

the Province of Quebec, a few Protestants are everywhere overshadowed by the Roman Catholic Church. To neglect our own people there would be a crime against God and man. Our circuits there are largely dependent upon the missionary grant. Here the failure of our crop is a cause of wide-spread distress. A small catch of fish off the shores of Newfoundland, as was the case last year, reduces thousands of fishermen to the verge of starvation. The ministers of these hungry people depend for support upon the same Society which aids our work here. Its ability to render aid is limited by the measure of its income from the gifts of its friends. Nor would it be more able if it withdrew entirely from operations in the foreign field. The total amount expended in any one year in sustaining the Japan mission, if divided among the many domestic missions, would not afford any considerable relief, while the Church would be deprived of the stimulant to liberality which is found in that foreign mission. It brings more money into the Society's treasury than it takes out. The legitimate hope of relief for our missions in this country lies not in withdrawal from other fields, but in our ability, under the favour of Providence, to create wealth. Let us not lose confidence in the high destiny of this country, nor give way to undue discouragement, because we have difficulties actually no worse than have been endured by every other part of the Dominion in its earlier history.

One cause of pain to us is our inability to overtake all the people with missionary labours. This is not due to the want of the same spirit which prevailed in the Church when in Ontario the messenger of the Gospel found every settler's cabin; but to the fact that a wider territory is occupied here than has been opened up by the same number of people in any other part of the Dominion. To reach all requires a much greater effort and expenditure than was required at any previous time, or in any other place. We therefore ask your patient forbearance, and we will try, as soon as possible, to overtake all.

Our young Conference has received a solemn warning by two deaths during the past year, of ministers—one well advanced in years, and full of useful labours and their good fruits; the other falling in the commencement of life's summer, when the promise of a bright career before him was in full blossom; and also by the sudden death, in the full vigor of his manhood, of an influential lay delegate, on the Conference Sabbath. This new country is now consecrated to us by having opened its bosom to receive in sacred trust the dust of our departed brethren.

Our annual review at this Conference has been eminently satisfactory. The increase in our membership is, we think, unprecedented in the history of Canadian Methodism. We have added