

British American Presbyterian,

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FOR TERMS, SEE EIGHTH PAGE

C. BLACKETT ROBINSON

Editor and Proprietor

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Letters and articles intended for the next issue should be in the hands of the Editor not later than Tuesday morning.

All communications must be accompanied by the writer's name, otherwise they will not be inserted. Articles not accepted will be returned, if, at the time they are sent, a request is made to that effect, and sufficient postage stamps are enclosed. Manuscripts not so accompanied will not be preserved, and subsequent requests for their return cannot be complied with.

OUR GENERAL AGENT.

Mr. CHARLES NICOLL, General Agent for the PRESBYTERIAN, is now in Western Ontario pursuing the interests of this journal. We commend him to the best offices of ministers and people. Any assistance rendered him in his work will be taken by us as a personal kindness.

Presbyterian Year Book

OUT FOR 1877.

THIRD YEAR OF PUBLICATION.

The London Advertiser says:—"We have to acknowledge receipt of THE PRESBYTERIAN YEAR BOOK FOR THE DOMINION OF CANADA AND NEWFOUNDLAND, published by Mr. C. Blackett Robinson, 102 Bay street, Toronto, and edited by Rev. James Cameron, Chatsworth. The YEAR BOOK is ably compiled and handsomely printed. It contains a large fund of information interesting to every Presbyterian, including the rules, forms of procedure, and provisional enactments adopted by the last General Assembly."

Mailed, free of postage, to any address, on receipt of the price, 25 cents.

C. BLACKETT ROBINSON, Toronto, Ont.

Special to Subscribers.

Any Subscriber sending us, during the month of January, the name of a New Subscriber, with the remittance, \$2.00 for the year (his own subscription not being in arrears) will receive a copy of the "Presbyterian Year Book" for 1877. "See advertisement of same on seventh page of this paper." The new subscriber will likewise be sent a copy of the "Presbyterian Year Book." We are making this offer with a view to increasing our list of prepaying subscribers, and trust to hear from many in all parts of the country.

British American Presbyterian.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 1877.

The Rev. A. Glendinning has declined the call to Molesworth and Trowbridge.

The Rev. David Mitchell, of the Central Church, Toronto, lectured to an appreciative audience in the Presbyterian Church, Columbus, on Tuesday evening. Subject—"An hour's trip into the invisible world." The chair was filled by John Radcliff, Esq., who at the close of the lecture conveyed in handsome terms the thanks of the audience to Mr. Mitchell.

The Presbytery of Paris will meet within the Glenmorris Presbyterian Church, for the induction of the Rev. A. Glendinning, on Tuesday, January 30th, at one o'clock, p.m. The Rev. Mr. Martin, of Norwich, will preach; Rev. J. Anderson, of Paris, address the congregation; and Rev. D. D. McLeod, of Paris, preside and address the minister.

DURING the last few years a number of translations of the Norse Sagas have appeared in England and America. Taking the remarkable translation of Professor Anderson, of Wisconsin University, of two of the finest of these Sagas as a text Professor H. H. Boyesen of Cornell has prepared for the March Number of The International Review a somewhat elaborate paper on the SAGA CIVILIZATION; the literary and social ideals of that age, as illustrated by the Sagas. Prof. Fiske, of Cornell, and Prof. Boyesen have between them, privately, the only complete library of this literature in the United States.

The Rev. Dr. Bevan, late of London, England, was on Tuesday evening inducted pastor of the Brick Presbyterian Church by the Presbytery of New York. The New York Evangelist in its report of the proceedings of the Presbytery in the matter of receiving the brother from the English Congregational Church, shows considerable smallness in our view in depreciating the practice of calling ministers from the old country. Our contemporary aggravates the crime of smallness by its comments upon Dr. Bevan, in its editorial. On the contrary, we think America so large and so growing, that it could take all the ministers of Great Britain and still want more—and in fact still have to go to Ireland for her crack preachers. Dr. Bevan passed the usual examination accorded to ministers coming from other than Presbyterian bodies, and the Evangelist should rejoice in the fact of so important an addition being made to the already large number of Foreign Clergymen ministering in the Empire City.

CHURCH EXTENSION.

On Tuesday evening a mass-meeting was held in Knox Church of this city in the interests of the Presbyterian Church Extension Association. That it was largely attended, that the service was of a most interesting character, that many eloquent and earnest speeches were delivered on the occasion, that a new impetus was given to the movement,—all these are matters of congratulation to those who have the Presbyterian cause at heart. The meeting was valuable as showing the numerical strength and influence of Presbyterians in this city. It can be no mean body when in such weather as we are now experiencing, it can command a meeting so large and enthusiastic. We are thankful for the meeting, we are proud of the grand church, of which it was the worthy representation. It will ever be our delight to hear of our beloved denomination more and more lengthening her cords, and strengthening her stakes.

It is indeed not too soon for Presbyterians to be exercising some thing of worldly prudence, and forethought. See what the other churches are doing in the matter of providing for the future. As soon as a locality gives promise of growth of population there and then the Roman Catholics, the Episcopalians, the Methodists secure lots for future operations. A Sabbath School is instituted. The particular denomination sends her best teachers to man the mission work. Soon we hear of the Sabbath School being developed into a preaching station or mission chapel. Then comes organization, the call of a pastor, and the slender child we are told has grown to the stature and dimensions of a regular charge. That is surely common sense. It is in accordance with the working of nature herself. The young in the animal and vegetable kingdom is carefully tended, until it can manage for itself. But with Presbyterians it has alas too frequently been otherwise. They neglect the first opportunities. They let the ground lie fallow for years. They allow other denominations to get a solid footing before they begin to move. And then we have all the disastrous consequences. We have to build an expensive church on an extravagant lot. To do so a large mortgage has to be operated, meanwhile our best people in the locality have been earnest Episcopalians, or they are quite at home with the Methodists, and they are not on notice going to change their church relation, or at the call of the Presbytery occupy the pews provided at too late an hour.

The Church Extension Association in Toronto promises something better than this. Already they have secured three valuable sites in districts that are bound to become populous. Last Sabbath they opened a church at Brockton. The services were largely attended. There was a social on Monday evening which by the number present and the spirit shown gives promise of there being soon in the locality a flourishing congregation. Very soon we shall have to report similar proceedings as having taken place in the district of Leslieville, a rapidly growing vicinity. A third site has been secured in the North-East, which in the event of the old St. Andrew's Church locating in the center of the city will prove valuable for future operations in that section. We say parenthetically however that it is to be hoped the old St. Andrew's congregation will yet see their way clear to occupy the North-eastern district of the city. We are sure it would be better for them as certainly it will be better for all existing organizations. The Church Extension Society are therefore to be congratulated on what they have already accomplished; while we have no doubt of all this being only an earnest of what they shall yet be enabled to do in the matter of extending our Presbyterian Zion in needy localities.

We commend their cause to the attention of the liberal members of the Presbyterian Church. A single dollar per annum constitutes membership in the association, and it is evident that were all our good and loyal Presbyterians paying down a dollar each, it would put large sums at the disposal of the association for the furtherance of their work. Of course the dollar subscription does not preclude the wealthy from contributing large amounts according to their means. But as Dr. Chalmers provided for the ministers of the Free Church through the power of the penny, by means of the dollar subscription our Church Extension Society will be able to accomplish marvels for the advancement of Presbyterianism in the city and neighborhood.

The congregation of Fort Coulonge have shewn much kindness to their pastor and his wife. A few of the members have increased their subscriptions, and thus have added to the stipend one hundred and thirty dollars per annum. On New Year's day a few of the ladies called at the manse, wished the inmates a happy new year, and presented to Mrs. Gaudier thirty-one dollars. Not long before a young man of the congregation made a present of twenty-five dollars to Mr. Gaudier.

THE THREE FOLD ORDER OF THE CHRISTIAN MINISTRY.

Such as "named in the preface to the ordinal," was the subject of a sermon preached by Canon Stennet at an ordination service lately held by the Bishop of Toronto. The two sources of proof he gives as (1) the Holy Scriptures, (2) the ancient authors or writers of the Church. To the latter as proof of any Church ordinance no weight should be attached, except in so far as it corroborates Scripture, and appeals to early Church history must from their very nature be unsatisfactory, as there is scarcely a question concerning which evidence on both sides may not be found, while it is almost impossible for any one to ascertain how far the interpretation of words and usages in the early ages harmonizes with the views now entertained by men of learning. In fact there is such diversity of opinion among those who have a right to speak, that the voice of antiquity can decide nothing.

It is otherwise with the argument from Scripture, and if Canon Stennet is correct in his argument there, then he has established prelatry. We shall examine one link of the chain, and if it is found too weak to bear the strain, then the whole argument goes for nothing.

We need not dwell on the idea of the high-priest, priest, and levite being continued in the New Testament, first under Jesus as high-priest, the Apostles as priests, and the seventy as levites; and afterwards under apostles, presbyters and deacons; which now has given place to bishops, priests and deacons. For the implication cannot be admitted that Jesus is high-priest, in the same sense as apostles are priests. And it is most incongruous to promote these again to the highest order after Christ ascends; while the seventy are replaced by deacons; and there is no Scripture to warrant the assertion that deacons "were afterwards ordained as a permanent order to assist the presbyters or elders in their pastoral duties." This, however, by the way; what we wish particularly to call attention to, is the following statement:—

"Although during the lifetime of the Apostles the name of bishop (which simply means "overseer") was unquestionably applied to presbyters or elders, as being, in the absence of the Apostles, literally "overseers" of their respective flocks, yet never in the history of the early church were the apostolic functions of the laying on of hands in ordination ever attempted to be exercised by the second order of the ministry. Now this is the material point to which I would specially draw your attention; for it is a mere juggle of words which has caused so much misunderstanding and heart-burning, yea, and schism in the Church of Christ. We readily admit that while the Apostles lived, and themselves acted as general bishops over the churches which they respectively established, the mere name "bishop" or "overseer" was applied sometimes to presbyters; yet no one is bold enough to assert that any presbyter exercised the apostolic functions of ordaining and confirming during the lives of the Apostles themselves. Now, what we have to deal with is the office and the acts appertaining thereto, and not the name."

Here it is conceded that so far as Scripture goes, (and to that alone is the appeal made), "the name bishop was unquestionably applied to presbyters or elders." And it is asserted "yet never . . . were the apostolic functions of laying on of hands in ordination ever attempted to be exercised by the second order of the ministry." We have omitted the words "in the history of the early Church," because they are not pertinent in an argument from Scripture.

Again it is said, "No one is bold enough to assert that any presbyter exercised the apostolic functions of ordaining during the lives of the Apostles themselves." We have again omitted the words "and confirming," because we do not find episcopal confirmation anywhere in Scripture. And now we are "bold enough" to quote one or two Scriptures in reply to the reverend canon, which may speak for themselves. In Acts vi. 6, when the same, so called deacons are said to have been ordained by laying on of hands, the natural subject of the verb laid is not Apostles, but the "brethren" who looked out, chose, set them before the Apostles and prayed. In Acts xiii. 3, when Paul and Barnabas were ordained there is no mention of an Apostle, but of the church "and certain prophets and teachers." In chapter ix. 17, when hands were laid on Saul of Tarsus, and he received the Holy Ghost, it was not an Apostle that officiated in the service of baptism and laying on of hands, but a private disciple. And it matters not for the argument whether this was ordination or confirmation. In 1 Tim. iv. 14, the gift bestowed upon Timothy was associated with "the laying on of the hands of the presbytery." And although in 2 Tim. i. 6, Paul says that the gift was in him by "the putting on of his hands," it is not the less evident that the second order or presbyters did attempt to exercise the apostolic functions of laying on of hands or ordaining during the life of the Apostle himself—for they joined with him in the act. We have no more to say. The canon may settle the matter with the inspired author of the

Acts. He and the Evangelist do not agree as to facts. We will only add that the advocates of apostolic succession had better stick to the History of the Early Church, and let the Bible alone, for the New Testament is against them; and the Old Testament temple, hierarchy, and symbolism, will prove too much for the practices of the church under the spiritual dispensation of grace.

Ministers and Churches.

(We urgently solicit from Presbytery Clerks and our readers generally, items for this department of our paper so as to make it a general epitome of all local church news.)

The Guelph Mercury is pleased to learn that the Rev. Dr. Hoag is recovering from a severe attack of congestion of the lungs.

On Friday evening, 22nd ult., the Rev. Peter Wright, of Chalmers' Church, Quebec, was presented with a fine Fur Cap and Gauntlets by the members of his Bible class.

A SUCCESSFUL tea-meeting was held in the Presbyterian Church, Glenallan, for the purpose of raising money to provide sheds. The Rev. Mr. Bryant occupied the chair. Proceeds \$70.

The Rev. Mr. Chrystal, of West Flamboro, was recently presented by his Bible class with a handsome cutter, and a sum of money to be applied towards purchasing a new set of harness. A very kind address accompanied the gifts.

THE annual tea meeting and anniversary of the Streetsville Sabbath School was held on New Year's Day. Rev. J. Breckenridge, pastor of the church, occupied the chair. Numerous interesting speeches were delivered. Proceeds about \$60.

THE children of the Sabbath school in connection with Stanley Street Church, Ayr, recently presented their superintendent, Mr. Peter Marshall, with a large and beautifully illustrated Family Bible, accompanied by an address expressive of their esteem.

THE congregation of St. Andrew's Church, Kippen, held their annual soiree on the 29th ult. Although the weather was stormy, the gathering was large. The Clinton choir discoursed sweet music at intervals during the evening; and interesting addresses were delivered by Rev. Messrs. Tyler, McOnaig, Hartley and McCrea.

THE annual Sunday School festival in connection with Knox Church, Winnipeg, was a very successful affair. Rev. J. Robertson discharged the duties of the chair; and Professors Bryce and Hart, and Rev. Mr. Borthwick took part in the services. The school is in a very prosperous position; number on roll, 175; average attendance, 90.

THE new church at Merrivale was opened on the 7th inst. On the evening of Monday the 8th, a soiree was held which was largely attended. Rev. Mr. Whillans, the pastor, occupied the chair; and addresses were delivered by Mr. O. E. Cunningham, Mr. Amos, Rev. Mr. Whyte, of Manotick, Rev. Mr. White, of Rochesterville, and Mr. Thomas Nelson.

A SUCCESSFUL tea meeting and concert was held at Kirkfield on the 25th ult. The principal speakers were Rev. Mr. Paul of Boleover, and Rev. Mr. Fox. On Wednesday, the 27th, an entertainment was given to the Sabbath school children. The chair was occupied by Duncan McRae, Esq., M.P., and the programme included tea, music, and an address from the pastor.

A MUSICAL and literary entertainment was held in the Presbyterian Church, Carp Village, December 29. The Rev. James Robertson, pastor, was called to the chair. A large audience was addressed by Rev. Messrs. Stuart, Pakenham; Brynner, WhiteLake; and Cameron, NewEdinburgh. Good music added much to the evening's enjoyment. Proceeds \$71, towards liquidation of church debt.

THE new church recently erected in Brockton, under the auspices of the Church Extension Association, was opened on Sabbath last. Rev. Prin. Caven preached in the forenoon, Rev. Mr. Gilray at three o'clock, p.m., and Rev. Prof. Gregg in the evening. At all these services the attendance was large. On Monday evening a social meeting was held, presided over by J. L. Blaikie, Esq.

THE annual gathering of the children of Knox Church Sabbath school, Galt, was largely attended on Monday evening of last week. The chair was filled by Rev. J. K. Smith, M.A., and after the refreshments had been disposed off, addresses were delivered by the Chairman, Mr. Adam Hood, the superintendent, and others. In the course of the evening a number of beautiful hymns were well rendered by the young folks.

REV. B. STEVENSON, late of Admaston, was visited on New Year's Eve by a number of the members of his old congregation, who presented him with an address, signed by ninety members, and expressing their regret at the severance of the tie which had existed between Mr. Stevenson and themselves as pastor and people, and their hopes and wishes as to his future prosper-

ity. At the same time a deputation of ladies waited on Mrs. Stevenson and presented her not only with an address, but also with a sum of money.

THE annual missionary meeting of the East Paslinch congregation was held in Duff's Church last Thursday night. The attendance, owing to the inclemency of the weather, was not so large as it would otherwise have been. Rev. A. McKay, D.D., presided. Addresses were given. Mission contributions were received during the past year from 192 individuals or families for the schemes of the Church. The amount received by the lady collectors was a few dollars behind what it was in the previous year.

ON Wednesday, 21st December last, a very pleasant meeting took place at Mount Pleasant, on the occasion of Mr. and Mrs. Alexander taking up house again. A few members from Barford along with some from Mount Pleasant met at the house to give them a welcome reception. A very bountiful repast was provided by them, and in due time despatched. All were pleased to see some improvement in Mrs. A.'s health and appearance. Along with an invalid chair which has been fitted up for the purpose, it is hoped that the change will very materially promote still greater improvement. After singing a few hymns, and engaging in family worship, the meeting broke up. Mr. Alexander's address is Mohawk P. O.

THE Rev. A. Findlay, missionary at Braebridge, Muskoka, writes us under date Jan. 13th, as follows:—"A letter from an unknown friend, dated Montreal, 9th inst., reached me by last mail, enclosing the sum of fifty dollars (\$50) towards liquidating our Church debt here. This is in response to my letter in your issue of the 5th inst. Our heartiest thanks are returned to this 'Friend of the Lord's Cause,' and we feel that others, copying his example—realizing the importance of our work and position here—will respond 'as the Lord hath prospered them.' Our debt will soon be removed, and we will be cheered in our work, knowing that we enjoy the prayers and sympathies of the lovers of our Zion."

THE anniversary services of the Presbyterian Church, Weston, were held on Sabbath, Jan. 7th. The morning services were conducted by the Rev. Principal Caven, and the evening services by Mr. Geo. Wallace, B.A., of Weston. There was a large attendance at both services. On the Tuesday evening following the annual congregational meeting was held. This meeting was of a social character. After a pleasant hour or two had been spent over the tea and cakes provided by the ladies, and in social intercourse, the business part of the meeting began. The Treasurer, Mr. Wm. McDougall, read the Annual Report, which showed that the financial affairs of the congregation are in a most satisfactory condition. After all necessary expenses connected with the congregation had been met, it was found that there was still a surplus with which to begin the new year. Short congratulatory addresses were delivered by the pastor, Rev. R. Pettigrew, also by Messrs. Hugh Wallace, Geo. Wallace, B.A., and Jas. Orulokshank, members of the congregation. Mr. Lahore of Toronto gave a recitation with good effect. The choir of Knox Church, Toronto, under the leader, Mr. McRae, sang a number of choice anthems in a manner creditable to themselves, and to the entire satisfaction of the congregation. This choir by their music and kind assistance on several occasions, has laid the congregation of Weston and Woodbridge under a debt of gratitude.

Book Reviews.

THE INTERNATIONAL REVIEW: New York. A. S. Barnes & Co.

The present number, (January-February) while fully maintaining the thoroughly practical character of this ably conducted magazine, gives in addition, more attention than usual to the fine arts—notably painting—as for example in the article on "The Paris Salon of 1876." Science is also well represented in the article on "Professor Huxley, in New York," by Principal J. W. Dawson, LL.D., F.R.S., who is evidently the professor's equal in scientific knowledge, and who is, moreover, not a mere "Scientist" like Huxley and his class, but a philosopher as well. It is their manifest ignorance of metaphysical science—mental and moral—that destroys our confidence in the modern leaders of physical science; and we think the writer of the article in question is quite right when he advises the evolutionists to preserve a "judicious alliance" until their theories are somewhat more fully developed. That department of this periodical devoted to the reviewing of contemporary literature, is exceptionally full, comprising carefully executed reviews of recent books—American, English, German, and French. The great American disease, "Political Corruption," is—not for the first time in this magazine—honestly and faithfully treated, and wisely prescribed for. There is a political essay of