

Court that has not the fear of the rich before its eyes can enforce payment. But I would suggest another mode, easier understood, simpler of application, and less oppressive to the rich. Starting from the same basis, let congregations that have been paying a salary of \$500, pay for supply \$8; let those paying \$600, pay \$9; let those paying \$700, pay \$10; and so on, increasing \$1 for every additional \$100 of salary given. A church then giving \$1,500, would have to pay \$18 for supply, which would still be much below the proportion given to a settled pastor. And let every vacant charge understand, that supply can only be obtained by complying with these terms. Probationers would then know to a certainty, what remuneration they were entitled to, and take no less, the Presbytery being held responsible for that amount. There is another grievance that probationers have just cause to complain of, but it would be encroaching too much on your space, to enter fully into it in this communication. Suffice it to say at present, that it is customary for those having the appointment of probationers, to allow those who have not entered their names on the probationers' list to supply the very best vacant charges, while the regular probationer is sent to the poorest, or to supply churches that are not in a position to give a call. The system has become so common, and is so contrary to every principle of justice and equity, that it requires only to be named in order to receive universal condemnation. It would be well then, were our approaching General Assembly to appoint a small committee, principally elders, men of good sense and business habits, to devise a system that would be as much a credit as the present is a disgrace to the Church. EQUITY.

King, March 25th, 1878.

#### OBITUARY.

It was with feelings of deep regret we noticed the death of Mrs. Hudspeth—an old and highly esteemed member of the Presbyterian Church, Lindsay. She was an intelligent, active lady, who always took a deep interest in whatever pertained to the prosperity of Presbyterianism, as well as in the more general religious and charitable institutions of the neighborhood. Of her husband, whose death took place only a few days after her remains were conveyed to their last resting-place, the Victoria "Warder" has the following:—"The late Mr. Robert Hudspeth was born at Bowsden, near Berwick, Northumberland, England, in 1798, and educated at the University of Edinburgh. He married Marianne, daughter of the Rev. Adam Cairns, of Longforgan, Scotland. Mr. Hudspeth was educated for the Church, but was so nervous and modest that after a few attempts at public preaching he abandoned it altogether and opened a private school in Edinburgh, where he was very successful, and had for his pupils many young men who afterwards became famous. He emigrated to Canada with his young wife and two children, Thomas and Alice, in 1834, and bought a wild lot in Seymour, where he struggled for two or three years chopping and clearing some ten acres himself, but owing to fever and ague attacking him he was obliged to abandon the idea of farming, and opened a private school in the village of Colborne, where he remained but a short time, accepting the position of Classical Master in the Victoria College (then Seminary) at Cobourg, which he left to take charge of the Newcastle District Grammar School at Cobourg, on the retirement of Mr. Crofton in 1840. After the great fire in Lindsay in 1861, Mr. Hudspeth was asked to take charge of the Grammar School, which he did for about three years, and then retired to act as a clerk in his son Adam's law office, where he wrote until a few days before his death. Mrs. Hudspeth died on the 7th ult., aged seventy-eight years, and Mr. Hudspeth on the 14th ult., aged eighty years. Mr. Hudspeth was an honest upright Christian man, well educated, and of good abilities, and had he not been so modest and retiring might have taken his place among the prominent men of Canada, but doubtless he has done well in a humbler capacity and will be long remembered by many a young man as a valued preceptor and kind friend. Mrs. Hudspeth was also a highly educated woman, and for many years in Colborne and Cobourg taught a Ladies' School. They have lived to a good old age and died possessing all their faculties and within a week of each other. 'In death they were not divided.' During the procession of the funeral cortege through the town on Saturday last, all the stores were closed out of respect to the memory of the late Mr. Hudspeth."

A funeral service was held in St. Andrew's Church, on Sabbath, 7th, in connection with Mrs. Hudspeth's death, when her husband and son were present. The following Sabbath, 14th, the service was held in connection with Mr. Hudspeth's death, and in connection with the removal by death of another old inhabitant, Mr. Thomas Nugent. "The memory of the just is blessed."

#### DEDICATION OF KNOX CHURCH, THEDFORD.

Sabbath the 17th inst., was an important day to the Presbyterians of Thedford Village and vicinity. For many years they had been worshipping in an old frame building a short distance from the village of Thedford, but so rapid has been the growth of the congregation during the past few years, and especially so under the care of their present pastor, the Rev. Hector Currie, that it was resolved to build a new church better suited for the accommodation of the increased membership. The building is one of the finest churches in the county of Lambton. It is built of white brick, upon a stone foundation. The basement is large and commodious, being divided into lecture and class-rooms, it is admirably suited for the use of the Sabbath School. The seats in the church are made of butternut, finished with red oak, and give accommodation to about six hundred. The windows with handsomely stained glass are after the latest style. The whole building is heated by hot air. For the accommodation of those who drive from a distance there is a large number of sheds to the rear of the building. Notwithstanding the bad state of the roads the church was filled to its utmost capacity at the different services. The Rev. Mr. Murray of London, preached an able discourse both morning and afternoon, and Rev. Mr. Duncan of Forest, ably conducted the evening service. On the following Monday a soiree was held, tea was served in the commodious basement to a very large number, who, after satisfying the cravings of the inner man, repaired to the church where they were entertained by several able speakers of different denominations. The dedicatory services were a complete financial success. The collections on Sabbath, the proceeds from the soiree, and the additional subscriptions, amounting to over \$2,000, which was more than sufficient to cover the debt upon the new building. This must have been exceedingly pleasing to the congregation and their pastor, Mr. Currie, who though but a very short time in charge of the congregations at Thedford and Ravenswood has made himself not only much admired by his own people, but also extremely popular among others. By his untiring zeal he has infused new life into his people, so that they have accomplished with comparative ease what many congregations would fear to undertake. The result of his efforts is that Knox Church is entered unburdened with debt, and thoroughly equipped for the Master's work.

PRESBYTERY OF WHITBY.—The Presbytery of Whitby met at Whitby on the 19th inst. There was a full attendance of members. The first hour was spent in conference on the state of religion, introduced by Mr. Rogers reading the committee of Presbytery's report on that subject. Messrs. Rogers, Hogg, Chambers, Little and Fairbairn took part in the conference, and at the close a committee was appointed to bring in a finding on the subject. The congregation of Dunbarton both by resolution and by delegates urged upon the Presbytery not to accept Mr. Kennedy's resignation. In connection with this matter, it was reported that a union meeting of four of the congregations in Pickering had been held, at which it was agreed to request the Presbytery to call a meeting of the Presbyterian congregations in Pickering with a view to reorganize the different congregations so as to produce the best results to Presbyterianism. After hearing delegates and after careful consideration, the Presbytery granted the request, and appointed such a meeting to be held at Brougham on Monday, the 15th April, Mr. Chambers to preside, and in the meantime Mr. Kennedy's resignation and the congregation's resolutions to lie on the table. Messrs. Drummond (convener), Little, Spencer and Fairbairn, were appointed a Home Mission Committee of Presbytery. Provision was made for the supply of the congregations of Newtonville, Orono, Enniskillen and Pickering. Mr. Rogers read an overture on Hymnology, which was adopted by the Presbytery and ordered to be transmitted to the Synod. Messrs. Douglas (by

rotation), Chambers and Little (by election) were appointed delegates to the General Assembly, together with Messrs. Fairbairn, J. C. Smith and Geo. Laing, elders. A small committee was appointed to examine the remit on Ecclesiastical Procedure and report at next meeting. Delayed all other business until next meeting, which is to be held in Mr. Kennedy's church, Duffin's Creek, on the 16th April, at 11 o'clock. A. A. DRUMMOND, Pres. Clerk.

PRESBYTERY OF STRATFORD.—This court met on the 19th inst., in St. Andrew's Church, Stratford. Sixteen ministers and eight elders were present. Rev. John McKay was invited to sit as a corresponding member. It was agreed that the expenses of Presbytery should be apportioned among the congregations on the basis of the number of members and families, all families being included that had even nominal connection, and three (3) single persons being considered equal to a family. The committee on the circular on Sabbath School Work presented a report embodying a general approval of its recommendations, and these recommendations, with slight alteration, were adopted in the terms following. 1. That Presbyteries take the oversight of the work within their bounds, by holding, in one or more places, annually, meetings for parents and teachers, for such length of time as may be desirable. 2. That Normal Classes be held for a lengthened period in towns and cities, and for a shorter period—say two days—in rural districts. 3. That deputations of ministers, elders, or laymen taking a deep interest in this work, be appointed to visit the schools within the bounds, and report to the Presbytery as to the state of the schools. A committee was appointed to report on the best way of carrying out these recommendations. In regard to the separation of North Morningside and Milverton, it was agreed to send a deputation to them with a view to that object, which the Presbytery regarded as very desirable. From East Zorra it was reported that the congregation was in a fair way of getting rid of its debts, that they desired the services of a student during the summer, and expected thereafter to be in better condition to receive Probationers. There was presented and read a petition from persons in and about St. Mary's, praying that they be organized as a second Presbyterian congregation there, together with minutes of a meeting held in connection therewith, appointing Messrs. M. Laughton, Alex. Smith and J. D. Moore to support the prayer of the petition. Certain irregularities appearing in these documents, it was agreed to hear the commissioners concerning them. These commissioners stated that, of the eighty-one names appended to the petition, two were in duplicate by mistake, four were appended with the consent of the parties, and thirty-six without their consent; and that of the whole number of names, about one-half were on the roll of the existing congregation. It was moved by Mr. Arch. Stewart, seconded by Mr. McPherson, and agreed, that the petition, owing to irregularities, be not received. Mr. Cameron's reasons of protest against his relation to New Hamburg were read, and answers thereto read and adopted. A committee was appointed to allocate Presbytery expenses to the amount of \$150, said amount to provide for Commissioners' expenses to General Assembly. Intimation was read concerning the establishment of a new Presbytery, to include three of the northern congregations. The following commissioners were appointed to General Assembly, viz.: Messrs. Hislop, Stewart and Renwick by rotation, and Messrs. Hamilton, McLeod and Scott by election; and elders, Messrs. A. R. Morrison, Robt. Paterson, James McDonald, James Crerar, Alex. McTavish, and William Fotheringham. A committee was appointed to consider the advisability of holding special evangelistic meetings, or to suggest other means of increasing the spiritual life of the congregations. The remits of General Assembly were considered, with the exception of two to be taken up at next meeting. The proposed regulations on the Widows' Fund were approved, except the 9th. It was thought better to terminate the connection with the Fund of ministers leaving the Church, by an equitable payment. It was agreed to disapprove the appointment of a Home Mission Secretary and Common College Fund. It was agreed to approve the placing of the names of ordained missionaries on Presbytery Rolls, as also the retaining on the Rolls of Presbyteries the names of ministers retiring by leave of Assembly, but their names to be not transferable to other Presbyteries. Presbytery adjourned to meet for ordinary business in Knox Church, Stratford, at 9.30 a.m., 9th of April next.