

PRESBYTERY OF COBOURG.

The Presbytery of Cobourg met in St. Andrew's Church, the twelfth June.

The commission of Elders appointed to attend the ensuing Synod, were received and approved, and the elders names placed upon the Roll.

An intimation having been given in the papers that, congregations in connection with the Presbyterian Church in Canada, intended supplying instrumental music in the public Worship of God, the Session of Grafton presented an overture, praying the Presbytery to take such measures as may be necessary to prevent the introduction of instrumental music into the sanctuary, in connection with this church.

The Presbytery agreed to transmit the overture to the ensuing meeting of Synod.

The subject of Union with the United Presbyterian Church, was brought before the Presbytery, by several resolutions transmitted by the Congregations of Grafton and Colborne, which Resolutions the Presbytery agreed to transmit to the Synod.

The Presbytery agreed to meet at Trenton, on Wednesday, 25th July, at 11 o'clock, A. M., for the purpose of ordaining Rev. James A. Thomson, to the office of the holy ministry in connection with the Presbyterian Church of Canada.

The Statistical Returns of the various congregations were examined, and the Presbytery was happy to find that, in general, they exhibit a considerable advance over last year.

Rev. Mr. Smith stated that, the state of his health was such, that a season of rest was necessary for complete restoration. The Presbytery sympathised with him and his people, and unanimously agreed to supply the congregation during his absence, as far as possible. Messrs. McLeod and McKenzie were appointed to make the necessary arrangements.

W. SMITH, Presbytery Clerk.

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.

INDUCTION AT ST. CATHERINES.

The Presbytery of Hamilton met at St. Catharines according to appointment on the 11th ult. for the induction of the Rev. R. F. Burns to the pastoral charge of the congregation there in connection with the Presbyterian Church of Canada. Present, Mr. James Pirie, Moderator; Mr. Choyne, Ministers; Mr. Dougan, an Elder, was requested to sit with them. Mr. Cheyno was appointed Clerk. The edict was returned as duly served, and the Presbytery having intimated that they were ready to receive objections, if there were any, to the life, doctrine or character of the Rev. F. Burns, and none having been brought forward, the Presbytery resolved to proceed with the induction. Mr. Pirie preached an appropriate discourse from Psalm 14th, after which the usual questions were put to Mr. Burns and satisfactory answers having been received, Mr. Burns was inducted by prayer to the Pastoral charge of the Congregation, and received, the right hand of fellowship. Mr. Cheyno addressed the Minister, and, in the absence of the Rev. Mr. Irvine, who had been appointed by the Presbytery to discharge the duty, Mr. Cheyno also addressed the people. After the service Mr. Burns was cordially welcomed by the Congregation as their Pastor in the usual way. The Presbytery afterwards met and Mr. Burns name was added to the roll. Mr. Burns requested that Assessors might be appointed to constitute a Session; whereupon Rev. James Pirie, and Mr. Peter Christie, Elder of Niagara, and Mr. Dougan, St. Catharines, were appointed.

In the evening there was a service held in the Town Hall, where a number of the inhabitants of St. Catharines attended, and the Ministers of the different religious denominations with the exception of the Episcopal Church. There were said to be present over three hundred. The Hall

was quite filled. They thus showed that they felt an interest in this auspicious occasion as one pregnant with good results to the town in its future progress. The Rev. Mr. Cheyno was requested to occupy the Chair. After prayer by the Rev. Mr. Pirie, refreshments were served. When the refreshments were over, after a few introductory remarks by the Chairman, the audience was addressed by the Rev. Mr. Creighton of the Wesleyan, Mr. Ryerson of the Baptist, and Mr. Robertson of the American Presbyterian Church in very appropriate and excellent speeches. They cordially welcomed Mr. Burns as a fellow labourer in that part of the vineyard. The speeches were intermingled with delightful music by the choir. The benediction was then pronounced by the chairman and the audience dismissed seemingly highly delighted with the whole affair. St. Catharines is a town of great importance and is increasing very rapidly. It enjoys many important advantages. It has unlimited supply of water privileges for purposes of machinery, and stands in the midst of a fertile and flourishing country. It is of great importance to have a Minister of talent and zeal, such as Mr. Burns, placed in such a field, presenting scope for Missionary enterprise. It is no doubt destined through the enterprise of its inhabitants to become a place of considerable importance, and it is no less important to its welfare that it should have brought to bear upon it moral and religious influences.—Communicated.

UNION MEETING—GRAFTON.

The following Resolutions were forwarded to us shortly after the meeting at which they were adopted:—

At a meeting of the members of the Free Church, Grafton, called together for the purpose of taking into consideration the contemplated Union of the Free and United Presbyterian Churches, the Rev. Mr. McKenzie, of Baltimore, was called to the Chair, and Thomas J. Milligan appointed Secretary.

The following Resolutions were unanimously carried:—

1st. Moved by D. McRae, seconded by Mr. John Munro, That we hail with pleasure every approach to an Ecclesiastical Union between the Free Church of Canada and the United Presbyterian Church, and regret that any unnecessary obstacles should be permitted to hinder that Union from being speedily, harmoniously, and completely effected.

2nd. Moved by Mr. W. Rutherford, seconded by Mr. G. Robson, That since both these branches of the Church are guided by substantially the same standards of religious doctrine, discipline, government, and worship, nothing short of holding the truth in unrighteousness, or a necessary compromise of great and important principles, on the part of one or other of these branches of the Church, should perpetuate the present schism existing between them.

3rd. Moved by Mr. W. Glover, seconded by Mr. J. Russell, That a Union, such as we now desire, would be greatly to the benefit of the Presbyterian community, by uniting small congregations of each body into larger, thereby lessening, in many instances, the difficulties of ministerial support, and affording to pastors much wider fields of usefulness.

4th. Moved by Mr. James S. Carruthers, seconded by Mr. A. Runciman, That such a Union is, to a great extent, already in existence, as respects the membership of both communities, the congregations generally of both branches of the Church made up of various denominations of Presbyterians, who act harmoniously, and illustrate satisfactorily that the whole Presbyterian family not only may, but should dwell together in unity.

5th. Moved by Rev. Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. R. Johnston, That the present mode of dis-

cussing the Union in the public prints is likely to do injury, and might be much better left to the Committee appointed by both Synods.

6th. Moved by Mr. W. Logan, seconded by Mr. Craig, That these Resolutions be forwarded to the Presbytery of Cobourg, for transmission to the Synod of the Free Church, about to assemble at Montreal, and sent for insertion in the *Record* and *U. P. Magazine*.

REPORT OF THE COLLEGE COMMITTEE.

I. In presenting their Annual Report to the Synod, the College Committee would advert with thankfulness to the continued prosperity of the educational institute. The number of students in attendance last session was 43; of whom 16 were in the theological department, 20 were non-theological students, and 7 were receiving instruction from Mr. Smith, to prepare them for entering on the curriculum.

II. From the resolution adopted three years ago, to continue in the literary classes some whose admission to the Divinity Hall it was thought might be advantageously postponed, the number of candidates for licensure, at the expiry of this session, is less than it would otherwise have been. The Committee expect, however, that a correspondingly greater number will be in readiness next year for the public service of the Church. Meanwhile three labourers are about to go forth to the work, as soon as the Presbyteries shall have been satisfied of their qualifications. These will prove an accession in one of the most necessities of the Church's departments, all of them possessing the Gaelic language, and being adapted to minister to the Highland emigrants and settlers.

III. An account of the studies with which the young men in the different classes have been engaged during last session, has been drawn up by the Professors and Mr. Smith, and is inserted in the *Ecclesiastical Record* for May last. It was prepared and published, partly for the satisfaction of the Synod, and partly to guide Presbyteries in the examination of students.

IV. The Committee have been instructed to prepare, and to lay before the Synod, a curriculum which it could recommend for the Synod's adoption, beg respectfully to submit the following:—

Preliminary Class.—For those who, on examination, are not found qualified to enter upon the course properly so called. Arithmetic and Mathematics; English Grammar; Elements of Civil History; Elements of Latin and Greek.

Non-Theological Course.

1. First year—Classics; Mathematics; English Composition.
2. Second year—Classics; Junior Philosophy, (Logic and Metaphysics;) Physical Science, (Natural Philosophy, Chemistry, or Natural History;) History and English Literature, (Junior Department.)
3. Third year—Senior Philosophy, (Metaphysics and Ethics;) Junior Hebrew; Physical Science, (Geology;) History and Literature, (Senior Department.)

Theological Course.

1. First year—Evidences of Natural and Revealed Religion; Senior Hebrew; Church History; Exposition of Scripture.
2. Second year—Systematic Theology; Church History; Hermeneutics and Biblical History; Pastoral Theology.
3. Third year—Systematic Theology; Hermeneutics and Biblical Criticism; Pastoral Theology.

The principal difference between the curriculum submitted, and that which has hitherto been followed, is, that students in the first year of the theological course are, according to the scheme proposed, required to attend a class, to be con-