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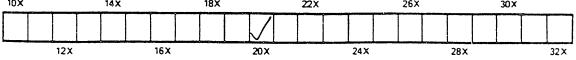
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# THE WESTERN MISSIONARY

Published under the auspices of the Synod, in the interests of Presbyterian, Home and Indian Missions.

Vol. I.

# WINNIPEG, JUNE, 1891. No. 9.

BX 9001

# THE SUPERINTENDENT'S H. M. RALLY.

The Western Home Mission work of our schnow need special attention. It has reached great proportion. Our Synod preaches the gospel at more than 500 points. We sign danger of becoming satisfied with our own position. In be sign danger is peril. Because we annually spend \$25,000 in our H. M. work in the west, we are apt to think we do well in raising that sum, and must keep down our expenditure to that amount. To this suicidal policy our Superintendent is a determined enemy. To him, as to everyone who knows the field, comes the sentiment, "We have not yet attained." "Advance" must be our watchword.

Dr. Robertson has undertaken to get pledges from congregations and from wealthy men of so much a year for five years, and this to be independent of the amounts at present contributed. A congregation for instance is asked to raise \$200 or \$250 a year for the support of some special station assigned to it in the west. The missionary in charge of the station will write accounts of his work to the friends supporting him. Thus greater interest will be awakened.

At the Synod meeting in Regina there was reported from a partial canvass \$9,500 for this year, and we have since heard that in Winnipeg alone, where the congregations have already heavy burdens, the handsome some of \$1,300 a year for five years have been subscribed by individuals, mostly in sums of \$50 and \$25. This is as it should be. To us at the present time, as a church, this is the "vox clamantis."

## COLLEGE MISSIONARIES.

The last days of Manitoba College for the year have come. The University and College Examinations are over. Dozens of students have got their belongings—not very heavy in many cases—together, and have hied them away to their mission fields. Leavings are sad; it is a critical time for the student as he goes out to break the ice as a young preacher; but the work is a grand one. More than 50 go out from our college this summer. We bespeak for these young evangelists a hearty welcome from the people.

UNITED CHURCH

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BRANDON PRESBYTERY.

In the garden of Manitoba, along the rapid Assiniboine, lies the Presbytery of Brandon. It is in a great farming district. We know nowhere of a finer agricultural region, and we look forward as a church to its yielding as a great spiritual harvest for our western work. Its two strongest congregations are those of Brandon and Portage la Prairie. These are self sustaining, well organized, have successful pastors, large and hearty prayer meetings, and splendid Sabbath schools. Indeed two of the most prominent S. S. workers in Manitoba are at the head of these schools.

Of the second rank there are the thriving congregations of Burnside, High Bluff, Carberry, Glenboro, Treherne, Holland, Virden, Oak Lake, Souris, McGregor, Chater, Rounthwaite, Douglas, Alexander, Montrose, all with settled pastors or ordained missionaries. Many other mission fields are also rising within the bounds.

We have high hopes that in our three great schemes of the west, Home Missions, Indian Missions and Manitoba College, Brand. n Presbytery may take the lead. A great advance has been made in the last two years in most of these, five congregations reaching the self-sustaining point. Now with good harvests, for which we fervently pray, we may expect a great bound forward. Of course, this applies to the whole Synod, but we have nowhere such an array of promising congregations as are here named. Last year one of the smallest of these congregations gave \$100 to Home and another \$100 to Foreign Missions. This was commendable.

We urge on this, as on all our Presbyteries, more system in giving. We ought all to adopt the envelope system for the support of ordinances, and then a regular society, with monthly or quarterly collectors for the schemes of the church. When shall we be able to reach the Christian ideal, of giving as much for outside objects as we do for the support of our own congregations?

NEWS ITEMS.

Mr. Duncan Campbell, B.A., a graduate of Manitoba College, has been called to Holland, Brandon Presbytery.

Mr. James Buchanan, also of Manitoba College, has gone to Red Deer, Calgary Presbytery.

Mr. C. Stephen, lately from Scotland, has been called to Medicine Hat.

We are glad to hear that our friend, Rev. A. McLean, of Manistique, Mich., is rather better, and goes in June across the Atlantic.

Mr. J. L. Small, of Man. Coll., has been appointed for the summer to Norman, a part of the charge of Rev. R. Nairn.

The Christian Endeavor Society in Minneapolis, and the Teachers' Convention, Toronto, will be attended by many Manitobans in July.

#### A GREAT RESPONSIBILITY.

The Convener of Home Missions for Winnipeg Presby ery has stated that at some forty points in that Presbyterv our church is maintaining services where no other church is found. While this is a great opportunity it is also a great responsibility. In most of these places the settlers are scattered. They are often far from being well off, and cannot give much to help in supporting the missionaries. But the Presbyterian Church in Canada has plenty of Its people are among the most successful in business all means. over the country, and at our great centres of Toronto and Montreal especially so. Moreover, while there is plenty of room for improvement, our people are trained to give for the Lord and are liberal. It is thus a pleasure for us to send our missionaries to many weak and struggling places, where, otherwise, the people would be without the gospel as thoroughly as if they were in China or Japan. Our missionaries find no difficulty in meeting these mixed communities. The pure word of God, Moody and Sankey's hymns, and the plain gospel, spoken in a simple way, without notes or artificial help, form a common medium upon which all the evangelicals can combine, and we are glad to say that instances come to us of Roman Catholics coming to our services and receiving benefit.

#### TEMPERANCE.

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At our late Synod meeting an excellent report was submitted or Temperance by the Rev. Joseph Hogg for the Convener, Rev. P. Wright, of Portage la Prairie. So far as expression was given, our Synod is a unit on the question of prohibition. It was reported with gratitute that temperance text books had been placed upon the programme for all public schools in Manitoba. In the Northwest Territories our people are banding themselves together to oppose the repeal of their Prohibitory Liquor Law, and to secure its proper enforcement. It was stated by a member of the Presbytery of Minnedosa that there are only two places in that large Presbytery where liquor can be sold. The people of the country districts of Manitoba are exceedingly temperate, and we shall hope to see Manitoba soon rivalling Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island in sobriety. JUNE RAYS.

June is the month of growth in Manitoba. Showers and sunshine are our constant thought. How completely are we dependent on our Heavenly Fatherfor these ! We can do nothing to bring them. How we pity the poor Agnostic, who cannot see our Father in heaven as a living factor in human life !

"Of Christ's plants some are more distinguished for their form, others for their foliage, others for their brilliancy of color, others for their fragrance, others for their useful qualities. Some thrive best in the moist soil of affliction, some even prefer the cold borders of the snow. Others spring from the crevices of the rock and climb vigorously over difficulties and opposition. Some demand a sunny exposure, and spread themselves along the wall."

How little, after all, we can 'accomplish in our own spiritual growth'. It is ours to sow and plant, but God gives the increase. We can but bask in the love of God.

"The spectrum of love has nine elements—nine colors—nine ingredients: Patience—"love suffereth long"; Kindness—" and is kind "; Generosity—"love envieth not "; Humility—" love vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up"; Courtesy—" love doth not behave itself unscemly "; Unselfishness—" love seeketh not her own "; Good temper—" love is not easily provoked "; Guilelessness— " thinketh no evil "; Sincerity—" rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth."

> "Sunbeam of summer, oh, what is like thee? Hope of the wilderness, joy of the sea! One thing is like thee to mortals given, The faith touching all things with hues of heaven."

#### PERSONAL.

Our hardworking Winnipeg pastors all go east to the Assembly. Dr. Duval's place will be supplied by Rev. R. P. McKay of Parkdale, Toronto: Rev. Joseph Hogg's pulpit by Rev. C. B. Pitblado, from New England, cousin of the former pastor of St. Andrew's Church.

Rev. P. Wright, of Portage la Prairie, and Rev. A. Urquhart, of Brandon, Rev. J. C. Herdman, of Calgary, and Rev. J. Pringle, of Port Arthur, go to the Assembly, as well as all the Professors of Manitoba College.

The west will be largely represented at Kingston.

WHAT TO DO WITH THE INDIAN QUESTION.

As long as there remains before there country an Indian question, just so long will its solution be a perplexity to statesmen, and the more so in proportion as they have thoughtfulness and The fact is, there is no probability that the Indian foresight. question will ever be solved. Solution is not the proper treatment to apply to the Indian question. The only way it can be got rid of is by abolishing it. This is the conclusion which has been reached by two parties which have little else in common. One party says: The Indian question can never be solved, and the only way to get rid of it is to kill off the Indians. The other has begun to say: There is no hope for a solution of the Indian question, and we can only abolish it by treating Indians as white It is to the latter alternative of course that we give assent men. in preference to the former. And, indeed, any other method of treating the Indians is liable to fatal objections if the object is to christianize and civilize them. The method of grouping them together in bands so that they encourage one another in idleness and present a solid front in opposition to every ennobling influence, has been tried long enough to show that such progress as has been made under it has been made in spite of difficulties needlessly great. To treat the Indian as a special case, even with a view to helping him, is a mistake, and results just as inevitably in pauperizing him as does the same course when it is applied to a city Arab in the slums of London. The cardinal necessity is to inculcate manliness and sturdy independence. There is in the Indiannaturally with no mean opinion of himself-good native soil in which these qualities may grow; and it but shows how grievously as a nation we have sinned against the Indian when the mental picture that comes out of the darkness when the name is mentioned, is that of a dirty lounging creature, with no self-respect, who is not ashamed to beg. That is far from being the natural condition of the aborigines of our country. It is an unnatural condition produced by generations of erroneous, though, in the main, well intentioned treatment. Here, in the same line, is what an educated Indian said in a speech on a recent public occasion in Philadelphia: "Keep on feeding my people with all the rations they can eat, give them all the clothing they can wear; and never, never, will they become civilized. But what we beg, desire, demand is that we be accorded the same rights as are enjoyed by the hordes of people from foreign lands who seek these shores ! Recognize our men as men; regard our women as women; make them work to live. Mv friends, it is true of the Indian as of the white man: God helps those who help themselves."

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A SUMMER RESIDENCE FOR MR. FLETT.

It is proposed to crect a little house at Rossburn to accommodate the Rev. Geo. and Mrs. Flett when they visit this reserve, which is about 25 miles from Okanase. The building will cost about \$100, and will, in reality be little more than a shed, or rather it will be like the summer shelters which camping parties in Muskoka and other holiday resorts sometimes have built for themselves. It will be, especially for people as advanced in years as Mr. and Mrs. Flett, a vast improvement on the tent which has hitherto been their dependence during such visits.

#### REV. HUGH MCKAY VISITS ONTARIO.

The Rev. Hugh McKay, of Round Lake, is a commissioner to the General Assembly, and is the only one of our Indian missionaries who will be present at Kingston. He is accompanied by Mrs. McKay and will spend a week or two immediately after the Assembly in addressing congregations in Ontario in the interests of Indian missions. Auxiliaries of the Women's Foreign Missionary Society in the Presbyteries of Peterboro and Stratford are the ones to be specially favored in this way, because it is from these Presbyteries that the supply of clothing goes to Round Lake this year. The impression made by Mr. McKay's addresses is always so good that there are many congregations asking for a hearing. During the absence of the missionary and his wife, the place of matron will be filled by a lady from Broadview, and Mr. A. J. S. Morrison, the teacher, will, in addition to his own work, overtake, as far as he can, the duties of missionary. Several children from the Crooked Lake reserves are preparing to go to the Rev. A. J. McLeod's industrial school at Regina.

#### A BUILDING THAT IS TO STAY.

A little stone church is being built on the southern part of Pasquah's reserve to accommodate the Indians in that part of Mr. Moon's mission. The church members will do the greater part of the hauling of the materials gratuitously, and it is expected that the church which is to be 16 by 20 feet in size, will only draw about \$175 from the mission funds. Government and missionary are combining their forces to induce the Indians to leave the valley of the Qu'Appelle, which flows along the north side of the reserve, and in which there is not enough room for farming, and to take up farms on the plain. There is no prettier place in the Northwest than Pasquah's reserve, and none, where the prospects for successful farming look more favorable. It is here that Alex. Maloney, one of the young men who has passed through Mr. Moon's school, has taken land. If he realizes the prayers that ascend on his behalf, he will be an encouragement and comfort to the missionary and a blessing to the reserve.

WOMEN WHO LABOR IN THE GOSPEL.

Miss McLaren writes from Birtle on the 2nd of June: Mrs. Dr. Smellie has presented to our school a revolving globe, with bronze stand and all the latest improvements. I can give you no idea of the children's delight—the teachers' also—it is so decided an improvement on a ball of yarn, with a knitting needle stuck through it. I can assure you we appreciate this and all the other kindnesses we have received from her during the short stay of the family in Birtle.

A number of the larger boys and girls have gone home for the summer, but we have still 22 who remain all the time—thirteen girls and nine boys. Mr. and Mrs. Flett called on us last week on their way home from Rossburn. We have only three children from Okanase, the other five went home early in the spring to attend the day school.

I purpose going home again about the first of July and taking some of the children if the parents will allow me. I have promised to visit Galt, Guelph, London, Woodstock and Paris, and no doubt it will add considerably to the interest if I have some of the children to exhibit. I shall take girls this time.

### THE MISSIONARY'S THANKLESS TASK.

The Rev. A. J. McLeod writes under date June 4th: We have now 29 children enrolled-15 boys and 14 girls. A great sundance has been going on at Piapot's and was only brought to a close yesterday at noon. This has unsettled the children and some of them have made determined efforts to make for home. On Sunday I kept my one horse in the stable and let the seamstress, laundress and others that wished to do so, walk through the mud four miles to and from church. I felt convinced an effort would be made to reach the reserves. The boys had to be kept in constant check. Just before prayer time, when it was getting dark, two girls (of 11 and 13 years) succeeded in getting away. It was dark and threatening rain. I drove toward some tents two miles away, but came back unsuccessful. At half-past ten Mr. Mackenzie and the carpenter started for the reserves. The drove till daylight, and then unhitched, expecting that the girls would come along. But they had taken another road and their stay in the bluffs from three till eight in the rain was without success. They reached the camp some hours ahead of the girls, and had very great difficulty, although Mr. Lash helped to the utmost of his power, in getting them back. The poor girls' feet were blistered with the walk [it is about 25 miles.-ED.] and after all they missed seeing the dance.

On Monday morning at five minutes to seven I saw three boys hurrying towards the north. I could follow them accurately with my field glass. We had only oxen to pursue the runaways with, but at a neighbor's we succeeded in getting a saddle horse. The farmer without his breakfast, followed the boys, but seeing three men in the distance he was led a considerable way out of his course. It was not till 5 o'clock in the evening that he returned with the three boys.

It is hard to say what punishment should be meted out to such offenders. The Indians say: Do not punish our children, and some of the agents echo the same. I went down to see the commissioner yesterday as to whether corporal punishment should be administered, but he was away. For the sake of discipline, I think there are some offences too grave to be put off with stomach punishments, such as bread and water. And yet we must make every allowance, a dance is almost irresistible to the average Indian.

The WESTERN MISSIONARY is published on the 15th of each month at a subscription price of 15 cents a year. All communications intended for insertion should be addressed to the Editors of the WESTERN MISSIONARY, Manitoba College, Winnipeg; and must be in their hands not later than the 10th of the month. All business correspondence should be addressed to the Business Manager of the WESTERN MISSIONARY, Manitoba College, Winnipeg.

Will ministers to whom this leaflet is sent confer a favor by passing it on, after they have read it, to the Secretary of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, or of any other organization in the congregation devoted to mission work? With a view to sending specimen copies, the editors will be pleased to receive the names of persons likely to be interested in the work the Presbyterian Church is trying to overtake in the West.

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