

stated that thro' his efforts the liquor traffic had been curtailed, immoral houses suppressed, and the "Comique," a lease play-house, closed. Over 200 people accompanied him and his wife to the boat.

#### THE MISSIONARIES

are, generally speaking, men of character, scholarship and preaching power. Our pioneer missionary at Edmonton was made a Professor at Manitoba College; a missionary in the Rockies, Principal of the Industrial School; another was called to Winnipeg, a fourth to Victoria, etc. When Mr. Angus Robertson learned that the H. M. C. could not support him, laboring among the navvies in the Rockies, he continued his work, taking for two years whatever the people could give him. Mr. William Murchie, finding that there was no ordained missionary west of the Assiniboine in North-western Manitoba, volunteered to take a salary of \$400, and left a field where he had \$800. Both these are gone and their names can be given to the Church. A living missionary, in a remote and isolated field, reports that owing to hard times his people paid him only \$100 last year. He must deny himself the stimulus and cheer of Presbytery meetings, for all his means are needed to support his wife and 5 children. Another missionary has wife and 7 children; wife fell ill, no help at hand, and no means to pay if help procurable; for weeks the missionary was nurse, cook and laundry-maid for the family, as well as pastor and preacher for the congregation. The wife of another missionary fell ill, a cousin went to wait on her, but fell ill too; no servant to be had and missionary took care of both and a family of 6 children. These things are constantly done, but no fuss is made in the Church papers. But should the H. M. Fund be kept at so low an ebb that help could not be extended to some of these people? In a wide field with nearly 170 missionaries there are sure to be special and needy cases.

#### MISSIONARIES' WIVES

do a work in no respect second to that of their husbands. Let the comfortably housed, warmly clad, and luxuriously provided for members of the Church think of their case and help them. Many of these women are cultured and refined, are doing rare service, but are often heavily burdened, badly sheltered and have no change. They are making homes where the value of one Christian home is inestimable. They uphold the hands of their husbands and provide a haven for many young men, whose homes are far away, and for whom the saloon, the gambling hell and lower haunts have a warm welcome. But often they are hindered thro' lack of means. One of these wise-hearted women, in a mining locality, at Christmas time, resolved that the young men known to her should have something to remind them of home, mother, sister, in lands far away,

hence a Christmas dinner—therefore turkeys; twenty-two guests surrounded the table, and, looking at the turkeys, one felt like saying, "What are these among so many?" Yet they were turkeys, but they cost her self-denial. Shall we slack our hands?

#### MANY AND STRONG REASONS

can be urged for the adequate support and extension of this work.

(1.) A large proportion of the settlers are the children of the Church, and the mother should care for her children.

(2.) Since the object of all missions is to save souls, where is there the promise of larger returns from the investment of mission money than among people religiously trained in youth? and many such are here.

(3.) If the Church is to gather strength for work at home and abroad, let her not neglect her settle-ents. In many Eastern districts she is gradually declining, should she not make up the loss in the West? Prestige, efficiency, strength, spirituality, come from holding and gaining.

(4.) Neglect works disaster. Australasia, the Western States, and portions of Canada, show its blighting power. Worldliness, Sabbath desecration, drink and licentiousness flourish where the church spire is absent. In the United States 32,000,000 never darken a church door, and neglect is chargeable with much of the evil.

(5.) The work has a future; it is among healthy, self-reliant, intelligent people, who are liberally helping themselves. Last year they gave for all purposes \$15.85 per communicant, — the rate for the whole Church was \$11.75; West, 35 p.c. above the average.

(6.) Patriotism calls for earnest, strenuous effort. In a valley occupied in '93, out of a population of 738, only one had ever been a communicant. What sort of training would the children there receive? And what of their families when these children would be parents? And if neglect breeds godlessness in the West, the East cannot confine it to the West. This whole country is our home, our children's home, let us make it, with God's blessing, a home where the Lord will delight to dwell.

(7.) And the time for this work is now, not five or ten years hence.

#### HOW TO GET MEANS.

Let ministers give the facts in the H. M. report to their congregations, and discuss the question frankly and fully. Then organize. The churches in Scotland and Ireland are helping us, should we not help ourselves? Do not trust to a collection. Excluding bequests, donations and grants from other Churches, the H. M. C. got, last year, 24 cents per communicant for all the work between Gaspé and Naniaimo. Could we not give 5 cents per month? or even a brown copper per Sabbath? Organization will do it, try! Do not plead poverty; the poorer a congregation, the greater the need of the best financial methods. Almost any one can get a revenue in England, it requires a genius to get a revenue in Turkey. Let your congregations have the best missionary organizations.