

PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE, MONTREAL.

It appears from the statistical returns presented to the General Assembly in June last, that there are 78 churches under its care without pastors, and 48 mission stations connected with them, besides 104 other mission stations, in all 230 places to be supplied with ordinances. The number of probationers and missionaries now in the service of the Church is utterly inadequate to overtake this work, and the vast foreign field has, as yet, scarcely been entered upon.

The friends and supporters of the College are therefore reminded of what it has accomplished during its brief career to meet this destitution in order to stimulate them to fresh efforts to do what is so undeniably required. Its first duty was to provide means for the training of ministers and missionaries. For this purpose it has raised an Endowment Fund of \$25,000, and secured the services of three Professors, three Lecturers, and two Tutors. The buildings erected are elegant and commodious, but insufficient to meet the steady and rapid growth of the institution. Its library is well selected and valuable, and is receiving very important additions this session as the munificent gifts of friends. Its medals, one endowed by the students and one by a friend, and its scholarships and prizes have proved of great use in leading to superior attainments in special departments of sacred learning. It has already sent forth 21 ministers, and 7 students will complete their theological curriculum at the close of the present session, thus making in all 28 graduates. Of those who have been licensed 7 are settled in the eastern portions of the Church, where so much destitution hitherto prevailed and even still exists. It has 58 students now on its roll. It trains French missionaries for the million of Romanists of that nationality in Canada. Two of these are now settled in very important and hopeful fields of labour, and two more will be ready for license next spring. Nor should the missionary services of students during winter, but more especially during summer recess, be overlooked. They have done much, in many difficult and neglected fields, to promote the good of the Church.

The Board feels that these facts touching what has been accomplished, and the usefulness of the institution, furnish ground for an earnest appeal to its supporters to give much larger annual contributions than heretofore. Owing to an outlay of fifty thousand dollars in land and college buildings within the last two years, it has not been possible to add to the Endowment Fund, while ordinary expenses have been unavoidably increased. This increase is caused partly by subscriptions to the Building Fund not being yet fully paid, and partly in making indispensable improvements in the general equipment of the institution. Instead, therefore, of three thousand dollars, as last year, from the collection ordered by the General Assembly, double that amount will be required for the current year; and it is respectfully and earnestly urged that all members and adherents of the Church within the bounds of the Synod of Montreal will endeavour to make this increase.

In congregations in which missionary associations exist it is suggested that the usual Sabbath day collection should be supplemented by grants from such associations, and in other cases by special subscriptions, keeping in view what is stated above as to the amount required. It is also hoped that mission stations and churches which failed to contribute last year will not continue to do so, but will esteem it a duty and privilege to aid to the utmost of their ability in this great work of sending forth messengers of Jesus Christ throughout the land and the whole world.