

eight in Halifax, twenty-nine in Montreal, thirty-six in Queen's, sixty-five in Knox and thirty-one in Manitoba. The number completing their studies and entering the work of the ministry, were, fourteen from Halifax, twelve from Montreal, eleven from Queen's, twenty-three from Knox, and thirteen from Manitoba, in all seventy-three, and yet there is room for good men, for Dr. Robertson tells us that a number of fields in the North-West have to go without supply.

Some of the events noted in the reports are the opening of the new college building, Halifax, additions to the library endowment, and bursaries and travelling fellowship in Montreal, the appointment of a new professor of Church History in Queen's (Rev. S. McComb, of Ireland), some additions to the Scholarship Fund and permission to appoint another professor in Knox if the way be clear, while additional scholarships and the appointment of a new principal, Rev. Wm. Patrick, D.D., of Aberdeen, Scotland, cheers the heart of Manitoba.

The Reports of the Finance Committees, East and West, covering all the givings of the Church, were presented by Messrs. J. C. Mackintosh and Dr. Warden. Not to trouble you with details, please note two facts, (1) Besides increased support to all the usual objects, our Church has given over sixty thousand dollars during the past few months to the Indian famine; (2) that while the management of banks and similar institutions costs on an average over sixteen per cent., the whole cost of managing the finances of our Church, including salaries, office rents, etc., is less than three and a quarter per cent. of the current expenditure.

The afternoon, as the morning, had its pleasant interlude, a fraternal visit by a delegation from the Diocesan Synod of Nova Scotia, which is meeting in Halifax. An archdeacon and a rural dean came at a previously appointed hour. Their brief addresses of congratulation and good will were aptly responded to by Dr. Pollok. The function was a neat and pleasant one, and helped both to foster and to exhibit the true unity of Protestantism.

My letter is already long, and to-day's best is untold. It is Home Mission night. Drs. McMillan and Warden, Conveners, East and West, have presented their reports, and Messrs. Fowler and James have spoken on

the former and Dr. Robertson and Mr. Pringle from Atlin, on the latter. It has been one of the best Home Mission nights in Assembly history, both in the story and its telling. The story is one of progress from ocean to ocean. If the whole Church could have been here to listen, Home Missions would make still greater strides in the year to come. On other pages of this issue you are printing some of the facts which were given, but the thrill of the living voice cannot be reproduced.

Two features of the evening let me mention. One which, illustrated by large maps, came upon the Assembly as a surprise, was the immensity of "New Ontario," where settlement is beginning to pour and the Church must follow. Old Ontario is large, but only a margin on the new. The older Provinces received their impress in their earlier stages. So will this newer land. The character of that impress is in some measure in our hands and the time is now.

The other thing, somewhat unique, was Mr. Pringle's personally conducted tour of an hour and a quarter among the new gold fields of the far West. It was one of the best antidotes to the Yukon gold fever. Thrilling were his pictures of the awful suffering and hardship during the earlier rushes of 1898, over those terrible trails. Ninetenths of the men either came back broken in pocket, health, or morals, sometimes all three, or remained there "broke" to work for what wage they could get.

Far from help of any kind, in lonely shack or on toilsome trail, where every man had as much as he could do to care for himself, to the helpless the missionary was literally an angel from heaven. Hunting up the sick and dying, bringing them help as he might be able, perhaps taking them on his dog sled to the temporary hospital of some mining town, cutting wood for the camp fire of poor fellows too helpless with scurvy to do it for themselves, having worship in a tent, preaching where opportunity offered and making opportunity where it did not offer, helping and cheering the living and pointing the dying to the Saviour, whom they had perhaps almost forgotten, but of whom they were glad to hear now in their hour of need, receiving last messages and sending them to loved ones far away; such was the work of mercy which so brightened