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C. BLACKETT ROBINSON, *Proprietor.*

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THE RURAL CANADIAN.

A FORTNIGHTLY JOURNAL OF

Agriculture, Horticulture and Rural Affairs.

THE generally acknowledged and deeply felt need of a first-class Farm Journal, published from the capital of the Province of Ontario, will shortly be supplied by the issue, on the First and Fifteenth of each Month, of a periodical to be called "THE RURAL CANADIAN," in which, while chief prominence will be given to Agricultural Matters, and especially to newly developed Farm Industries, such as the Dairy, Cattle-Feeding for the Foreign Market, Fruit Production and Export, due attention will be paid to Tree Planting, Forestry, the Garden, Home Embellishment and Enjoyment.

The new journal will be wholly independent of all organizations, cliques, and sectional interests. While encouraging and aiding Farmers' Clubs, the Grange, and every other association aiming to promote Agricultural Improvement, it will be frank and outspoken on these and all other subjects that come within the range of its mission. With friendship toward all, but subservency to none, it will hold itself free to advocate whatever seems best calculated to benefit the tiller of the soil, and the country at large.

"THE RURAL CANADIAN" will, of course, be non-political and unsectarian, yet it will be patriotic, and not unmindful of the fact that religion underlies all our institutions, and is essential to the highest prosperity of every nation and people under heaven.

Its Editor will be the well-known, experienced, and now veteran agricultural writer, W. F. CLARKE, whose name, familiar as a household word to rural Canadians all over our broad Dominion, will be a sufficient guarantee that ability, point, sprightliness, and good nature, will be stamped on its contents.

It is scarcely necessary to add that the typographical appearance of "THE RURAL CANADIAN" will be first-class. Our facilities for turning out Fine Printing are unrivalled, and no effort will be spared to give the paper a neat and attractive exterior.

It is intended to issue a specimen number in time for the great Agricultural and Industrial Exhibitions this Fall, and as a large edition will be struck off, advertisers will do well to secure a share of its limited space.

"THE RURAL CANADIAN" will be published at \$1 per annum, with a reduction to Clubs.

An active Agent is wanted in every village and township, to whom liberal inducements will be offered.

C. BLACKETT ROBINSON,

5 Jordan Street, Toronto.

Publisher.



Edited by Rev. Wm. Inglis.

TORONTO, FRIDAY, JULY 22, 1881.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

WE have already given the report of the Foreign Mission Committee for the Eastern Section of the Church almost in full, and have also in the report of the Assembly's proceedings given a rather full abstract of the one presented by the corresponding Committee of the Western Section. But as it is quite possible that the latter may have been overlooked by many in their somewhat hurried perusal of the Assembly's work, we make no apology for returning to the matter again, and for referring with some greater degree of particularity to the portion of work more immediately committed to the charge of the Committee which has so long had Professor McLaren for its untiring and energetic Convener.

The work of the past year was not marked by the achievement of any signal results. Yet steady and satisfactory advance has had to be noted all along the line.

Three different fields have been occupied, as in the past; each with its own peculiarities, its special trials, and also with its own points of encouragement.

The first of these is the mission to the Indians of

the North-West. This mission, as very many of our readers are aware, was first established under the care and management of the late Mr. Nesbit, still so affectionately remembered for his work of faith and labour of love. The settlement at Prince Albert is filling up largely with white immigrants, and hence it has been arranged that the Rev. John Mackay, who acted as interpreter to Mr. Nesbit, and has since been very actively and very efficiently engaged in evangelistic work, should remove to the Reserve occupied by Mistawasis' tribe of Indians. These Indians are very anxious to place themselves under the spiritual oversight of the Presbyterian Church. A residence for the missionary has been erected, and will be very speedily ready for occupation, if it is not so by this time. The Indians are also about to erect a school-house for themselves, which will likewise in the meantime serve for a church, and when Mr. Mackay has removed to this new location he will be in the midst of a settlement of seventy Indian families, all of whom are anxious to secure his services. The likelihoods also are that the number of Indians on the Reserve will be increased, and there is every prospect of them settling down to the quiet continuous employments of ordinary civilized life. This will give Mr. Mackay a wider and more promising field than he has ever yet occupied, and, under the blessing of God, good and encouraging results may be anticipated. The mission school at Prince Albert continues to be taught by Miss Baker, and with a very gratifying amount of success. For a good while this school was the only one in the settlement, and is still distinguished by an amount of thoroughness and efficiency which lead all within reasonable distance to take advantage of its instructions. The majority of the scholars are of mixed blood and speak the Cree language. From this class it may reasonably be expected that the teachers and other workers in the Indian department of the future will be derived. The progress made by all the children at this school has been exceedingly satisfactory.

Okanase is a station occupied by Rev. George Flett, who pursues his work with unflagging zeal and diligence. A new school-house has been built at Fort Pelly, and a very considerable part of the salary will be met by the Government grant to the school.

At Fort Ellice the Rev. Solomon Tunkansuicive labours among the Sioux Indians, to the entire satisfaction of the Manitoba Presbytery.

It is matter for regret that reports from the most of those engaged in this work have this year not been sent, or have miscarried. The information about the work is accordingly meagre, and this results in the amount of interest generally felt in the Mission being not so great as it ought to be. It could not be otherwise. People cannot, in the nature of things, be interested in any undertaking whatever of which they know almost nothing, and if, therefore, missionaries would have the zeal and interest of the churches in their work to any great extent increased, they must keep these fully posted in the work being done and in the amount of success which it has pleased the great Head of the Church to vouchsafe to his servants. The influence of abundant, fresh and effectual missionary information being given is very strikingly seen in the great interest which has for months past been felt in the work being done by our Church's agents in the island of Formosa. Thousands and tens of thousands have thought of it that never thought of it before. It has become to such more and more a reality, instead of being as previously a mere name, perhaps not even that. As the report says, "the presence in the country of the pioneer Canadian missionary to China, and his powerful addresses have done not a little to shame the lukewarmness of professing Christians, and to arouse an interest in the work worthy of its importance." This is true, but it is also not to be forgotten that this has been effected by jetting the people know far more fully than ever before what Formosa really is, what may be the character of its inhabitants, and what have been the nature and the extent of the Christian efforts really put forward on their behalf. A mere casual notice or a brief account buried in an annual report will not awaken or retain general interest. There must be "line upon line," "here a little and there a little." Both the agents and their work must be kept pretty generally under the notice of the Church at large, else the interest will flag, and the lukewarmness so much to be deprecated will all but necessarily again make its appearance. While Dr. McKay has been

doing such good and noble work in the way of educating the Presbyterians of Canada on the subject of Missions in general and of the Formosan Mission in particular, Mr. Junor has been doing his best to maintain the various agencies in Formosa in active and efficient operation, and with a gratifying amount of success. The converts are shewing a laudable amount of self-help—in one case having during the year repaired one of the chapels at the cost of \$200. Everywhere in his journeyings Mr. Junor found the people more favourably disposed towards the Gospel, and upon the whole he has had much reason to thank God and take courage for the amount of countenance and encouragement he has received during the time he has been alone in charge of the work in Formosa. The McKay Hospital at Tamsui has, during the year, rendered excellent service, as may be seen when we state that the number of new patients admitted and treated during the twelve months has been 1,346, or an increase of 142 on that of the previous year. As many as nineteen Chinese have been among the subscribers to the support of this Hospital, their subscriptions ranging from \$2 to \$20 each.

The third field of labour, under the care of the Western Foreign Missionary Committee, is that in Central India. The names of the missionaries there and their stations are as follows:

Rev. J. M. Douglas and Rev. Jno. Wilkie at Indore; Misses Rodger and McGregor also at Indore; the Rev. J. Fraser Campbell, Mhow. The state of matters in this Mission is reported as having been during the year upon the whole very favourable and encouraging. The Rev. Mr. Douglas devoted Sabbath and Thursday evenings to English preaching, and the attendance had been encouraging. The Sabbath school, which is English and vernacular, had kept well up.

During the year two men and two children had been baptized. In December last an order was issued by the Holkar's authority, directing the school in the city to be closed unless a written pledge were given that Christianity should not be taught. Of course such a pledge could not be given, and what may be the issue of this movement on the part of the authorities remains to be seen.

The printing press has continued to do much and effective work. About 639,410 pages of religious matter have been printed and circulated during the year. Mr. Douglas has been doing a good deal of itinerant work, and has generally been very favourably received.

At Mhow and in the surrounding districts Mr. Campbell has prosecuted his labours with all diligence, and has met with a fair amount of encouragement. Schools for adults and for children have been maintained. Street preaching has also been kept up, and there was a public discussion with a Moulvie for five nights, which awakened a great amount of interest.

The Rev. Mr. Wilkie has devoted as much time as possible to the acquisition of the Urdu and Hindi languages, and with so much success that he has been able during the greater part of the past year to conduct religious services in both of these. He has had a very interesting class of young Brahmins. Five of these have been led to declare their belief in Christianity and their determination to make public profession of their faith. Mr. Wilkie, like Mr. Douglas, has found himself greatly aided in his work by his knowledge of medicine.

Both Miss Rodger and Miss McGregor have found their work, especially in the zenanas, growing on their hands. An ever increasing number of households are open to them, and the schools for girls are becoming increasingly popular, and as a consequence more largely patronized.

All these are tokens for good, and it is to be hoped that next year's report will shew a still more encouraging state of things.

The state of the funds, while encouraging, is not what it ought to be. The debt has no doubt been greatly reduced, being on the 1st of last May only \$5,392.59, as compared with \$16,558.83 on the same day in 1880. It is so far well, and that the income has increased by the sum of \$12,962.99 is also encouraging. But that there should be any debt at all is not as it ought to be, and that \$700 should have had to be paid during the year as interest on advances is also an undesirable fact.

The income ought to be greatly and permanently enlarged, and surely there should be no difficulty in