

Missionary and Benevolent Funds.

The following are the chief purposes for which the General Assembly invites all the Congregations of the Church to contribute annually :—

I. Home Missions. The support of religious ordinances to settlers in the new districts of the country, such as Muskaka, Algoma, Parry Sound, Manitoba, the North-West Territories, and British Columbia, as well as in the more remote and scattered districts of the older Provinces. The amount required for the whole church for the current year is \$45,000. In the Western Section of the Church, for which our contributions are asked, there are upwards of 200 mission fields, and 600 preaching stations; and 7,500 families receive religious instruction. The amount contributed by these mission stations themselves last year was \$22,468.

II. Augmentation of Stipends. Upon the principle that the strong should help the weak, this fund was instituted a few years ago by the General Assembly, with a view to supplementing inadequate stipends in some of the smaller congregations, the desire of the Assembly being, that none of the ministers should receive less than \$750 a year, with a manse. To accomplish this, the amount required for the current year, east and west, is \$50,000. The number of congregations in the western section requiring to be aided in this way is 169.

III. Foreign Missions. The Presbyterian Church in Canada, has a staff of 20 ordained missionaries engaged in preaching the Gospel to the heathen, besides a number of other labourers, among whom are 8 or 9 Canadian ladies. The missions under the care of the Western Section of the Church are—(1) To the Indians in the North-West; (2) The mission to Formosa China, which has been so wonderfully prosperous through the instrumentality of Dr. G. L. Mackay and his associates; and, (3) The mission to Central India in which there are now 5 ordained missionaries employed. The missions conducted by the Eastern Section, are in the New Hebrides and in Trinidad, both of which have been remarkably successful. The amount expended annually in all these missions is about \$60,000. The number of native communicants in the different fields is upwards of 2,000: the number of teachers and native helpers 150, making with the ministers and their wives, a total effective force of 187 labourers in the mission work to the heathen.

IV. French Evangelization. The number of French Roman Catholics in the Dominion, is estimated to be 1,250,000. The Board of French Evangelization expends \$35,000 annually in its efforts to bring these our fellow-countrymen under the influence of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The number of fields occupied is 33; preaching stations, 75; ordained missionaries, 22; unordained, 42; schools, 22; teachers, 27; pupils, 707. The Pointe-aux-Trembles schools are maintained with yearly increasing success and usefulness.

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