

onued as friend greeted friend, and acquaintanceships were renewed and new ones formed.

In mentioning a few of the more important items of interest which came before the Assembly we shall not take up the sessions in their order but notice some of the subjects, one of the most important of these was

HOME MISSIONS.

Some idea of the extent of this work in the West may be gathered from the following facts. Last year there were received for this work \$51,877 of which \$3419 was sent from the East. The number of Home Missionaries employed by this committee during the present summer is 237 of whom 78 are ministers and licentiates and 159 are student Catechists. In all there are 403 stations occupied, extending all the way from Quebec to British Columbia.

In the East the whole number of laborers employed as catechists, ordained missionaries or probationers and having more or less connection with the Home Mission work of the Church is 49 catechists and 43 ministers, 92 in all, as compared with 78 last year and 67 the year before last, while the amount raised in Eastern Section of the Church for Home Mission Work was \$7,897.30 in addition to \$3419.04 given Dr. Robertson for Home Mission work in the North West, or \$11316.34 in all, as against \$6679.92 for the same work two years ago. Thus is our Church awaking more and more to her duty of aiding the outlying and thinly peopled settlements of our country in the work of maintaining gospel ordinances among themselves and laying the foundations of future congregations which in their turn shall aid others. More important than questions of national or party policy, important as these may be, is the work of thus bringing our country under the influence of the Gospel.

AUGMENTATION

is an advanced department of Home Mission work. It takes weak congregations which the Home Mission Committee has fostered and aids them in supporting ordinances until they become strong enough to be self-supporting. In the West 137 congregations last

year received aid to the amount of \$26,087.75. Year by year these are becoming self-sustaining and passing off the list. A standing testimony to the good work done by this Fund.

In the East there were last year 47 congregations receiving aid from this Fund to the amount of \$8800. Two congregations that had been receiving aid have become self-supporting, viz., Parrsboro and Loch Lomond. The state of this Fund in the Eastern section is better than in the West, as in the latter a reduction had to be made in the amounts granted to congregations, while in the former the grants were paid in full, viz., \$750 and a manse. Congregations in the East have for the most part responded liberally to the call of this Fund, only 7 congregations declining to contribute, while in the West 163 congregations gave nothing to its support. Those who have charge of it, however, look hopefully to the future assured that the merits of the scheme will more and more commend to the sympathy of the church at large.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

There are many points of interest marking the work of this year. Among these may be noted: 1. The opening of monthly steam communication between New Hebrides and Australia, which will greatly aid in the development of the Islands. 2. Withdrawal from Demarara, the Missionary Society there undertaking to carry on the work by themselves. 3. The appointment of a fourth missionary to Trinidad. 4. The continued success of the work in Formosa. 5. The organization of the Presbytery of Honan. 6. The success of Mr. Wilkie's scheme in raising more than \$10,000 for his college work at Indore. 7. Inquiry into the numbers and condition of the pagan Indians of British Columbia. 8. Proposed mission to the Jews in Palestine. With some of these matters our readers are already familiar.

The progress of our Foreign Mission work during the past few years may be seen from the following facts. The first year after the Union, 1876, the whole church only raised \$25,273 for Foreign Missions. During the year just closed the receipts of the F. M.