

### One Phase of Home Missions.

Foreign Missions has something to show to sight as well as to faith, in uplifted lives and homes and peoples. Home Mission work in now and growing settlements, attests its value in that it moulds a growing country. But what about the Home Mission fields and augmented congregations in older parts of the country, in the Maritime Provinces and old Canada, that are remaining stationary or growing weaker, as older people pass away and many of the younger leave home for other places? What reasons are there for constantly and faithfully aiding these in providing for themselves religious services?

Apart from the highest reason, the great Scriptural duty of the strong helping the weak, and that other great duty of preaching the Gospel to every creature, whether at home or abroad; there is one reason, not the highest, somewhat selfish in its nature, and yet important because it is one of the best investments for Church and Country that can be made. Many of the young people leaving these settlements come to our villages, towns, and cities, and if they come from Christian homes and communities they are the more certain to become a help to churches where they make their new homes. The little help given in this way to the weaker settlements is the price the stronger churches pay for some of the best material that comes to them.

Further, from those scattered country districts often come the men who afterwards become leaders in the mercantile and political world and if they come from homes and settlements leavened with the Gospel, their influence will be so much the more likely to be good.

From motives of self interest, apart from the higher duty of helping those who need help, the support of mission stations, not only in new and growing parts of our country, but among the stationary or decreasing populations, is a good investment for church and country.

### OUR THEOLOGICAL COLLEGES.

A chain of forts across the Continent, wanting one in Vancouver, which yet shall be, to complete. Most of them have closed the work of another session, and their students are scattered from Cape Breton to Yukon, doing what they can to make Canada a better country.

#### PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE, HALIFAX.

Many a red-letter day in its history of some four-score years, has this, our oldest college, had, and among them not the least, was the 26th of

April ult., when, in connection with the close of the session, the new College Library Building was formally opened. Particulars of opening and closing are not to hand at this writing, save that one of the students, Mr. Cock, goes to Dawson city; the far East to the farthest North-West.

#### MORRIN COLLEGE, QUEBEC.

Small in numbers, but a light shining in a dark place, it has its Theology as well as Arts, and, its session ended, it has sent to the Home Mission Field three good men and true.

#### PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE, MONTREAL.

The session has been unique in one respect; it opened and closed with a "Graduates' Institute," extending over a week, with three sessions daily, filled with papers and discussions on many important subjects connected with the work of the ministry. At the formal closing April 5th, fourteen students graduated, two of them, Messrs. J. C. Robertson and W. T. B. Crombie (with Rev. R. G. Byers, in absentia), receiving B. D.; while on three of our ministers was conferred the degree of D. D., viz.,—Revs. A. Falconer, of Pictou, N.S., (in absentia); W. T. Herridge, of Ottawa, and R. Johnson, of London, Ont., the latter by examination, with a high average.

#### QUEEN'S THEOLOGICAL FACULTY.

On the 25th of April was Queen's Convocation, and far and wide, some of them to the North West, have the students gone, carrying with them the words of the Principal on the previous Sabbath: "A college is for the purpose of cultivating right ideals, to take away malice, form character, and insure stability." May "right ideals" ever be the product of our colleges. The degree of D. D. was conferred on Rev. W. G. Jordan, of Strathroy, who has also been appointed a professor in Queens.

#### KNOX COLLEGE, TORONTO.

The 6th of April witnessed the formal closing of the fifty-fifth session. Twenty-seven students completed their course, of whom seven go to work in the North-West and British Columbia, and three are looking to the Foreign Field. The degree of B. D. was conferred upon Rev. T. B. Duncan, and D. D. upon Rev. T. B. Porteous, of South Africa (in absentia).

#### MANITOBA COLLEGE, WINNIPEG.

The summer session opened April 18, with a lecture by Professor Baird, on the "Training for the Ministry." Drs. MacVicar and Scrimger, of Montreal; Dr. Gordon, of Halifax; Dr. Ivernach, of Aberdeen, Scotland; and Dr. Hamill, of Belfast Presbyterian College, will all give a helping hand the coming summer.