

Indians have not paid all that they promised ; upon the subject they received some very plain and wholesome talk, matters were not minced in the slightest. Their obligation and duty was firmly enforced. However, they have done enough to encourage a belief that they will do better. Want of system is the cause of failure in this as well as in so many other churches. You can get money from the Indians if you work on business principles. We were gratified to hear any favourable report of the work being done. Our missionary has evidently the confidence of the people.

We believe that he is a good man, and is an efficient worker in the field. Our afternoon session of three hours closed with a council meeting, to examine Mr. Bigcanoe, with a view to ordination. In the evening we met a crowded house. Indians of all ages were there, a peculiar audience for a white man to address. Mr. Hall preached from Romans i. 16. We received three members and ordained Mr. Bigcanoe, and then administered the Lord's supper. All these services were conducted without an interpreter and occupied two hours. Solemn and earnest attention was given as we stood before these people ; one could not but feel impressed. What a reward for services which we as a denomination have been permitted to render to God in the ministry. These men before us are engaged in the most sacred services of Christian worship. Their fathers one or two generations back were pagans. " Let us not be weary in well-doing, for in due season we shall reap if we faint not." This was a demonstration of the fact. The mission, as I believe, is in a healthy condition. As I hope to spend a few days in special services in the winter amongst them, I shall be in a better position to judge. As this mission has many friends who desire to do something for it, I would make a few suggestions.

I. Let the ladies work in concert in furnishing boxes. There is a danger of harm being done at present. We want to help the Indians, not to pauperize them. Could not the boxes be sent through the Executive of the Ladies' Missionary Society, who would inform themselves of the need of this and other missions and then distribute? The Indians have had letters from all directions. They are expecting to have more gifts than they can use, and will actually be compelled to trade some of them off, and apply the proceeds to church repairs. They need help. They must be helped if we would save them for Christ and our country. The loaves and fishes have an important bearing upon the question. Hence it must not be abused. Let us help them, and let us do it wisely.

II. The missionary and his family should be helped. The good man requires clothing. He can only furnish a scanty wardrobe on \$200 a year and a free

house. As their home is on Lake Simcoe, they have no furniture at French Bay. I have bought a stove for \$8 and a friend provides a bedstead ; we still want a table, chairs, culinary utensils and other knick-knacks common to plain but comfortable homes. The library needs a few books, treating in a plain and Scriptural manner the foundation truths of the Gospel.

III. The Sabbath school should receive a supply of papers at regular intervals.

IV. Any friends who desire to contribute toward the stove or the rent, for which I am responsible, can do so through me. I guaranteed the rent, because the society only grants \$150 this year. He has a house and twelve acres of land for \$25 per year ; the first quarter's rent is paid. I am convinced that we have done and can do a grand work for God amongst those people. I trust that we shall be able to take up the work which but lately we have abandoned. And that our missions amongst the natives of this country will be an eternal honour to the Congregational Churches of Canada.

*Warton, November 7, 1887.*

#### EASTERN DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The Eastern District Association of Congregational Ministers assembled in Kingston according to appointment. The chairman, the Rev. A. L. MacFadyen, presided. The following ministers were present : Rev. John Wood from the Ottawa Church ; Rev. A. W. Main, Belleville Church ; Rev. Dr. Jackson, First Congregational Church, Kingston ; Rev. A. L. MacFadyen, B.A., Second Congregational Church, Kingston ; Rev. B. W. Day, Lanark Church ; Rev. E. C. W. McColl, M.A., Middleville Church ; Rev. Daniel McCallum, Maxwellville and Martintown Churches.

Rev. Dr. Jackson was elected chairman for the ensuing year, and the Rev. E. C. W. McColl re-elected secretary-treasurer. The first item of business considered was the reports from the several churches. Rev. A. W. Main gave an interesting report of the Belleville Church, showing the progress it had made during the year. He also reported the organization of a congregation at Canifton. The association received with interest Rev. A. W. Main's report, and advised the early calling of a council with a view to the organization of a church in Canifton.

Rev. E. C. W. McColl reported the several congregations under his charge as hopeful, and the new church building at Middleville entirely out of debt.

The association re-assembled at two o'clock. Reports were given by Rev. John Wood, of Ottawa, and Rev. Dr. Jackson for the First Church, Kingston, and Rev. A. L. MacFadyen for Bethel Church, Kingston, and Rev. B. W. Day, Lanark, all indicating material and spiritual progress. Several of the churches have to lament the removal to other places of valued mem-