

plies as soon as it may be in their power to secure the service of a labourer from the Home Mission Committee of Synod.

The Rev. George Browne, an ordained missionary of the Irish Presbyterian Church, who had been received at last meeting of Presbytery, gave a report of his labours at Bellamyville and Merrickville for the last three months. A commissioner from the Bellamyville congregation, appeared before the Presbytery with a paper, unanimously signed, and requesting the Presbytery at its earliest convenience, to send one of its members to Bellamyville and Merrickville to moderate in a call for a minister. The Presbytery approved the Rev. W. J. McDowell to attend to this matter before the next meeting of Presbytery. Mr. Browne's services were continued at the above stations, and provision was also made by the Presbytery for supplying the North Gosver Station, partly by Mr. Browne and partly by the assistance of Mr. McDowell, till next meeting of Presbytery.

The Widows' Fund Scheme was also before the Presbytery, and each congregation and station was enjoined to make an early and earnest appeal to the people where it has not yet been done, in order to raise subscriptions for this important fund. It is hoped that Dr. Burns, or some other member of the Committee will spare a week or two on this business in the bounds of this Presbytery, before the pleasant season of winter travelling is over. The Dr.'s visit has already done much, and his labours in the good cause are deservedly appreciated by the good people, so far as he has been enabled to bestow his willing services.

#### PRESBYTERY OF MONTREAL.

The Presbytery of Montreal, and in connection with the Presbyterian Church of Canada, held its ordinary quarterly meeting in Coit Street Church on the 5th November.

Alexander Gillespie, Esq., of London, a well-known and highly esteemed elder of the Presbyterian Church in England, was introduced by the Rev. Mr. Fraser, and was cordially welcomed by the Presbytery, and invited to take a seat.

Rev. David Black, of St. Thérèse de Beauville, was chosen Moderator for the current year.

The Rev. D. Fraser, of Montreal, was appointed to the offices of Presbytery Clerk, and Convener of the Home Mission Committee.

An appropriate tribute to the memory of the late Rev. Mr. Rintoul was inserted in the Records; and extracts ordered to be transmitted to Mrs. Rintoul, and to the Kirk Session of St. Gabriel Street Church.

A harmonious call from the associated Congregations of North Georgetown and St. Louis to the Rev. Robert Swinton, ordained missionary, was presented and sustained. Mr. Swinton's acceptance having been signified, his induction was appointed to take place at North Georgetown and St. Louis, on Wednesday, 15th November.

Mr. Duncan McDermid, student of Divinity, having finished his theological course, and passed his trials before the Presbytery with satisfaction, was licensed to preach the Gospel of Christ, and exercise his gifts as a Probationer for the office of the Holy Ministry.

A considerable amount of miscellaneous business was transacted.

#### STUDENTS' MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF KNOX'S COLLEGE.

The Sixth Annual Meeting of this Society was held at the Divinity Hall and Library on Friday the 7th Nov. Dr. Willis occupied the chair—There was a full attendance of members, and also a large number of friends from the city. The meeting having been opened by singing a portion of the 72d Psalm, and Prayer, the Chairman addressed the meeting in his usual felicitous manner,

after which the Recording Secretary, Mr. McLaren, read the Annual Report of the Society. Mr. John Lang, Treasurer, then read a short statement on the Financial position of the Society, which showed that the state of the funds was much improved since last year—the sum of about £130 having come into the Treasurer's hands during the year.

Rev. Dr. Burns having been called upon to move the adoption of the Report, referred to the state of matters in times which he still remembered, when such institutions as College Missionary Societies were unknown. He showed that evangelistic effort was not inconsistent with study, but was rather essential to it, as it was cheering to the student, and gave additional force to the motives which urge him on in his preparations for the mighty work before him.

Rev. Piles or Eason, in seconding the motion, pointed out the value of the press as a medium of missionary exertion, and showed also the importance of well arranged statistics, exhibiting the state of the mission field of our Church.

Mr. S. Kedej gave a sketch of his labours among the French Canadians at Metis. His account of a public discussion which he had with a Roman Catholic priest, was listened to with the deepest interest.

Mr. James Black then gave a statistical account of the summer labours of such students as had been engaged as catechists.

Dr. Willis again addressed the meeting, bearing testimony to the zeal, prudence, and ability of Mr. S. Kedej, the Society's Missionary, of which he had opportunities of judging during a visit to Metis. He also spoke of the dangerous enemy, against whom we have to contend, as alike at war with the civil and religious well-being of men.

The meeting was then closed with devotional exercises.

At an adjourned meeting of the Society held in the Divinity Hall on the morning of the 8th inst, the following office-bearers were duly elected:—

*President*—Mr. W. McLaren.

*Vice President*—Mr. Andrew Tolmie.

*Corresponding Secretary*—Mr. James Black.

*Recording Secretary*—Mr. John Lang.

*Treasurer*—Mr. John Rennie.

*Committee*—Messrs. S. Kedej, W. Blair, Arch. Crawford.

#### SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE STUDENTS' MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF KNOX'S COLLEGE.

The sixth year of our existence as a Missionary Society has now drawn to a close. The past year, in many respects, has not been the least eventful in our history. And it is cheering for your Committee, when about to resign into your hands the trust with which you invested them, to be able to state that our Society, in the midst of various changes, at times of a somewhat trying nature, continues to prosper and enjoy the tokens of the Divine favour. There is much in the review of the past season to encourage, and much also to solemnize and warn.

It has pleased the Father of mercies, whose ways are often in the seas, and whose paths are in the mighty deep, and whose footsteps are not known, in his inscrutable providence to visit our Society with two severe bereavements. Your Committee feel that they are especially called upon to listen to the voice of warning.

One of their number, who during the past season was wont to mingle in their meetings and take part in their deliberations, has been called away from time into eternity. In our familiar interchange of sentiment as members of the same Committee, as well as in the more private intercourse which some of us enjoyed, we had opportunities of becoming acquainted both with his intellectual and moral worth. They who knew him best are best able

to appreciate the depth of his piety, the powers of his mind, the warmth of his friendship, and the noble simplicity of his character. His earnest mind was long clouded with doubts, but he has now, we trust, entered into a region from which all darkness has fled before the brightness of Jehovah's countenance. The Church on earth has lost his services, but his Master in Heaven had need of him to serve in the upper sanctuary.

The other bereavement which our Society has been called to sustain is the removal of one who was related to us as a Patron of our Society, and whose memory will long be dear not only to us but to our whole Church, of which he seemed as a pillar. He manifested the liveliest interest both in the formation and progress of our Society; and even since our College ceased to enjoy his services as Professor, his assistance and counsel have as willingly been given, as highly valued by our Society. Around his departure is thrown, at least to us, a still deeper interest, from the fact that at the time, he was on his way to visit our mission field at Metis. In the deceased, the Church has lost one of its most experienced guides and most devoted servants, and our Society one of its warmest friends, who has ever been in reality, as well as in title, its unswerving Patron.

The removal of two so intimately connected with our Society we cannot but lament; but let us rejoice that there is such good ground of confidence that what is our loss has been their gain. Let us also learn from these sad and unexpected dispensations of Providence, to bow in meek submission to God's sovereign will; and be diligent in the service of our Lord and Master during the few fleeting days of our earthly existence. Both are taught. Taking our stand by the graves of the departed, and looking up, do we not hear a voice from the Highest saying—"My ways are not your ways, neither your thoughts my thoughts!" And looking to the earth, does not a voice seem to speak—"What is our life but a vapour, that appeareth for a very little time and then vanisheth away!" Let us, therefore, cast away our indifference, and be warned by these dispensations to work while it is called to-day, seeing that the night cometh in which no man can work.

But while in the events of the past year there is much to arouse and solemnize, there is much also to cheer and encourage us in our efforts. Difficulties are being overcome, and the prospects of the missionary work are brightening. There have always been two great obstacles in the way of missionary effort, especially among Romanists. 1st. A narrow-minded selfishness, which would lead us to confine all our efforts to our own Church or countrymen, and to look upon all others as beyond the range of our sympathies and energies. 2nd. An inadequate sense of the danger of error, especially of the ungodly and malignant nature of the errors of the Man of Sin.

The past year will long stand pre-eminent for the progress which has been made in it towards the removal of these obstacles. What are the most striking scenes that present themselves to our view? England in her Great Industrial Exhibition and Evangelical Alliance stretching forth her arms to embrace the whole human family, draw close the ties that unite them, and give practical meaning to the glorious doctrine of the universal brotherhood of man; and England lifting up her voice in indignant protestation against the encroachments of Popery. The missionary enterprise will reap the benefit of all these movements.

The attention of the public has been aroused, and the dangerous nature of Romanism, both to the civil and religious interests of men, exposed. And while the strong arm of the law has been put forth to repress its encroachments on the civil rights of men; and while we rejoice that legislative authority is exerted, however feebly, to prevent a spiritual power from assuming a secular lordship over the land, let us remember that other