

REPORT.

To the Friends and Supporters of the Primitive Methodist Missions of Canada.

DEAR FRIENDS.—We again, with much pleasure, lay before you the report of this society. We cannot give you a full report of all that has been done during the past year. The abundant labours of the servants of Christ, ministerial and lay, their struggles with difficulties, their anxieties about the work in its various branches and relations, their self-denial and in some cases even suffering, mental and physical; the evidences of zeal, of love to Christ and souls; of moral courage in the face of opposition; of heart-felt sorrow when there has been the temporary absence of fruit for their labours; of joy and holy triumph when victory has been won, and their toils and devotion have been followed by success in soul-saving and prosperity of the Church's work. These things it is impossible fully to report; all we can do is to refer to them in general terms, and give a few brief examples. But there is One who knows them all, keeps a strict account of them all, puts a proper estimate upon them, and will remember and fully reward them in the day of the Lord. What an encouragement to be faithful and not to be weary in well-doing, even though the well doing may be amidst much difficulty and trial! In due season workers for God shall reap if they faint not. It is the Lord's work, and they who are engaged in it are His servants and co-workers with Him. Faithfully doing their duty they may safely trust His own work in His own hands, believing that He will see to it that His own purposes shall not fail; and he has purposed and declared that His word shall not fail, but accomplish that which He pleaseth, and prosper in the thing whereunto He hath sent it. There is a possibility of God's people dishonoring Him by speaking slightly of His cause, and withholding from it that which He has a claim upon for the purpose of spreading His Gospel, and saving those for whom Christ died. Let not this thing be done amongst us, yea, let it not once be named among us; it would be shameful ingratitude, and a sin against God. He has made the Primitive Methodist Church the means, in His hands, of the conversion of hundreds of thousands of souls. In a human life-time he has built up a church which numbers not much short of 200,000 members, and is daily increasing in numbers and strength. In this country God has, by the agency of this church, saved thousands of people, some of whom He has taken to Himself; thousands of others are living and working in other churches in parts of the country where we have no organization, and over 8,300 are in membership with us. Therefore we believe it would be highly dishonoring to God, to do otherwise than praise Him for the good work which has been done and is being done. And not only ought we to honor Him by praise for the past, but by praying for the future to be even more abundant in blessing and success than the past, and by consistently laboring and contributing of our substance for the continued advancement of the church's work with which we are connected.

On our Mission Stations we have 4,263 members. More than 900 persons were added to the Societies during the past year, most of whom were converted from the world, and notwithstanding the great number of deaths, and especially of removals, the increase on our missions was nearly 200, for which we thank God and take courage.

The financial question is one which is considered, (and rightly so), an important question in connection with our Mission work. The question is often