

few of the churches and missionaries, and as a consequence two or three vials of displeasure and rebuke burst in dangerous proximity to the person of one member of the Board.

But as we survey the whole field, embracing over three hundred and forty churches and preaching stations, and pass in review the missionary staff, numbering over one hundred and fifty men, we can with perfect candor assure this Convention that the churches were never better served, and never better satisfied. The advance made during the year has been gratifying. New territory has been entered, chapels have been built, churches organized, churches have become self-supporting, and on many fields conversions and baptisms have brought joy and increase of strength to the churches.

Two years ago the report gave prominence to the "Policy of the Board;" last year emphasis was laid on the "Progress made during the past decade," and this year we wish to call attention to conditions and developments which we think demand the careful and prayerful consideration of our people. If, as Canadian citizens and Christians, we are to deal intelligently with the Home Mission problem of to-day, we must have at least a general acquaintance with the

ALMOST INCREDIBLE TERRITORIAL EXPANSION AND MATERIAL
DEVELOPMENT WHICH ARE IN PROGRESS AT THE
PRESENT TIME.

We must again call attention to the fact that Canadian churches face the supreme opportunity of a generation. The onward movement has been more rapid than any of us could have anticipated. The timber and mineral wealth of Northern and North-western Ontario, the wheat fields of Manitoba and the Territories, and the almost fabulous richness of British Columbia in fish, minerals and timber, have arrested the attention of civilized Europe and America. Immigrants from all parts of Europe, Asia and America are seeking houses and employment in this great Dominion where *liberty, security, peace and plenty* are assured to all honest, industrious and law-abiding citizens. The inflow of settlers is no longer reckoned by thousands, but by tens of thousands; and if we do not misread present indications, we shall soon be numbering the incoming hosts, not by tens, but by hundreds of thousands, year by year. Ontario is putting forth large effort to retain her own sons and to secure a fair percentage of the immigrants from

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