

of any field, whereon God has permitted the soles of our feet to tread, should have no place in our thought, policy or council. Better tillage is all that the most unproductive of our fields needs in order to insure ample returns for the capital invested and the labor performed.

2. *To establish interests in important commercial centres.*

We are sometimes charged with expending money and effort on villages and country fields, while populous commercial centres remain unoccupied. A careful survey of our present position, as well as our past record, will convince any reasonable person that the charge is not supported by facts.

There are eighteen cities in the two Provinces, and in every one of these there are one or more Baptist Churches. There are seventeen in Toronto, six in Hamilton, five in Montreal, four each in London and Brantford, three in St. Catharines, two in Chatham, St. Thomas, Guelph, Peterboro, Kingston, Ottawa and Quebec, and one in Windsor, Stratford, Belleville, Sherbrooke and Sorel. There are ninety-two towns in the Province of Ontario, and in seventy out of the ninety-two, there are Baptist Churches. Of the fifty-eight churches located in cities, twelve are receiving help from the Mission Funds; and of the seventy located in towns, thirty five are receiving assistance from the same source.

We appreciate the importance of planting churches in the centres of population and commerce, and for years have been moving in that direction as rapidly as the means at our command permitted.

3. *To begin work as early as possible in districts which are attracting settlers in large numbers.*

In our eager desire to plant churches in towns and cities, we have not overlooked the claims and needs of our brethren who have settled on farms in those districts that have been more recently opened for settlement. No department of our work has received more careful thought from brethren on the Board than that which stands related to these newer districts, and no problem, with which we have to deal, presents greater difficulties. The vastness of the territory, the proportion of the land denuded of its timber and unsuited for agricultural purposes, the sparseness of the population, the poverty of the people, the long distances that separate the little hamlets and

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