

THE ECCLESIASTICAL AND MISSIONARY RECORD,

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The Record.

It is requested that the collection appointed by the Synod in aid of the funds of the Theological College of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, be made in all the congregations and missionary stations connected with the Synod, on Sabbath, the 7th December, according to an arrangement entered into between the College Committee and the Home Mission Committee. (See address of the Convener of College Committee in this No. of the Record.)

THE REV. THOMAS ALEXANDER, of Cobourg, having been appointed by the Commission of Synod to act in conjunction with JOHN REDPATH, Esq., in carrying into effect the appointment of Synod respecting a Collection in aid of the Foreign Missions of the Free Church of Scotland—takes this mode of reminding the Ministers and Sessions of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, that this collection ought to have been made on Sabbath, the 7th Sept., and of requesting that, if it has been overlooked or delayed in any congregation hitherto, it be attended to as soon as possible, and the proceeds transmitted to JOHN REDPATH, Esq., Montreal, and the Treasurer appointed by the Synod. Mr. ALEXANDER would further remind his brethren and the Church generally, that the Synod's object in recommending this collection was twofold, viz. that we might thereby as a church recognise our obligation to seek the promotion of the Redeemer's cause in Heathen lands, and also that we might appropriately in this way testify our gratitude to the Free Church of Scotland for the many and invaluable favors she has conferred upon us—especially by delegating so many able and excellent ministers to visit us, and by contributing so liberally to our Home Mission and College Funds. Mr. ALEXANDER being fully persuaded that the views of the Synod in this matter need only to be stated to secure a cordial and liberal response to this appointment in all the congregations of the Church—deems any more formal appeal in regard to it superfluous.

SEVERAL documents appear in the present number of the Record to which we would solicit the special attention of the Church,—particularly the address of the Convener of the College Committee, and the joint Minute of the Committees of the Missionary Synod and the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, on the union of these bodies. Had our limits permitted, we should have offered some remarks on those documents. In regard to the latter, we must say, and we believe that we express the sentiments of every member of both Committees, that the meeting, of which the above is the Minute, was a most satisfactory one—far more so than could have been expressed by any mere Minute of the Conference. Each of the parties, we are assured, rejoiced, in parting, to have found in the other a much closer

identity of opinion and sentiment, on certain points, than had been anticipated; and we trust that their next conference will bring out this identity more fully—diseating the questions on which a wide difference was supposed to exist between them, from all the incidental non-essential accessories by which the great principles involved in them have been obscured, and the minds of men warped and perplexed in various ways respecting them. The next meeting, the appointment of which was left to the Conveners, will take place, probably, early in the approaching winter.

A most harmonious and earnest call has recently been given, by the congregation of London, to the Rev. A. N. SOMERVILLE, of Anderston Church, Glasgow, to become their pastor; and a *pro re nata* meeting of the Presbytery of Hamilton has been summoned for Tuesday, the 18th inst., for the purpose of taking the necessary steps in regard to it. Mr. SOMERVILLE, whose visit to this quarter will long be remembered with delight amongst us, and who, we would fain hope, may be permanently given to us, is still in Montreal, having postponed his return home till the 1st of December.

We have just learned that an unanimous call has been recently given, by the congregation of St. Gabriel Street Church, Montreal, to the Rev. WM. LEISHMAN, who has been supplying the pulpit there for some time past. This will come into competition with the call from Guelph, addressed to Mr. LEISHMAN, and lately transmitted to him by the Presbytery of Hamilton. In either of these localities Mr. LEISHMAN would find a large sphere of usefulness in the service of the Lord, but the pre-eminence and extent of that presented in Montreal, must be acknowledged. Mr. LEISHMAN'S indefatigable and most efficient services as a missionary, in both sections of the Province, have justly secured for him a large share of the esteem and confidence of the Church generally; and the decision, to which he may be led on the present occasion, and his ultimate settlement, will be looked forward to with great interest.

An application has been made to the Presbytery of Hamilton to moderate in a call to the Rev. JOHN MCKENZIE, from the congregation of Williams. We understand that this promising young preacher has also been called by the united congregations of Norval and Union Church, Esqueness, in the Presbytery of Toronto.

THE interesting account with which we were favoured by an esteemed correspondent, of the recent dispensation of the Lord's Supper in the Presbyterian congregation of Woodstock, was put into the printer's hands, and, unfortunately, lost in the confusion attending the moving of his office to new premises. The occasion seems to have been of a very pleasing and hopeful character; not fewer than 2,000 were supposed to be present at the services on the Sabbath, which were conducted by the Rev. DONALD MCKENZIE, of Zorra, and the Rev. ROBERT LINDSAY, of Ayr.

By a recent communication we are led to cherish a confident expectation that Canada will soon be favored with another able deputation from the Free Church of Scotland, consisting, as we understand, of the Rev. JAMES BROWN, of Liberton or Newington, and the Rev. ALEXANDER FRASER, of Kirkcubright. Our information is not so decisive in regard to the certainty of this arrangement as we could desire, but we know that it has been all but completed by the Colonial Committee, and will be carried into effect forthwith, unless some unexpected providential hindrance should occur. The prospect of this visit will prove most interesting to the church generally, and especially to our many destitute congregations and settlements to which we doubt not a large portion of the labours of the deputation will be devoted. Mr. FRASER'S commission will, we understand, be specially to our Gaelic population.

An extract from the Free Church Magazine will be found in this No., giving some account of the Protestant conference lately held at Liverpool, and intended to prepare the way for a great, general meeting in London next year. We could have wished to present our readers with more full details of this interesting movement, and may take occasion still to do so. In the meantime we may state that Mr. JAMES, of Birmingham, occupied the chair at the first meeting, the whole number present being 120. The exercises on this day were almost entirely devotional, and were conducted by the Chairman, Dr. SYMMINGTON, Mr. BICKERSTITH, Dr. RAFFLES and Dr. SMYTH. The fervency and unction of the prayers (says the Witness,) was delightful and singularly impressive; and as Dr. LEITCHFIELD remarked in the evening, they afforded of themselves a striking proof of the real union of the various churches. The spirit of prayer seemed to be largely vouchsafed. At the evening sedentary conversation on the subject of Christian union was of a most friendly, interesting and refreshing kind. Dr. LEITCHFIELD, Dr. YOUNG, Dr. WARDLAW, Mr. BICKERSTITH, Mr. BLACKBURN, Mr. JAMES, Mr. KIRKPATRICK, and Dr. VAUGHAN, spoke, and all admirably. Mr. JAMES HAMILTON was to commence the conversation on the second day. The series of resolutions declaratory of the principles proposed as the basis of union, which will be found in the extract referred to, was brought forward on the third day of the meeting by Dr. CANDLISH, and unanimously adopted.

"A voice from the backwoods," after a long restraint, for want of room, at last finds utterance through our columns, and its admonitions will be found worthy of attention.

CHEAP PUBLICATIONS SCHEME OF THE FREE CHURCH.—It will be satisfactory to many of our readers to be informed, that the Committee entrusted with this great enterprise, have found, on casting up their accounts for the first year, that they have the means of giving an additional or