

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1871-2.

In presenting the Eleventh Annual Report of the Canada Congregational Indian Missionary Society, the Directors would first briefly call your attention to some of the claims and difficulties of this important work. They from whom the cry for help has come, and to whom the Spirit has bid us go preach the Word, are *pagan* who have not the knowledge of God, and are without hope in the world. In this Dominion, within a day's journey of one of our principal cities, are to be found thousands of heathen under that moral darkness and sunk to that degradation that paganism only knows. They were once most numerous and strong, undisputed masters of this continent, possessing its many acres covered with forests and filled with game as their hunting ground. But Japheth hath enlarged his borders and passed the barrier of the sea, wresting from the Indians the most of their territory, cut down their forests, destroyed their game, and followed them in their retreat, to corrupt with the vices of civilization. Now they are left struggling, poverty stricken, and spirit broken, remnants of once powerful tribes, with the knowledge of their inevitable doom of extinction. It may not be ours to restore to them their former position and possessions, or to civilize and perpetuate the remnant of their race; but it is our duty and privilege to give them the revelation of God, "who hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth"—to give them the gospel of Christ, who came to seek and to save the lost. It is ours to make known to them the Great Spirit whose character they so imperfectly perceive, and direct them to that future state, of which they have such fancies, and from whence Christ hath brought light and immortality to light in the gospel.

"Shall we, whose souls are lighted

With wisdom from on high,

Shall we to men benighted

The lamp of life deny?"

That the work is most onerous and difficult, is confessed by all who have had any experience thereof, or given any attention