

sions in the schools during the year, 450. The periodicals, viz., the *Banner* and the *Advocate*, are becoming increasingly circulated, and, with a little effort, we think these excellent serials might be introduced into all our schools.

Owing, no doubt, to the depressed state of trade, some of the connexional funds were not in such a state of prosperity as could be desired. It is but due, however, to state that the expenditure of both the missionary and superannuation funds is much greater than last year, and yet the debt on the former has not been allowed to increase. There have been some princely offerings made to both funds, especially the missionary. The late Mrs. Jackson, of Hamilton, Ont., in addition to all her former munificent gifts, paid through her executors at Toronto Conference, the sum of \$30,000 in equal amounts to the Missionary and Superannuated Ministers' Fund, and the Theological Department of Victoria University. Rev. J. H. Johnston, M.A., College Agent, continues his zealous labours on behalf of the University, and succeeded in obtaining \$825 at London Conference, and \$1,050 at Toronto Conference, towards the erection of Faraday Hall.

The statement read by the Rev. S. Rose respecting the Book Room, gave an encouraging exhibit of that important agency of the Church. Notwithstanding the severe monetary pressure of the country, and the commencement of a branch at Montreal, there was a handsome amount of profit declared, \$1,000 of which was appropriated to the Superannuated Ministers' Fund. A committee was appointed at the Toronto Conference to erect a monument at the graves of the Apostle of the Indians, the late William Case, and the distinguished Chief, John Sunday. They were united in their lives, and in their burial they are not divided.

The religious services at the Western Conferences were more than ordinarily spiritual. Several said that

the Conference at Peterborough was the best they ever attended. The ordination sermon, by the President, Dr. Jeffers, will not soon be forgotten. We are glad while Revs. G. Young, M. Fawcett, and E. R. Young are returning from the North-west, that other brethren are preparing to go to that distant field, while Revs. G. M. Meecham, M.A., and C. S. Eby, M.A., are soon to join our noble little band in Japan. The following excerpt from the correspondence of the Rev. E. E. Jenkins, M.A., of the English Conference, who lately visited Japan, will be read with interest: "The University at Tokio is very thoroughly equipped, and has 249 students under careful discipline. The chief director, Hata-Keyama, was educated, converted, and baptized in America. Several of the professors are Christian ministers, and as far as the writer could learn, all the English and American gentlemen connected with the university and preparatory school are friendly to Christianity. The latter institution has 600 pupils, who receive their lessons in the English language. The girls' normal school, which was recently opened by the Empress, occupies a fine building, and has all its arrangements closely copied from Western models. The superintendent, Mr. Nakamura, is a class-leader in the Canadian Methodist Mission. He does not owe his position to the fact that he is a Christian, but was selected for the office on account of his great learning. He is one of the best Chinese scholars in Japan."

From the reports of the District Meetings that have reached us from the East, we gather that it is likely there will be a good increase of members. At one place where a District Meeting was held, it was found that on account of the fishing season having been less successful than formerly, the minister there was largely deficient in his allowance, and the members of the meeting, to their honour be it recorded, made a subscription and gave their suffering