

money has been expended, your Committee cannot but express the hope that when, under the fostering influences of Confederation, the great natural resources of the country are developed by a more ample population, results will be realized by the Church more commensurate with the expenditure than have hitherto been seen, and that there, as elsewhere, it may be found that in due season we shall reap if we faint not.

The Saskatchewan Mission has, during the year, been reinforced by the addition of Rev. Edward Vincent, who, along with his wife, left Ontario in July and reached Prince Albert on the 6th September. His arrival, however, can scarcely be said in the meantime to have increased the effective force of the Mission. For in a few days after he reached the field, Rev. James Nisbet was under the necessity of returning to Ontario upon leave of absence. In the absence of the senior missionary, Mr. Vincent has assumed the general oversight and management of the mission. He does what he can to reach the Indians through an interpreter, and is giving himself with energy to the acquisition of the Cree language.

At the last Assembly it was resolved: "That the Foreign Mission Committee have power to send a deputy to visit the Prince Albert Mission, encourage the Missionaries in their work, inquire into the method of its operations, and make any suggestions which may be deemed advisable."

A very strong desire having been expressed by the members of Assembly that this resolution should be acted upon at once, your Committee took immediate steps to secure the services of a gentleman qualified for the work, and willing to undergo the fatigue which it involved. Inquiries were at once made, and they deemed themselves more than ordinarily fortunate when they learned that Rev. William Moore, of Ottawa, was willing to undertake the mission. He was duly appointed on the 3rd July, and left on the 15th of that month for the Saskatchewan. At the Red River he was joined by Rev. Edward Vincent and his wife, and they travelled across the plains in company. Of the thorough and judicious manner in which Mr. Moore discharged his duties, it is unnecessary to speak. It has met the approbation of all who are competent to form an opinion. His valuable report has been printed for future reference, and a copy of it sent to each member of the last Assembly. A copy of it is also submitted to the Assembly along with this report. It contains a large amount of information, which your Committee have already found useful.

Certain changes in the mode of conducting the work which have been for some time in contemplation by your Committee have been resolved upon, since the reception of Mr. Moore's Report. The opinion of one, who had visited the field and studied the work on the spot, gave confidence to the Committee in arriving at conclusions which seemed previously reasonable. These changes it is hoped, will tend to increase the efficiency of the Mission, and lessen the expenses. It has been resolved to bring the farming operations to a close with the present season. The valuable property which has been secured will be retained, but it is not proposed any longer to have any farming done for the Mission. When the Mission commenced a farm was an absolute necessity. The missionaries were then almost 500 miles from any settlement from which they could obtain supplies of food. Matters have, however, greatly changed since that time. A very considerable settlement and one which is likely to increase rapidly, has sprung up around the Mission, and what was once a necessity which the missionary for the sake of the work had to endure, is now a burden which they require no longer to carry. It is hoped that by autumn the change will be introduced. It is proposed also to abolish all the allowances which have heretofore been, after the manner of the Hudson Bay Company given to the employees of the Mission, and to pay them entirely by fixed salaries. Before resolving on these modifications of existing arrangements it should be mentioned that your Committee have had the benefit of full conference with Rev. James Nisbet.

In reference to the spiritual results of the Mission, we gather from Mr. Moore's Report that there were in August, 1872, a total of 33 communicants.