

## Our Home Work.

OUR S. S. HELPS FOR 1899.

In consequence of the lamented death of the late Dr. Cochrane, of Brantford, for so many years Convener of the Home Mission Committee, West, all correspondence formerly sent to him will now be addressed to Rev. R. H. Warden, D.D., Presbyterian Offices, Toronto, who is secretary of the Home Mission Committee.

The "Fall Opening" of Pres. College, Montreal, extended over several days. From Monday to Friday, Oct. 3-7, was held a "Graduate's Institute," three sessions daily, with papers and discussions. Subjects lighter and heavy, theoretical and practical, ably treated, made a most instructive, helpful and pleasant week for those who could attend. Sociology and theology, poetry and missions, Indian and Jew, and on midweek evening the "opening lecture" by Rev. Prof. Ross, D.D., on a "Minister's Temptations." The prospects of the College for the year are good.

A welcome addition to the opening services of Knox College, Toronto, 5 October, welcome especially to the faculty, was the installation of the new professor of Old Testament Literature and Exegesis, Rev. John A. McFadyan. He is young, twenty-eight, a Scholar, Strong, "Soun," Scotch. What better for the work could there be? Toronto Presbyterianism appreciated the fact, and with a goodly gathering of ministers from near and far, thronged, in honor of the event, the Church of the Scotchman's patron Saint, where the services were held.

Two men long and closely identified with the Home Mission work of our church have been recently called away. Rev. D. J. Macdonnell, for long, Convener of the Augmentation Committee, Dr. Cochrane, for longer, Convener of the Home Mission Committee. Both were men of intense energy; the one burning out in middle life, of slow and wasting disease, the other well on to life's "limit," and suddenly,

But the work goes on. It is the Lord's. He who calls away raises up others. The one has been nobly succeeded; and the Home Mission zeal and ability of the Church will supply a successor to the other. In the meantime, an Act of the General Assembly provides that in such an event the second name on the Committee shall be convener; and in referring to the Minutes of Assembly we find that in this instance into safer, stronger, more experienced hands the interests of the work could not fall.

Sample copies of our own Church Series of Lesson Helps, 1899, will be, by this time, in the hands of ministers and Sabbath School superintendents. The work of the new editor, Mr. Fraser, has evidently been done with much painstaking.

The series, as our readers are aware, includes the Teacher's Monthly, for Teachers and Bible Class Scholars, with special primary Department, illustrated. The Home Study Quarterly, for Boys and Girls; The Primary Quarterly (illustrated) for the Little Ones; and the Home Study and Primary Leaflets.

The needs of all grades in the Sabbath School have been carefully provided for, and the aim has evidently been to help teachers and scholars to find out for themselves what the Word of God means.

There should be a large addition to the circulation of our Lesson Helps, and there will be, if ministers and superintendents and teachers rally to the support of the effort which our Church is making to provide a complete and satisfactory series of Sabbath School publications. The prices are less than those of any other publications of a similar standard.

We heartily endorse the words of the Committee on Sabbath School Publications in their circular recently addressed to ministers and superintendents:—

The Committee, in soliciting, as they do, your co-operation in extending the circulation of the publications, would venture to emphasize the fact that they are our own Lesson Helps, published under authority of the General Assembly, and specially prepared for our Canadian Sabbath Schools. They have therefore a strong claim on all who desire to see our children not only well instructed in the Word of God, but brought up in thorough sympathy with what pertains to the welfare of their own country and their own Church."

When other Theological Colleges are closing in the spring, Manitoba is opening; when they are opening it is closing. Whether it is a lap ahead or behind in the Sessional race, --- on the 30th of August, the closing exercises of a very successful term was held in Convocation Hall. Eight students received a parting counsel from Principal King and go forth to the ministry in the waiting fields of the North West. Dr. Ross, of Montreal, and Prof. Falconer, of Halifax, have assisted the regular staff during the past session. The good work that it does for the great Home Mission Field of the North West, where sons and daughters from all over the Dominion are making their homes, is its claim upon the sympathy and generous help of the whole church.