

**Thanks.** The report on Home Missions, West, says: "The H. M. Committee cannot adequately express their gratitude to the Scottish and Irish Churches for the generous and timely aid rendered at this crisis in our great North-West mission work. The appeal made to them by Mr. Gordon has resulted not only in an addition to the funds, of nearly \$9,000.00, but has created a deep heartfelt interest in our great work, never before manifested.

Very special thanks are also due the congregations of our own Church and generous individuals, who, in addition to their regular contributions for Home Missions, helped to make up the large deficit of nearly \$10,000 that faced the committee in March. They have their reward in making glad the hearts and homes of our hard-wrought missionaries, whose salaries, even when paid in full, are too little in comparison with the services rendered."

**Social and Moral State of the West.** As inquiries are frequently made about the state of society in the West and its suitability for the up-bringing of families, a brief statement may be given. Mr. George Johnson, the Dominion Statistician, states that "Manitoba increased its population 131 per cent. between 1881 and 1891, but that there was an actual decrease of criminals during the same time." "Lawlessness," he says, "does not seem to have a grip on Manitoba; on the contrary, law seems to have a firm hold on the people, and this gives promise of making Manitoba and the North-West highly attractive to settlers who desire to bring up their families in honest ways." This is fair summing up of the case.

If the record of British Columbia is not quite so good as east of the Mountains, the neglect of the Presbyterian Church to do her work in early days, is partly responsible, but it is pleasing to report that the record is steadily improving.

East of the Rocky Mountains the Sabbath is as well kept as in the best districts of Ontario, and the services of the sanctuary are attended by the bulk of the people. West of the Mountains things are not quite so satisfactory, but a decided improvement is noticed in recent years. Life in the West is held sacred, the marriage tie binding, and the rights of property are respected.

The presence of the Indian at some points, with his low views of virtue, has been hurtful, but healthy public opinion is gradually curing this evil. Were the Indians forbidden to prowl about villages and towns, and confined to their reserves; were the children compelled to attend school, and white people forbidden to trespass on Indian reserves, visit Indian camps, or frequent Indian rancheries, health and morals would be gainers. It is too much to expect, however, that changes of this kind, however desirable, should come at once.—*Home Mission Report.*

## A BREEZE FROM GEORGIAN BAY.

**COLLIN'S INLET** is a lumbering village on the North shore of the Georgian Bay, writes the missionary, Mr. A. W. McIntosh, to a minister friend. It is out of the line of steamboats, but has communication twice a week with Killarney by means of a tug during the season of navigation. In winter it is "shut in." There is an irregular weekly mail which comes by stage seventy miles, of which fifty is on ice. I reached the field in April, coming the last 45 miles on a dog sled.

There are not ten acres of fertile land within ten miles, nothing but massive granite rocks several hundred feet high, clothed to the very summit where not swept by the great fire of 15 years ago, with splendid pine timber. One wonders where the trees get their nourishment, and where the roots go, but certain it is they flourish. Where the rocks have been cleared of trees they were but recently white with the bells of the blueberry blossom, and will soon be literally blue with berries. I have been many miles up the river to meet the river drivers who are bringing down the logs, and such numbers and varieties of beautiful flowers and mosses I have seldom seen elsewhere.

Most of the people here in summer are young men who come when the milling season begins and leave when it ends. They come from all parts of Ontario, and are of all denominations. Some are wild and careless, some quiet and gentlemanly, some earnestly Christian. We always have a goodly number at our meetings on Sundays.

One good thing is that there is no liquor here. Both President and Manager are strongly opposed to it, much to the good of the men and the help of the student.

The Sunday-school was kept open all winter by two earnest Christian men here, who now also give me, in all the work, the greatest encouragement and help.

This field is supplied by the Knox College Students' Society in a somewhat different way from that in which their fields usually are. The student here teaches day-school during the week, and preaches on Sunday. The day-school, the Wednesday night meeting, two services on Sunday, and Sunday-school, leave one not a great deal of spare time; but the time is so short and one likes to do as much as possible in the six months during which the field is supplied.

The school is small, and half of the pupils are French or half-breed children, making the work of teaching them quite different from that of teaching in the more settled parts of Ontario.

However the work here is agreeable, and much more pleasant than that of many of our students, who have to struggle against secret and open opposition, and all manner of vice, of which