

Our Home Work.

Pictou Pres. The Presbytery of Pictou is the **Centennial**, second oldest Presbytery in the Dominion; completing its century on the 7th of July inst. On Wednesday, 10th July, a celebration will be held at New Glasgow in James and United Churches in honor of the Event. The Centenary of Truro, the oldest Presbytery, was observed some years ago.

Summer School at Hx. The Summer School of Theology at the Presbyterian College, Halifax, will be held from the 16th to the 26th of July. Lectures by the staff, by Principal Grant, by Dr. McCurdy and Mr. D. J. Macdonnell of Toronto; with good boarding in the College, and good boating and bathing in the "Arm" sandwiched between lectures, and all at a nominal cost, will make the fortnight a very pleasant and helpful one to worn ministers who (as well as their congregations) may want a little change and rest.

Columbia Ch. That good old Scottish Saint, **Hopewell, N. S.** Columbia, has one memorial in Canada, in the form of a solid Presbyterian Congregation at Hopewell, Pic. Co., N. S., which is named for him. Though not yet formally connected with the Presbyterian Church in Canada, it is in full and hearty sympathy with our work, is ministered to by one of our excellent young men, and takes a deep and hearty interest in the work of Rev. Wm. J. Mackenzie in Corea. Last year it gave over \$200 for that purpose.

Am. Pres. Church. The American Presbyterian Church, Montreal, has generously decided to support one, perhaps two, Missionaries in the North-West. The amount required for a mission field in addition to what can be raised by the people is about \$250. Right gladly we welcome this earnest congregation to a share in the grand work of stamping the impress of Christianity upon the new North-West.

Presbyterian Council. The following were appointed by the Assembly as delegates to the Council of the Presbyterian and Reformed churches that meets in Glasgow, Scotland, June, 1896:—Principal Cavan, Principal MacVicar, Principal Grant, Dr. Robertson, Dr. Warden, Hon. E. H. Bronson, J. Charlton, M. P., J. K. Macdonald, Prof. Gordon, Hon. Geo. W. Ross, D. J. Macdonnell, George Hay, Walter Paul, Dr. Cochrane, Judge Forbes, W. Mortimer Clark, David Morrice, Prof. McLaren, Dr. Milligan, Hamilton Cassells.

Progress in French Work. Twenty years ago, at the time of the Union, in 1875, French Evangelization work was carried on in 8 fields;

now in 36. There were then 12 preaching stations, now 90. Then 3 preachers, now 25. The attitude of the French Roman Catholics in the centres where the work is carried on is very different. Then there was considerable open persecution and disturbance. All this has largely passed away, and French Protestantism is being quietly accepted as a fact that has come to stay.

The "Church Manse." Few in the older Provinces realize what this term means in the New North-West. With us it usually means a comfortable dwelling house, near the Church; there it means a small building, which is both Church and manse; the lower part used for Church and Sabbath School, the upper part for the missionary and his family. Sometimes it is frame, sometimes log. In many of the new fields there is no place for the missionary to live, no house to rent, and no place to meet for worship. By a little help judiciously given, the people, though poor, are encouraged to build, a small congregation is formed, which perhaps in a short time becomes large and flourishing. At a comparatively small expense, the Church and Manse Building Fund has thus done a great deal towards forwarding mission work in the North-West.

An interesting glimpse of one of these Church Manses was given by Rev. J. Duchanane of B.C., on Home Mission night at Assembly. He had come from Scotland to the North-West, had done mission work for some years, roughing it in genuine style. At length he got a "Church Manse" built, 18 x 21 feet. Accustomed to narrow quarters, that garret home seemed to him almost palatial. He wrote to the girl he left behind him that he had now a fine manse and asked her to come. She did so. He met her at Calgary. They were married. Some days later they arrived at their new home. The first night they occupied it was stormy. In the morning the coverlid was blanketed deep with snow which the frost kept from melting. The Scottish bride took up her work bravely as the North-West missionaries' wives have to do, but months after she showed him one of his old glowing letters, and asked him what it meant.

Besides the church manse there are churches and manses. The C. and M. Fund aided during the past year in building 5 manses and 26 churches. The manses are frame and valued at \$5,300. The churches, 10 of them brick, 4 log, and 24 frame, are valued at \$23,750, while the total assistance given from the Fund was \$2,385 in gifts and \$5,300 in loan. 9 of the aided congregations are in Manitoba, 7 in Assiniboia, 1 in Saskatchewan, 11 in Alberta, and 8 in British Columbia. Although the aid given was so small in proportion to the work done, it gave stimulus and encouragement and led the people to do more than they might otherwise have attempted.