

future of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, if the first year of her history is marked by a profounder sense of the obligations laid upon her by the Great Commission, and by a corresponding increase of Christian liberality.

WM. McLAREN, *Convener.*

TORONTO, 17th November, 1875.

HOME MISSION FUND OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA.

WESTERN SECTION—COMPRISING ONTARIO, QUEBEC, MANITOBA, AND BRITISH COLUMBIA.

At a meeting of the Home Mission Committee, held in October, the Convener was instructed to issue a circular, setting forth the pressing claims of the Fund on the liberality of the members and adherents of the Church.

At the close of the last ecclesiastical year, the Home Mission Fund of the Canada Presbyterian Church was *two thousand* dollars in debt. An effort was made during the meeting of the Assembly to wipe out this indebtedness, but it was only partially successful. On the 1st of October the indebtedness had increased to *five thousand dollars*; and it was found, that after payment of the grants to the Presbyteries for the past six months, and meeting all liabilities to date, the fund was in debt *sixteen thousand dollars*.

In order to keep faith with our Ministers and Missionaries, the Committee instructed the Convener to ask the Agent of the Church to borrow this amount, to meet all claims against the fund. This has been done, and the Committee has now a burden of *sixteen thousand dollars* (with interest), until such time as Congregations replenish the treasury.

After a careful estimate of the necessities of the fund, it was found that not less a sum than *thirty-five thousand dollars* would be required for the present year. It is to be borne in mind that twelve thousand dollars of this sum is appropriated for our Missionaries in Lake Superior, Manitoba, and British Columbia, (including Manitoba College, which is still supported by Home Mission funds,) and that since the Union the claims upon the Home Mission fund are very greatly increased.

In a Church possessed of the numbers and resources of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, there should be no difficulty in raising a *much larger amount* than thirty-five thousand dollars. The Committee feel that if the urgent claims of this fund are only fairly laid before our congregations, ample means will be placed at their disposal, enabling them not only to liquidate existing obligations, but make further grants to destitute localities that are clamant for the Gospel.

May I ask the Ministers of our Churches to bring this matter before their congregations at an early opportunity; and also that such congregations, as can conveniently send a portion of their annual contributions for Home Missions, will do so at the earliest possible date, to the Rev. William Reid, Toronto.

WM. COCHRANE,

Convener, Home Mission Committee.

BRANTFORD, 3rd November, 1875.