

British American Presbyterian

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C. BLACKETT ROBINSON, P.O. Address, Publisher and Proprietor

British American Presbyterian, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1874.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

Louis Riel has been elected M.P. for Provencher, and will in all likelihood come to Ottawa to claim his seat.

The Revival in Scotland and certain parts of England goes on—over widening and deepening. From all quarters the same accounts come of greatly increased interest in religious matters.

Canada seems at present suffering from an invasion of burglars of one kind and another, so that people are talking of organizing Vigilance Committees for helping in the work of bringing to justice those who have proclaimed war against society.

The elections in the United Kingdom have gone strongly against Mr. Gladstone, who, it is understood, has tendered his resignation to Her Majesty, which it is also alleged has been accepted.

Dr. Ryerson, and other officials in the Education office, are very excited over the Attorney-General's proposal to so far liberalize the Book Depository, as to allow ordinary booksellers to supply school trustees with prize and library books if it is found or thought to be more advantageous to do so.

The New Brunswick School Bill threatens still to be a fruitful source of agitation and heart-lurning. It is said the Roman Catholics are determined to have the terms of the Confederation Act of '67 so charged by the Federal Parliament as to secure separate schools for the Lower Provinces, and for all other provinces that may be hereafter established.

THE NEW EDUCATION BILL.

The new Education Bill at present before our Local House of Parliament is, in some respects, not so complete as could be desired, while, on certain points, it is positively defective. It is, however, in the right direction upon the whole so that we hope the Attorney General will pass it through, taking care to supply what is wanting and correct what is wrong in the course of its discussion in Parliament.

OUR SUBSCRIPTION LIST A REMINDER.

Although we have made numerous additions to our list of subscribers during the past two months, we are still a long way from the THREE THOUSAND NEW NAMES required to place this journal on a proper footing.

There are still hundreds of places where we should be sending from 10 to 100 copies to which we now forward only two or three. If a friend in each locality would take the matter in hand, either to get up a club, or work for one of the numerous premiums offered for compensation for canvassing for the PRESBYTERIAN, we feel certain that the result would be most gratifying to all who are interested in the success and wide circulation of an independent Presbyterian family paper.

Our terms being payment IN ADVANCE, a large number of subscriptions are now due; and friends are earnestly requested to remit without delay. To the individual subscribers the amount is small; but these small sums aggregate to the publisher several thousand dollars.

A number of people belonging to the congregation at Alexandria met at the house of the Rev. K. McDonald on Saturday evening of last week, and in the name of the people of Glengary, presented him with a valuable horse and an address as a slight token of their appreciation of his efforts in behalf of the spiritual welfare of the people of that county.

Presbyterian College, Montreal.

LECTURE BY REV. DR. DURYEA.

The Rev. Dr. Duryea delivered a lecture to the students of the Canada Presbyterian College yesterday afternoon at four o'clock. He began by saying that generally students, at the beginning of their course, pictured to themselves great difficulties in supplying matter for two sermons on each Sunday of the fifty-two Sundays in the year; but if they worked hard these difficulties disappeared as they came closer to them.

He next spoke of the pastoral work. He had often heard people speaking of certain ministers, that "although they were not good preachers, yet they were excellent pastors; they were such nice men in the drawing room." Now, that was all nonsense; a man who was a poor preacher was a poor pastor; he might be good at amusing his people with small talk, but that was simply wasting his own and his people's time.

The Doctor's lecture was exceedingly interesting as well as instructive, his witty remarks frequently disturbing the equanimity of his auditors, which included, at night with the Professors and students, a number of their friends, half a dozen of whom were ladies.

The United States seems in danger of being involved in another Indian war. As yet, however, the matter has not assumed very formidable dimensions, and it is to be hoped, will not.

Ministers and Churches.

At the annual soiree of the Newtonville congregation on the 12th instant, \$60 were realized.

The annual soiree of Knox Church, Oro, held on the 22nd ult., was a complete success. Over \$100 were realized.

The Annual Tea Meeting of the Bowmanville Presbyterian Church was a most successful affair. Proceeds \$162.

The Rev. Mr. Macpherson, of Hilltown Free Church, Scotland, has declined the call from Knox Church congregation, Galt.

On the 25th instant the Oroso Presbyterian Church intend (D.V.) holding a reunion which promises to be a pleasant and profitable gathering.

The Congregation at Mayfield, in connection with the C. P. Church, are about letting the contract of their new brick Church which they expect to occupy in another year.

The Bank street congregation of the Canada Presbyterian Church Ottawa, adopted the basis of union with only one dissenting voice.

We understand the congregation of St. Andrew's Church, Toronto, resolved at a late congregational meeting, by a large majority, in favour of the proposed Presbyterian Union.

To the great satisfaction of all the members of both his congregations the Rev. Alexander Kennedy, Dunbarton, has withdrawn the demission of his charge, and will continue as heretofore.

Recently the manse, Novis, was "surprised" by a numerous party from the neighborhood of Guthrie, bringing with them substantial tokens of good will and Christian affection.

The Rev. J. Dunbar, of Glenmorris, recently delivered a graphic and interesting lecture, before the Ayr Mechanics' Institute, descriptive of his recent trip through Scotland.

The Canada Presbyterian congregation of St. Mary's has unanimously called the Rev. W. H. Bounelson, M. A., to be their pastor. We believe there is every likelihood of the same gentleman being called to Galt, and to Knox Church, Hamilton.

The Session and congregation of Knox Church, Galt, voted on the Basis of Union on Wednesday the 11th February. The Session by a majority of one, voted acceptance of the Basis, while the congregation rejected it by a large majority.

Over \$70 were realized from a soiree at Winterbourne. Mr. D. McDougall, Registrar of Waterloo, most efficiently discharged the duties of the chair. Mr. J. King, of Berlin, and a number of reverend gentlemen, delivered suitable addresses.

On the 23rd ult., Mr. McCoy, the efficient Superintendent of the Prescott Presbyterian Sabbath School, was presented with a complete set of Barnes' Commentary on the New Testament, in eleven volumes, along with a very complimentary address. Mr. McCoy made an appropriate reply. The Rev. Mr. Hunter occupied the chair.

"The Hero Martyrs of Scotland," was the subject of the lecture on Tuesday evening, given by the Rev. W. Cochran in the Music Hall, Orillia. The lecture was delivered in a forcible and eloquent manner, and says the Expressor, although much was expected from so popular a minister, none could have been disappointed. The lecture was listened to throughout with intense earnestness.

The pupils in Miss Gibson's class in the Bayfield Presbyterian Church Sabbath School a few days ago presented their teacher with a handsome gold locket and a most flattering address. The presentation was made by the children as a mark of their esteem for their teacher, and their appreciation of her unvarying services in instructing them in spiritual things.

The Ladies' Soiree in connection with St. John's Presbyterian Church, Cornwall, came off on Wednesday evening last. The object of this gathering was to assist in raising funds for the building of a new Manse in connection with the Church, and we are glad to report that a handsome sum rewarded the ladies' exertions on the occasion. Mr. James Craig, M.P.P., in the course of his address, made the gratifying announcement that the debt on the Church had been fully paid, with a balance on hand towards building the projected manse.

A large number of the friends and members of the C. P. Church in Colborne met at the Manse on Friday night, 23rd ult., for the purpose of giving a surprise to their pastor, the Rev. P. Duncan. Having spread and enjoyed a bountiful repast, they presented the rev. gentleman with an address, a purse containing \$92, and other articles, amounting in all to something over \$100. The address was read by E. Rosevear, Esq., and the presentation made by M. Grant. This is but one among the many instances in which the congregation have shown their regard for Mr. Duncan in the same substantial way. The act speaks well for pastor and people.

Copies of the Tract, "Admit the Beasts—A Sinner," may be ordered from this office at 45 cents per 100, postage free paid. Already a large number have been sold.

A meeting was recently held at Victoria Harbour, Georgian Bay, at the instance of Mr. Stewart Acheson, student, Knox College, for the purpose of forming a committee to take the necessary steps for building a church, to be decided to the Presbyterian Body, and free to all denominations until such time as each and every denomination shall build a church of their own. A committee was appointed to carry out the object of the meeting, and arrangements have already been complete for erecting a suitable building the coming season.

A soiree was held in the Presbyterian Church, at Claude, on Friday the 20th ult. Though the day was the coldest of the season we had up to that date, yet there was a very large attendance present. The chair was occupied by the Rev. R. M. Croll, the pastor of the congregation. After tea was served the Rev. B. Sherlock addressed the meeting, on "The benefit of Christian union;" the Rev. J. W. Thorne, on "The constraining and expulsive power of right motive;" the Rev. Alex. McFaul, on "The atmosphere in which we live, as typical of our social, political, moral and religious atmospheres." The Rev. J. Baikie, on "The happiness arising from social enjoyment, and from the higher moral and aesthetic culture."

We have before us the 6th annual report of St. John's C. P. Church, Almonte, which is a gratifying exhibit of the position and prospects of this flourishing congregation. The total contributions for the year amounted to \$2,408.12, which shows an increase of \$1,933.96 over the contributions of 1868—only five years ago. This is certainly a marked advance in the contributions of the members; because the membership has only increased from 120 to 160. But what is better than mere material prosperity is the fact that "there have not been wanting, during the past year, cheering tokens of divine blessing on the ministry of the word, showing that the Lord is in the midst of us, and that we are sustained in our work by His good hand upon us."

On the evening of the 10th inst., a large number of the members and adherents of the Canada Presbyterian Church, Baltimore, gave a surprise to Mr. George M. Hogg, of that place. The object of the gathering was to acknowledge Mr. Hogg's services as leader of the Church Psalmody, for a period of seventeen years. After the party had partaken of the good things brought along, the Rev. Mr. McKay, minister of the congregation, read a very suitable address, while Mr. Mann, one of the elders, made the presentation. This consisted of a beautiful gold watch and guard, valued at \$100. Mr. Hogg, in suitable terms, expressed his thanks to the congregation for so handsome and unexpected a present. The rest of the evening was very pleasantly spent in "social chat" and singing; and we venture to say few places can boast of musical talent's superior to those of Baltimore.—Colbourn World.

The Reverend Alexander Smith, of the American Presbyterian Church, Presbytery of St. Lawrence, congregation of Theresa, N. Y., made application to the Presbytery to present his petition to Synod for admission to the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland—and to grant him missionary work within the bounds of the Presbytery in the meantime. Mr. Smith presented at the same time his credentials from the stated clerk of St. Lawrence Presbytery, and a letter from the convener of the Committee on vacant charges and ministerial supply. Mr. Smith is a brother of the Rev. J. K. Smith of Halifax, N.S., and though ordained to the Ministry in the United States, comes from Aberdeen, Scotland. His arts course was taken at Marischal College, with one session at Edinburgh. The Presbytery entertained his petition, and being satisfied concerning his good standing and attainments, granted his request, feeling that in Mr. Smith they have acquired an able and devoted worker.

Prior to leaving for Toronto to finish her studies, Miss Smith was presented with a valuable writing desk by the choir of the C. P. Church, Bowmanville. The presentation was accompanied by an appreciative and affectionate address, read by Mr. Thos. Yellowlee, on behalf of the choir. The Rev. Mr. Smith, on behalf of his daughter, kindly thanked the donors for their renewed good will, both to himself and family. The additional testimony was but another proof of the respect the congregation had always shown him; and although he was not the recipient of this fresh renewal of their confidence, yet he was none the less pleased to think that a member of his family had received this mark of their respect. He thanked the choir and the congregation heartily, for their kindness, and hoped that the happy relationship which had ever existed between him and the people over whom he was placed would continue unbroken.