

Thanksgiving Collection.

THE following letter has been issued by Rev. Dr. Warden and will be read with interest by those in charge of the thanksgiving collections.

MY DEAR SIR,—The Governor-General in council has appointed Thursday, the 21st inst., as a day of thanksgiving for the manifold blessings vouchsafed during the year. When our congregations meet on that day, it is becoming that they manifest their gratitude to God by a thank-offering proportionate to the blessings enjoyed, and I venture to suggest two objects worthy of their beneficence:—

THE POINTE-AUX-TREMBLES SCHOOLS—The present session has opened with a large attendance, to be increased in a few days to the full capacity of the buildings. These schools have been greatly owed of God in the past and are in every respect thoroughly deserving of confidence and liberal support. The expenditure this year, consequent on the long illness of the Principal and on certain necessary repairs, will be considerably in excess of that of last year. The estimated amount required is \$11,250.

COLIGNY COLLEGE, OTTAWA.—When this property was purchased by instruction of the General Assembly six years ago no provision was made for the purchase price, so that there is an indebtedness at present of \$25,000, the annual interest of which has to be met, and there is no fund from which to obtain this. The experience of the past six years abundantly shows that the College cannot be maintained unless this indebtedness is removed. The institution is doing splendid work and is exercising a most potent influence for good. The attendance thus far this session is ninety. The annual expenditure, apart from debt and the interest thereon, is met by the fees of the pupils, etc.

Commending these objects to you and your people for the freewill offering on Thanksgiving Day,

Yours faithfully,

ROBT. H. WARDEN.

Address, Box 1169, Post Office, Montreal.

Central Ontario.

THE Presbytery of Kingston has under its care a region about midway between Montreal and Toronto. The bulk of the territory is somewhat nearer the latter than it is to the former. The region under the care of the Presbytery is an extensive one, it has a frontage on the St. Lawrence and Lake Ontario of a hundred miles, and from the water back it is nearly another hundred. There is in this wide region at this moment twenty-four pastoral charges, seven of which are on the Augmentation Fund, and four mission fields, with ordained missionaries in them, together with fourteen mission fields occupied by students. Another ordained missionary is about to enter on occupation, reducing the students' fields to thirteen. It is obvious that with such a wide field it is difficult to get effective supervision. At the meeting of Presbytery in March last it was resolved to ask for a portion of the Rev. Mr. Findlay's time for this purpose, and the prayer of Presbytery was granted by the Assembly's Committee. About midsummer Mr. Findlay entered on his duties here, and in five or six weeks got over about a third of the ground, the rest he proposes to undertake before the end of the ecclesiastical year. Already the wisdom of his appointment has been fully apparent. His visit has been stimulating in a high degree to both missionaries and people, and the report he made to Presbytery was instructive and inspiring. A short time ago there were three vacancies in the Presbytery, and they are all rather important charges. Two of the three have just been filled up with great acceptance, and it is to be hoped that the third will soon follow suit. Deseronto had nearly a year of a vacancy. The Rev. R. J. Craig, a native of Kingston, was there seventeen years, having been the only pastor in charge until now. He saw the place grow from a feeble mission until it became a strong stable charge with a fine equipment of buildings. The town has a population of some 4,000 or more, and is one of the busiest hubs of industry to be found in Canada. The Rathbun Co. controls the work of the town, and the head of the firm is an elder and very efficient Sabbath school superintendent. His father built the church at his own expense, a gem of beauty and comfort, leaving the congregation to provide the maps

which in due time was done. Two or three weeks ago the Rev. W. S. McTavish, late of St. George, in the Presbytery of Paris, was inducted as successor to Mr. Craig, who, with his family is spending a season on the continent of Europe for study and rest. There was the utmost heartiness shown in the settlement of Mr. McTavish, which is somewhat of a guarantee that by the blessing of God the cause will be fully upheld under his ministry. Napawee was left vacant early in July by the removal of Mr. McEachren to a charge in the Presbytery of Brockville, and it is already filled by the ordination and induction of Mr. Peck, who was one of Queen's best students, and has already proved himself to be an effective preacher. The Presbytery rejoices in the vacancy having come to an end so soon, and is hopeful of the best results in the formation of the new tie. We are weak in numbers, comparatively in Napawee, but our people there are spirited, and a new start is now made in the most encouraging of circumstances. Mr. Peck follows good men, but no doubt he will show himself to be worthy of those that worked before him. John Street, Belleville, the only remaining vacancy, is an important charge. It was founded and built up by Professor Gregg, and at a later date was ministered to for a time by Professor McLaren. When that is said it will be seen that our people there have had rare privileges, and that they ought to give a good account of themselves, and no doubt they will. It is to be hoped that the vacancy will not be protracted. It is only a few years since Tweed was started as a preaching station. The only regret is that we did not go in a quarter of a century ago. Many of the first settlers were of good Presbyterian stock, and we lost heavily by the delay. We have done well there, late as our beginning was. A missionary who will soon be ordained is already in the field, and the prospects are most encouraging. Fuller, a station nine or ten miles away, is joined with Tweed. With some assistance from the Board for a few years there will be a promising congregation here.

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