

FIRE.—The church and Sabbath-school room belonging to the First Presbyterian Church, Victoria, B. C., were destroyed by fire on the 4th September last. The property was insured for \$2,000. The cost of rebuilding is \$5,100, and the whole was expected to be completed by Christmas.

MANITOBA ITEMS.

The Superintendent of Missions has returned from his trip to Prince Albert, Battleford, and Edmonton. Prince Albert is becoming a considerable village, and our church building there is too small. At Battleford an increase of population has taken place and the people are willing to contribute \$400 or \$500 per annum to have a minister sent there. At Edmonton the people have, it is said, agreed to raise their contributions from \$300 to \$800. Several missionaries are called for at new points in the North-west Territories. The Home Mission Committee of the Presbytery have allocated all their moneys allowed by the Assembly's Committee, and yet have a number of important points to supply. The amount of \$6,000 for the half year is too small for the mission stations. Several messages were sent to labourers willing to come from Ontario announcing that the funds are all appropriated. One energetic elder who had made his arrangements for coming, said "If the want of money is all, I'll pay my expenses and labour for the winter for nothing." On he came and now he is labouring in the Territories. May many more such self-denying men be found! New churches have been opened by Dr. King at Balmoral, and Rev. D. M. Gordon, at Broadview. Mr. Douglas, formerly of India, has been settled in Brandon over an important charge. Public opinion throughout Manitoba is very unsettled at present. Farmers' meetings and leagues are crying out from all directions against what they deem oppression. The grain trade, it is said, is in the hands of monopolists, who by the arrangements as to elevators with the C. P. R. depreciate the price of wheat. Some of the wheat, too, was damaged in appearance by frost, but not enough to render it useless for flour or seed. This sells for about 45c, if any market at all is afforded. We are afraid the missionaries will fare badly this winter, probably worse than ever before. The cry is universal, and though sometimes disloyal sentiments are expressed, yet the heart of the country is sound if anything like justice is granted. Manitoba College has now 31 boarders in residence; and about the same number of students outside. The theological students proper are eight in number; two expect to graduate in spring. Dr. King is assisted by Rev. John Pringle of Kildonan, in Church history; Rev. D. M. Gordon

of Knox Church, Winnipeg, in Apologetics; and later on will be aided by Rev. C. B. Preblado of St. Andrew's, in Pastoral Theology. The other Professors and teachers are very fully occupied with University, honor, and pass work. Students of Manitoba College will present themselves in May next, in all four honor departments of classics, mathematics, mental and moral science and natural science. A new medical college is being organized in connection with the University of Manitoba, and begins with an encouraging attendance. Dr. King and Professor Hart expect to spend their holidays in Ontario.—B.

Meetings of Presbyteries.

LUNENBURG AND SHELburne: Nov. 21: at Bridgewater: intimation was received of a grant from Home Mission fund to Riversdale, and \$200 from the Supplementing Fund to Lockeport and East Jordan. Resolved, to grant the petition of these two stations, and to erect them into a separate pastoral charge, to be known as the congregation of Lockeport and East Jordan. Upper Clyde was then transferred from the Clyde and Barrington congregation and joined to the congregation of Shelburne. The call from Shelburne, to Rev. James Rosborough, was sustained. Mr. Millar was appointed to prepare the Presbytery's report on the state of religion, sessions to send in returns to him before the middle of January. A conference on the State of religion will be held at Mahone Bay on the first week of February.—D. S. FRASER, *Chk.*

HALIFAX, Dec. 4:—Mr. W. Dawson accepted a call from Canard, Cornwallis, and arrangements were made for his ordination and induction. The subject of paying expenses of commissioners to the General Assembly was discussed, and a committee was appointed to consider it more fully. Suggestions for the emendation of the book of Rules and Forms will be received up to the 1st February. In the evening the congregation at Richmond was visited, and the people were urged to increased diligence and zeal in such matters as attendance at services, larger support, and heartier interest in the Lord's work generally.—A. SIMPSON, *Chk.*

TRURO, Dec. 4:—The committee proposed an organization, for the more efficient working of Sabbath-schools throughout the Presbytery, the Presbytery to have a standing committee on the subject, each congregation a secretary; regular conferences; regular annual reports; reports on Sabbath-schools to be forwarded this year to Rev. James Sinclair, on the state of religion to Rev. J. B. McGillivray, and on temperance to Rev. J. Logan, Rev. E. Smith and E. Grant to prepare