

back by the inadequacy of their means, to wit, Missions among the Heathen Aborigines. For these interesting injured tribes, something has been done, and is being done, enough to call forth our gratitude to God and to those who, amidst much difficulty, have consecrated themselves with an Apostolic zeal to the work of their salvation; but little, very little compared either with their need or the Church's duty. **WE HAVE DONE NOTHING.** This we feel is not as it ought to be; and, we trust, it will not be long you will suffer it so to remain.

Of the nature and prospects of the Academy, it affords your Committee much pleasure to be able to report very favourably. The liberality with which the appellation made to the Churches was met, will, they hope, soon place the Institution out of debt. To the Churches visited, and to their respected Pastors, they feel themselves much indebted, and beg to tender them their thanks, but especially to the Church in Montreal, and its Pastor, which contributed no less a sum than £76 2 6—one munificent individual, John Dougal, Esq., giving £25, beside rendering valuable assistance otherwise.

The number of students at present under instruction is nine, seven of whom are sustained from your funds. Two are about to leave the Institution to enter on their work, and two others are expected to join on our re-opening after the vacation.

During the past year, three new Chapels have been opened, one at Oakville, one at Clairville, and one at Nottawasaga, and two others are at present in course of erection. Besides this, several of the causes have been freed from embarrassment by the payment of their Chapel-debts.

Although, as a body, it is yet the day of small things with us, your Committee feel, on reviewing the brief period of our existence and operations in this country, that we have much cause for gratitude and ground for encouragement. Eight years ago there was but one Congregational Minister, west of Kingston, and *not a single Church, or Chapel*; now we number eighteen Ministers, with twenty-two Churches and sixteen Chapels; and shall have, on our re-opening, nine young men preparing for the Ministry.

Much of this growth we owe, under God, to the liberality with which our brethren at home have treated us. For their sakes, as well as our own, and for the cause of God we rejoice. They have their reward, their object, and ours being the spread of principles and the establishment of Institutions to which we join in attaching a very great value, which we conscientiously and firmly believe to be Divine in their original and universal in their obligation, and of which we have experienced the happy tendency.

While, however, your Committee feel thankful for the measure of success with which their efforts have thus far been crowned, they are more deeply im-

pressed than ever with the necessity of vigorous, self-denying exertion. Much land yet remains to be taken possession of for the Lord. The attitude too of certain parties who regard themselves as exclusively entitled to dispense Christian ordinances or qualified to guide the people into the way of life, makes it imperative that we do all we can to diffuse juster views of Christ's kingdom.

Contemplating the effect of Missionary exertion on the Churches which engage in it, your Committee augur great good from the early connexion of this work with their movements. They desire to look on themselves and to approve themselves to the country as essentially a Missionary body. What they may accomplish is, of course, under God, very much dependent on the co-operation of their friends and the friends of Christ generally here, and of their brethren at home. Our hope is that the visit of our respected brother, Mr. Roaf, to the parent-land will be instrumental in awakening the attention of the British Congregational Churches to our circumstances and wants, and thus of placing at our disposal means more commensurate than we now possess with the demands of the field in which we find ourselves placed.

Before concluding, your Committee would urge the importance of our Churches and friends making all possible exertion on behalf of the Academy, both in the way of raising the funds necessary for its support and enlargement, and of preparing for it and introducing to it such young men as appear by their character and talents likely to make useful Ministers. While they would deprecate every thing like devotement to the Ministry irrespective of piety, they would yet suggest to Christian parents, the propriety of so directing, as far as practicable, the education of their most hopeful sons, as to assist in preparing them for that work, should God in His infinite mercy renew them to himself and inspire them with a desire for it. This they would recommend especially to their Ministerial brethren. Descendants of the puritans of England, from whom also sprang the pilgrim fathers, the founders of the neighbouring states and the source of all that is holiest in their feelings and most valuable in their Institutions, it is our prayer that there may be that continuance of the Ministry in the families of those now engaged in it which we meet with in their histories—our hope is that it may be so.

Your Committee would close their present Report, by the introduction of the following resolution, passed unanimously at a meeting held at Hamilton, on the ninth March, 1842.

Resolved—That in accepting the resignation of our Treasurer, J. N. Price, Esq., M. P. P. We beg to renew to him our expressions of respect and affection, and of gratitude for the important services rendered by him to this union and to our Churches during the time of his official connexion with us.