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PASTORAL ADDRESS BY A COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

DEAR BRETHREN, MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH,—In our recent meeting as an Assembly of your representative Ministers and Elders, the general subject of the state of religion throughout our Church engaged, as usual, our serious consideration. While a large proportion of the time at such meetings is necessarily occupied with what may be called ecclesiastical business—deciding on judicial questions, or taking order for the extension of the Church, and the adapting of its provisions and appliances to the ascertained necessities, whether of the Home or Foreign field—we feel that all such business is but a means to the great end of the Church's institution and existence—that God may be glorified in the reception of His truth, and the experience and manifestation of its saving and sanctifying influence.

We have from time to time appointed committees to make inquiry, not officiously or obtrusively, yet anxiously, as to the state of personal and family religion, and it has been endeavored, by comparing the returns made by Presbyteries to queries submitted to them by such committees, to make some approximation to a just estimate of the progress of the work of God throughout our borders. These reports, brought up at our annual meetings, have so far refreshed our spirits, and supplied matter of thanksgiving to Him who alone can give the increase, while a Paul may plant and an