

industry and wealth, it must also be possessed in the name of Christ. And whether in this spiritual conquest the Baptists take the place they should, depends something on you, my sisters, and the churches you represent.

Let me now briefly review our work in this district up to the present time. April 29, 1892, seven Baptists met and decided to ask the Board for a missionary. They also opened a subscription list for weekly offerings for pastoral support and decided to hold weekly prayer meetings.

In Sept. 1892, a Sunday School was organized. Feb. 19, 1893, Supt. Mellick being present, eighteen members of Baptist churches, residing in and near Edmonton, organized the Edmonton Baptist Church, called the Rev. A. McDonald to be pastor (guaranteeing \$400 towards his salary) and decided to build. Pastor McDonald began work in March 1893. A neat brick chapel, capable of seating 200 was completed in Jan. 1894, at total cost for house and lot of \$3,300. The situation is the most central in town. The cost does not represent luxurious furnishing but the high cost of building in Edmonton. At its completion, there was a debt of \$1,300. Though this debt is to-day a heavy burden to have avoided it by a cheaper location or building would have been disastrous. Indeed such alternative would not have precluded debt, for assistance from the Board was made dependant upon good location and building.

Regular services were now held at Edmonton, South Edmonton (on south of river) and Poplar Lake eight miles from Edmonton, some of the members residing in the latter places.

In April 1895 a church was organized at S. Edmonton with 19 members. In May 1895 Pastor McDonald resigned the past rate of the Edmonton Church and accepted that of the S. Edmonton Church. The latter Church now reports 35 members, resident in S. Edmonton and other points south of the river. An outgrown schoolhouse was purchased and fitted into a neat chapel.

The Edmonton Church remained

pastorless until June 1896 when the writer came to the field—including Edmonton and other points north of River. In July 1896, the third church in the district was organized at Sturgeon River 18 miles north of Edmonton, with 15 members, of whom all but four had brought letters from Nebraska whence they had removed to Alberta. Mr. McDonald held some special services here last winter which resulted in revived interest and some conversions. Since the organization of the church several have been added by letter and seven by baptism, and others are now ready to present their letters. The great need is a student pastor who could reside at this point. If the work is to be properly developed in the three townships in which the members of the Sturgeon church are settled, more work must be done than can be by the Edmonton pastor with any justice to the work at the latter place.

The Edmonton church has had on its books up to the present time 86 names. Of these there have been dismissed to the S. Edmonton church 24, to the Sturgeon church four, and to other churches four. There have been lost by death and exclusion 10. Thus the present membership is 44. Of this number nine are strictly non-resident, 17 others are virtually such, being settlers living at various points in northern Alberta from eight to sixty miles from Edmonton, while but 18 now reside in Edmonton.

Thus the parent church stands to-day about where it was at its organization in point of real numerical strength. Financially the present resident members are weaker than those who organized the church. Bravely have these shouldered the burdens left to them. The members living away from town are in nearly every case, those who, without capital, have undertaken to make a home in a new land. They are thus unable to give any great assistance to the church.

A glance at our church life may be of interest. Without putting our trust in intricate organization, we are trying to develop activity along all possible