

Court manifested by the people, as on the occasion of the recent meeting in Gould Street, Toronto,) was increased by the presence of so many strangers. We had the deputies from the Free Church, Principal Fairbairn, and the Rev. Mr. Wells; we had the Rev. Dr. Stowe, formerly Professor in Andover; we had the Rev. John Black from Red River, and the Rev. D. Duff from British Columbia, and in addition we had the Rev. C. Chiniquy and three fellow-labourers from Illinois, and the presence of all these contributed in no small degree to the interest connected with the meeting, and, we trust, to deepen and intensify the missionary spirit in the hearts of those who were enabled to attend.

The Home Mission Report was received with general favour. The Home Mission Scheme appears to be moulding itself to the circumstances and necessities of the church, and we believe, will, from year to year, become still more and more the means of promoting the evangelization of the destitute places of our wide field, and of aiding small and weak congregations in maintaining the means of grace, which otherwise they might not be able to do.

The large proportion of time and attention given to the subject of Theological Education in connexion with Knox College, and the new College at Montreal, shows the high importance attached to this department of the work of the church. We trust both our colleges will be well sustained, and, that through the blessing of God, they may be the means of training up many, both in the east and in the west for the work of the ministry.

The church has assumed still greater responsibilities in connexion with the French Mission at Kankakee and St. Ann's, Illinois. From the reports of those who have had the best opportunities of judging, the mission is doing a great and good work, and we trust that from year to year we shall hear of its progress, and that there will be a reflex influence which will tell on the mass of Romanism in our own land.

The reports given of the commencement of the mission to the Indians in the Saskatchewan were encouraging. The necessity of enlargement will soon be forced upon us. In the meantime the Foreign Mission Committee was instructed to send out another minister to Red River, and one to British Columbia, to take the place of Mr. Duff, whose state of health has rendered it necessary for him to return to Canada.

Several matters connected with our worship and discipline were before the Synod, and will again engage the attention of the Court. We refer to the subjects of Hymnology, instrumental music, and the marriage question. In regard to these, we trust that they may be considered in a spirit of meekness, humility, prayer, and forbearance, and that God may direct to such a solution of the questions as may be for his own glory, and for the edification, purity and peace of the church.

Politically and nationally we have now taken a step in advance, we occupy a more prominent position as a community, and have assumed higher responsibilities. We trust that the change in our relations as a community may be over-ruled for the best interests of the people, and may promote good government and the general prosperity of all the Provinces in our Dominion of Canada, and that in our ecclesiastical position we shall be enabled to recognize our responsibilities, and in dependence on the blessing of the great Head of the Church to gird ourselves for the great work to which we are called.