

Caven stated that there had been subscribed for the building fund, in round numbers, \$129,000. The ordinary revenue was a matter of some difficulty, and he could see little prospect of permanent relief till the Endowment should be considerably increased. There were *thirteen* students who now finished their curriculum, and were going forth to their great work. Professor McLaren delivered the closing lecture, taking for his subject: "Justification." There was a large number of interested spectators—the fine Hall being crowded to its full capacity.

The closing of the Montreal College took place in Erskine Church, in the presence of a large congregation. Principal MacVicar stated that the Session had been characterized by uniform success. The number of students attending upon the lectures of the various departments was sixty-one. Of these, *five* had completed their Theological course—when these shall have received license to preach the Gospel, this College will have already given to the Church thirty-six ministers. *Forty-five* students will be engaged in missionary work during the summer. At the close of the usual formalities, Dr. MacVicar delivered an able address to the graduating class, in a pointed and pithy style which he has almost made his own. His theme was "preaching," and the preaching of Christ Jesus and Him crucified as the Alpha and Omega of all preaching that is to become effectual for saving the souls of men.

Home Mission Committee.

THE Western Committee met, April 2nd and 3rd, in the Deacon's Court Room of Knox Church, Toronto, the Con- vener, Dr. Cochrane in the Chair. A very large amount of business was transacted. Rev. Mr. McKellar was appointed to the Mission field in Manitoba.

Arrangements are in progress for the regular induction of Mr. D. McKeracher, at Prince Arthur's Landing and Fort William, the people engaging to contribute \$500 per annum towards his support. Mr. McKera-

cher has occupied this field as ordained Missionary for the past three years, and done much to consolidate and strengthen our cause. The construction of the Canada Pacific Railway, westward from Fort William, will necessitate the sending of additional Missionaries to this district, and that ere long.

Rev. W. Stuart has been appointed to Sault Ste. Marie, where he began work in the end of December last. Here a new church is being built, and the cause appears hopeful. The Committee agreed to invite Mr. Hugh McKay to go as an ordained missionary to Manitoulin Island for a term of two years. The Student's Missionary Society of Knox College employ two laborers in this field during the present summer.

In the Province of Quebec, new ground has been broken in the Eastern Townships at Massiwappi, where the Montreal College Missionary Society has sent one of the most efficient of its members. A new Mission has been opened at the Tanneries in the West end of Montreal; and Hochelaga has been disjoined from the Station with which it was formerly worked, and is now to have two services each Sabbath.

A scheme for the more continuous supply of Mission Stations and their more efficient working, has been drawn up by the Committee, and is to be submitted to the several Synods, with a view to its recommendation to and adoption by the Assembly.

Encouraging reports were submitted from many of the Presbyteries as to the extension of the work. In several cases, congregations which have hitherto been on the Supplemental Fund, have reported their ability to maintain the ministrations of the Gospel without the aid of the Fund. The state of the Finances at date of meeting were reported somewhat as follows:

There has been received of the \$10,000 asked to pay off last year's indebtedness, \$8,000. In all there has been received since last May over \$25,000, and there has been expended over \$26,000. In addition to about \$1,000 of present indebtedness, new claims payable 1st May, were passed, amounting to \$7,500. To this is to be added payments to British Columbia, Manitoba, and the Lake Superior regions, and certain claims of Presbyteries delayed, amounting in all to about \$3,000. The sum of \$11,000 is therefore *urgently needed to pay off* all indebtedness up to the 30th of April. We hope that congregations who have not yet transmitted, will do so at once, and that individuals who can help this most important of our Missions, will not be slow to respond to the call now made.