

THE MISSIONS OF THE CHURCH.

HOME AND FOREIGN.

The following brief summary is submitted for the information of congregations who have not contributed for the Mission Funds of the Church, during the present ecclesiastical year, with the hope that, in view of the magnitude and importance of the interests involved, every one of them may be induced, even at this late hour, to give cheerfully and liberally according to their several abilities.

HOME MISSIONS.

The Home Mission Fund of the Western Section of the Church is applied to three purposes:—

I. The supplementing of stipends in charges that are *unable* to pay the minimum stipend of \$600. *One hundred and fifty* congregations received in this way sums varying from \$100 to \$400 each.

II. Giving aid for the support of ordinances to Mission Stations in the outlying districts where as yet congregations have not been formed. The whole number of mission stations, under the supervision of Presbyteries—not including, however, Manitoba, the North-West and British Columbia—is about 350. Of these, about 86 are receiving aid, varying from \$1 to \$4 each Sabbath.

III. The partial maintenance of the Manitoba College is also a charge, for the present, on the Home Mission Fund. While it is hoped that other means may be devised for maintaining this Institution in a state of efficiency at an early day, its existence is held to be a necessity by those best acquainted with the ecclesiastical wants of that Province. It is estimated that \$8000 a year is required for College and Missionary purposes in Manitoba and B. Columbia alone. The amount asked by Dr. Cochrane, the Convener, at the beginning of the year, for all these purposes, was \$45,000.

The amount received up to the 1st April was only \$16,500—less than half

the amount required. As a consequence of this, *none of the missionaries or ministers on small salaries have received anything, as yet, from the fund, for the six months ending March the 31st.* The disappointment, and, in many cases, the actual suffering thus created is more easily imagined than described.

The mission stations are chiefly supplied, only in summer, by the students, in our Colleges, although there are several ordained missionaries labouring throughout the year. At this present time it is believed that no less than from 95 to 100 students have gone forth to supply the lack of ordinances in remote and thinly settled parts of the country that would be otherwise wholly destitute of Presbyterian services, and, in not a few instances, without religious ordinances of any kind.

The attention of Congregations who have not yet contributed, and of those also who have given “sparingly” for this great work, is directed to the fact, that of THE WHOLE AMOUNT RECEIVED BY THE TREASURER UP TO THE 1ST APRIL LAST, ONE TENTH—\$1600—CAME FROM ONE CONGREGATION!

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The Foreign Mission Work carried on under the direction of the committee for the Western Section of the Church is limited to two or three efforts that are full of encouragement for the future.

I. Two ordained Missionaries are labouring among the Indians of the North-West. The Rev. H. McKellar, at Prince Albert, on the Saskatchewan, among the Crees, and the Rev. Geo. Flett, at Fort Pelly. Also among the Crees, Mr. John McKay, as missionary and Interpreter.

II. Formosa, China. Rev. G. L. McKay went out to this field in 1871, and has since laboured with such success that now he has a band of *ten* native helpers, and has received *thirty-seven* converts into full communion. *Nine* chapels have been built, almost without aid from Canada.

In 1874 he was joined by Dr. J. B.