

OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE
MANITOBA AND NORTH-WEST CONVENTION.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING JULY 14, 1888.

DEAR BRETHREN—It is a little more than seven months ago, at the sixth annual meeting of our Convention, assembled in the City of Winnipeg, and on the 5th day of December last, that this Board took office by your appointment, and entered at once upon the most responsible and important duties that ever engaged the thought of Christian men. Filled with a profound sense and conviction of the immense needs and possibilities of the work assigned them, your Board was not only led to deep reliance upon Almighty God for help and guidance, but throughout the year have been untiring in attention and earnest in effort to obtain every benefit and advance every interest helpful to the growth and prosperity of the Baptist missions in Manitoba and the North-West. No one can for a moment trace this work in its spiritual bearings and determinative influence upon the present rapid growth, settlement and civilization of this country (where the foundations of empire are being laid and the colossal structure of national life and greatness must shortly be reared) and not be impressed with the overwhelming consciousness of its solemn import and momentous issue. That in our success or failure we make or mar the future, the (unsullied) future of a Province and people the most favored of any within the compact of our great confederation.

But weighted, as was your Board, with responsibilities such as these, and bereft of men and means for the accomplishment of so great a work, they entered with cheerfulness upon their labors and allowed no fear to deter them, supported and encouraged as they were in every act by the unanimous approval and practical sympathy of an earnest and united people.

And the success which has characterized the efforts of your Board in behalf of the mission work of this country, under the blessing of Almighty God, is due in the largest possible measure to the warm and generous response of the Baptists of Manitoba and the North-West. Not only have they followed our labors with their sympathy and prayers, but through their deep personal sacrifices and even deprivation of home comforts our people have placed their consecrated wealth at the feet of the Lord Jesus, and thus provided the almost entire revenue at our disposal for the accomplishments of our missionary work and the achievement of the marvellous progress which we now report.

Pursuant to the policy and instructions of the last Convention, your Board met on the 19th of December, in the City of Brandon, to receive