

## Our Home Work.

**Manitoba College.** While the other Colleges are closing, Manitoba is just beginning its theological work. During the winter its students have been seeking to care for the scattered mission fields, and now that other students are free to do the work, they gather to pursue their studies ready to go forth again next winter when others are withdrawn. The College is well equipped for the "Summer season" which was formally opened, April 4th, by having in addition to its own good staff, Prof. McLaren of Toronto, and Prof. Scrimger of Montreal. There are twenty-seven students in attendance with one or two fields to hear from.

**Pres. College Montreal.** On the evening of April 5th, the formal closing took place. The Morrice Hall was packed with an interested audience. Eight students complete their course this year, and go forth to the work of the ministry. The degree of D. D. was conferred on Rev. G. W. Mackay of Woodstock, Rev. J. B. Muir of Huntingdon and Rev. C. Chiniquy.

But this was more than an ordinary closing. It was the semi jubilee of the college, or the silver wedding of itself and its worthy principal, for they began the work together a quarter of a century ago; without buildings, without endowment, and with but four students, in the basement of Erskine Church.

If it be asked, what have these years accomplished, let the noble pile of buildings, and the more than two hundred graduates preaching the gospel in different lands, be the answer. Dr. MacVicar was presented with kindly addresses from friends and graduates, each accompanied by a handsome purse.

**Knox College Toronto.** On the afternoon of April 6th, were held the closing exercises. Convocation Hall was crowded. More than fifty ministers were present from neighboring country and cities. Twenty seven students complete their course and enter the ministry. The largest number any previous year was twenty two. The degree of D.D. was conferred on Rev. John McEwan of Knox Church, Edinburgh, and Rev. R. N. Grant of Orillia.

In the evening a large gathering was held in Knox Church. Prof. Thompson addressed the graduating class, urging them to be faithful to their high calling, to preach certainties. The only preaching worthy of the name was that which is full of Christ. Principal MacVicar then gave an address on "Dogma and Current thought," which needless to say was clear, strong, and Scriptural, worthy a high place in permanent theological literature.

**Giving and Receiving.** If it is more blessed to give than to receive, some of the fields in the older provinces should be blessed. A country congregation in Pictou Co., Nova Scotia, recently decided, in addition to its ordinary giving to the schemes of the church, to support a missionary in the North-West, i. e. the balance of about \$300, to supplement what the field itself can raise. They chose the young ordained missionary of a neighboring congregation as their representative. He has accepted, and goes to British Columbia, but he leaves a blank not easily filled. The sacrifices of the older fields for the new North West are not merely in money but in what is harder to get, good men.

**Summer Supply.** The regular half yearly meeting of the Home Mission Com., West, was held in Toronto, March 29, 30. One department of its work was the appointment of ordained ministers, licentiates, and student catechists, to the various fields under its care from Quebec to Vancouver. In all, two hundred men were appointed to the various fields, many of which have had very little supply during the past six months. What a power for good these two hundred may be, how great a factor in moulding the newer and more scattered parts of our country.

**Supporting the Supply.** Another very important part of the Committee's work was, the voting of assistance to weak and scattered fields. This was done to the amount of \$60,000 for Home Missions and \$25,000 for Augmentation, and yet, every vote was carefully scrutinized, so that the gifts of the church may accomplish the greatest good.

**Reduced Grants.** In view of the fact that there may be a deficiency in the Augmentation Fund, the Committee had to decide, that in such an event, the grants for the half year now ending be reduced so as to make receipts cover expenditure. They should not have to do this. Those who get the aid, get little enough at best, but if the church does not give it, the Committee cannot pay it out.

**The Mormons.** In Alberta, near the foot of the Rocky Mountains, there is a colony of them numbering some 700 in all, under an energetic president, and they are preparing to build a Mormon temple.

There are a few Christian families scattered among them, and the Presbytery of Calgary is taking steps to establish a mission there, and, as far as possible, to open schools.

Even more than in other frontier settlements it is imperative that such colonies have the gospel among them from the first, before they have time to consolidate into distinctive Mormon communities with their attendant evils.