

Home Missions. The work entrusted to the H. M. Mission Committee, West, extends from Gaspé to Albert, and includes all within the Provinces of Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, British Columbia and the North-West Territories. The Missionaries of the Committee, in these provinces, conduct services in seven languages, at 1,007 points, with an average Sabbath attendance of 35,779. Connected with these stations are 11,356 families, 3,734 single persons, not connected with these families, and 14,253 communicants, *i. e.* one-eighth of the families and one-sixth of the young people of the Church. From these missions are to come our new congregations, as well as the additional revenue to maintain and extend all the enterprises of the Church. Happy the Church that has her quiver full of healthy growing children, even though they may occasionally be clamorous for more funds. They are the hope of the future.—*Dr. Robertson.*

Home Mission Work in Quebec. Consists in nursing feeble settlements of Presbyterians and others that are being gradually squeezed out of existence by the persistent pressure of the Roman Catholic Church. Neglect in early days cost the Church dearly, let us strengthen the things that remain. Nor are we leading a forlorn hope. Look at these figures for the Presbyteries of Montreal and Quebec. At the Union 3,638 families, now 5,111; communicants, then 6,606, now 11,372, *i. e.*, in those 19 years a gain of 40 p. c. in families and 72 p. c. in communicants. Here is hope. At present there are 44 Mission Stations, with 647 families and 874 communicants in this province; and if cared for they must form a valuable breakwater against the inroads of the Roman Catholic Church. If it is worth trying to evangelize French Canadians, surely it is worth trying to keep our own people from becoming Roman Catholics, as they have done in the past by the thousand.—*Dr. R.*

Ottawa Valley. The principal Home Mission fields in Ontario are the Ottawa Valley, in the rear of Kingston, and in the Muskoka and Algoma districts. No better piece of H. M. work was ever done than that by the Presbyteries of Ottawa and Lanark and Renfrew. Since the Union the families increased 95 p. c. and the communicants 152 p. c. For schemes, these Presbyteries gave \$3,999 in 1875, and \$18,440 in 1894; and for all purposes \$54,574 in the former year, and \$134,121 in the latter. Allowance is made for the congregations that belonged to the Brockville Presbytery in 1875.

Muskoka. Is supposed to be a region of rock, lake and forest, and hence better suited for the axe, the rod, and the gun, than the mower or reaper, and yet settlers have cleared the forest and created homes for themselves and their families, and under the efficient superintendency of Mr. Findlay, our Church has made surprising

progress. In 1875 we had only 8 missions, with 10 stations, and in 1894, 36 missions and 105 stations; and this, after 8 missions had become congregations.

Algoma. Was almost wholly under the care of Knox College Missionary Society in 1875, so new and unorganized was our work there. In these 19 years, our 3 insignificant missions have grown into 3 congregations, and 31 missions with 107 stations; and the Presbytery reports 1,211 families, 401 single persons and 1,384 communicants. The construction of railways through these districts is to aid materially in their development.

In the North-West. In the country between Lake Superior and the Pacific Ocean the growth has been steady and satisfactory. Settlement has been slow but quite fast enough to tax the resources of the Committee, Icelanders and Scandinavians, Germans and Hungarians, being cared for and Celts and Saxons not overlooked. West of Lake Superior we had 2 congregations in 1875 and 81 in 1894. The missions increased from 14 to 166, and the preaching stations from 35 to 182. Since the Union, our families, which numbered 537, have increased more than 20 fold and communicants more than 30 fold. For schemes \$380 were given in 1875 and \$10,673 in 1894; and for all purposes the figures for the respective years were \$0,725 and \$269,535. In 1875 the North-West gave less than 1 p. c. of the revenue of the Church, and in 1894 about 12½ p. c.

Results of H. M. Work. The H. M. work has told powerfully on the growth of the Church since the Union. In 1875 there were in the Western Section, 435 self-supporting congregations, 86 augmented congregations, and 169 missions; now there are 550 self-supporting, 152 augmented and 314 missions, *i. e.* a gain in the respective classes, of 26, 76 and 103 per cent. The Committee has thus started 356 missions in 20 years (nearly 18 a year) on the road to become self-supporting congregations; many of them have already reached their destination, and it is hoped the remainder will not fall by the way.—*Dr. R.*

No Standing Home Mission Work cannot Still. continue stationary; ours is a growing country, and Christian work must keep pace with settlement. No other Church has extended its work so widely in the West as our own, and no one has been more successful. Some argue that there is no need of such wide extension since people have their Bibles. Those who reason in this way have never visited the frontier, nor have they seen the baneful effects of neglect. A neglected Bible is a feeble religious force. And it is noticeable that those who would leave the frontier settlers to their Bibles are careful that they and their families shall have a preached gospel.—*Dr. R.*