

that there was little, though some, exaggeration of the quality of lands in the North-West; but there would be a very large immigration thither. He regarded that field as supremely the one for the Presbyterian Church, and held that when they had done the work in the years to come, they could then look back upon a work done greater than any of them had yet imagined it would be.

Mr. MORRIS considered the subject before them the most vital that would come before the Assembly, because upon their treatment of it depended their ability to retain the hold upon their Dominion that the Church had so far held. He called attention to the little handfuls of their people surrounded by people speaking a different language and holding different creeds. He pointed to Winnipeg as an evidence of the growth of the country and showed, from what he had seen himself, the diversity of the field and the want of workers. The field was already occupied. In Prince Albert the Anglican Church was erecting a college, and if the Assembly did not at once take hold they might find by and by that every place was occupied. He believed that the North West was now taking in the Canadians who previously emigrated to Dakota. He had at one time been in Pope County, Dakota, and, when he asked where he was, was told that he was in a Canadian country, and he felt sad to think that these countrymen of his own were under a foreign flag. He endorsed heartily the practical suggestion of Mr. Gordon, that two of their members should go out this season and see what was wanted. He thought there was another aspect to the case, and that was the emigration from Quebec and Ontario to Manitoba. In these provinces there was much work to be done. He believed that there would be an immigration of farmers from England, Ireland, and Scotland to the older provinces, and to them also must there be extended the ordinances of the Church. He believed that the demands of the North-West were already beyond anything the Assembly could do, unless the congregations could be made to show a liberality greater than had yet been shown by them. In these circumstances he believed that an appeal should be made to the two Presbyterian Churches of Ireland and to those in England. He hoped that this would be done.

Mr. BRUCE said that the contributions in the North West were relatively as large as those in the older provinces. He showed that they had supplied places in the North West as soon as the settlers had formed settlements, and that this fact shown to the congregations at home would induce them to contribute more largely than had yet been done.

Mr. McKELLAR took much courage from what had been said in the meeting, and was glad that his fellow labourers in the North-West had the support and sympathy of the members of Assembly. (Applause.) They had just passed through the gateway of that immeasurable territory. He said the most encouraging feature of their work was that the new element pouring into the country was largely Presbyterian, from Ontario. He impressed upon the older church that their children were going West, and thus must be followed to their new homes with the gospel and ordinances. He felt that if the congregations of Ontario and Quebec had the matter represented to them fairly, there would be no trouble about the funds. The next few years must be most important in their bearing upon the history of the work in the North-West. They must, he felt, keep abreast of the tide. Missionaries at present were compelled to go into not only their own fields but into those adjoining them, so greatly did they feel called upon to keep pace with the work. The Assembly need have no fear of the result if the ministers appealed to the wealth and love of the wealthy members of the congregations, told them what was to be done, and where it was being done. He had faith that prayerful, earnest exertion would open the King's treasury and the hearts of those who held it in trust. Pastors should tell their congregations what they required, not as a congregation, but as a united church. The people of the old provinces had the greatest interest in the North-West. They sent money and presents to their sons who had emigrated to the West, and followed them with their sympathies and prayers. Why should they not follow them with the means for church ordinances as well—why not send them the bread of life? And their children would grow up to bless them and pray for them. He pointed out the dangers which followed upon young men getting into a strange country, and far away from home influences, and that of persons going into districts entirely remote from the reach of the ministry, as two of the chief evils that missionaries to the North-West had to overcome, and concluded with the hope that the Christians of the eastern provinces would help them to help themselves.

THE REPORT was then considered clause by clause, eliciting a good deal of discussion, without in any material degree changing its character. With regard to the commissioners whom it was proposed to send to Manitoba, Dr. Cochrane considered that it would be premature to send them this year.

Mr. J. M. KING moved that the thanks of the Assembly be given to the Church of Scotland, the Free Church of Scotland, and the Presbyterian Church of Ire-