

gations within their respective bounds do contribute to this Fund and to all other Schemes of the Church." A resolution was passed authorizing an address of welcome to the Marquis of Lorne and the Princess Louise, the address to be presented by such Ministers and Elders as may find it practicable to assemble at Halifax upon the arrival of the Marquis. A satisfactory report of the Hunter Church Building Fund was presented—showing an expenditure for Church building purposes of \$16,000 in three years. Thursday evening was devoted to statements of the objects and requirements of the principal schemes of the Church. The Synod was three days in session.

HOME MISSION COMMITTEE.

THE HOME MISSION COMMITTEE; *Western Section*, met in Toronto on the 8th and 9th October. Dr. Cochrane, Convener; Rev. R. H. Warden, Secretary. There was a large attendance of members. The grants to the mission stations under the committee as well as to the supplemented congregations were revised for the current year. The total number of mission stations is about 130, embracing nearly 400 preaching places. The supplemented congregations are eighty-eight in number. The stations in the Lake Superior District are now supplied by stated missionaries; these are, Thunder Bay, Silver Islet, and Sault Ste. Marie. In the first named field a new Church is being erected at Fort William. On Manitoulin Island there is now an ordained missionary, assisted by a student catechist. At two of the stations, Gore Bay, and Manitowaning, new churches have been built during the past summer. The Rev. Donald Ross of Lancaster, accepted a unanimous appointment to Prince Albert, Saskatchewan: salary \$1,250. In addition to settled pastors, there are now fifteen ordained missionaries and five student catechists under the Home Mission Committee in Manitoba Presbytery. There are sixty-four preaching stations. Towards the support of these missionaries the settlers themselves promise the sum of \$5,000 for this year—nearly double of what was contributed last year. The total amount required this year from the Committee for the support of the work in Manitoba is about \$10,000. The Rev. Mark Turnbull was appointed to Parry Sound, and the Rev. John McKay, formerly of Richmond, to Maganetawan in the Muskoka District.

FINANCE.—The fund is at present in debt to the amount of over \$19,000—six thousand dollars more than at the same time last year. A resolution was adopted urging Presbyteries to secure increased contributions, so as to render unnecessary the diminution of the already slender salaries of our missionaries.

FOREIGN MISSION COMMITTEE.

The Assembly's Foreign Mission Committee (Western Section) met in Toronto on the 2nd and 3rd. ult. Respecting the mission in Central India, the Committee learned that, at present, it was very difficult, if not impossible, to obtain anything like a satisfactory title to property on which to erect missionary premises at Indore, chiefly arising out of the circumstance of the State in which Indore is situated being a Native State. Further correspondence with the brethren in Central India was directed, in which information should be asked, not only on matters referred to in former correspondence, but also on the advisability of sending to Central India, at an early date, an additional number of lady missionaries, and also on the subject of salaries to missionaries. The Committee had reason to fear that the late sickness with which some of our missionaries had been visited, especially those first sent out, had not only considerably impaired their health, but had also required them to draw largely on their salaries. It was stated, that at its meeting in June last, the Committee accepted the offer of two ladies, one in Prince Edward Island, the other in Toronto, to become missionaries in the foreign field. Respecting the mission in China, interesting letters were read from Mr. Junor, and also from Mr. G. L. McKay. In one of his letters, Mr. McKay states his fears that one of the buildings connected with the mission premises at Tamsui had been attacked by white ants, the fearfully destructive foe of buildings in some countries. Respecting the mission to the Indians in the North-West Territory, steps were taken to continue the education and training of Donald MacVicar, one of the orphan children taken up by the late Mr. Nesbit, with a view to his future usefulness. Correspondence was directed to be had with proper parties, seeking for additional information respecting the locations or reserves on which Indians may be settled, so that the Committee may decide as to the propriety of erecting additional houses as residences for missionaries to the Indians in the North-West.—T. L.

Obituary.

REV. ALEXANDER SPENCE, D. D. The announcement of Dr. Spence's death has been received by many old friends in Canada with sincere sorrow, for although he had been living for a number of years out of the country, and in comparative seclusion, his long connection with the Presbyterian Church of Canada, and the honoured position he occupied in it, made him widely known and respected. Dr.