

THE  
HOME AND FOREIGN RECORD

OF  
THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

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COLLECTION FOR HOME MISSION FUND.

We beg to remind Ministers and Sessions that the last of the Synodical Collections, that for the Home Mission Fund of the Synod should be made not later than the 3rd Sabbath of April. There is no more important object than this. Several Presbyteries have extensive mission ground to cultivate, but without aid they cannot undertake the work. Several new stations have been commenced in various parts of the Church, which cannot be continued without help from without. Besides, several Presbyteries are already largely indebted to their Missionary labourers, in consequence of the great scarcity of money this season arising from the failure of crops. It is of great consequence then, that the Synod's Home Mission Fund should be abundantly replenished, that urgent claims may not have to be rejected in consequence of the want of means.

It will be remembered that the Synod at its last meeting passed a resolution to the effect, that instead of simply taking up a Sabbath day collection for Home Missionary purposes, congregations be recommended to employ special collections, with the view of drawing forth larger contributions for this important object.

We are happy to know that the number of congregations employing special collections or the agency of a Missionary association is increasing, and that wherever such means are employed the result is abundantly encouraging.

NO VOLUNTEER AS YET.

No response has yet been given to the application of the Foreign Mission Committee for a Missionary to the Indians. In a Church of 250 Ministers, 29 or 30 Probationers and 50 Students, this ought not so to be. The application has been before the Church for five months and still no one says—"Here am I, send me." Were we to form an opinion from this, as to the Missionary spirit existing in our Church and College, it would be the reverse of favorable.

But surely this backwardness must proceed from other causes. The post is one of the noblest to which a young man of piety and gifts could aspire. The immortal Jonathan Edwards thought it not beneath him to minister to the poor Indian.

If no one can be got for the Indian field, it may be necessary to transfer Mr. Nisbet to it. With true devotedness he is perfectly willing to go—but he has so won the affectionate regards of the Red River people, and is so much needed there, that (although he has many qualifications for the Indian work) his removal would be a serious loss. Having as a Church put our hand to the plough we must not look back. The season advances. The Missionary, whether for the Red River or for the Indians, should start in May, or June at the farthest. Who will be our Pioneer Missionary to the Aborigines?