

absence. No mention is made of their *stealing a march*. How our correspondent could draw such an inference from the Report, we are at a loss to conceive.

The Report is then accused of making an *insinuation* that "bribes were offered by the Lay Association of Montreal, smelling of rottenness and corruption."

We were puzzled with this part of our correspondent's letter. We carefully examined the Report, and could not, after a minute investigation, discover how our Melbourne friend could have been justified, in concluding that the paragraph, which offended him so much, made any mention of "bribes, rottenness and corruption."

Our correspondent himself, however, throws some light upon the subject. He states with the utmost candour, that the Established congregation at Melbourne, received £25 from the Montreal Lay Association, towards liquidating a debt on their Church; and that, in addition to this donation, one of the Elders of that congregation has been engaged with a salary of £10 to pray with the people and read the Scriptures to them: in short, to perform those duties, which every Elder of a Christian Church is bound, by his vows, to do "without money and without price."

Our inquiries in regard to this case, have obtained for us some additional information. We have ascertained, on excellent authority, that the statements of the Report, relative to Melbourne, are correct.

We have learned, in addition, that one Rev. gentleman of the Established Church Deputation offered Baptism to the children of several parties at Melbourne, and induced them to receive it, on his representing that there is "no difference between them (the Deputation,) and the Free Church."

Another individual was tampered with in the same way, and induced to receive the Lord's Supper.

Such devices we feel bound to characterize as "unholy bribes."

The letter of our Melbourne Correspondent purports to be the embodiment of a "series of resolutions" passed at a Meeting of St. Andrew's Church, Melbourne, called by the regularly constituted Office-bearers.

It is a singular fact that this Meeting was not known to the people of Melbourne in general, until they were informed of it in consequence of the communication made to us. There was no general meeting of the Presbyterians of that place. It must have been very secret and very small: in short, what is familiarly styled, "a hole and corner affair."

We have devoted more space to this communication than we intended. We cannot, however, conclude without advising our correspondent to draw a little more of that "Christian spirit," which he seems to think so eminently distinguished the Established Church Deputation, which visited, and so greatly refreshed the benighted inhabitants of Melbourne. We recommend him to use more caution and to act with more calmness in examining the statements of others, and to remember the Apostolic saying, that "charity suffereth long and is kind."

PRESBYTERY OF MONTREAL.

The Secretary of the Home Missions Committee of this Presbytery, requests the publication of the following statements, having reference to the Report of the Presbytery's proceedings published in our last number, as furnished by the Clerk of the Presbytery. We think ourselves bound to comply with his request, inasmuch as the consideration of the original statements was deferred by the Presbytery till their next meeting, and nothing in the way of explanation was or would be entered on the minutes. It seems clearly right, that the complaint made and the explanation offered should be placed on the same footing:—

In the Record for December, I observe a report of the proceedings of the Presbytery of Montreal in connexion with the Presbyterian Church of Canada, held on the 25th day of November last, which by giving a one-sided and partial statement of the case brought before the Presbytery, is calculated to mislead those at a distance, and places the Committee Managing Missionary operations within the bounds of this Presbytery in an unfavourable light before the members of our Church, and your readers generally. The Committee feel, that whether designedly or not, injustice is done to them in that report, and on their behalf I beg to supply the following brief explanation, which

I feel assured your sense of justice will readily admit into the columns of the Record.

In this report, the inference allowed to be drawn from the statement with regard to Mr. McKenzie is, that he (Mr. McKenzie) was employed by the Committee to labour during the past summer as a catechist at Rawdon, and that afterwards they declined to give him any remuneration for his services; whereas, Mr. Redpath's important explanation should have been given, viz., that Mr. McKenzie was never employed by them, that he went to Rawdon without their knowledge or sanction, and that consequently his claim for remuneration could not be recognized.

In regard to the memorial from members and adherents of St. Gabriel Street Congregation, complaining of being excluded from the Missionary Committee, I have simply to state, that the Committee originally appointed by the Presbytery with the addition afterwards made to its numbers, consisted of ten individuals, four of whom belonged to that Congregation, although they subsequently saw fit to withdraw from it,—that Mr. Leishman, immediately after being ordained Pastor of the Congregation, was, at the suggestion of the Committee, appointed Convener, and still is so: and that neither he nor any other person complained of its constitution, or expressed any wish that other members should be added thereto; the first intimation received by the Committee of any such desire, being the memorial presented to the Presbytery at its last meeting.

Montreal, Feb. 3. 1847.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE SUSTENTATION BOARD,

ORDERED TO BE LAID UPON THE TABLE AND TO BE CONSIDERED IN MAY

January 11, 1847.

The Secretary reported, that, after much deliberation with the President and other members of the Sustentation Board, at Montreal, in July last, it was decided to recommend for the consideration of the Board, the removal of the term *minimum*, believing that the term and the sum named might both have an unfavourable tendency in some cases, making congregations feel that a well-ordered, own efforts, when they have contributed £100, although they might and ought to contribute a much larger sum: In other cases shutting out from participation in the advantages of the scheme, congregations who may have worthy and devoted pastors, where the want of system or some other cause, leaves the Minister to contend with difficulties single handed, which the annual visit of the Agent of the Sustentation Board, assisted by a neighbouring Minister and Deacon, would tend materially to remove. With these views, and with a desire that every settled Minister should be embraced by the Scheme, or relieved by the Presbytery in whose bounds he may be placed, from the bonds with which he is thus oppressed; they suggest: that any congregation having a Minister, who has been settled with due care by a Presbytery, should be admitted on the fund at such contribution as the people are able to make, and that in such cases the scale of distribution should be after the subjoined example. It is believed that many congregations who might in the first instance be far below the sum which could be wished, would by keeping their duty and their privilege before them from year to year, gradually advance until they become aid-giving congregations:—

Contribution.	Representative sum.	Multiplic.	Stipend.	Surpl.s.	Deficiency
£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
60 0 0	8 0 0	11	85 0 0		28 0 0
70 0 0	8 10 0	11	93 10 0		23 10 0
80 0 0	9 0 0	11	99 0 0		19 0 0
90 0 0	9 10 0	11	104 10 0		14 10 0
100 0 0	10 0 0	11	110 0 0		10 0 0
110 0 0	10 10 0	11	115 10 0		5 10 0
120 0 0	11 0 0	11	121 0 0		1 0 0
130 0 0	11 10 0	11	126 10 0	3 10 0	
140 0 0	12 0 0	11	132 0 0	8 0 0	
150 0 0	12 10 0	11	137 10 0	12 10 0	
160 0 0	13 0 0	11	143 0 0	17 0 0	
170 0 0	13 10 0	11	148 10 0	21 10 0	
180 0 0	14 0 0	11	154 0 0	26 0 0	
190 0 0	14 10 0	11	159 10 0	30 10 0	
200 0 0	15 0 0	11	165 0 0	35 0 0	
220 0 0	16 0 0	11	175 0 0	41 0 0	
240 0 0			192l or 80 p.c.	48l or 20 p.c.	
270 0 0			216 0 0	54 0 0	
300 0 0			240 0 0	60 0 0	
320 0 0			256 0 0	64 0 0	
360 0 0			320 0 0	80 0 0	

NOTE.—The foregoing Scale was confirmed by the Board on the 21st July, 1846, and Local Treasurers directed to act upon it, from an Hundred Pounds and upwards, each Local Treasurer paying to his own Minister the whole sum in the stipend line, and handing to the Central Treasurer his Minister's receipt and the surplus in cash. The present recommendation specially relates to congregations contributing at present less than £100 annually.

JAMES WALKER, Secretary.

J. W., Secy.