

INCREASE OF POPULATION.

The population is increasing at a rapid rate. The country is filling up with people of various nationalities and types of religion. There are Germans and Jews, Scandinavians and French, Icelanders and Poles, Chinese, and many other smaller bodies speaking a foreign language. The United States also are taking advantage of the opportunities offered in this country, and large numbers from there are coming here. But the great bulk of the population is from parts of the British possessions, especially from Ontario and Quebec, the Maritime Provinces and the British Isles. About 40,000 of the native Indians still remain. Of religions, we have represented Judaism and heathenism, Protestantism and Roman Catholicism, and scepticism, and we are threatened with "higher criticism." The Gospel of Christ is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth, and upon its faithful proclamation the destiny of our country hangs.

ENCOURAGING CONDITION OF THE WORK.

Notwithstanding the difficulties that have been attendant upon the prosecution of the work, its present condition is such as to give abundant reason to thank God and take courage. We believe that in proportion to the money expended there is no other missionary society doing an equal amount of work in the country.

There has been a marked quickening of spiritual life in the churches and a large ingathering of souls. Harmony and peace exist more generally amongst church members, but they have not yet reached perfection in this. Yet, considering the variety of material, from so many different strata of social and national life, of which our churches are composed, it is not surprising that occasionally there is friction in making such adjustment as is required by the Master Builder.

CHURCHES ORGANIZED AND NEW FIELDS OPENED.

A church has been organized during the year at Olds, N.W. T., with twelve members, and one at Barclay, Man., with nine members. These are of English-speaking people. An Indian church was organized on St. Peter's Reserve, with thirty-two members, and a German church at Gretna, with twelve members. There has also been a Scandinavian church organized, with thirteen members, in Winnipeg. There will likely be other German and Scandinavian churches, and several of English-speaking people, organized this summer. The field at Olds is new. Brother James Samis, formerly pastor at Sarnia, Ont., and his son, and Brother Moore, who have settled there, preach in turns. A field has been opened at Innisfail