

fore, in any way—even if that way may present attractions dear to true hearts—has to be considered a crime, punishable by an entail on the generation of laborers which succeeds us of work in the face of unnecessary odds and difficulties. May we be of those who have understanding of our times, and who are mighty in the councils of Israel.

The feature of our work presenting most encouragement and promise, and which your Board has labored to make most prominent, is the settlement of pastors. We have been deeply impressed with the fact which our experience fully justifies, that the hope of our cause, under God, is in having wise, experienced, industrious and godly men hold possession of our fields the year round. Much good labor has been allowed to turn to our reproach because we have let "others enter into our labors." While we ought to rejoice, and do rejoice, in every soul brought to the Saviour in years gone by, during short terms of work on our mission fields, we can but sorrow and regret that hitherto we have not been able to shepherd those with pastors of New Testament ordination. In God's grace, during the year we have been able to witness and partake in a movement towards remedying this. It is not by an accident, but by a deliberate purpose of your Board, and according to the instructions of the Convention which appointed us a year ago, that we can report to you the settlement during the year of pastors in the following mission fields:

Brethren D. D. McArthur, at Manitou; Geo. Cross, at Calgary; James Bracken at Carman and Morden; J. H. Doolittle, at Rapid City; F. W. Auvache, at Pilot Mound, and S. Cripps, at Oak Lake. These, added to the pastors already in the country, and over churches represented in this Convention, give us a total force of nine ordained men now in Manitoba and the Territories.

[Unbelief might answer, "What are these among so many?" but the answer of faith is, "Who hath despised the day of small things?" It is a beginning, anyway, and a beginning in the right direction. Provided our purpose remains firm and active along the line of this year's work, we believe another year will largely augment this force. So may it please God. We must have pastors.]

It is a satisfaction to us, and we know it will be to you, that we can report an increased interest in our work on the part of our brethren in the Eastern churches. It is an additional satisfaction, and we believe one which will find abundant response both east and west, that the offerings of the churches in the east have been gathered with little or no expense to us. Often it is the reproach of missionary societies that the cost of working the machine eats too largely into the receipts, so that a very considerable percentage becomes misdirected from its intended use. Such a charge your Board has labored to give no cause for. By means of circulars to the number of nearly 20,000, and correspondence through the denominational papers, *The Messenger and Visitor* and *The Canadian Baptist*, also by a measure of gratuitous circulation of our own *North-West Baptist*, and not the least, by the agency of brethren throughout

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