

fast closing on the hoary heights of our Christendom. The sun may now seem setting in an angry sky, and all around the horizon the clouds may be rising black and lurid, and under their bosoms may lie asleep the tempest which is to burst on the nations. There may be only the accidental twinkle of the star of truth glimmering through the thickening gloom. All this and much more may be ; but, with the Bible in our hands, we are called upon—nay, we are warranted in rising up in stronger faith and saying, “Come, thou Almighty Saviour, in the infinite sympathies of Thy boundless compassion ; come, thou Spirit of Grace, in the plenitude and overflow of thy soul-quickening and soul-reviving influence.” Let the blighting of our once fondly-cherished hopes, it need be, and the retardation of our once fondly cherished prospects, be to us and to all believers throughout the world but the preparation for that night of storm which may be now so ominously brooding over the nations ; and when the gloom is thickest, and the tempest of human passion loudest, and the rage of Satan—who is coming down with great wrath because his time is short—is fiercest, may ours be the faith which may discern even in all this what are the signs and presages of that hallowed morn which shall chase away the long dark night of ages, heralding the coming of Him whose coming shall be in the glory of His kingdom. And then will be the dawning of millennial glory ; and amidst the jubilee of the once groaning but now regulated universe—by ways eye hath not seen, ear hath not heard, and the imagination of man hath not conceived—will be realized that bright and glorious consummation of the sighings and longings and aspirations and desires of the Church militant throughout all ages of time, and in all regions of the world. (Loud cheers.)

Missionary Intelligence.

HOME MISSION—PRESBYTERY OF LONDON.

The mission field, in local extent, may be regarded as co-extensive with the Presbytery, the vacancies and stations not being confined to any particular section, but scattered over the whole portion of the country enclosed by the Presbytery's bounds. This portion of country comprehends the peninsula lying between the south-east end of Lake Huron, and Lake Erie. Considering a line drawn from Port Brewster on Lake Huron to Port Burwell on Lake Erie, considerably curved towards the east, as forming the base of the Peninsula, and also the eastern bound of the Presbytery, the greatest breadth of country will be about 70 miles, and the greatest length about 120. This portion of western Canada cannot be reckoned new, as compared with the country on the northern shores of Huron ; yet, parts of it are of but recent settlement, and are constantly receiving increase to their population, by the coming in of individual settlers. It is intersected from west to east by three main roads ; Talbot St., the Chatham stage road, and the Sarnia road, which also in the order now mentioned, represent, in regard to time, the order of Settlement. Much of the country through which the first of these runs, and which lies along the shore of Lake Erie has been inhabited from 35 to 50 years ; along the second, the age of the settlements may average from 25 to 35 years ; while adjoining the third the country is a few years newer. The three lines of railroad, the Great Western main line to Windsor, and its branch line to Sarnia, both passing through the centre of the country, and the Grand Trunk running along its north side, further intersect it, and have occasioned the formation of several more recent settlements, chiefly in the form of small villages.

As might be expected from the above description of the country, the mission work of the Presbytery, notwithstanding the gradual increase of pastors, is rather increasing than diminishing. From the filling up of the newer townships with agricultural settlers ; the formation of communities of a commercial