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Beginning at Jerusalem.

THE number of people living in non-Christian countries is vastly greater than those whose privilege it is to hear the gospel's "joyful sound;" and in Christian countries it is largely people's own fault if they do not have the benefit of religious ordinances: they can scarcely go beyond the sound of them. These and other reasons that might be named constitute a strong plea for the support of Foreign Missions; but, when it comes to be a matter of precedence, there is no doubt that the first duty of every Church is to make suitable provision for the religious instruction of its own people. Our Saviour made that clear when he said, "That repentance and remission of sins should be preached among all nations—beginning at Jerusalem." The order of procedure is more fully set forth in the memorable announcement to the disciples on the eve of their Master's ascension.—"Ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." Whatever else we do or leave undone we cannot divest ourselves of the obligation resting on us as a Church to make such adequate provision for the support of our Home missions as the circumstances of the country require at our hands.

THE HOME MISSIONS of the PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH in CANADA are a precious heritage of unbounded extent which for generations to come will tax her energies to the very utmost—so rapid is the increase of population and so vast the area. The reports of the committees for the past year will be found in the printed minutes of the Assembly and it is to be hoped that means will be taken to make the members of all the congregations acquainted with their contents. It is only right they should know what is done with the money they have contributed in support of those missions and also that they should understand the grounds on which the conveners ask for larger revenues.

It will be observed that in these reports "The two branches of our work—Home Missions and Augmentation—have been kept distinct, in the hope that this will facilitate reference to the work done by the Presbyteries in each department, instead of having them reported together. The report contains particulars more or less copious of the progress of Home Missions and Augmentation in the different Provinces and Presbyteries, reports of the Students' Missionary Societies, the Lumbermen's Mission, and other matters of interest that have engaged the attention of the Committee during the year. The appendix presents complete and carefully prepared statistics of all the Mission Stations and Augmented Congregations under the care of the Committee, with the names of the missionaries, probationers and student catechists now employed."

The whole number of missionaries em-