

Bohemian nihilists,) can not be for even a day permitted to prevail where society looks for peace and order. There are social wrongs to be righted, but the truest way to right these wrongs in lands where liberty rules is, as Charles McKay sang:—

“We want no aid of barricade
To show a front to wrong,
We have a citadel in truth,
More durable and strong.
Calm words, great thoughts, unflinching faith,
Have never striven in vain ;
They've won our battles many a time,
And so they shall again.”

We have just received from the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa the census of the Northwest Territories of Assiniboia, Saskatchewan and Alberta, taken in 1885. What work have we there? In Assiniboia there are reported 22,000 souls. Of these 2,000 are pagans, 477 “religion not given.” There are 119 Congregationalists, distributed thus, Broadview 60, Qu'Appelle and Regina 43, the remainder are scattered at Moose Jaw, Swift Current, Maple Creek, Medicine Hat. These places are all along the line of railway. Assiniboia has an area of 95,000 square miles. The Saskatchewan district, with an area of 114,000 square miles has a population of 10,746. No pagans reported, but “religion not given” 2,818. In this district 5 Congregationalists are found, all at Prince Albert, where the population is 5,373. The Alberta district has an area of 100,000 square miles and a population of 15,533. Religion not given, 1,169. At Edmonton we find 7 Congregationalists, 9 at Calgary and Red Deer, 5 at McLeod. In all these territories, covering 309,000 square miles, with 9,301 Catholics, 9,976 Anglicians, 6,896 Methodists and 7,712 Presbyterians, only 145 of our faith and order are found. We confess our heart goes out towards these scattered ones of our Israel, and we would that in some way we could send them greetings, and give them some service that would recall the blessings of an old home. These facts we give to the end that friends may ponder thereon, in view of practical discussion of our mission work at the coming union gathering.

There is a prospective field of mission work, though not of permanent occupation,

in these places where during the summer snow sheds are being erected for the railway and work of a similar description going on. Oh for a wealth of self-denial among us that would furnish men and means to press into the needy places of the land.

ADDRESS

*To the Students of the Congregational College, B. N. A.,
at the close of the Session of 1885-86.
April 14th, 1886.*

REV. JOHN WOOD, OTTAWA.

BELOVED BRETHREN,—The very pleasant but responsible duty devolves upon me, by request of the Board of Directors, of addressing you a few words, ere you leave your college home for the labors in which most of you will be occupied during the vacation. You will hail the change, I have no doubt, with pleasure and even a sense of relief. not because you tire of your work here, or because you expect to find much of rest, or relaxation, in your temporary charges, but because one sometimes tires at the work he loves best; and after six months of almost uninterrupted application and study, I am sure you deserve, and will heartily enjoy, such rest as a total change of scene and occupation may afford you. Even our blessed Lord himself, when he found the apostles wearied with the missionary journey from which they had just returned, said to them, “Come ye yourselves apart into a desert place, and rest awhile,” (Mark 6. xxxi).—“and they departed—the Great Teacher and his Disciples—by ship privately.” Their Master is our Master still—as considerate of our necessities and strength as he is intent on accomplishing the purpose for which he died, and lives forevermore. “His commandments are not grievous.”

But “a want of occupation is not rest;” few of us could afford, none of us should desire such a rest. Your vacation is to be “a working holiday.” Happily for the churches as well as for yourselves, such arrangements are now made by the college and the missionary boards as secure to the students suitable spheres of labor, and fair remuneration for their services during the summer, thus preventing the necessity of their returning to secular avocations, and at the same time affording them valuable opportunity for stirring up and exercising the