

of the short time at his disposal, pressing upon the attention of the audience with great force and earnestness the need that exists throughout the country for more ministers—ministers of the right stamp—and the duty resting upon the Church to make adequate provision for their maintenance. The time was when it seemed to be thought any one would do for a colonial minister. But that idea can no longer be entertained. Even in the remoter parts of the country the people want well-educated and able men, and if they do not find them in their own Church they will seek for them in another. The Christian minister still wields a salutary influence in the world, and the power of the individual minister is just the power of the truth which he preaches. The power of the pulpit is not on the wane. There is ample room in the Church of God for diversity of gifts, and so you find men of such differing gifts as Spurgeon and Canon Liddon, Henry Ward Beecher and Dr. John Hall, drawing and holding together vast audiences Sunday after Sunday and year after year. We want the best men that can be had, even for our country charges, but we cannot have them unless we afford them the means of, at least, a decent competence to live on. It is with this end in view that the scheme for the augmentation of ministers' stipends was inaugurated by our General Assembly a short time ago. He was proud to say that the Church as a whole had nobly responded, and the result was that during last year no minister in the Western Section of the Church had received less than \$750 with a manse or its equivalent. The movement had also been taken up in the Eastern Section, where a similar result would soon follow. What we have now to do is to give this movement permanence. The whole amount required for that purpose by the committee is \$30,000 a year in addition to our ordinary contributions for Home Missions, for the present; and he would like the Presbytery of Montreal, which had already set so good an example, to give the keynote to the whole Church by doubling its contributions. Was it too much to ask this Presbytery to give, at the least, *seven thousand dollars* for this year?

REV. DR. LAING, of Dundas, followed up the subject with an eloquent address. He

drew a striking contrast between the condition of things in Canada at the present time and as they were some forty years ago, and paid a high tribute to the ministers and the people for their noble efforts in these early days to lay the foundation of Presbyterianism on a firm basis. The material advancement of the country was simply marvellous. Throughout the Church, in all its branches and in all denominations, there had been a corresponding advance. The number of ministers, and churches, and of schools and colleges had greatly multiplied. The facilities for communication and settlement are such that in all probability the increase of population in the next ten years will greatly exceed anything that we have seen in the past. The speaker then described the extent and variety of our mission fields. In both sections of the Church there were some 80 groups of stations—including upwards of 600 places where the gospel was preached. Connected with these were 11,765 families and 17,277 communicants, and these had themselves contributed for the maintenance of religious ordinances not less than \$25,000 during the past year. In order to keep pace with the work, we need the systematic liberality of all the members and adherents of our Church. The committee of the west only ask us for \$30,000 this year. Shall we say that is too much? It is less than one cent a week from each communicant! Dr. Laing concluded a stirring and practical address by reminding his audience of the importance of cultivating the spirit of missions in their homes. Family religion was the bulwark of Christianity. And then we want religion in our schools, Christian society, Christian literature and a thoroughly evangelical pulpit.

FRENCH EVANGELIZATION.

REV. PROFESSOR SCRIMGER, chairman, in his opening remarks referred to the recent disturbances in Montreal, interfering with the liberty of speech, which however had in the meantime been re-established. He then briefly stated the nature and extent of the work carried on by the Board of French Evangelization. In this city they had two congregations, one of them numbering about 160 families. They had established a mission at Hochelaga. There were also congregations in Ottawa, Quebec, St. Hyacinthe, Joliette, and other places. They might say