alluvial prairie land. I found but one opinion on this subject among the numerous farmers with whom I conversed. One of the delightful features about the country is, that all its inhabitants without exception, are full of enthusiasm regarding it. Every settler claims that he has the best farm in the Dominion. This is half the battle. Of course, it may be taken for granted, that only courageous and hopeful parsons have ventured so far from their old homes, when Manitoba was much more difficult to reach than it is now. Many of them besides went there because they had got into pecuniary straits where they formerly lived. To them the change is like emerging from a state of bondageinto freedom. They are able again to lift up their heads, and the future is painted with the hues of the rose. One mirses in both Minnesota and Manitoba the fine farm steadings which impart such an air of comfort and solidity to the homes of the yeomen of Ontario and the Eastern provinces. The only house is a square $\log$ dwelling, the average size being about 30 feet by 20 . It has a pitched roof usually, although I saw one or two covered with small poplar poles, and then a foot and-a-half or so of straw laid on top. This is the ordingry roof for the stables of the early settlers. On the trail between Nelsonville and Morris, we came upon an old Montrealer, a Mr. Bell, formerly
of the firm Tolmie \& Bell, carpenters, engaged in building a turf stable and cowhouse. The walls wer6 about eighteen inches thick, and the sods were built in like brick. I was told that it will last, when it has been carefully put together, for ten or fifteen years. Mr. Bell's first dwelling house was composed of the same material, and it proved quite comfortable, until he got a frame building erected. He is now the happy owner of some thousands of acres of magniticent prairie land, with some hundreds already under cultivation ; and my fellow-traveller and I have occasion to wish him and his partner, the daughter of a Pointe-aux-Trembles farmer, all success, for the great consideration they showed to two hungry men and a hungry, jaded horse. Mr. Bell is a specimen of thousands of others who left these provinces during the hard times, with small means, to try their fortunes in the great "Lone Land;" and who have not been dis. appointed. I must reserve what I have to say about the social and ecclesiastical aspect of affairs for a future number.

ROBERI CAMPBELL.

## The Freshyterian Fecerad.

MONTREAL : DECEMBER, 1881.
THIS NUMBER COMPIETES OUR SIXTH YEAR-six volumes containing, in outline, 2,016 pages ot our ecclesiastical historythe most reliable that will ever be written. Many of these pages are occupied with fig. ures indicating dollars and cents. Kightly considered, they are not the least interesting. They are proofs of our people's liberality, for which we give thanks to God. How much love, faith and self-denial they represent, He only knows. But the Record has not been all figures. Giance at its other departments: What sanctified toil, what prayers, yea, what tears and perils are represented by our missionary reports and letters ! Have not our hearts sometimes burned with. in us as we have been carried in thought from Trinidad to the New Hebrides, and thence to India, and thence to "beautiful Formosa!" or as we have been carried from Newfoundland to the Rocky Mountains and on to British Columbia! Truly, "the field is the world." We are thankful that the Presbyterian Church in Canada has been endeavouring, however feebly, to occupy her share of it. If we have been able to devote but little space to details of work done by Presbyteries, the intelligent reader will have "read between the lines" for himeelf, and realized to some extent how much labour, and
thought, and management are connected with even such ordinary occurences as ordinations, inductions, licensures, presbyterial visitations, missionary meetings, or Sabbathschool conferences, any one of which may have been noticed by us in a brief paragraph.
We have already, in our accustomed way, addressed a few words to upwards of one thousand friends in different parts of the country who have kindly assisted us this year in circulating the Record. We hope these agents will receive from the congregations and individual members of the Church the consideration which their disinterested and self-imposed labours deserve. Fspecially we bespeak from all the miniaters and missionar ies of the Church, from the conveners of missionary committees, and from the clerks of Presbyteries, such assistance and co-operation as they may be able to render during the coming year.

## Fiterature.

Wilifam Drysdale \& Co., Montreal, send us Peloubet's Select Notes on the International S.S Lessons, and Dr. Vincent's Lesson Commentary, for 1852, $\$ 1.25$ each, free of postage. We prefer the former, but the ceacher is happy who has either; and he wants no better Bille Dictionary than Dr. Philip Schaff's. \$2.25. The small people will rejoice in Chatterbox, \$1.75-full of fun and fine views, including Canadian Scenery. Also Tutti Frutti, published by Geo. W. Harlan, 19 Park Place, New York, with its old fashioned rhymes and quaint engravings.

Messrs. James Bain \& Co., Toronto, are agents for The Catholic Presby:erian, $\$ 3.00$ per annum; and The British and Foreign Evangelical Reviev, $\$ 2.00$. They supply Ec. clesiastical requisites of every kind. Rules and Forms of Procedure, Sabbath schcol Lessons and Literature. The new Church Hymnal, with music, \&c. (See Advertisement.)
F. E. Grafton, Montreal, has also a large stock of S. School requisites, Magazines and Periodicals, Hymn-Books and Tracte. (Sec Adverisement.)
Tre Prbsbyterian Board of Publication, Phila., have a very extensive stock of Books suitable for S. School Libraries. Their West. minster Teacher, monthly, 60 cts. a-year, is one of the best helps for the study of the International Lessons.
The Sunday-School Timee, and The Scholar's Quarterly from the ssme Office, 775 Chestnut street, Philadelphia, are both excellent. The former comes weekly, \$:. 00 per annum ; the latter, quarterly, 2 cents a-year.
The Toronto Netrs Co. are sole agents for Rolph Smith \& Co.'s Canadian Xmes and New lear Cards, which for beauty of design and finish are unsurpassed.

## 2 Eage far the young.



E are glad that so many of our young people took an interest in the "ScriptCre Alphabet" answers to which are still coming in. The "Bible Puzzhe" in November Recurd is a hard one. The Editor tried it himself and failed. Believing there was some mistake in the question, he wrote to the author of it who promptly replied that, in copying, it had got "terribly mixed." He says that two of the Brooklyn boys worked it out successfully. He has kindly sent it to us as it should be, with the remark that in work ing it out no notice is to be taken of fractions. So we reprint it and invite answers with the Scripture proofs, to be sent not later than the l0th of December.

## A BIBLE PUZZLE.

Add to the age of Abraham when he died the number of foxes samson sent into the Philistines' corn ; subtract the age of Joshua when he died; multiply the amount by the number of cords that the men of Judah bound Samson with; add the number of men in Gideon's army who lapped water like a dog ; diride the product by the number of kings that went to smite Gibeon; add the number of years that David reigned; divide by the number of days Sampson gave the people to guess his riddle; multiply by the number of losves Elisha satisfied 100 men with at Gilgal ; add the number of days Christ was tempted; divide by the age of Christ when found in the Temple with the Doctors; add the number of years Solomon took to build the Temple; subtract the number of years it took him to build his own house. Subtract the number of loaves Christ fed 5000 people with. The answer will be the value of a coin in cents.

## "IS FATHER ON DECK?"

A number of years ago, Captain D. com manded a vessel sailing from Liverpool to New York, and on one voyage he nad all his family with him on board the ship. One night, when all were quietly asleep, there arnse a sudden squall of wind which came sweeping over the waters until it struck the vessel, and instantly threw her on her side, tumbling and crashing everything that was movable, and awakening the passengers to a consciousness that they were in imminent peril. Every one on board was alarmed and uneasy, and some sprang from their berths and began to dress that they might be ready for the worst. Captain D. had a little daughter on board just eight years old, who, of course, awoke with the rest.
" What is the natter ?" said the frightoned child. They told her a squall had struck the ship. "Is father on deck?" said she.
"Yes; father is on deck."
The little one dropped herself on her pillow again without a fear, and in a few moments was sleeping sweetly, in spite of winds. and waves.

Blessed child! How ner contidence snames our doubts and fears and restless, vague surmisings! She had faith in her father, and she had no rom for feir. And how is it with us? We have our storms, our troubles and temiptations. We fear and tremble. What is the matter? Is it not time for us to ask, "Is Father on deck? Father understands all about the vesse!, the winds, the waves, the rocks, the storms, the squalls, the tempests.
"Is Father on deck?" Yes, blessed be God, Father is "on deck" all the time. "He that keepeth Israel shall never slumber nor sleep." He is "on deck," for He says, "Lo, I am with you alway." He is "on deck," for He has said, "I will never leave thee nor forsake thee."

Tempted, troubled, distressed, and frigh $t$ ened soul, look up. Give to the winds thy fears. Rest in God's faithfulness and love: Cast every care upon him.
"Fear not the windy tempests wild, Ths bark they shall not wreck: Lie down and sleep, 0 helpless child! Thy Father's on the deck."

ONLY A LITTLE CHILD.
And a lttlle child shall lead them.-Isn. xi. 6 ..
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I'll tell you just what the Bible says, It's notiong at all that is new :
But the Lord has written it duwn in In is book, Aud He osly writes what is true.

It sags that tho hand of a little child, So helpless to earn its owni bread.
May lead, yes! mas lead to the for, of the cross, To Jesus, who suffered and bled;
May lead the poor manderer out of his sin, Away frou his sorrum and dread.

May lead him to comfort, may lead him to rest, To the peace that is lasting and sweet ;
That the world e:nnot give, that the world eanot. take, To the Lord, who will make all completo.

Har. not a missinn that angels might winh, Wha dwell in the far blae above,
To brink such glad tiliugs to poor sinuing omes, Whom on earth our dear Saviour did lore?

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WHO WILL HELP to create a Cuyre Erection Fund? An anonymous friend in Newfoundland offers one thousand dollars to begin with, in the bope that the project will be speedily taken up and at least $\$ 100,100$ raised for it. Our brethren in the United States have profited greatly by their "Church Erection Scheme." The appeal made by Mr. Sieveright, in this number of the Record, for aid to build churches in the North West Territories is sufficient proof that such a fund would be of great service to the Presbyterian Church in Canada. Who seconds the motion with another thousand?

Personal-The Rev. Robert Campbell, M.A., of Montreal, is engaged in giving a course of lectures in Queen's University, Kingston, on Churct History. The Rev. James McCaul, B.A., of Stanley street Church, Montreal, is conducting the Greek and Latin Classes in the Preparatory Department of the Presbyterian College, Montreal.

The development of Protestantism in Japan is indicated by the fact that a conference of churches was held in Kioto, ․apan, in May, at rhich sixteen Congregational churches were present by delegates, eighteen preachers were on the platform, and 6,000 hearers in the audience. The conference was repeated at Usaka, in June, with audien 4 ces of 10.000 . Japan has its own Howe Missionary Society.

The fifty-six churches of the sandiwich Islands, connected with the Hawaiian Evangelical Associations, report a present membership of seven thousand four hundred and fifty mine. Their contributions for Foreign Missions for the past year amounted to $\$ 4$, $4: 2.30$, while for all purpeses, home and for eign, they have raised during the twelvemonth no less a sum than $\$ 27,64 \geq .21$. Who next will make an assertion concerning the decay of these Hawaiian churches?

Receifed from Mr. Donald Robs, Watford, per Rev. P. C. Goldie, $\$ 10$ towards Mr. Sieveright's Church, N. W. T.

## SABBATH-SCHOOL HELPS 1882.

WESTMiNSTER SERIES:
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london Sunday-Schoe! Union Notes. 5ile per annum. For Sunday--icbool paperi, send for circulars The Stirling Tracts. Bowks and Periodicals supplied at very low prices. 1. F: iRAFTON.

202 st James Street, Montreal.

## MEETINGS OF PRESBYTERIEs.

Chatham, at Chatham, 13th Dec., 11 a.m.
Lan. \& Renfrew, Carleton Pi, 6 Dec., 1.30 p.m. Bruce, at Paislcy, 13th Dec., 2 p.m.
Maitland, at Lucknow, Oth Dec., 1 p.m.
Brockville, 1st Pres. Ch. 13th Dec.,2.30 p.m. Stratford, at St.Andrews'Ch, 17 Jan,'82, 101a.m. Peterboro', at Cobourg, 16 , Jan., '8.2, 7.30 p.m. Kingston, at Belleville, 20 th Dec., 7.30 p.m. Saugeen, at Mount Forest, 20 th Dec., 11 a.m. Paris, at Brantford, 20th Dec., 11 a.m.
Lun. \& Yarmouth, Bridgervater, 21 Dec. 10.30 m m Halifax at Elmsdale, 13th Dec.
Miramichi, at Douglastown, 7 th Feb., 11 a.m. Glongarry, at Lancaster, 17th Jan., 2 p.m. London, at St. Thorass, 10th Jan., 2 p.m. Toronto, at Knox Church, 10th Jan., 11 am. Guelph, at 17 th Jan.
Hamilton, at Blackheath, th Dec., 2 p.m. Montreal, at St. Paul's Ch, 10th Jan., 11 am. Quebec, at Shertrooke, sth Feb., 8 y.m.
St. John, at St. John, 10th,Tan.
Huron, at Thames Koad, 17 th Jan., 11 am.
P. E. Island, at Charlottetown, 17 Dec. 11 am.

