

merely a pleasant religious acception, but to be in a state of active willingness, to hear God's call in a thousand voices that speak of need and opportunity, and to turn aside only when it is clear that God has shut the door. Dr. Glover is a young man of wonderful natural ability—his fresh ideas, expressed in clear-cut sentences, with a most impressive voice, give him great influence in addressing an audience, but no one could listen to him in spite of all these, and not feel that there was a power other than natural ability there. His message was "in demonstration of the Spirit and with power." Dr. Simpson then spoke on some impressions of a missionary tour around the world. He emphasized the vast multitudes—the deep, awful misery—and the opportunities on every hand for work. His closing words on the thousands dying without having ever heard of Christ, were very powerful. At the close of his address he asked all those who were willing to go to the missionary field to stand up. It was a sight not soon to be forgotten to see between a hundred and fifty and two hundred of those young people rising all over the church. The meeting closed with singing the well-known C. E. hymn, "God be with you till we meet again," and the benediction. Then nearly all the audience came forward to say good bye to the departing missionaries. On Wednesday night, at 10.30, loving friends gathered at Union Station to see them off, and had another brief farewell meeting. In company with Mr. Ferguson, who goes out in connection with the China Inland Mission, they started on their journey westward. At Tacoma they will be joined by four other China Inland Mission missionaries. They remain for preparation in the training home at Canton, and then proceed to do pioneer work in the vast and unoccupied province of Kwang-Si, with its eight millions of unevangelized heathen. All who know them look for blessed results from their labours.

#### Presbytery of Toronto.

THE regular meeting of the Presbytery of Toronto was held in St. Andrew's church, on Tuesday, the 5th inst. There was a large attendance of members, and of commissioners who had business before the Court. St. John's congregation, Toronto, was given permission to elect trustees, and secure transfer of deed of property, and embursement thereon. Mr. Scott, in making the request, gratefully acknowledged, on behalf of his congregation, the great kindness of St. James' Square the mother congregation, towards St. John's congregation, from the day of its inception till the present, when they were able to stand alone. A committee of Presbytery was appointed to act with the Prisoners' Aid Association in promoting the work of the Association. A resolution expressing the Presbytery's high regard for the late Rev. John McKay, formerly of Knox church, Scarborough, and its appreciation of the work he was permitted to do in this Presbytery, was accepted, and ordered to be inscribed, and a copy forwarded to the relatives of Mr. McKay. Committees were also appointed to draft resolutions respecting the late Professor Thomson, and Mr. G. E. Freeman. Mr. W. W. Percival's resignation of the charge of Richmond Hill and Thornhill was accepted, and Mr. C. A. Campbell, of Maple, was appointed moderator *ad interim*. The Presbytery agreed to adopt without change the selection of Psalms submitted by the Hymnal Committee. An overture by Mr. John Douglas, a member of Parkdale Presbyterian church, dealing with the respective and relative duties of the session and the board of managers, was remitted to a committee, who were instructed to examine and prepare a report thereon at next meeting of Presbytery. The Presbytery agreed to approve of the remit from General Assembly suggesting the amalgamation of the following standing committees, viz., State of Religion, Sabbath Observance, Systematic Benevolence, and Temperance into one committee. The remit respecting the requirement of one year's service in the mission field before permitting graduates or ministers received from other Churches to be inducted over a pastoral charge, was con-

sidered, and it was agreed to express approval of the remit so far as it dealt with students who had just graduated, and in respect to ministers received from other Churches, except as in certain cases that may be exempted by special action of the General Assembly. Dr. Gregg, who was not present when he was nominated for Moderator of the next General Assembly, asked that his name be withdrawn, and in response to his very earnest request, his name was reluctantly dropped. It was agreed to continue the printing of the Presbytery minutes, and Mr. A. C. Gowanlock's tender for printing the minutes was accepted. The committee appointed to meet and confer with the petitioners from Parkdale who desire to form a new congregation, presented a careful report. The opinion was expressed that there was not room in Parkdale for three good congregations, and the committee recommended that an effort be made to amalgamate the present Fern ave. congregation and the body of petitioners. It was agreed to continue the committee and instruct them to confer with Fern ave. session and board of managers and with the petitioners, with this end in view, and if successful, to recommend to the Presbytery in its report at next meeting some suitable site for the new church edifice. A recommendation to allow the petitioners to meet meanwhile in Cowan ave. Methodist church was laid on the table till such conference may be held. Messrs. Edward B. Horne and Robert J. Richardson were duly certified to the Senate of Knox College as students preparing for the ministry in the Presbyterian Church. —R. C. Tinn, Clerk.

#### Presbytery of Montreal.

AT THE adjourned sitting of the Montreal Presbytery, the acting Moderator, the Rev. F. M. Dewey, called upon Rev. Mr. Heine to resume the discussion upon the question of the form of the Book of Praise which the Presbytery should recommend the General Assembly to adopt. Mr. Heine strongly advocated a book which should include the Psalms, the growing disease of which he deplored. Rev. Dr. Mackay followed in a very energetic speech. He contended that printing another book which included only selections from the Psalms would be a mistake, as it would gradually drive out of use the complete book. If the entire psalter was included with the hymns it was open to any one to make their own selections. He said the whole meaning was often obscured by taking selections and he advocated the whole psalm being sung through. In reply to an interruption, he admitted amid laughter that he would exempt the 119th psalm at an ordinary service. Making selections was like taking texts without the context; any heresy could be proved by such a course. In this connection, Dr. Mackay recalled an instance in which his brother had confused an itinerant preacher who justified all his heretical teaching by reference to isolated Bible texts. His brother had quoted: "Judas went and hanged himself" and followed it up by saying, "Go thou and do likewise," and applying the words to the heretical doctrinaires with the remark, "There are both texts from the Bible." He wished there was more of the spirit of the Huguenots and the Covenanters when they were proud to be called Psalm-singing Presbyterians. In these "favoured" days the Psalms were not understood. Presbyterians had forgotten their ancient traditions and their days of persecution and were half fellows with any form of religion. Dr. Mackay concluded by deprecating such a lengthy discussion over a "miserable trifle," for while the book of selections Mr. Scott advocated contained 51 pages, he held a book in his hand containing the entire Psalter, with hymns and music, which, without the musical score, would only cover 25 pages. Rev. Dr. Chisholm thought it would be scandalous for that Presbytery to omit the Psalter, for he looked upon the Psalms as the cream of the Bible. Give all or none; at all events do not mutilate the Psalter for the sake of saving 14 pages at a cost of a cent or two extra for the book. The moderator then called upon the Rev. Ephraim Scott to reply, and he claimed

that Dr. Mackay had misrepresented the issue, which was whether a book should be published containing the whole Psalter plus the hymns, or one containing the whole Psalter plus selections plus the hymns. A discussion then arose as to the exact meaning of the reference from the General Assembly to the Presbyteries, Rev. Dr. Campbell reading the original motion. Rev. Dr. Patterson, Rev. J. Fleck, Rev. J. H. Beatt and Rev. Mr. Bennett continued the discussion, but were unable to agree upon any form of recommendation that would overcome the difficulty of reconciling the two parties. Mr. Walter Paul advocated one book, as then any minister could make the selections he thought most suitable. The issue was eventually agreed to be reduced to the question of one book or two. The following motion was made by Rev. J. Fleck and seconded by Rev. Dr. Mackay: "That the imprimature of the General Assembly be given to no Book of Praise which does not contain the complete Psalter." An amendment was moved by Rev. Ephraim Scott, seconded by Rev. J. H. Beatt: "That the Book of Praise authorized by the Church shall contain the Psalter, selections from the Psalms and the hymns, and that the Book for Sabbath School, social religious meetings, etc., shall contain only the hymns and selections from the Psalter." The vote, which excited much interest, was then taken, and resulted in a tie, 15 to 15. After a pause, the acting Moderator, Rev. F. M. Dewey, gave his casting vote for the original one-book motion. The Rev. S. Fraser Campbell, missionary on furlough, then gave an address on the work of the Presbyterian Church in India appealing for more support in men and money. At the afternoon session the greater portion of the time was taken up in discussing the draft copy of the new hymn book. Suggestions for alterations, additions and emendations being made by Rev. J. Myles Crombie, Rev. J. H. Beatt, Rev. Dr. Patterson, Rev. T. Bennett and Rev. Mr. Heine, explaining the grounds upon which the Hymnal Committee had adopted the form in proof copy. The principal discussion arose upon the second verse of the National Anthem, objections being taken to its declamatory tenor.

O Lord our God arise;  
Scatter her enemies and make them fall.  
Confound their politics,  
Frustrate their quarish tricks,  
On Thee our hopes we fix:  
God save us all.

By a majority it was agreed to recommend the omission of this verse. A division also took place upon the question of numbering the new book, it being decided after discussion that the Psalms be numbered separately, and the selections from Psalms and the hymns numbered consecutively and separately. Upon the motion of Rev. Mr. Nichols it was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting in Knox Church as a more convenient location. The evening meeting was held at 5 p.m. in the parlors of the Stanley Street Church, and there was a fair attendance. The reports from congregations and on missionary meetings were received. Rev. Dr. Campbell read the report on the City Mission, which was adopted, and the labors of the Rev. James Patterson, the clerk in this connection, were commended. The report on work among the French, Jewish and Chinese population was considered: It was said there are 400 Chinese and 6000 Jews in the city. The Rev. Dr. Thompson, late of Canton, China, was confirmed in charge of the Chinese mission in Montreal and admitted to the roll of the Presbytery. The production of the report of the committee on deeds of church property disclosed the fact that many deeds were out of harmony with the model deeds. By the deed of Stanley Street Church no instrumental music could be used as long as even one member of the congregation objected. The Presbytery recommended that the congregation consider the propriety of obtaining a modification of this drastic clause. A deputation of students from the St. Jean Baptiste Mission attended and addressed the Presbytery, representing their desire for a new organization. The work of the conference was not concluded until midnight.