

M. GUTZLAFF IN CHINA.—Letters from the celebrated Herr Gutzlaff, Missionary and Consul General of England in the Celestial Empire, have just been received at Munich. They are dated from Hong Kong, and give an account of the labours of that eminent individual, which approaches the marvellous. He had just terminated a voluminous history of the Chinese Empire, and has sent the manuscript of it to M. Cotta, the publisher at Stuttgart. He has published at Hong Kong a universal Geography in the Chinese language with sixty large maps. He has begun to compose a complete dictionary of the Chinese language, which will, he says, absorb all his leisure for the next three years. It is only in his leisure hours that he can occupy himself with literary and scientific labours, the rest of his time being devoted to his missionary labours and his consular duties. He announces that he has addressed some long memoirs on the geography of China to the Geographical Society of London, which it is expected will shortly be published. M. Gutzlaff still maintains the opinion that Christianity and European civilization can only be successfully propagated in China by the Chinese themselves. He has accordingly founded a Chinese Society, which already possesses 600 members, many of whom are mandarins and some native savans of the first rank.

We observe that the General Assembly of the National Church is about to do at length what they ought to have done a century ago—to establish a periodical in the language of the Gael. Had the Highlanders had the same advantages as their southern neighbours in regard to the progress of knowledge during that period, we should have less bigotry, fewer cabals, and more happiness, physical and social. The Highland Society of London, and the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, spend their hundreds and thousands of pounds sterling annually upon objects good and sufficiently praise-worthy in themselves, but, to their disgrace be it told—to the exclusion of human beings. The General Assembly are beginning to act like themselves, and we have no doubt the result will be adequate to their most sanguine expectations. We are also glad to observe from the prospectus that the work is to advocate no party politics, but to deal sound solid information throughout the land.

CORRESPONDENCE.

MINISTERS' WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' FUND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE PRESBYTERIAN.

SIR,
As *The Presbyterian* has a circulation in every Congregation in connection with the Church of Scotland in the Province, I desire to acknowledge in its columns the contributions received towards the above Fund. You will observe that out of the fifty-four Congregations only eleven have yet sent in their contributions. It is to be hoped, however, that no Congregation will neglect to contribute. The limited stipend paid to the Clergy here does not enable them to make provision for their wives and families after they themselves are in the course of Providence taken away: and I think it is clearly the duty of the Congregations to remove from the minds of their Ministers any anxiety on this ground. The Clergy themselves are contributing liberally out of their small incomes, thereby showing an example worthy of imitation by the members of their flocks. The following list embraces all the ministers who have paid their first half-yearly instalment.

PRESBYTERY OF MONTREAL.

Alexander Mathieson, D. D.	£1 10 0
Duncan Moody,	1 10 0
William Mair,	1 10 0
Walter Roach,	1 10 0
James Anderson,	1 10 0
John Cook, D. D.	1 10 0
James C. Muir,	1 10 0
William Simpson,	1 10 0
David Shanks,	1 10 0
John Merlin,	1 10 0
J. Davidson,	1 10 0
James Thom,	1 10 0

Alexander Wallace,	1 10 0
Robert M'Gill,	1 10 0
Thomas Scott,	1 10 0
James Stewart,	1 10 0

PRESBYTERY OF GLENGARY,

John Mackenzie,	1 10 0
Hugh Urquhart,	1 10 0
Isaac Purkie,	1 10 0
John Dickey,	1 10 0
John M'Laurin,	1 10 0
Thomas M'Pherson,	1 10 0
Colin Grigor,	1 10 0
Aeneas M'Lean,	1 10 0
William Dunbar,	1 10 0

£13 10 0

PRESBYTERY OF BATHURST.

John Smith,	1 10 0
Joseph Anderson,	1 10 0
Alexander Mann,	1 10 0
David Evans,	1 10 0
Thomas Fraser,	1 10 0
George Bell,	1 10 0
William Bain,	1 10 0
John M'Morine,	1 10 0
John Robb,	1 10 0

£13 10 0

PRESBYTERY OF KINGSTON.

John Machar, D.D.	1 10 0
Robert Neill,	1 10 0
James George,	1 10 0
A. Colquhoun,	1 10 0

£6 0 0

PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.

P. Ferguson,	1 10 0
P. M'Naughton,	1 10 0
John Tawse,	1 10 0
Thomas Johnston,	1 10 0
John M. M'Carthy,	1 10 0
John Barclay,	1 10 0
Alexander Ross,	1 10 0
Samuel Porter,	1 10 0
William Brown,	1 10 0
William Barr,	1 10 0

£15 0 0

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.

Wm. King,	1 10 0
G. M'Clatchy,	1 10 0
Andrew Bell,	1 10 0
John Cruikshank,	1 10 0
John Bryning,	1 10 0
Alexander M'Kid,	1 10 0

£9 0 0

Received from Professor Geo. Romanes, Queen's College,	1 10 0
Ditto, ditto, James Williamson, Queen's College,	1 10 0

Total amount of Ministers' half-yearly contributions, £84 0 0

The following are the Congregational collections up to this date:—

Collection in aid of the Fund at Lachine, per Rev. W. Simpson,	£4 10 8
Ditto, ditto, Niagara, per Rev. J. Cruikshank,	3 8 4
Ditto, ditto, St. Andrew's Church, Montreal, per Rev. Dr. Mathieson,	22 10 0
Ditto, ditto, St. Andrew's Church, Kingston, per Rev. Dr. Machar,	14 10 0
Ditto, ditto, St. Paul's Church, Montreal, per Rev. Robert M'Gill,	26 10 0
Ditto, ditto, Three Rivers, per Rev. James Thom,	3 0 0
Ditto, ditto, Pakenham, per Rev. A. Mann,	1 15 0
Ditto, ditto, Chatham, per Rev. Wm. Mair,	1 0 0
Ditto, ditto, Cornwall, per Rev. H.	

Urquhart,	5 0 0
Collection St. Andrew's Church, Perth, per Rev. W. Bain,	3 5 0
Collection at Bathurst, per Rev. W. Bain,	1 5 3

£170 14 3

You will thus perceive that we have made a fair beginning, and that our collections to this date are £170 14s 3d. I hope that the Ministers of the Congregations that have not yet made collections, will bear the matter in mind, and take the first favourable opportunity that presents itself to call forth the liberality of their people.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,
Your most obdt. servt.

JOHN GREENSHIELDS,
Treasurer Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund.
Montreal, 28th January, 1848.

The following letter has been handed to us by the Rev. Dr. Mathieson, to whom it is addressed, and we gladly give it a place in the Columns of the Presbyterian. We may remark that the Records of Synod were sent by the Clerk of Synod, and the Presbyterian from our Publishers. Mr. Steven deserves great praise for his kind visit to Metis. In the grateful satisfaction of doing his heavenly Master's work, he will have a nobler compensation for his labours than any pecuniary reward, yet we could have wished that the last had not been awaiting, at least to the amount of his expenses. The labourer is worthy of his reward.

Metis, 13th January, 1848.

REV. SIR,—I received some time ago a few copies of the Records of the Synod, and by last post four copies of "*The Presbyterian*;" and, as I conceive these have come to me through your kindness, I take this occasion of returning you my sincere thanks for your very kind attention.

I am highly pleased with the spirit of "*The Presbyterian*," and hope that it will be widely circulated. I will do all in my power to obtain subscribers next week. D. V. I will see the people, and get such names as are inclined to subscribe for it.

We had almost come to the conclusion that Metis was forgotten until the name appeared in the Synod Record under the care of the Montreal Presbytery. I rejoice to think that this desolate place is accounted worthy of a name among the many in Israel, and do pray that it may soon reap the benefit of a more efficient Ministry. The people are poor; but there has been for some time past an evident desire to promote the interests of the Church according to their ability, and, although there are not many accessions to the number, yet the hostility formerly manifested is now much abated. Several things have occurred during the past year which instrumentally have operated towards this effect.

Among others I must mention the very kind visit of the Rev. Mr. Steven of Restigouche. He came here in last September, remained five days, preached, and visited the people during that time with much advantage. The result of his very impressive sermons, I trust, will be long felt, while the urbanity of his deportment among this people will not soon be forgotten. There were two marriages, and eight children baptized during his stay. We had a congregation of nearly one hundred people the day he preached; on the Monday and Tuesday he visited the front and second concessions. From the inclemency of the weather he could not visit the "Back Settlement;" so called.

After seeing the circumstances of the people, Mr. S. recommended to make an application to the Colonial Committee for some assistance towards the support of a Minister here. They have drawn up a petition to that effect, and sent it off last November. He requested them to forward a copy of the petition and bond to you, but from some