The Presbyterian Beview.

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lying the Manager.

THURSDAY, JULY 1ST, 1886.

PUBLIC NOTICE.

In order to meet the requirements of their rapidly growing business, the Presbyterian News Co. Toronto, have changed their offices from 31 York Chambers, Toronto St., to

24 and 28 FRONT STREET WEST.

In consequence of this change it is particularly requested that in future all communications re-lating to the business of the Presbyterian Nours Co and the "Presbyterian Review," be addressed to "Presbyterian News Co. Toronto"

All communications for the Editorial, Literary News and Miscellaneous columns of this journal should be addressed to the Editor of the "Presbytorikn Review "

GEO. H. MOMINSON. Manager.

TEMPERANCE IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

A YEAR OF PROGRESS.

NOMPACT and brief, extending over only two closely printed pages of ordinary size, the Temperance Committee's report to the Assembly was, perhaps, as important, as to the facts contained in it and the recommendations appended, as has ever been presented to any of our Church Courts. Sessions, presbyteries, and synods have shown commendable diligence in furnishing information for the use of the Assembly, whose Committee is thus able to base its report on a large body of thoroughly reliable testimony from all parts of the Dominion.

That "the volume of intemperance has greatly decreased" during the past year the reports are all but unanimous in affirming. The years 1885 and 1886 have seen a wide extension of local prohibition, which, without dispute, has proved a stinging blow to the drink trade, wherever the new law has been even decently administered. To the much maligned Scott Act is principally due the credit of the evident change for the better. If it had accomplished nothing more than the discrediting of the vulgar and ensnaring habit of "treating," its passage would be a distinct gain, but this is only one of the many benefits which attend it. Reformed drunkards, families in comfort instead of beggary, the absence of drunkenness on the streets, especially on the occasion of large public gatherings, the county gaol at and those brought forward in the late annual Whitby floating the white flag because, for the first time, empty, only 16 persons committed for drunkenness in the County of Oxford, and 6 in fare. the huge County of Simcoe, during the first 12 months under the Act, as against 44, and 64, respectively, for the preceeding year of licensewho can afford to sneer at the law in the face of such facts? Good Father McAulay, of Stanstead, Que., whose testimony is in line with that sent direct to the Assembly, declares, "I am happy to be able to say, that the blessings of the Scott Act throughout our county are far ahead of the expectation of its strongest supporters. We have no more congregating of drunkards. Some people tell us, once in a while, that there is as much liquor sold here now as before the Scott Act was adopted. Those who say so lie, and they know they do." The Rev. Father may have forgotten the varnish in his rough and ready form of speech, but he speaks for the whole territory under prohibition. Why stone-throwing, and house-wrecking, and rowdy assaults, and dynamite, if the trade has not been injured?

and New Brunswick have recognized their responsibility to supply, if possible, this lack. It is hoped that their laudable efforts will receive due recognition from all temperance men, as they have done from the General Assembly. The Assembly is distinctly, and even sternly, non-political, as far as party politics is concerned, but it properl, expresses gratitude to those Provincial Governments which have already appointed suitable officers for the administration of the Act, and calls upon those still remiss to undertake this important duty. A further de liverance, bearing on the matter in hand, we give in full, because of its present importance,

The one great weakness of the Scott Act is

legislation." There are many in the Church clauce the measure of growth, we have arranged who would be prepared for even a stronger the tables as follows: stand, namely, the absolute renouncement of present party allegiance, in any and every case, in favor of prohibition. The Assembly is doubtless wise in using moderate speech; but we in-terpret its mind to be, prohibition must be given its proper place in all election contests. Is it one of the great burning public questions? It so, et candidates be made quite explicitly to understand this. There has been enough of "fooling" with the whole matter by county councils and legislators. The eminent success of the Scott Act, where properly administ-ered, should impel to the demand, on the part of the temperance electorate, for all the necessary machinery and officers for its enforcement, and, further, for the speedy passage of a thoroughgoing Act of general and and entire prohibition.

It is to be regretted that the repeated recommendations of the Assembly for the organization of temperance societies in congregations should be so generally disregarded. It is certainly a great matter that temperance principles are taught in all our Sabbath schools. But is this enough? It may not be lost sight of that even total prohibition, without public sentiment and without organized bodies of earnest men to support it, will break down by its own weight. We have no word but of respect for the various undenominational temperance societies. But experience has shewn that they touch a mere fraction of any community, and that principally the juniors. As the prohibitory movement progrusses, the traffic will become more compact and determined, and—shall we say, malignant in its resistance. Where shall we find the forces necessary to push the contest, and, what is of equal importance, to hold the ground as it is gained, unless our own congregations and those of other churches sustain vigorous and active organizations in their midst? This part of temperance work is neglected only at risk of certain weakness by and by, when strength will be

imperatively necessary.

The local press, says the Assembly's Committee, needs toning up. Generous acknowledgment is made of hearty service rendered in many quarters; but it is said, we suspect with Justice, that, with a few conspicuous exceptions, even the temperance section of the local press is "lagging behind, rather than leading, public sentiment" in the matter. We cannot subscribe to the view that the press should be a mere mirror of public opinion. Washington Irving's Knickerbockers setting their weather cocks every morning by the vane on the governor's house, have no attraction for us. Editorial Knickerbockers are very paltry creatures. We are unfaithful to our responsibilities, if we do not seek to lead, as well as to follow, public opinion. But even the most independent and aggressive journal is extremely. out of the public press than just such vigorous temperance organizations as we have referred to above.

The present report of substantial gain must lead no one to fold his hands and say the work is done. Take the two metropolitan cities of Toronto and Montreal alone, the latter, with a place for selling liquor to every 175 of the population, and one of every 70 of its inhabit breweries and distilleries, a hungry trade, and the clamant appetite of myriads of drinkers, must be reckoned on as steady and determined opposgatherings of other Churches are full of encour-

TEN YEARS OF UNION.

THE completion of the first decade since union was consummated between the various bodies now forming the Presbyterian Church in Canada, naturally suggests retrospect and comparison. It is well to pause and look back on the way the Church has been led by the good hand of God during these ten years. The journey has not been through a wilderness. Thelines have fallen to her in pleasant places and, broadly-stated, all her paths have been peace. Union has worked well and fusion we may say is complete. The memory of old differences and disputes is dying out. A new generation has arisen which knows nothing of the old disputes except by hearsay; and both old and young are in this sense forgetting the things that are behind and pressing forward to engage in that it does not carry with it adequate means the work before them. The spirit of the Church of enforcement. The Governments of Ontario is to day more than ever one of earnest labour in the vineyard. Nowhere is this bounding life better seen than in her missionary enterprise. Much might be predicated of her vitality and growth from statistics as to the number of her ministers, manses, communicants and so forth, but the best test is the state of the missionary spirit. From this point of view the retrospect is encouraging—nay even inspiring.

It may be accepted without question that the Church is moving along the right lines and that her multiplied labours at home and abroad are in Scotland, which should be found ready to enter owned and blessed of God. There are abundinto conference. Dr. Story thought that there ant signs that throughout all her borders there is was little use in doing anything, that the Free more piety, more zeal than ever before, that the Church had by a large majority committed itself growth is not merely in members but in spiritu- to a policy of dis-establishment and dis-endow-

CONGREGATIONS

£ 4 1.				_
	1875.	1885.	Increase.	C
Ministers	579	740	161	tł
Stations supplied	1,205	1,643	383	13
Congregations	700	811	105	ï
Congregations reporting.	746	-50	104	
Sittings .	249.953	380,199	130,246	8
Families	51.132	71.911	17,779	W
Individuals	20.00-	9,643	-,,,,,	W
Conimunicants	83,228	127,611	39,383	ti
Additions (Profession) .	8,422	10,555	2,133	
" Cettinizate .	4,200	\$ 210	loiò	a
Elders	3.412	4.770	1,358	U
Other office-bearers	4,970	7,767	2,797	h
Baptisms	9.550	10,913	1,363	t1
	ATIL SCILL			46
Pupils	79,201	100,937	21,733	ι
Teachers	7,139	11.761	4,022	
Vols. in Library	163,559	183,527	19,963	R
Missionary Associations,	200	400	200	C
•		•		i
	uildings.			٥ا
Manses	313	489	176	ľ
Rented Houses		\$5	20	
Churches Built		3,2	5	Į
Stanses "	23	16	13*	ı
* Decrease.				
FINANCIAL.				
Stipend promited	142,591	\$690,819	\$247,925	1
" pald	405,192	042 394	237,202	
Exp. on Ch. or Manse.		349,267	67,120	R
Other Cong. objects .	143,663	238,530	89,862	ļij
Total Stipends, Man- }	835,668	1,200 706	425,038	tl
see and Churches.		. •		l tı
College Fund	39,611	46,496	6,885	ľ
Home Missions	25 947	65.586*	39.639	•
French Evangelization	11,811	19,986	8,155	l a
Foreign Missions	17,832	43,532	25,700	15
Agel and Inhrin Min.	6,460	13,266	6,806	0
Widows & Osphans. } Assembly Fund	5,529	3,604	1,925	Hi
Schemes of the Church.	93,610	192,730	99,120	l c
S. S. Contrib. to Misns.	10,067			
To Benevint, and Rel.)	10,007	17,074	7.707	l n
purposes not pre-}	20,743	63,960	43,217	Į ti
viously specified.	-4,743	03,500	73,417	1 2
For all purposes	982.671	1,545,906†	563,235	ļiı
*Including Augment.		1	J-J-37	t i
instanting stormstoom.				a
1) ecresse.				١.,

These figures are, indeed, in the language of the committee, more eloquent than words. They are clear tokens of divine approbation and positive proof that God has given the Presbyterian Church a great work to do in and for the Dominto herself He will bless her still and cause her to

11) ecrease.

often meet the eye. Let them not, however, be concession and mutual forbearance, in that spirit accepted as the measure of the Church's ability to do, but let them serve as a reminder of what may be done by more zeal, more devotion, more striving for peace would be wise, but in the pres-self-sacrifice. The emblem of our church is ent crisis of affairs this action of our brethren in the burning bush, not dying embers nor cold Ireland in closing up their ranks is especially ashes, but holy fire. May this holy fire in the commendable. We rejoice at the happy terminsensitive to changes in the atmosphere, and ashes, but holy fire. May this holy fire in the commendable. We rejoice at the happy terminnothing will serve better to bring the right ring days to come burn bright in every family and ation of a too long protracted strife, and congregation; and at the end of another ten carnestly hope that a lasting peace has been years we shall be able to say with ten-fold more gladness: See what wonders He hath wrought,

FORMS FOR CHURCH SERVICES

THE General Assembly's Committee at present be encouraged to give a little wider scope to the ants arrested for drunkenness each year, and it revised book by the example of the English will be seen how vast still is the sin and crime of the drink traffic and of intemperance. Colossal by the synod of that Church last year to consider

"The committee have considered the subject referred to them by last synod, and are of opinion that it is desirable to prepare, so soon as it may be conveniently done, a revised directory for public worship, on the basis of the "Westminster Directory," which "exhibits generally the order of public worship, and of the administration of secrements in this Church; and that, along with this, forms of service should be provided for optional use on special occasions, as at marriages, burials, ordinations of office bearers, reception of young communicants, and the like. They are agreed in thinking that I are the reduction in price has been the means of introducing it very generally into the schools and congregational libraries of cur Church. Every family should read this book.

A TRLEGRAPHIC despatch from Brisbane states that H.M.S. Undine, which had just arrived from the New Hebrides, reports that no formal annexation of or protection. Church may gain much in respect of the completeness, concord; and decorum of her services. They, therefore, respectfully recommend that the synod should appoint a committee to take such steps as may be prudent in the line now indicated."

The synod appointed a special committee of France. with instructions to proceed with due care and deliberation in the direction of revising the "Westminster Directory," and preparing forms or specimens of service adapted to special occasions. "Completeness, concord and decorum" are devoutly to be desired in every Church service. We wish our brethren complete success in their laudable effort.

WHEN a good man, but obstinate, changes his mind for the better, everybody rejoices. Our Montreal friends, we are therefore sure, must be rejoicing greatly over the speech of the Rev. Gavin Lang, at the last meeting of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, on the subject of Presbyterian Union. When the answer of the Free Assembly to the letter of the Established Assembly was read in the court, there were differences of opinion as to the action that should be taken. Dr. Milligan, whose catholicity of sentiment is as well known as his special sympathy with the Episcopal Church, wished a committee to be appointed that would confer not only with sister Presbyterian Churches, but with any other portion of the Church of Christ "That, in accordance with the recommendation adopted by the Synod of Montreal and Ottawa, ality. But leaving this aspect of the case this Assembly, being fully convinced of the necessity of legal protection against the evils of the liquor traffic, expresses the hope that electors the liquor traffic, expresses the hope that electors on their choice of members of Parliament will and material progress during these ten years.

To a policy of dis-establishment and dis-endow-employment for applicants to whose services the expected to find employment for applicants to whose services the valuable employment for applicants to shall any Presbytery be expected to find employment for applicants to whose services the send of the bonois express reasonable objection, but shall responsible to find employment for applicants to whose services the employment for applicants to shall any Presbyters to find employment for applicants to shall any Presbyters to find employment for applicants to whose services the section of the bonois express reasonable objection, but shall responsible to find the applicants to find employment for applicants to shall any Presbytery to shall any Presbytery to shall any Presbyters to find employment for applicants to find the sponsible objection, which such that the Church of Scotland was attended; nor the Church of Scotland was attended to the Presbytery to which the applicants to find the sponsible objection, which such the Presbytery to which the applicants to find the standing employment for applicants to find the sponsible objection, which the close to the Committee, to the Presbytery to which the applicants and that the Church of Scotland was lattered to find the bonois express reasonable objection, of the bonois express reaso

known to be in full sympathy with Prohibitory For convenience of reference and to show at a Union. He thought it would be something very legislation." There are many in the Church glance the measure of growth, we have arranged like a calamity if the motion of Dr. Story were adopted." Let them go ahead. He was for Preshyterian Union, and for that only. "Nothing could be more discouraging or dampening to the cause of the Church in the north of Scotland than the adoption of Dr. Story's or even Dr. Milligan's motion." "It was all very well," he said, "for ministers in the south where the Church vas strong to talk of doing nothing, but if they who lived in the south saw what others saw in the north, they would pause before they did anything to discourage the idea of Presbyterian Union." All this is perfectly delicious. Per-haps the finest touch is the first. To think of he Rev. Gavin Lang posing as the one who bad had a large experience of Presbyterian Union," and who could therefore conscientiously recommend it to all others ! But, when he proreeded to advocate, not as union of all Christans like good. Dr. Milligan, but simply a union of Presbyterians, it is too much for mere joy. It takes the breath away. The atmosphere of Inverness must be wonderful.

> AFTER eighteen years' controversy over the instrumental music question in the Irish Presbyterian Church a settlement has almost unanimously been arrived at which promises to bring in the piping times of peace. According to the resolutions adopted the question is not to rouble the Assembly for at least three years every effort is to be made by a committee appointed for that purpose to induce those minsters and congregations that are now employing, or that may employ, instrumental music in public worship to discontinue its use, and if those efforts succeed, then the period through which no discussion on the matter is to take place in he Assembly is lengthened to five years-while at the same time those opposed to the use of instrumental music in public worship agree to use their best endeavours to have the associations against its employment throughout the country dissolved. "We consider," says the Belfast IVitness, "this a most satisfactory settlement of the vexed question. Almost any settlement of it would have been welcome; for the Church is weary of the whole agitation. But we regard the settlement which has been arrived at as parion of Canada, and that if she continue to be true | ticularly happy. There is no enactment of a law on the subject, either in favor of or against increase in energy and usefulness in numbers the use of instruments. There is no victory and territory till her influence shall have filled gained by either side. Neither anti-instrumentalists nor liberty-men can say that they have Let these figures be preserved. Let them be i tirumphed. The question has been settled, as cut out and put in some place where they will It ought to have been settled long ago, by mutual of love which ought to characterize the proceedings of brethren in Christ." At any time this secured.

WE are glad to learn from Mr. Briggs, of the Toronto Willard Tract Depository, that the price of "Robert and Mary Mossat" has been reduced for Sabbath-school and church libraries from engaged in revising the Book of Forms may three dollars to two dollars. We gave an extended notice of this most interesting book some time ago, and took occasion to recommend

> Hebrides had been proclaimed by the French when the *Undine* left those Islands. This is so far re-assuring. Perhaps the roar of the lion has been heard even in the South Pacific. At any rate it is very satisfactory to know that the New Hebrides are not yet under the dominion

DISTRIBUTION OF MINISTERS AND SUPPLY OF VACANCIES. [CIRCULAR LETTER.]

WE call the attention of those specially interested to the following circular which has been issued by the Committee appointed by the General Assembly at its meeting just closed on the supply of vacancies:

GUELPH, 18/A June, 1836.
The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada has agreed upon the following scheme of distribution and supply.

1. DISTRIBUTION OF MINISTERS.

1. There shall be a Committee consisting of seven members appointed by the General Assembly to assign licentiates and ordained ministers without charge to Presbyteries for appointments, regard being had to the requirements of each Presbytery, as reported in reply to circular questions issued by the Committee quarterly.

2. In reporting their requirements Presbyteries shall state the general circumstances of all the vancies within their bounds, with any special preferences or objections which these presenter my express regarding the another

which these vacancies may express regarding the supply to be offered them.

to be offered them.

3. All ministers and licentiates who wish to be settled shall send in their names to the Committe at least three weeks before the end of each quarter, with a statement of their standing duly certified by some Presbyteries within whose bounds they prefer appointments; but the Committee shall not be required to send applicants to the Presbyteries indicated except as their services may be needed; not shall any Presbytery be expected to find employment for applicants to whose services the vacancies