charge of engaging in such financial enter-

Britisk American Presbyterian, 102 BAY STREET, TORONTO.

For Terms, Rev. 1888 Evourg Page C. PLACKETT ROBINSON theter and Proprietor

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Letters and articles intended nor the next none should be in the hands of the Feliter not later than Tassian normal.

'Horamanications must be accompanied by the we ten's name, otherwise they will not be inserted.

we so a main, occar we may an notice market Ariceles I accorded will be actuated, if, at the time they are. I a request is made to this tellective audicient postage atmaps are enclosed. Manuscripts not a accompanied will not be proserved and authorquent requests for their return cannot be somplied with

OUR GENERAL AGENT.

HR. CHARLES NICOL, General Agent for the PREMETERS. SINCE IN Western Datario pushing the interests of this journal. We commonal his to the best officer of ministers and people. Any satisfactor or nudered bim in his work will be taken by us as a personal kindness.

British American Presbyteriau. FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 1877.

Special to Subscribers.

Any Subscriber sending us, during the month of January, the name of a New Subsoriber, with the remittance, \$2.00 for the year, (his own subscription not being in arrear:) 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. Weare 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.

A NEW volume of Sermons, entitled "Warning and Welcome," by Dr. Cochrane, Brantford, is announced.

The respected Convener of our Home Mission Committee is advertising for Missionaries for Manitoba. We have reason to think that the call is urgent; and trust that suitable men will offer for this important field of labour at once.

THE Guelph Mercury is kind enough to say, in noticing the Prospectus of the BRITISH AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN for 1877, "We are glad to note the growing prosperity of this journal, and we congratulate Mr. Robinson, its proprietor, on the cheering prospects for the future. We trust that during the year there will be a large increase in the circulation of the PRESBY-TERIAN." Thanks, friend Innes, we heartireciprocate your good wishes.

We had a visit yesterday from the Rev. A. Dowsley, formerly of Lansdowne, Mr. Dowsley has accepted an appointment from the Church of Scotland to go as Missionary to Southern India; and he will (D.V.) sail from New York on the 20th inst. en route for Calcutta. We sincerely trust that both himself and his partner in life, who accompanies him, may be brought in safety to their far-off destination.

THE London Advertiser of a recent date contained the following sensible observations on an important subject :- "There are those who undervalue the importance of the yearly-recurring School Trustee elections. It is of the utmost importance that intelligent, capable men be alone selected to manage the educational interests whether of city or town, village or township. We have heard of cases in which political considerations have resulted in the election of persons who were good enough politicians but poor trustees. We are sure that nothing can more delight the enemies of the Public Schools than to see their usefulness impaired by senseless political wranglers. If there is any domain from which mere partyism should be rigorously excluded, it is surely that of general education. 'Who is most fitted for the position?' should be the only test

Rev. A. A. CAMERON, Baptist minister, Ottawa, in a letter to the Canadian Independent, asserted that " Baptists alone are Scriptural in regard to the ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper." Upon this, the Ottawa branch of the Evangelical Alliance, whereof Mr. Cameron is a member, held a special meeting, and after discussion, resolved :- "That the Alliance. having heard Rev. Mr. Cameron's explanation of the words referred to, deeply regret that he does not accord to the other members of the Alliance the same liberty in the interpretation of Scripture, in this reference to the ordinances of the Church, that they secord to him." After further discussion, it was also resolved :-- "That this branch of the Alliance recognises the validity of the ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper as administered by the members of the Alliance." Mr. Cameron said this excluded him from the Alliance, and gave notice of appeal, on the ground that the

lion was unconstitutional, he having obsained legal advice (I) on the point.

EXEMPTION OF TAXES.

prises. The question of the Exemption of Taxes We are prepared to go thus far, and apin relation to Church property and Clergyprove the taxation of all property held by mena' salaries is at present assuming large ecclesiastics, and that is not put to the ostensible use for which it was purchased. proportions. It is evident that the subject will be yet more fully discussed, and give The question still remains open whether rise to a number of conflicting opinions. it would not be better to tax all church property whether it is occapied by ecclesi-Whether it is now ripe for legislative aution astical buildings or not. It will readily be 14 extremely doubtful. The interests are seen that hasty and immediate legislation so varied and ramifying, that it appears to as to be questionable whether saything on this matter might impose burdens upon like unanimity upon the matter will prove congregations, whose properties carry large sufficiently probable to warrant further mortgages, that they might not be able to stopsbeing meanwhile taken in regard to it. bear. Perhaps some special clause could In our opinion it is clear that property be introduced, covering such examples. But on the question pure and simple, we which is merely hard by ecclesiastical bodies, and which is not now put to the have no hesitation in pronouncing use for which it is alleged that it is set our opinion. We believe it would be better apart, ought to be taxed; otherwise, the for all parties were church properties to pay object on account of which such exemption taxes. It would remove a matter of debate, which is bound to come up on the slightest is granted, is not attained. Presumably the remission of taxes which is allowed in protext, and to be urged by a whole class of such cases is for the purpose of enabling a cormorants who are laboring for other ends church or congregation to carry on its im than these which churches have in view. portant work without any unnecessary The tax imposed ought to lessen the taxes financial obstaclo being put in their way. which individuals have otherwise to pay, We are all agreed that the Church in any and thus enable them to give the more to of its denominations is employed in a work the church. At all events it is an open that tends to the well-being of society and question for debate, and we will be glad to to the benefit of the individual. If exempreceive the opinions of our readers and all tion in any case is allowed on the ground interested, upon it. There is still the matof principle, it should be exercised in that ter of partially or wholly exempting minof a community who engage in the vast isters' salaries from taxation, and otherwise undertaking of building an ecolesiastical granting to clergymen certain discounts and special favors, to which we hope in another measures that must promote the moral and issue to return, and to which we are ready to trace many evils from which our esteemis a work which involves the outlay of ed brethren in the ministry are now greatly sufforing. the exercise of self-denial to an extent that CHURCH EXTENSION ASSOCIATION By reference to advertisement in anof the community, and for the right training other column it will be seen that a mass meeting of the Presbyterians of this city is called for next Tuesday evening in Knox

institution, and who are occupied with social improvement of the people. Theirs money on a large scale, and which compels calls for admiration rather than opposition in any degree. A congregation settling upon a certain locality, and erecting a suitable structure for the spiritual education of the young and rising generation, are thereby creating an institution whose good influence is incalculable, and that may Church. We desire to invite special attenreach to the end of time. They should action to this gathering, and to urge a large cordingly have every encouragement given attendance. When, a few weeks ago, the to them in carrying out their noble enteroffice-bearers of the different Presbyterian prise. But while we feel on the subject to Churches in Toronto, met to take council this extent, it is unreasonable that because with each other, anent this same extension a certain body of men are bound together association, a pleasant and profitable hour as Christians to the fulfilment of such was spent together, and Dr. Caven, with tasks, they should be allowed to speculate his usual precision, moved that the officers on property in the name of religion. The of the association should be requested to case of the Metropolitan Church is one in bring about an assembly of all the Presbypoint. It may be said that by securing a terians in Toronto, with a view to interlarge and valuable piece of land in the change of thought on all matters pertaining center of which they erect their church, to the extension of church work in this rathey are thereby keeping this space of pidly growing city. We would urge our ground open for the public benefit. It is city readers, therefore, to make it a point to pleasant certainly to look at a church attend. Let the meeting be LARGE, ENTHUbuilding with such surroundings. It may SIASTIC and USEFUL! Suitable addresses at once be conceded that the congregation will be delivered, and music will be furnishkeep open a valuable breathing ground for ed by the combined choirs of the city

a rapidly growing city. And were this the

property of the people, these arguments

same thing, they are by the purchase of

such an amount of ground laying up an un-

told fortune for the future. Let fifteen or

twenty years pass away, and the property

which was acquired at a merely nominal

amount may reasonably be expected to

yield ten times the value. Thus a com-

munity might grow rich at the public ex-

pense. They pocket the grand difference

that would arise from the sale when the

proper time comes round. But the city

suffers to the extent of the amount that

might have accrued had the property been

occupied by other than ecclesiastical build-

ings. It is easily conceivable that at some

distant date it will be rendered necessary

that the Metropolitan Church should be

removed from what will be the press and

throng of commerce, to some locality that

will be more central for the residences of

the people, and in such a case the Metro-

politan Church would be the gainer to the

tune of many thousands of dollars, while

the city would be losers to the extent of the

yearly income that might have been de-

rived from taxing all the property beyond

that which is necessary for the purposes of

the congregation. The same thing is true

of the extensive and valuable lots that are

held by the Roman Catholics. Whenever

there is a good bargain in land to be made,

our friend, the Archbishop, is ready with

his overflowing purse, or what is the same

thing, with his influence, to possess him-

self of that property. Meanwhile the

ground lies fallow, or the buildings that

were upon it at the time of purchase yield

their proper rental, and not a cont is paid

to the city for the protection of the prop-

erty, or for the carrying on of municipal

affairs. It appears to us that no satisfac-

tory reason can be advanced against put-

ting such lands in the same category with

the property of individuals, or companies,

and allowing it to be taxed. Were Presby-

terians, or Episcopalians in the habit of

purchasing land in this way, we should

still maintain that they should pay for it

until it is seen that it is to be put to its

legitimate use, and that it is not to be sold

on speculation. But happily our Protestant

denominations are generally free from the

would be conclusive as to laying no un-Ministers and Churches. necessary burden upon the grounds. But in the case of a private individual, or in [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 instance of a congregation, which is the

churches.

A VERY successful tea meeting was held in the Presbyterian Church, Alma, on Wednesday evening last. Rev. John Davidson, pastor of the congregation, occupied the chair. Very suitable and appropriate addresses were delivered by the Rev. Messrs. F. Dickie, of Berlin; T. Wardrope, of Guelph, and A. D. McDonald, of Elora.

IMPORTANT MEETING

THE Rev. Wm. P. Walker has entered the manse lately built for him by the congregations of Binbrook and Saltfleet. A successful social, as a heating to the house, was held on Dec. 28th. The manse is capacious, conveniently situated between the Churches, has attached to it ten acres of land, small orchard, and good garden. The site and lard cost \$1,000. The building and appurtenances reflect credit upon the congregations.-Com.

On Tuesday, the 26th ult., several members of the Gore congregation in connection with the Presbyterian Church in Canada, called upon their minister, Rev. Wm. A. Johnston, and as a preef of their esteem presented him with a large quantity of hay, oats, wheat and potatoes, giving him to understand that these were but drops before the coming shower, and that during the present season he was to purchase no hay. Such praiseworthy conduct, and especially when there are, no arrears of stipend, requires no comment.-Cox.

On the evening of the 29th ult., the manse of the Wellington street Presbyteriau congregation, Brantford, was unexpectedly taken possession of, for the time, by the Bible class under the instruction of the Rev. Mr. Lowry. After a few preliminary matters had been attended to, a very flattering and affectionate address was presented to Mr. Lowry, accompanied with the gift of an elegant and handsome easy chair. To the address, Mr. Lowry made a short in promptu reply, in which he returned thanks for their valuable present, and expressed his high gratification with the Bible class.

On Monday evening last, 1st inst., at a social meeting of the Gathrie congregation,

mas tree to the children of the Sabbath school, the members of the Bible class and others presented to their pastor, Rev. Jno. Baikie, an address as a token of their es teem, and an expression of their high appreciation of his labors, accompanied by

Harriston, held on the occasion of a Christ-

a . ubstantial gift in the form of a handsome study chair, together with a purse, in all about seventy dollars. The presentstion was made by Mr. A. J. Stewart in behalf of the class and others, in a short address, to which Mr. Batkie replied in suitable terms, thanking them for the kindness they had shown to him.

A social entertainment was given by the members of the Presbyterian Church of New Glasgow, on the 28th ult., and was fairly attended. The chair was occupied by Mr. Robert Simpson, elder of the Church. The choir furnished excellent vocal and instrumental music, and appropriate speeches were delivered by the Rove. Messrs. Knox and Stenning, and Mr. M. F. Boudreau, student of the Presbyterian College, Montreal. After having spent a very pleasant evening in social enjoyment, the congregation presented Mr. M. F. Boudreau with a purse, expressing their appreciation for his labors among them during the two last summers, and wishing him abundant success in the work of the ministry.

On Thursday evening, the 21st ult., the Wellington street Presbyterian congregation, Brantford, held their 81st anniversary tea meeting. Considering that there were five public meetings, for different purposes, held in the town on the same evening, the attendance was good, and the evening's entertainment was all that could be desired. The Rev. Dr. Cochrane, by letter anologized for his unavoidabla absence. The Rev. Mr. Barker of the First Congregational Church, gave a short address, which was received with marked approbation. 'The Rev. Mr. Milligan, of Old St. Andrew's, Toronto, formerly of Detroit, gave an eloquent and interesting lecture on "Expectations." The i pression produced by this lecture was such that if Mr. Milligan should again address a Brantford audience, he may, under anything like ordinary circumstances, calculate on having a full house.

On Tuesday evening the members of the congregation of the College street Presbyterian church held their annual soiree in their exceedingly comfortable and cosy little church at the corner of Bathurst and College streets. Notwithstanding the unfavourable weather, the attendance was large, and the soirce proved in every respect a very decided success. An excellent tea was provided by the ladies of the congregation, and after those present. had attested their appreciation of it in the most unmistakeable of all ways, Rev. Alex. Gilray, pastor of the church, took the chair, after which brief and interesting addresses were delivered by Revs. William Inglis, J. M. King, Wm. Dyke, and Dr. Robb. The church choir, Professor Jones and Mrs. Greenfield, farnished a pleasing variety of vocal selections, which added much to the interest of the entertainment.

A very interesting meeting in connection with the Presbyterian congregation in Norwich was held in the Public Hall on the 25th ult. The handsome sum of \$114 was realized, which is to be applied to the general schemes of the Church. After the meeting had partaken of an excellent tea, the chairman, Jas. Barr, Esq., called upon the Rev. R. N. Grant, of Ingersoll, who delivered an appropriate address on "Some Elements of Congregational Success." The Rev. D. C. McIntyre followed in a characteristic speech. The proceedings of the evening were enlivened at intervals by music supplied by the congregational choir. The distribution of the gifts from the tree formed also a very attractive feature. The chairman in the name of the congregation then presented the Rev. W. M. Martin, their minister, with a handsome cutter and robe, together with an address; Mrs. Martin with an elegant time-piece. and their young son with a purse. Mrs. D. M. Donald was then presented with a heautiful siver toa set in recognition of her valuable services as leader of the choir for the last twelve years. Miss Barr, who has acted as organist for the past two years, was the recipient of a beautiful silver card rack, Mrs. Malcolm of a very valuable mink muss, presented by the members of the Bible class. A silver baptismal bowl, a gift to the Church by one of its active members, formed the last of the special presents. Alarge number of other Christmas gifts passed between friends through the medium of the tree, and the entertainment formed a very happy termination to Christmas day. A short time ago Mr. Martin was presented with a well filled purse, by the young people of his Windham congregation—a fact which taken in con-nection with the event above named plainly evinces the high esteem in which the reverend gentleman is held by all his people. Since his induction into his joint charge the attendance on his ministry have been largely increased, and the addition of \$100 to his salar; may be justly regarded as an indication of the increased prosperity

Nook Reviews.

Sr. Nicholas. New York: Scribner & Co. The January number of this popular magazine for the young, sustains its wellearned reputation, for the exquisite taste and beauty of the illustrations, the entertaining and instructive character of the matter, and the superb finish of the whole.

WIDE AWAKE. Boston: D. Luthrop & Co. This magazine is a worthy rival of that noticed above. It is professly illustrated, very amusing, and in an indirect manner, conveys no small amount of instruction.

THE CANADIAN MONTHLY. Toronto: Admin Stevenson & Co.

The December number of this periodical contains an article on " Pagan Rites and Obristian Festivals" which evinces considerable research; a practical essay on "Political Economy ' by A. T. Drummond, B.A., L.L.B., Montreal, entitled "Our Public Indebtedness;" a very readable "Sketch of Cardinal Antonelli" by E. Ransford, Toronto; more than the usual quantity of poetry, including a variety of Christmas Carols; the continuation of "Juliet," and "As long as she lived;" with the customary notes on current events,

BELFORD'S MONTHLY MAGAZINE. Toronto: Belford Bro's.

This new enterprise promises well. The number for January, specially intended as a holiday number, contains a very large quantity of reading matter, of a sufficiently light and interesting character, including a long Christmas story entitled "When the Ship comes home." Of a somewhat heavier and more intellectual order, we have No. 2 of "Evenings in the Library." The subject is Emmerson, in his twofold character of Poet and Lecturer. The artiole is written in an easy conversational style, and this perhaps most popular of American essayists is favorably compared with Swinburne, Thoreau and Thomas Carlyle. The illustrations are very good. and the magazine is well printed, on good

SCRIBNER'S MONTHLY. New-York: Scribner & Co.

The January number of this deservedly popular periodical contains a well-written article on "What our Churches cost us." It is full of valuable statistics, and the burden of it seems to be that too much money is expended on church decoration, music, and other accessories, while in very many instances the ministry is wrotchedly underpaid. This refers, doubtless, to the state of affairs in the United States; but certain we are that it is applicable to other conctries as well; and we think it will not do any harm to place before our own readers the following plain and manly statement of the truth regarding this matter, made by a veteran New England pastor:-

"He was settled, he said in a rural city, and belonged to an association of ministers, composed of the pastors of village churches round about. In the course of years it hefell that all of those pastors, one after another, buried their wives. He was the only member of the association exempt from that affliction. He was naturally led to reflect upon such a fact, and he became fully convinced that an influential cause was the insufficient support provided by the churches. In the struggle to make, out of wholly inadequate means, that respectable social appearance, which a pastor's family is expected to make, and to do for children that which educated parents feel it worth many privations to do, health broke down, and the faithful, struggling helpmeet of the stinted pastor went, too early for her loved ones, to the saints' rest. "But." exclaimed the veteran, "Though I too have felt albeit in less degree than some other brethren, this presure of chill penury, while in the most blessed of all callings, I feel as the old lady felt, who had been recounting through what hardships she had gone to rear a large family of boys, who rose to honorable positions: 'I'd do it again,' said

The other articles in the present number of the magazine are fully up to the mark. The information that a person obtains by merely looking at the illustrations of the article on "Norway and the Norsemen," is worth the price of the magazine. THE PRESBYTERIAN YEAR BOOK FOR 1877.

Edited by Rev. James Cameron, Chatsworth. Toronto: C. Blackett Robinson, 184 pp., 25 cents.

This is a most useful compendium of valuable information regarding Presbyterianism at home and abroad. To many it is indispensable for reference, containing full statistics of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, with interesting reports and condensed summaries of statistics of the ten Presbyterian churches in the United States. Besides the roll of each Presbytery in each of the Synods of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, being given separately, there is also an alphabetical list of the names of the ministers, with numbers attached indicating the Presbytery to which they belong. But it is not only to those who require it for purposes of reference that this publication is useful; to ordinary readers, it possesses much value and interest. To show that the "Papers on Presbyterian Topics" must be of great importance, it is sufficient to give the names of their authors: Rev. G. M. Grant, M.A., Halifax, N.S.; Dr. P.