

grew up almost in a night ; but not in a night will it decay. Neither scorching sun nor piercing cold will kill it. It is no "city on wheels" destined to move westwards with the railroad. It has sprung up to stay. Two years ago there were two houses ; to-day there is a population of 4000 with every prospect of substantial growth. The churches, the schools, the public buildings generally, and many of the private ones are built to last. The school I found very much of the same class as that at the Portage.

Here, as in other places, much zeal and wisdom had been exercised to make my visit successful. I preached on Sabbath the 25th, in the morning in the Presbyterian church to a good congregation ; addressed a Sabbath-school in the afternoon ; and in the evening preached again in the Methodist church to an audience of 700. As I looked into the faces of the congregations in the North-West, I could but endorse the humorous saying of one of themselves—"you won't find many *culls* here."

What a Sabbath that 25th Feb., 1883, was in the City of Brandon ! Both nature and grace conspired to make it memorable. It was no longer a "great lone land." *God* was there. And *godly people* were there. And it was *good* to be there. The Sabbath was but the foreshadowing of the Monday night meeting. At the hour appointed the Presbyterian church was filled. It was said to be the largest week-night meeting ever held in the city, not even excepting political ones. The united singers of all the churches in the city led the musical exercises in simple, familiar hymns. The Hon. Mr. Sifton, thoroughly identified with both the material and moral interests of Manitoba, was called to the chair. In a pointed, practical speech, he prepared the way well for your representative's address. At the close of the address the Rev. Mr. Boydell, Rector of St James, in a brief, but cordial speech moved the organization of the Branch. Mr. Matheson, for many years the effective President of the Clinton Branch, seconded the motion in a vigorous, telling speech. The motion was carried with great enthusiasm. Mr. Sifton was appointed President ; Mr. Lockhart, formerly of Fenelon Falls, an old friend of the Society, Secretary. Dr. Fleming, druggist, formerly of Sackville, N. B., a very warm friend of the Society, will take charge of the Depository. The qualities of the Committee-men are, in every instance, in keeping with those of the officers. I could not desire a Branch better organized, or with a more hopeful outlook. The collections and pledges were worthy "first fruits ;" they exceeded \$200. At the close of the meeting the new Committee met and arranged for the appointment of collectors to make a systematic canvass of the city.

Thus ended, all things considered, the best Bible Society Meeting I ever attended ; also, my most pleasant mission to Manitoba.

DEATH OF THE HON. JOHN McMURRICH.

Since our last issue the Society has lost one of its Vice-Presidents by the death of the Hon. John McMurrich. His loss will be felt not only by our Society, but by all kindred societies, and in fact by the community at large. As the head of the oldest dry-goods firm in Toronto he was well known in the business world, and although he had not for some years taken an active part in municipal or political affairs, he did so at one time, and was always looked up to by men of all parties as an upright, honourable, and sagacious councillor. His activity in Christian work was unceasing from the time he first came to Toronto, nearly half a century ago, until he was laid aside by his last illness. Mr. McMurrich was devotedly attached to the Presbyterian Church, and took an active part in promoting the union of its several branches