

## Our Home Missions.

Will East, as West, please read carefully the articles that follow, on Home Missions and Augmentation. The writers are western and have taken the western field for texts, but the sermons are continent-wide, the articles for the most part dealing with principles which are unaffected by longitude.

The Maritime folk have as usual gone about the raising of their brotherhood fund, the Augmentation Fund, in a methodical, business like way. The Synod at its recent meeting stated the amount that it thought each Presbytery should give. The Presbyteries have had their meetings and have divided up their respective allotments into the smaller sums which they think each congregation should give, and now the congregations, most of them, will as heretofore, loyally give the amount asked of them, some of them more; and many a small congregation that would otherwise have "occasional supply" will be able by their own liberal efforts, thus aided, to have their own minister, their regular Sabbath services, in their own church home. A good deed, well done.

It is of the utmost importance that action West be taken at once and the work carried on with enthusiasm and vigor. Envelopes have been prepared for special collection on behalf of Augmentation. Ministers and others can obtain a supply of these, as well as additional copies of leaflet, by addressing the Rev. Dr. Warden, Presbyterian Church Officers, Toronto, to whom all contributions should be sent.

### STATE OF THE FUNDS. WEST.

The Church year now ends on the 31st March. It may be of interest to know how the Funds stand at this date. In the following column, the first table shows the estimated amount required for the current ecclesiastical year, the second column shows the amount received by the Treasurer to this date, and the third column shows the amount still required before the end of the year, 31st March :

	Estimate for year.	Received to date.	Amount required.
Home Mission.....	\$ 82,000	\$11,300	\$ 70,700
Augmentation .....	28,000	2,300	25,700
Foreign Miss'n.....	65,100	9,100	56,000
French Evangel'n...	25,000	5,500	19,500
Pt.-aux-Trembles ....	10,000	600	9,400
Knox College.....	12,000	1,800	10,200
Queens College.....	4,000	220	3,780
“ deficit.	9,000	—	9,000
Montreal College...	5,000	220	4,780
Manitoba College....	5,000	600	4,400
Widows & Orphans..	10,000	950	9,050
Aged & Infirm Min..	17,000	1,650	15,350
Assembly.....	6,000	1,750	4,250
	<u>\$278,100</u>	<u>\$35,990</u>	<u>\$242,110</u>

If in the habit of making collections for the Schemes of the Church throughout the year, and allocating the whole sum among the different Schemes at the close of the year, and then forwarding the amounts to the Agent of the Church, please make this change: forward the collections as they are made, and save the Schemes paying interest while your gifts lie idle. Then at the year's end make your allocation and state to the Agent of the Church the amounts to be credited to different Schemes.

### HOME MISSION FUND, WESTERN SECTION.

Toronto, 28th Nov., 1898.

Every since the union of the churches in 1875, the Annual Home Mission circular has been written by the late Rev. Dr. Cochrane, the energetic and loved Convener of the Committee, whose recent death the whole Church mourns. On the very day of his death he dictated several letters in connection with the work of the Committee, so that up to the closing hours of life, he was engaged in furthering the interests of the Scheme.

In consequence of his removal, and under a deep sense of responsibility, I send out this circular, reminding you of the claims of the Home Mission scheme, and soliciting your hearty cooperation on its behalf. May we have abundant evidence that while the workers are providentially removed, the Master does not permit the work itself to suffer loss.

Steady progress is being made from year to year. In the older Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, there are at the present time, 171 Mission fields, with 436 preaching stations, in connection with which there are 6,144 families. Last year the Committee expended \$24,650.00 in helping these families to maintain ordinances.

It is interesting to note the great change which has taken place in the method of working these fields of recent years. Formerly, most of them were supplied by student missionaries, who conducted services regularly during the summer half-year. In the winter, however, many of the fields were without service, while in others, only an occasional service was held. Now, however, the large majority of them have continuous supply during the whole year, by means of ordained missionaries. As a result, it is believed that ere long, many of them will call their own pastors and become augmented charges, and will soon thereafter reach the self supporting stage.

While the number of mission fields has greatly diminished in many of the Presbyteries of Ontario and Quebec, in others the number has been increasing of late years. More especially is this true of the Presbyteries of Montreal, Ottawa.