

# PURITY



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BECAUSE  
BEST TO USE.**

REV. J. McMILLAN.

MINUTE ANENT HIS DEATH.

The Presbytery of Lindsay desires to express its profound sorrow in recording the death of the Rev. John McMillan, of Wick and Greenbank. For about seven years he was a member of this court. During all that time he was singularly diligent in attendance at its meetings, and remarkably faithful in the performance of all duties assigned to him. He was wise in counsel, as well as peace-loving and equitable in all his administration of affairs. He was an honest, earnest and persuasive preacher continually pleading with men to be reconciled to God, and tenderly exhorting them to the nurture of a Christian life. Then, too, the moral force of his own daily life gave power and efficacy to his message. It would be difficult to find a higher ideal of pastoral work than he cherished. For he held his duty undone till he should bring the matter of personal salvation directly before the heart of everyone of his people, by repeated personal appeal and in individual conference. In his pursuance of this ideal with warm devotion and unflagging zeal, he overtaxed his strength, and after a lingering illness of many months, borne with exemplary patience and resignation, he was called to rest. Though his voice is silent here his influence is living and potent with us still, for he left a shining example of zeal and consecration to God in the work of the ministry, that will continue to be a reminder and inspiration. Long will his sick-bed messages to his brethren be cherished in loving remembrance. "It is a great privilege to be permitted to preach the Gospel of Christ." "Preach with all your might." We sincerely mourn his death, and deeply sympathize with Mrs. McMillan and family in their bereavement. It is ours to bow submissively to our Father's will and prayerfully commend them to His paternal guidance and care. — W. G. HANNA, Convener of Committee.

### OBITUARY.

The daily newspapers have announced the accidental death, by drowning at his summer residence, Morpeth, of Mr. John Ferguson, of Thamesville, Ontario. Deceased was born in Stirlingshire, Scotland, in 1825, and came to Canada with his family early in the fifties. He lived some time at Ridgetown, and moved to Thamesville in 1857, where, in connection with his brother, Robert Ferguson M.P.P., he was engaged in the business of lumbering. He was widely known throughout Western Ontario, and his

sterling qualities of head and heart won for him the respect and confidence of all with whom he came in contact. He came of a Presbyterian family of long standing and generously assisted all the schemes of the church. As one of the founders of the Presbyterian Church in Thamesville and an elder for over twenty years, the pastor and congregation feel that in the death of Mr. Ferguson they have sustained an irreparable loss.

Through the whole of his busy life he took a keen interest in the welfare of the community in which he lived. He took a prominent part in municipal affairs and lent his aid and active co-operation to all schemes for the furtherance of education. He was a good citizen in the best and broadest meaning of that term. He resolutely declined political honors, although pressed to accept his party's nomination as far back as 1867. He married Miss McKinlay, of Ridgetown, who, with her two daughters, survive him.

### PRESBYTERY MEETINGS.

The Presbytery of Brandon met in Portage la Prairie on Tuesday, 10th July. An application for a loan of \$250 from Church and Manse Building Fund was made by High Bluff congregation and recommended by the Presbytery to the Board. Messrs. Urquhart, MacTavish, Lockhart and Shearer were appointed to visit congregations in the vicinity of Brandon with a view to readjustment of territory. A deputation consisting of Messrs. Carswell, Douglas, Shearer and Ballantyne was instructed to visit Carberry congregation in the interests of the work there. A committee consisting of Messrs. Wright, Urquhart and Fraser was appointed to make an equitable apportionment of the Home Mission Funds on hand among the Presbyteries of Brandon, Portage la Prairie and Glenboro, when the division of Presbytery takes place. On account of the new arrangement of Presbyteries, to take effect shortly, the standing committees were requested to continue in office for the present and the allocation for the schemes of the church was deferred to next meeting.—T. R. SHEARER, Clerk.

The Presbytery of Huron held a regular meeting on the 10th of July. Mr. Shaw was appointed Moderator for the ensuing six months. Commissioners to the Assembly reported their attendance. Mr. David Buchanan, a candidate for the ministry, was ordered to be certified to the Senate of Knox College, as a student of the first year, literary course. The committee appointed to meet with the congregations of Manchester and Smith's Hill, respecting the supply of Leeburn in connection with said congregations, reported that the congregations and their minister declined to have Leeburn associated with them for regular supply. Standing committees for the year were appointed, of which the following are the conveners:—Home Missions, Mr. Martin; State of Religion, Mr. Stewart; Temperance, Mr. Anderson; Sabbath Schools, Mr. Acheson; Sabbath Observance, Mr. Musgrave; Finance, Mr. Shaw; Superintendent of Students, Dr. McDonald; Systematic Benevolence, Mr. McLean; Christian Endeavour, Mr. J. S. Henderson. Mr. Anderson gave notice that at next meeting he would move "that in the future the Presbytery shall meet in Clinton."—A. McLEAN, Clerk.

The Presbytery of Brockville met at Cardinal, July, 9th inst. Mr. Macalister presided. Mr. Connery obtained leave to moderate in a call at Morewood and Chesterville. A letter from Mr. Higgins set forth his intention to return to his congregation in September. The committee on the A.I.M.F. was urged to continue the canvass in the interests of that fund. Mr. Graham was appointed Moderator for the next six months. Mr. Sinclair gave notice that at the next regular meeting he will move that the motion on record forbidding any complimentary resolution regarding ministers removing from the bounds be rescinded. It was decided to hold a public presbyterian conference at the next meeting on the question, "The importance of the various parts of the public service." Leaders were appointed as follows: On music, Mr. Aston; on reading, Mr. Connery; on prayer, Mr. Madill; on sermon, Mr. MacArthur; on giving, Mr. Sinclair. The evening sederunt was taken up with a conference on Sabbath observance. The conference was opened by a thoughtful address by Mr. James Moodie, elder. He was ably followed by Mr. Connery. After several members had taken part and Mr. Sinclair had given his impressions of the last General Assembly, the meeting closed.—GEORGE MACARTHUR, Clerk.

The Presbytery of Kingston held its ordinary meeting at Belleville on Tuesday last. Rev. Mr. Moore, of Seymour, was appointed Moderator for the next six months. Rev. R. J. Craig and Rev. D. McEachern, commissioners to last General Assembly, gave an interesting account of its proceedings, reporting particularly on the matters which this Presbytery had appointed its commissioners to see to. A call from Melrose, Lonsdale, and Shannonville in favour of Mr. D. O. McArthur, and one from Camden VIII. and Tamworth, in favour of Mr. R. Ballantyne, were sustained, and provisional arrangements were made for their ordination and induction—Mr. McArthur to be ordained and inducted at Melrose on Tuesday the 17th day of July, at 2 p.m., the Moderator to preside and preach. The ordination of Mr. Ballantyne, in the event of his accepting the call, was appointed to take place in St. Andrew's Church, Tamworth, on Tuesday, 24th July, at 11 a.m., Rev. Mr. Gandier to preach and preside, the Presbytery to meet at 10 a.m. for the purpose of hearing trial discourses, etc. Arrangements were made for visiting those mission fields within the bounds where ordained missionaries are not in charge, and for dispensing ordinances therein as follows: Mr. Maclean, Commissioner of the Home Mission Committee reported that the Assembly's Home Mission Committee had made the grants. The usual standing committees for the year were appointed. The

Rev. J. R. Bartley, B.A., LL.B., of Trinity College, Dublin, presented testimonials, and was received by the Presbytery. Rev. Mr. Gracey gave notice of motion for payment of the expenses of commissioners to Assembly hereafter from a fund to be created for that purpose.

The last stated quarterly meeting of the Montreal Presbytery was recently held in the David Morrice Hall, the Rev. Moses F. Beaudreau, Moderator, in the chair. The Rev. F. M. Dewey, M.A., was elected Moderator for the next six months. Reports from commissioners to General Assembly all spoke of the good work which was done by the Assembly. Special reference was made to the deputations from sister churches, and to the liberal Christian spirit which was exhibited. The Rev. Robert Campbell reported that he had presided at the union of the two congregations in Huntingdon. This had been accomplished in a most warm, Christian and enthusiastic manner. Not one member of either of these congregations had been left outside. Dr. Campbell also read a minute, prepared by a committee of Presbytery, re the resignation of Dr. Muir. This spoke of the loss which the congregation and the Presbytery had sustained in the resignation of Dr. Muir, and commended his diligence and the generous spirit he exhibited in thus rendering a union possible. An application was made by the congregation of Athelstane, to be placed in possession of one half of the church and manse property of the Second Presbyterian Church, Huntingdon. These two congregations were formerly united under one pastoral charge, but afterwards separated. At that time the Presbytery agreed that the Athelstane congregation should have one-half of the property, in case the second congregation should cease to exist as a distinct church. As, owing to the union in Huntingdon, this contingency, had now been brought about, Athelstane asked to be put in possession of its share. The Presbytery to-day recommended that the representatives of the two congregations shall meet, and come to an arrangement in the matter. Next, the French congregation at Grenville, reported that they were united in favour of Mr. Giroux being settled over them as ordained missionary. This was agreed to, and Mr. Giroux is to be ordained and appointed to that field for one year. The ordination is to take place on July 24, the Rev. G. C. Heine to preside. The matter of the mission to the Chinese in this city was next taken up. The Rev. F. M. Dewey, Dr. Campbell, J. Nichols, E. Scott and others spoke upon the importance of this work. Mr. Dewey reported that the Foreign Mission Committee was in favour of taking immediate action in the matter, and he had been instructed by the convener to invite Dr. Thompson to come at once and take charge of the work. The Presbytery agreed that he should do so.



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